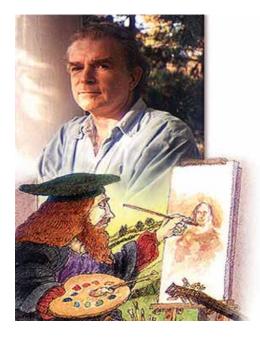


Robert Byrd Illustration



Robert Byrd has been delighting children of all ages with his whimsical, fantasy-filled children's books for over 45 years. As author and illustrator he has the rare talent to see his fanciful visions through to the minutest detail. Whether enlightening audiences to the many talents of Leonardo DaVinci or taking us into a wondrous world filled with foxes and bears in military attire, Bob, (as he's more affectionately known), is sure to spin us a tale we'll not soon forget. His books have garnered numerous awards over the years including: the 2003 winner of the prestigious Golden Kite Award for excellence in children's books for Leonardo – Beautiful Dreamer, the 2008 Newbery Award for *Good Masters! Sweet Ladies!*, and the 2012 Robert Siebert Honor for *Electric Ben/The amazing life and times of* Benjamin Franklin. His books have been reviewed by The New York Times Book Review, Kirkus, The School Library Journal, Publisher's Weekly and many others.

Robert Byrd was born in Atlantic City and studied at the Philadelphia Museum College of Art. He has illustrated twenty one books for children and has had his children's book art exhibited at the Philadelphia Art Alliance; The World Children's Book Fair in Bologna, The Society of Illustrators, New York; The Art institute of Philadelphia; The University of the Arts, Philadelphia; and Cricket, 25 Years of Stories and Art for Kids, the Art Institute of Chicago. He teaches Children's Book Illustration at The University of the Arts in Philadelphia. He has two grown children, Rob and Jennifer, and lives in Haddonfield, New Jersey with his wife Ginger their cat, Mickey Mantle.

"When I'm working on a picture in a children's book, I like to think of the space I am working in as a small stage. This stage is filled with characters like an opera. In each scene, the most important characters sing the lines that tell the story, and must be seen right away. The other characters on the stage help to tell the story, but they are really secondary and part of the background, like scenery." "The most important thing is to have the small world I create in a picture perfectly match the words of the story, so that even if it is a make-believe world in the eyes and minds of the readers, everything you see is real."

Robert Byrd's latest book, *Liberty Arrives!* published by Dial Books for Young Readers, Penguin Random House is slated for June, 2019 release date.

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Robert Byrd Illustration

Books by Robert Byrd

Poor Mister Splinterfitz — Windmill Books 1973

Rebecca Hatpin — Windmill Books 1974

The Gondolier of Venice — Windmill Books 1975

The Detective of London — E.P. Dutton 1976

Charles Rat's Picnic — E.P. Dutton 1984

Marcella Was Bored — E.P. Dutton 1985

Bobble-Bud & Spade, Selected poems of John Ciardi

The Middlesex County Cultural & Heritage Commission 1988

The Children's Aesop — Doubleday 1988

Pinocchio — Doubleday 1989

- *The Emperor's New Clothes Dutton Children's Books 1991
 The Bear and the Bird King Dutton Children's Books 1994
- *Finn MacCoul and His Fearless Wife Dutton Children's Books 1999
- *Saint Francis and the Christmas Donkey Dutton Children's Books 2000 Leonardo, Beautiful Dreamer Dutton Children's Books 2003
- *The Hero and the Minotaur Dutton Children's Books 2003
- *Good Masters! Sweet Ladies! Dutton Children's Books 2008
- *Barbarians! Dutton Children's Books 2009
- *Kubla Khan: the Emporor of Everything Viking Press 2010
- * Electric Ben. The Amazing Life and Times of Benjamin Franklin Dial 2012
- *Brave Little Chicken Viking 2015

