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2238 words

You Are Where You Eat

1 – Studio 1



1 - I took this shot recently, once I had figured out how to use my digital camera. (It only took three years.) The window looks out over the entire west end of the city -- a beautiful view, day or night. All you can see is glare though.

2 – Studio 2



2 - Looking to the right, from the viewpoint of the previous photo, this is the TV wall of my living room. It shows some of my framed art, my stereo system, and a collection of plastic kits and toys representing firearms of various sorts. Not one has live ammo, I promise.

3 – Studio 3



3 - Turning right away from the window, you see two layers of bookshelves. Behind the set in front is an enclave or nook, with three sides of shelves. The passage to the left goes into my hall, and leads to the kitchen, bathroom, and bedroom.

4 – Studio 4



4 - final wall of my living room, turning left from the window. The couch is where I draw. The plastic 3D maps on the wall are all places I've been -- at least to some small spot on the map.

5 – Studio 5



5 - My computer work station, under the window. At about 3 pm on summer afternoons, it's *hot* and the sun makes it hard to see the screen! But I've nowhere else to move everything, and I like being able to look out by just turning my head. I have AC.

6 - The bookshelves hidden by the living room bookshelves. I think this area is supposed to be where the dining table is meant to go, but I know my priorities.

6 – Book Niche 1



9 – Book Niche 4



9 - Most of my Robert C. Wilson collection, fronted by Powerpuff Girls, Atomic Betty, and the Yellow Submersible itself. Other books of Bob's -- proof copies, anthologies, etc, are near the ceiling on shelves to the left.

7 – Book Niche 2



7 - Detail of the left side bookshelf, and the Yellow Submarine figures posed there.

10 – DVD Niche



10 - Near the balcony door, and behind the file cabinets is this shelf case of DVD's -- some are gifts, most are used. Many were discounted at Wal-Mart at lower than used prices.

8 – Book Niche 3



8 - Across from The Beatles are the cast Reboot (top), and of Monsters Inc. (bottom). To the top left are some rare UK figures from Disney's Treasure Planet. Captain Amelia (the cat girl) is a stunner if you like furry femmes.

11 - Despite having a large number of DVD's, I still have a ton of old VHS tapes. These are only what you might call the mainstream films -- Disney and other animation is on another set of shelves, and all the anime is in boxes under the bed. Little chance of me replacing *all* of them with disks -- not only would it be costly, but a lot of these tapes wouldn't be easy to find on DVD, if they could be found at all.

11 – Video Nook 1



are 80's and 90's. I haven't gone to the trouble of framing anything from this century yet.

14 – Figures 1



14 - Close up of original sculptures done for me over the years by friends. Left to right, Saara Mar, Roxanne (a character from Goof Troop), one of my House Gamins, and Beatrix. (It's the most recent, just finished before New Year, 2008.)

12 – Video Nook 2



12 - The Disney collection, with other animation that came in "clamshells". Also some cool 1/10 scale cycles by Orange County Choppers. Those babies were \$40 each, once. But by the end of the craze for the show, Wal-Mart dumped them for as little as two bucks! Detail is fabulous, and many parts move.

15 – Figures 2



15 – A generic anime figure, and Mark Mothersbaugh of Devo. Also the little black box that decodes US satellite signals for my TV -- bye bye outrageous cable bills! (At least for a short while I was. A few months later the sneaky bastards upgraded a chip, and put such black box decoders out of business. Now I have hi-tech rabbit ears and a digital box. Reception is limited to two channels – bah!)

13 – Gallery 1



13 - My main art gallery, in the living room. The astronomical is one I painted in 1972, and one of the other pieces is later 70's. The rest

16 - Most of these Muppet figures I got in trade for sketches at furry cons. I yearn for the Ms. Piggy from the "Pigs in Space" segment of the

show. She has long hair, as well as a silvery spacesuit, and looks a lot cuter than this one.

16 – Figures 3



17 – Planes 1



17 - 1/72 die-cast aircraft. I used to make model kits, but these days you can get instant gratification with die-casts. Unless you're a master builder, they look *better* than a finished kit too. And they can be cheaper, depending on where you buy them.

18 – Planes 2



18 - A humongous plastic P-51d Mustang that I got from a friend in California. The canopy slides back, the props spin, and the undercarriage folds down. But for a toy more than two feet long, that's far less than some 1/48 or 1/72 kits. But it's impressively BIG anyway.

19 – Planes 3



19 - This WWI Sopwith Camel I **did** build and paint myself. It's a fraction of the size of the P-51. (A foot across the wings perhaps.) But the prop spins (with the engine, as it should), wheels turn, guns are removable to show cockpit detail, and two panels detach from the sides of the engine cowl. I could have strung it like the real thing, but decided not to. Thread is a terrible dust magnet, and is hard to clean without ripping it loose.

20 – Planes 4



20 - Another kit I put extra effort into was this 1/48 scale Stuka. Cockpit detail is superb.

21 – Figures 4



21 - Yet another small corner of my apartment, that's chock full of stuff. Some die-cast jet

fighters, various 8 inch plastic figures, a "talking" toy of the Enterprise D, some 1/18 scale garage equipment & gas pumps, and my Hugo pins! Also a plaque from the '78 Hugo.

