ACTION! Professor Know-it-All’s Illustrated Guide to Film & Video Making by BILL BROWN

“Brown brings the ease and warmth of his movie narration and ‘Dream Whip’ writings and drawings to the nuts and bolts of working with movie film. Unlike most know-it-alls whose I-told-you-so’s can wear down even the most dedicated, Bill acts as your generous guide and fellow traveler, keeping things straightforward and practical. —Thomas Comerford, Professor of Film, School of the Art Institute of Chicago.

“I use “Action!” in my intro to digital media class because it covers all the basics of still and motion picture shooting and editing. No one else makes aspect ratios and depth of field more fun to learn. I’m also thankful for the section on microphones and audio. The drawings in this book communicate particularly well to visually-minded students. Many of my students read it cover-to-cover even when I only assign one chapter! — Sabine Gruffat, Professor of New Media, University of North Carolina-Chapel Hill

Who needs film school when there’s a manual simultaneously erudite and approachable, leavened with wit and charm aplenty; a wealth of practical knowledge presented in a concise manner without unnecessary academic obfuscation. —Brent Coughenour, Professor of Film and Video, University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee

In this easy-to-read and lavishly illustrated volume, you will learn why movies move; how film and video cameras work; how to light and expose your shots to get the best results; how to create eye-pleasing compositions; and how to record crystal clear sounds. It’s a do-it-yourself guidebook for film and video makers of all ages and experience levels.

Bill Brown is a filmmaker and writer from Lubbock, Texas. His films about the overlooked corners of North America have screened all around the world, including the Sundance Film Festival, SXSW, and at the Museum of Modern Art in New York. Brown is the editor of Dream Whip, a zine about wandering around.

Microcosm Publishing strives to add credibility to zine writers and their ethics, teach self empowerment, show hidden history, and nurture people’s creative side! Now based in Lansing, KS and Portland, OR, Joe Biel started the distro and then-record-label out of his bedroom in 1996. Since then we’ve grown to become one of the largest zine distributors in the world, reaching an international audience through our website and retail store.

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Lights, Camera, Action!: Making Movies and TV from the Inside Out 9781897066898 (Maple Tree Press) $10.95, 2007

Benefits
1: A simple guide to understanding terms of film and video makers
2: The easiest and best format for understanding lighting and sound jargon
3: Drawings, charts, and easy-to-understand writing that is easy for all ages and experience levels.