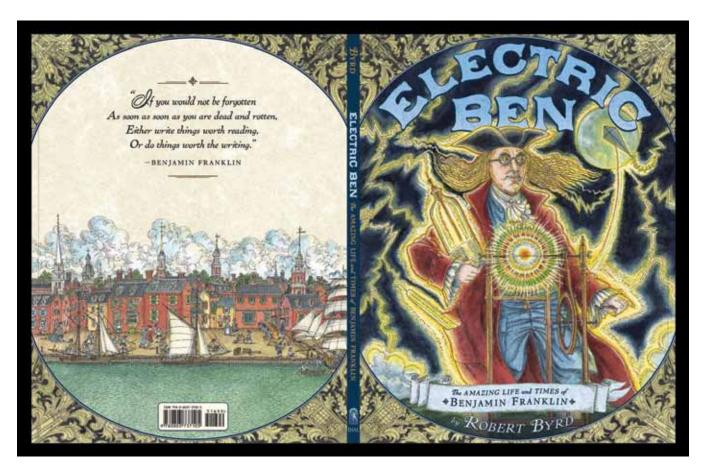
 Jason and the Argonauts Viking 2017
- *Africa is My Home/A Child of the Almstad Candlewick Press 2018
- *"Liberty Arrives!" Dial Books for Young Readers, Penguin Random House 2019
- *Original illustrations available for auction.

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Electric Ben.

The Amazing Life and Times of Benjamin Franklin

Dial 2012



The New York Times Book Review

ELECTRIC BEN

The Amazing Life and Times of Benjamin Franklin.

Written and illustrated by Robert Byrd.

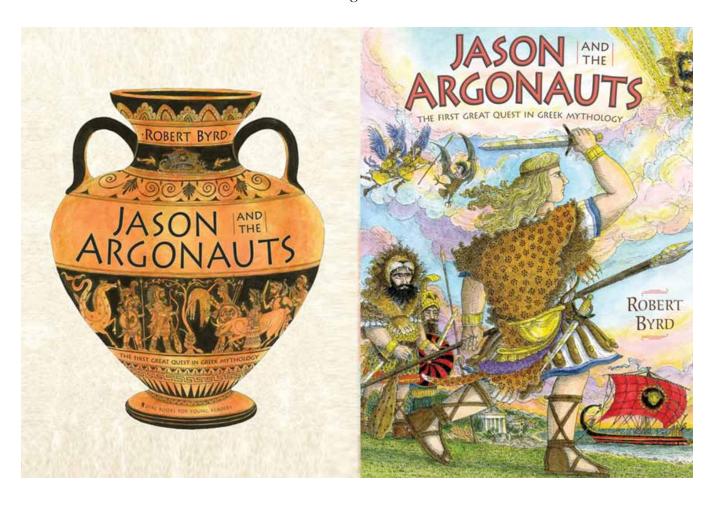
As founding fathers go, Franklin has to be the most exceptionally well suited to children's biography, whether the reader's ambition is writing, inventing, politics, diplomacy or somehow discovering something while flying a kite. Naturally, there are dozens of books. But Byrd's latest is a true standout — as bright, witty, informative and cleverly organized as the man himself — with richly detailed and colorful ink drawings, often infused with humor. All the fun particulars are here, including the letters of Silence Dogood and Alice Addertongue. Lightning, too.



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Jason and the Argonauts

Viking 2017



Good Reads

Jason and the Argonauts

by Robert Byrd. Viking.

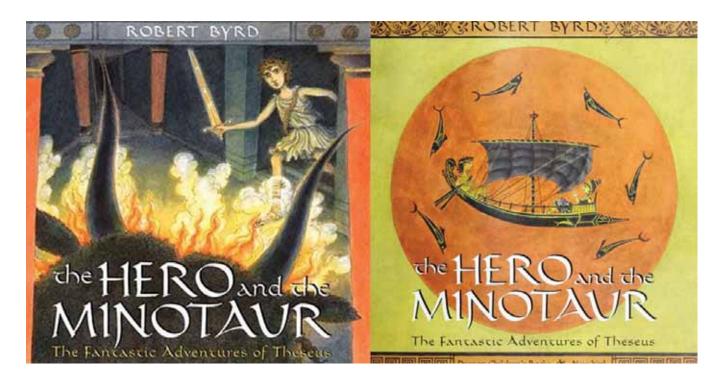
The story of Jason and the Argonauts is one of the earliest recorded Greek myths. Here, master artist Robert Byrd has created a striking telling of the legend for a new generation of readers. Complete with explanatory notes and illustrated back matter, Jason and the Argonauts traces each step of our hero's journey, from the Golden Fleece's origin story and Jason's childhood to his triumphant return with the prize and eventual death.



