

SMPTE's Legacy in Color Science

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This issue of the *Motion Imaging Journal* focuses on color science. As someone who is challenged to define color, I find color science fascinating because it is starting to give me a vocabulary to discuss the spectrum we see.

Color Science has been a part of SMPTE's journals for nearly its entire existence. According to our book *Magic and Miracles*, Dr. Mees of Eastman Kodak published a review of the first efforts to produce color motion pictures in 1922. Since then, we've had a strong presence in color science and its perception and the push to develop standards around color.

People from around the world, including those with no background in media science, are familiar with SMPTE Color Bars, yet few understand their actual significance. Consumers rush to purchase HD and UHD televisions without knowing that those letters reflect hours of debate and discussion that led to the standards they represent.

The accurate capture, transmission, and reproduction of color are far more complex than the average person will ever consider. In addition, every human perceives color

differently, and perception changes over time, making it a daunting subject to discuss.

SMPTE members are not daunted by this topic but rather embrace it. This journal and our upcoming Media Technology Summit will highlight research and advancements in capture and perception, as well as the impact of new technologies on color.

This aspect of SMPTE's work showcases the dedication of our members over the years. This commitment has made SMPTE a stalwart in the media industry, but it takes time and generosity of spirit from our members. I'd like to thank those presenting their work and those who helped with the peer review. These members generously shared their time and knowledge so that others could grow their understanding and professional skills.

I'd also like to thank everyone who serves on our standards committees. They, like all others who came before them, work to ensure that SMPTE standards meet the rigor required to be globally accepted from inception through necessary revisions to keep them relevant.

For 108 years, SMPTE has led ro-



...bust discussions and debates that have made the science of media accessible and trustworthy to all. Thank you to those members, past, present, and future, who engaged in this activity. Without them, we would not have the strong Society we have today.

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