Painter of the Stars
The Life and Work of Milton J. Hill (1887-1972)
By Lee S. Heffner & Patrick J. Donmoyer, foreword by Ivan E. Hoyt
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Explore the colorful work of barn star artist Milton J. Hill of Virginville, Berks County, who profoundly contributed to the evolution of this classic Pennsylvania Dutch folk art tradition. The decorated barns of southeastern Pennsylvania have captured the American imagination ever since their “discovery” in the early twentieth century - sparking generations of debate over the real meaning of these celestial, geometric depictions of the stars.

Follow Milton’s journey from the family farm to the national spotlight as a celebrated American folk artist, who introduced this colorful living tradition of barn star painting to the world through his important contributions to the Kutztown Folk Festival, the nation’s first and longest-running celebration of American folklife.

Lavishly illustrated with historical and contemporary views of decorated barns, family ephemera, and early photographs, Painter of the Stars is sure to captivate readers who are eager to discover the rich artistic expression of the Pennsylvania Dutch through the life and work of a profoundly influential barn star painter and folk artist, Milton J. Hill.

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