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The Hero and the Minotaur

Dutton Children's Books 2003



School Library Journal

The Hero and the Minotaur

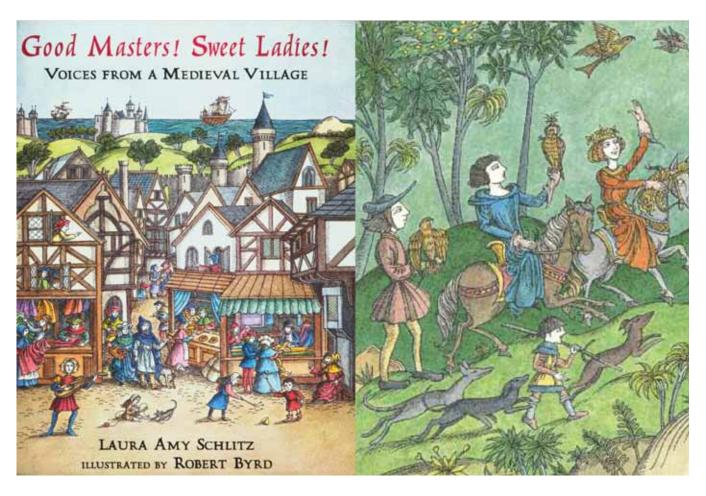
Byrd masterfully interweaves the legends of Aegeus, Heracles, the Minotaur, Ariadne, and Icarus with the story of Theseus. Myths that are normally quite complicated become easy to decipher in this outstanding version, for Byrd tells the tales simply and clearly, including important details and tying up all loose ends so that everything blends together seamlessly. Byrd's book is sure to take its rightful place among classic retellings of timeless tales.



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Good Masters! Sweet Ladies!

Dutton Children's Books 2008



Kirkus Reviews

Good Masters. Sweet Ladies.

Laura Amy Schlitz, illus. by Robert Byrd. Candlewick.

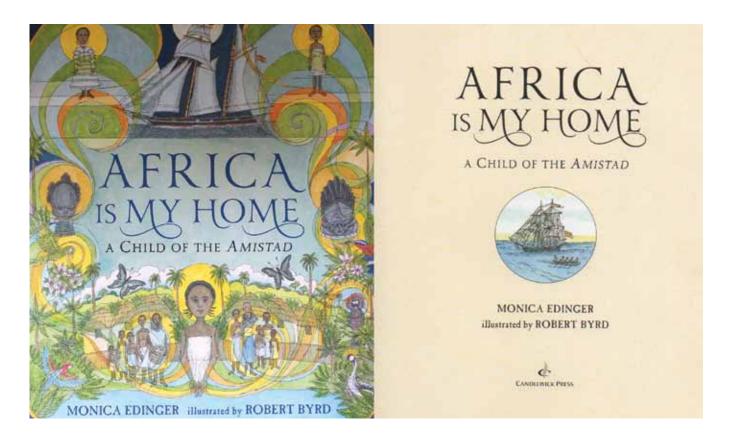
Schlitz takes the breath away with unabashed excellence in every direction. This wonderfully designed and produced volume contains 17 monologues for readers ten to 15, each in the voice of a character from an English town in 1255. Some are in verse; some in prose; all are interconnected. The language is rich, sinewy, romantic and plainspoken. Double-page spreads called "A little background" offer lively information about falconry, The Crusades, pilgrimages and the like. Byrd's watercolor-and-ink pictures add lovely texture and evoke medieval illustration without aping it. Brilliant in every way.



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Africa is My Home/A Child of the Amistad

Candlewick Press 2018



The New York Times Book Review

AFRICA IS MY HOME

A Child of the Amistad

By Monica Edinger. Illustrated by Robert Byrd.

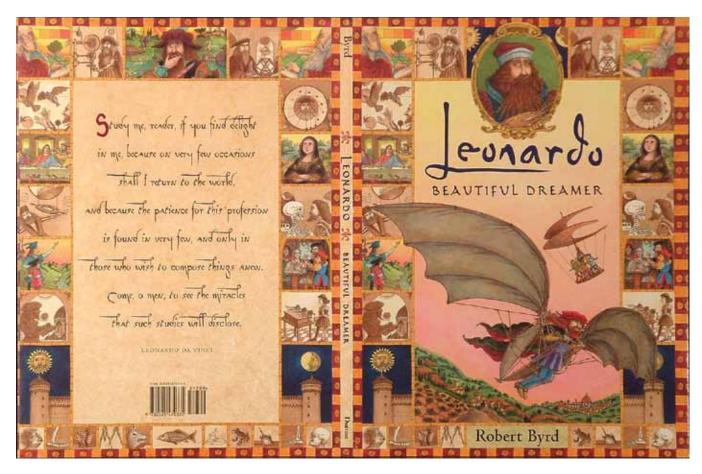
In 1839, a 9-year-old girl named Margru, taken captive in Sierra Leone, was on board the Amistad when older slaves gained control of the ship. Edinger tells the story of Margru's long journey home, supporting her fictionalized narrative with primary sources like news clippings and engravings. The best of Byrd's exquisite ink-and-watercolor pictures show Margru sleeping under New England quilts while dream images of Africa wreathe her head.



