Monsters in the Fourth Dimension
The Imaginative Plane of the 3D Comic Book
3D Cinema Factoids

Amazing 3D Comics by Craig Yoe; Yoe Books, 2011.

- Louis Lumiere remakes his 1895 film “L’Arrivée du Train” in anaglyphic 3D in March 1934.
- In 1936, MGM released “Audioscopiks” in red/green anaglyph format. It was nominated for an Academy Award for Best Short Subject, Novelty.
Bwana Devil
1953

A Lion in your lap!
A Lover in your arms!
Joe Kubert and Norman Maurer

Source: www.comicartville.com Archer St. John and the Little Company that Could by Ken Quattro
First 3D Comic

Three Dimension Comics #1
September, 1953
Anaglyph

Anaglyph: two images superimposed through two filters. Glasses with corresponding colored lenses for each eye separate the appropriate images by canceling the filter color out and rendering the complementary color black.

Anaglyph printing was pioneered in the 1920s by Alfred Macy and American Colortype.
Patent for 3D Comics

Shows the layers of acetate overlays cut for a single page to create illusion of depth through anaglyphic means.
Right Eye Green-Left Eye Red
THE ORIGINAL

3-D COMICS

Every page in full 3 DIMENSIONS!

EXTRA!
3-D COVER!
PUT ON YOUR 3-D GOGGLES AND SEE
TOR AND CHEE-CHEE JUMP RIGHT OFF THE COVER!

TOR and CHEE-CHEE
IN THE WORLD OF
1,000,000
YEARS AGO

EDITED BY JOE ROBERT AND NORMAN MAUHER

FREE!
3-D SUPER-SIGHT GOGGLES
Suggestion that object recedes along lines of perspective but its continuity is broken by layers.
Mighty Mouse Splash Page

Three Dimension Comics #2
November, 1953
Illusion of continuity from foreground to background along lines of perspective. Titles and texts unfold at different depths.
TRICERATOPS was the last of the horned dinosaurs. The seven foot skull and flaring collar measured fully one third the creature's entire length. Skeletons have been found measuring twenty to thirty feet in length and when alive, the beast stood fifteen to seventeen feet tall.
Depth of Danger
Artist: Joe Kubert
Intensifying Cinematics.

"That's impossible! Nobody would risk his neck like that!" In answer to that statement we give you Jeanie Steele, Hollywood stunt girl! She dares the impossible, loves danger and wouldn't change her job for any other!
Layers in panel depth represent corresponding layers of internal emotional landscape—"Closer to Life" Artists: Ross Andru and Mike Esposito
The Instrumental Space of 3D Comics

- This is not the 3D space of *Avatar* and the concomitant syndrome of the “Avatar Blues.” This space is not about convergence or continuities.

- This is a space that is staged much as a tableaux vivants. Like Roland Barthes movie stills, “pregnant” with possibilities, expanding sequential perception through depth, down into or out of the panel in dimensional lattices.

- Panel transitions operate vertically as well as horizontally?
Right Eye Red-Left Eye Green
Here's another E.C. Mag that'll scare you out of your 3-D pants!
THE MONSTER FROM THE FOURTH DIMENSION
I was in the south pasture of my farm when I first saw it, hovering about ten feet off the ground. An oozing, quivering, raw, flesh-covered pulsating mass, sliding slowly across the field...

Good Lord! What is that? What the...? The cow's gone too!

As it moved, it seemed to grow in size; its shape constantly changing. It seems to be headed for that grazing cow.

Suddenly, the livid blob vanished and I heard the hoarse wail of an animal, screaming in pain...
I was in the south pasture of my farm when I first saw it, hovering about ten feet off the ground.

An gozing, quivering, raw, flesh-covered pulsating mass, gliding slowly across the field.

Good Lord! What in blazes is that?
As I stood horrified, staring at the vacant spot where the cow had been, it appeared... again... shifting... pulsating...

What is it? What could snatch up and devour a cow like that... suddenly... in an instant?

I darted back to the woodshed where I kept my gun. It hung silently, growing, shrinking, ever-changing...

Whatever it is, I've got to kill it before it gets another cow...

I took careful aim at the quivering livid mass of flesh and fired...

This'll fix you, whatever you are!
I took careful aim at the quivering livid mass of flesh and fired...
This'll fix you, whatever you are!
'Old Bessie; my station wagon, was parked inside the barn. I flung myself in the seat and sped off...

GOT TO SEE MY BROTHER WILLY. HE'LL KNOW WHAT TO DO!
I found Willy in his laboratory behind his house...

Willy! I...

You're just in time, Hank! I've almost finished my fourth-dimensional transporter!
I wasn't interested in any scientific gadgets. I was scared stiff. I told Willy about the thing...

What did it look like, Hank?

Raw-looking... like a blob of meat. Big? Maybe ten, twelve feet across. Only it kept changing its shape...
Willy pulled out a sheet of paper from his coat...

You know that we live in a three-dimensional world. Everything in it has length, width, and height. Now, suppose there also existed a world of only two dimensions, length and width, with no height. Such a world would exist in a single plane, like this sheet of paper.
The creatures of this two-dimensional world would be confined to this plane. They could move in any direction, but they could not rise upward from it, because that would be entering the third dimension, which, to them, does not exist.

But it what about that thing up there, willy?
Suppose that I, a three dimensional creature, came to this two dimensional world and stuck my finger through it, like so. What would the two dimensional creature see? Merely a cross section of my finger... a two dimensional view of the part existing in their plane.
YOU MEAN THAT A FOURTH DIMENSIONAL CREATURE HAS STUCK ITS FINGERTIPS INTO OUR THREE DIMENSIONAL WORLD, WILLY??

EXACTLY! WHAT? WE SEE THIS THREE DIMENSIONAL CROSS SECTION OF THIS THING IN EXTREMITY!!

BUT, WILLY, HOW CAN WE STOP HIM FROM DESTROYING EVERYTHING? IT'S ALREADY WRECKED MY BARN AND EATEN MY COWS.

WE'VE GOT TO ESCAPE NOW, THANKS.
Suddenly, there was a tremendous explosion that seemed to come from everywhere at one time, and then pieces of metal and glass and rubber rained down around me...

Willy's Machine.
I took careful aim at the quivering livid mass of flesh and fired...
This'll fix you, whatever you are!!