

Once upon a time, a long, long time from now, a vast, dark empire will reign in terror and oppression to the furthest reaches of the galaxy.

There will be but one faint, flickering hope against this sinister, awesome power.

A secret alliance of heroic freedom fighters, led by a pure and gallant young man, must wage an epic war in outer space to rescue a princess and vanquish forever the forces of darkness.

No legendary adventure of the past could ever be more exciting than this legendary adventure of the future.



## A MESSAGE FROM THE EDITOR...

Well, it's here.. the thirtieth anniversary of STAR WARS. And to think, back in August 1986, that STARLOG Magazine's 109th issue would ask on one of it's cover blurbs: "IS STAR WARS FANDOM DEAD?" Well.. we certainly proved 'em wrong didn't we!!"

Thirty years of STAR WARS. Six films (so far.. as Sean Connery said, "never say never!!"), several television series (past and future), hundreds of books and magazines, thousands of websites and blogs, computer games, toys, albums.. You name it, STAR WARS has encompassed it ,and gone beyond it, as a cultural and entertainment phenomenon. When planning this anniversary special, I was wondering to myself, just how can I do it all justice-to compress this amazing universe of fantasy and imagination into a package that could please the readers. With so many magazines, books (like the excellent MAKING OF STAR WARS: A NEW HOPE BOOK BY J.W. Rinzler) and media outlets having covered STAR WARS so exhaustively since its release on DVD back in 2004, it looked as if the well of originality had dried up-that there wasn't much more to bring to the table. Alas, like STAR WARS itself, always regenerating and adapting itself, we managed to find creative inspiration, as we remembered George Lucas's words from 2005-that his movies were the purest form of the motion picture medium. A world of visual storytelling-a "cinema verity" of delights. With those words resonating in my mind, I decided that we should do something pretty bold-that we'd present a virtually text free magazine- basically one long pictorial led magazine (or the ultimate scrapbook, if you will) that we feel is the finest tribute we can offer. And I'm pretty proud of the end results, too. As much as Lucas's cinematic vision has always had you enraptured, we hope you enjoy this ultimate nostalgia trip, as AFICIONADO enters the universe tree of the six films and all its other branches. I'm sure that there are areas that may not be covered, or as covered extensively as some of you would like them to be, but I hope we've captured the essence of the saga. That you, the reader, enjoys this thirty year adventure down memory lane. Hopefully, once you've read the magazine, our job will have been successfully achieved; that your love affair with STAR WARS continues to be inspired and freshly renewed, and that you, your family and friends carry on the tradition of sitting down and sharing the total enjoyment of watching the saga for another thirty years.

One things for sure, I better start planning now for it's fortieth!!

*Scott Weller, May 12th 2007*