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Leonardo, Beautiful Dreamer

Dutton Children's Books 2003



The New York Times Book Review Leonardo - Beautiful Dreamer By DARIA DONNELLY

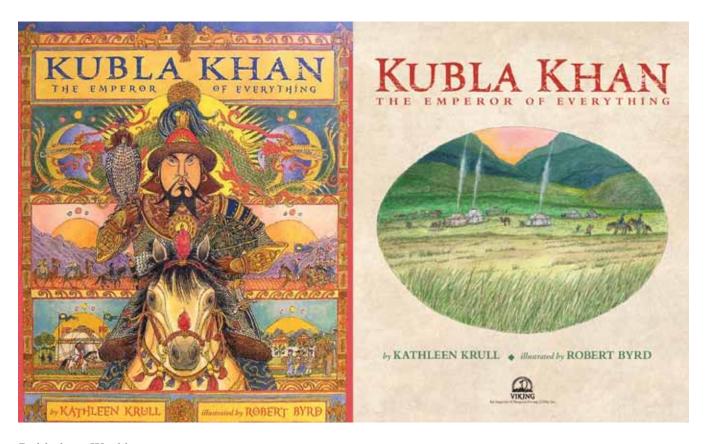
Published: November 16, 2003. Sunday Surfeit, not thirst, is the aftertaste of Robert Byrd's "Leonardo: Beautiful Dreamer." Despite clear headings, and shadings and arrangements of text that help direct the reader, there are many pages where the eye wonders where to rest. In the end, this lavishly illustrated volume nearly buckles under the pressure to tell everything about this great inventor and artist. Refreshingly, Byrd rejects the modern impulse to emphasize the difficulty and ambiguities of such a life. His book exudes an energy that mimics Leonardo's own restless creativity. But it neglects the awesome stillness provided by all of Leonardo's art, from the Mona Lisa to the humblest sketch. Byrd lets us hear hints of that sublimity in contemporaneous reviews, his own enthusiasm and quotations from Leonardo's notebooks.



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Kubla Khan: the Emperor of Everything

Viking Press 2010



Publishers Weekly

Kubla Khan:

The Emperor of Everything.

Written by Kathleen Krull and illustrated by Robert Byrd.

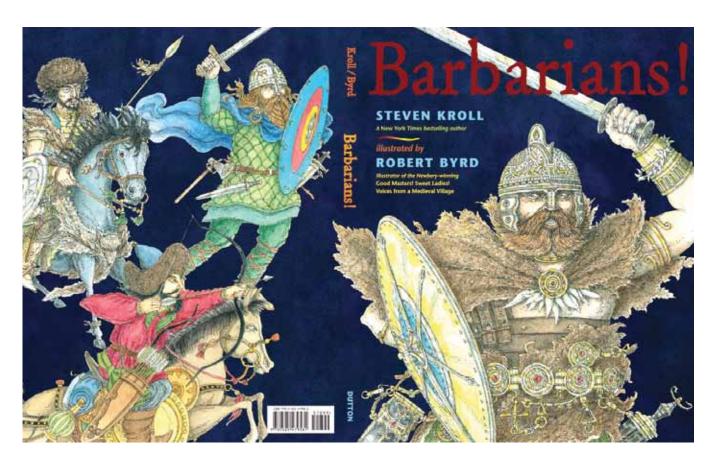
The colorful and appealing artwork integrates well with the text—the illustrator has also done significant research. Some portraits of Kubla Khan exist, both Chinese and European, but whether they are accurate is unclear. Byrd relied on the work of Eastern artists to inform his art so that the illustrations themselves echo what one may find in Chinese art and Mongolian design of the period. Little has been written for young readers about Kubla Khan, and this is a worthy addition for all collections.—Barbara Scotto, Children's Literature New England, Brookline, MA.



