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The Magazine of Stereo Photography

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Jacobus G. Ferwerda

Jacobus ("Koo") G. Ferwerda, stereo photography author and a founder of the International Stereoscopic Union died July 3, 1990. His text on stereo photography, "The World of 3-D," was first published in 1982 and has become in many ways the sort of standard reference work for stereo photographers that Darrah's "World of Stereographs" has been for stereo collectors. "The World of 3-D" later went into a second edition, and has sold in more than 25 countries.

Ferwerda took his first stereo photos in 1929, and remained a constantly active stereo photographer and promoter of stereography for over 50 years. Having taken stereo photos in various formats in a number of countries around the world as well as back home in the Netherlands, he became interested in stereo projection as the best way to exhibit and promote stereography. Constructing his own mounting device and projection rig, he began doing 3-D projection shows for different groups in and around his home town.

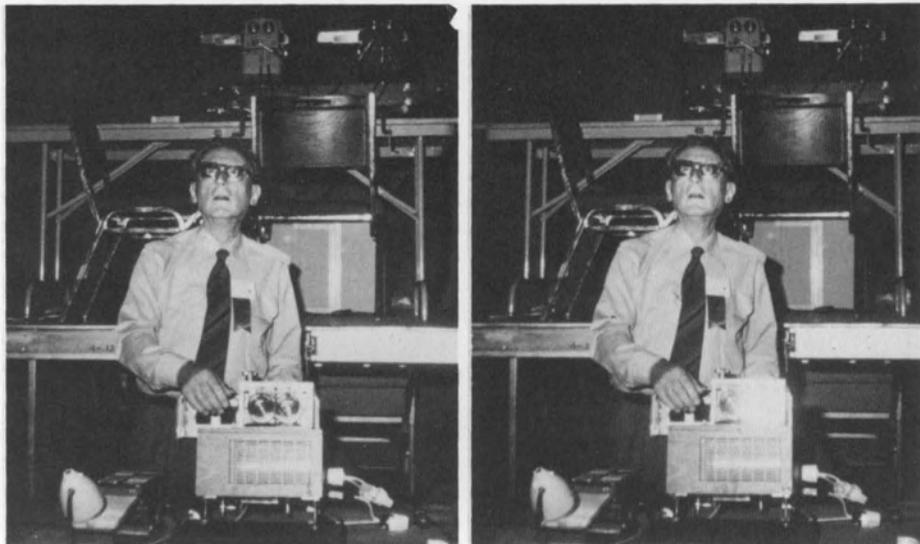
3D HIGHLIGHTS

Jacobus G. Ferwerda - The Man of 3D

Life and work of today's leading author on stereo photography



3 View-Master reels included



Seen as many will remember him best, wearing polarized glasses and projecting stereo slides, Jacobus Ferwerda was stereographed by David Starkman at the 1979 PSA Convention in Hartford, CT.

He also created his own equipment for both close-up and wide base stereo.

In 1960, he was given access by the Dutch government to the "Delta" project for control of North Sea flooding in order to document the massive works in stereo slides. His thousands of images from the ten-year assignment, many being wide base pairs from the ground or air, were edited into a widely admired stereo slide show complete with music and commentary.

In the early 1970s, Ferwerda was one of the founding organizers of the Netherlands Society for Stereo Photography. With this group as a base, he initiated the organization of the first "International Congress for Stereoscopes" which was held at Wageningen, The Netherlands, in May, 1975. The over 200 enthusiastic participants from Europe, the U.S. and Australia agreed at this meeting to the foundation of the International Stereoscopic Union, which has brought stereo photography enthusiasts from around the world to its congress every two years since then.

Having already written articles for the Netherlands Society for Stereo Photography *3-D Bulletin*, Ferwerda became editor of the quarterly

Technical Letters for the ISU. With the success of his first book, the 1977 "Stereo Photography Step by Step," in Dutch, an English edition was planned which grew into the much more comprehensive 306 page "The World of 3-D — A Practical Guide to Stereo Photography."

A stereo-illustrated biography of Ferwerda appeared last year in the *3-D Highlights* series from 3-D Book Productions under the title "Jacobus G. Ferwerda — The Man of 3-D." (See *Stereo World* Sept./Oct. '89, page 32.) Representing several aspects of his work over many years, 21 of Ferwerda's most impressive stereographs are reproduced on the three View-Master reels in the back of the book. The English edition is available through Reel 3-D Enterprises and A Photographers Place.

—John Dennis ■