22 – Fire Engines



22 - Next to the kipple in the previous photo is a set of shelves with 1/32 tanks (bottom & largely out of sight), 1/18 scale racing cars (middle), and 1/24 classic fire trucks. The trucks were super high-grade releases from several years ago, priced at \$50 or so. But once again, the craze died down, and Wal-Mart was practically giving them away. The Caddy is the Ecto-1 from Ghostbusters, in 1/20 scale.

23 – Panoz



23 - Some of these 1/18 diecast cars are superb works of art. This one is by the hi-end company AutoArt, and represents a Panoz GTR, street version. It looks exactly like the Batmobile, except its gold! Both front and rear hoods are removable, to show all interior detail, and both doors swing upward. Wheels steer from inside, and it has a working sprung suspension. This quality of die-cast can run to \$60 easily, but I got it on sale for about \$30.

The model is about a foot long and weighs in the neighborhood of two or three pounds.

24 – Cadillac



24 - Another 1/18 die-cast. This one is a 1936 Cadillac limo. Trunk opens too. There's real carpet on the floors under the removable roof. Front wheels steer. This one is made by a different hi-end company, Yat Ming (or Signature). They are usually priced a little more reasonably -- I got it for around \$30 I think. It's just over a foot long and heavy.

25 – Cars 1



25 - Some of the other 1/18 cars in my collection – this set of shelves in my hall is for classics, 1910 up to the 1950's. Some of the books at the very bottom are also antiques. One of the oldest is probably from around 1885, a 2nd. or 3rd. edition of Huck Finn I think. Another is 1850's vintage.

26 - Next to my bed I have this book rack of 50's classics and 60's/70's muscle cars. The rest of my 1/18 cars are also in the bedroom, but I'll forebear posting any more photos. To the non-afficianado, a car is a car. Two hundred cars is too many. Books at bottom are all on the American Civil War.

26 – Cars 2



27 – Fanzines



27 - Facing the foot of my bed is this wall of milk crates. Some of my comic collection is at far left. The next two columns are Vootie, Rowrbrazzle, and other furry zines. The rest is the rump of my fanzine collection. Mainly I kept zines I had material in, zines by friends or others that I was especially fond of, some of particular value, and things that would have duplicated the buyer's collection. They fill up the remaining four columns of crates. And, no, I haven't read them all.

28 – Comics



28 - On the other side of my bed is the rest of my comics collection. Among other things, you can see a 3 foot tall Saturn V model, more 3D maps of places I've travelled to, and a set of shelves at far right. They contain binders for my coin collection, comic magazines, various small collectable toys in boxes, and gawd-knows-what that I had nowhere else to put.

29 – Spaceships 1



29 - This shelf over my bed supports my collection of classic space models. The Apollo and LM are a play-set. If I replaced the battery, the LM would play Neil Armstrong's first step on the moon speech. Toys or not, they are superbly detailed. The others are kits.

30 – Spaceships 2



30 - Close-up of the left hand side rockets. The grey job is a Wiley Lei concept from the 50's. The original kit is about that old, but this one is a re-issue from only 10 or 15 years ago. I modified the orbiter's wing from the original simple delta shape. It's been left grey for the time being, and I used a magic marker to put German crosses on it. How's that for an alternate time-line? The white ship is scratch built from the nose of a Boeing SST, and sheet plastic. Next is a silver moon lander that I believe is also a Wiley Ley concept. Behind it is a two stage space shuttle, but little shows but its wings. To the far right is the Apollo CM.

31 – Spaceships 3



31 – In this shot you get a better view of the two stage shuttle. This is probably what NASA should have built instead of the kludge it did. The Apollo next, and then a good view of the LM. The set came with three astronauts and various lunar experimental packages too.

32 – Spaceships 4



32 - I can't even spare the kitchen from housing various parts of my collections. I eat on a small table below the right hand shelves. Most of you can recognize the ships from Star Trek, etc. I hung a lot of art in the kitchen

before the shelves were put in front of it. Top shelf has a Visible Woman and Visible Head as well, both more or less finished.

33 – Figures 5



33 - Better view of the shelves over my table. Hockey players vs. armed forces. Who do you suppose would win? (You bet your Tim Bits they would!)

34 – Copters



34 - Diecast helicopters in various scales, on a shelf over my bed. Civilian types are mainly to the left, and military models to the right. They have a rotating blades and usually sliding hatches as well. Although all but one are from the same manufacturer, scales vary, which is irritating. For the price they were good value.

35 – Coins



35 - A page from my coin collection – from the binder for ancient and pre-19th. century items. (Most of the rest is 19th. & 20th. century and has little of real value.) The writing on the coin holders is mostly illegible, but I decline to go into detailed description. In brief, the top rows are Greek or Hellenic. The middle row begins coins from the roman Republic. And the last might be a denarius of Julius Caesar’s. I feel it prudent to point out that the values written on them are greatly inflated, and nothing like what I actually paid.

36 – Armed Cat



36 – Shhhh. Don't wake the cat!

37 – Armed Frog



37 - Take these guns from the cold dead flippers of *this* frog. Unlike the plastic kits and toys on my wall, these are metal replicas. The generic name for them is “Airsoft,” but in fact many companies make them. Some in plastic are quite cheap, others in metal, as these, set you back a bit. They operate semi-realistically, but only fire small yellow plastic pellets that can’t break skin. (They *do* smart though!)

38 – Rotsler



38 - I thought I'd add this, a shot of the Rotsler Award placque on my wall near the computer.