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Barbarians!

Dutton Children's Books 2009



Kirkus Reviews

Barbarians

Steven Kroll, illus. by Robert Byrd. Dutton Children's Books. 2009.

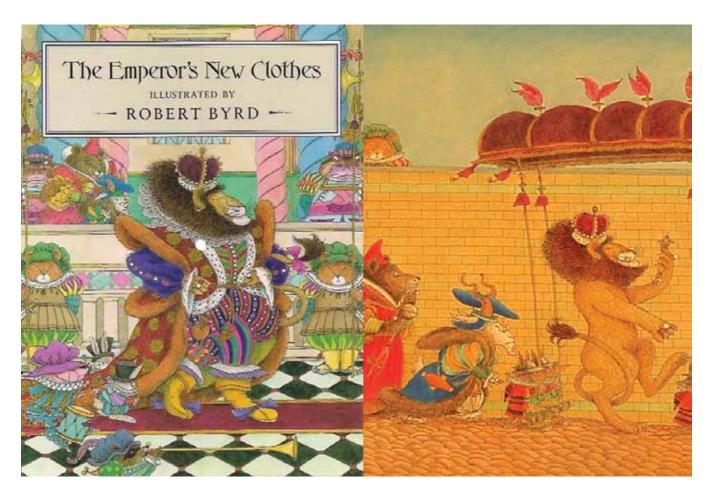
Byrd remarks on the paucity of accurate source material but fills his large illustrations with colorful details, energetic figures and artfully composed reconstructions of historical and mythological scenes, as well as visual references to enduring cultural contributions. Rousing reading for all armchair sword-wielders and plunder-seekers.



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The Emperor's New Clothes

Dutton Children's Books 1991



Publishers Weekly

The Emperor's New Clothes

Illustrated by Robert Byrd. Dutton Children's Books.

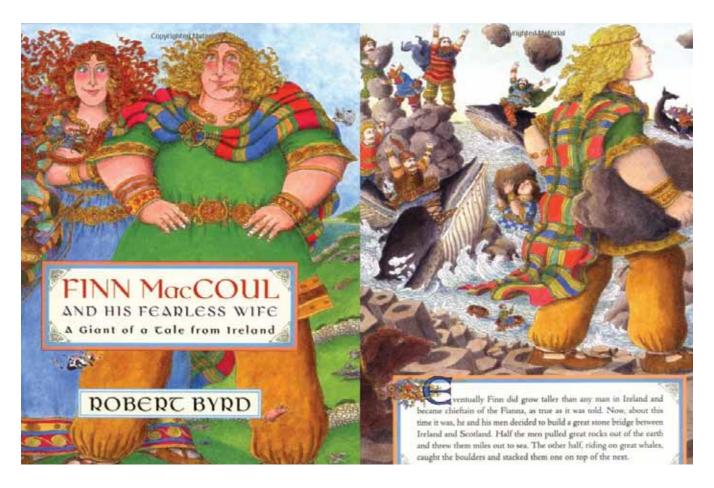
Taking full advantage of the intrinsic humor of Andersen's tale, Byrd has created busy, exuberant pictures featuring a menagerie of animals. The wonderfully foppish emperor is a stately lion, who wears a gold earring and sports costumes of dazzling colors and intricate patterns. The scoundrel weavers are aptly depicted as ultimately sly foxes, also splendidly bedecked. The illustrator's crowning touch is the collection of amazed expressions on the faces of the townsfolk--animals all--lining the streets and hanging out of windows to gape at the emperor as he struts by "with head held high proudly."



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Finn MacCoul and His Fearless Wife

Dutton Children's Books 1999



Book Page

Finn MacCoul and His Fearless Wife: A Giant of a Tale from Ireland

by Robert Byrd. Dutton Children's Books 1999.

Finn McCool, Fionn Mac Cumhal, or Finn MacCoul (depending on your spelling) looks pretty good for his 1,700+ years, thanks to author/illustrator Robert Byrd. Released just in time for St. Patrick's Day, Byrd's version was derived from three sources, which he mentions in the afterword. By taking the most consistent and interesting elements of these sources, Byrd weaves a thorough (but not tedious) tale about how Irishman Finn MacCoul, a powerful giant in his own right, uses his noggin to defeat the even more powerful Scottish giant, Cucullin. Byrd includes notes about Celtic life, and his colorful illustrations give a more classic look to the pages.



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