



Art: Over 2,500 Works from Cave to Contemporary

By Iain Zaczek, Mary Acton

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ART, the ultimate visual guide to 2,000 of the world's most revered paintings and sculptures, begins with a short section on how to look at paintings and sculpture, explaining the simple steps of formal analysis that swiftly become automatic and greatly increase and inform your enjoyment of art. The main part of the book is a 540-page chronological look at more than 700 artists. This section is subdivided into the main periods of art history with introductions to each period or art movement that explain the key elements and influences of the time. With several paintings by each major artist, this section is a joy to dip into or study in more depth. Key paintings are examined in detail to help you understand the artist's intentions, style, and method. Thematic galleries are interspersed, showing how artists from different periods and places treat the same subject matter, such as landscape, nudes, or animals.

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Art: Over 2,500 Works from Cave to Contemporary By Iain Zaczek, Mary Acton Bibliography

- Sales Rank: #16060 in Books
- Brand: Dorling Kindersley, Inc. (COR)/ King, Ross (FRW)
- Published on: 2008-10-20
- Released on: 2008-10-20
- Original language: English
- Number of items: 1
- Dimensions: 12.13" h x 1.75" w x 10.38" l, 7.60 pounds
- Binding: Hardcover
- 612 pages

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Editorial Review

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What must a big book of art contain to make it a great big book of art? Many color reproductions, including close-ups. A fluid mix of art history and interpretation set against the larger panorama of world history. Lots of brief artist bios. Clear and concise explanations of media, techniques, aesthetics, styles, and intent. A sense of continuity and stories of radical departures and infamous scandals. Works and artists the reader has never encountered before. A jump-starting foreword by an eloquent art historian, such as Ross King, who opens this exemplary volume, one that surpasses all the criteria above, by declaring, "Great art, more than anything else, is the benchmark of human achievement." From the genuinely informative introductory primer, "Looking at Art," to in-depth scrutiny of seminal works to overviews of universal and timeless themes, and a phenomenal array of artists past and present, this grand and exciting survey of the art of Europe and the U.S. with forays into Africa, Asia, India, South America, and Australia, should be the anchor for art collections of all sizes. --Donna Seaman

Review

"ART is a standout book for any student or aficionado, a volume [Ross] King aptly describes as 'an admirable feat and a true joy.'" --BookPage, November, 2008

Chock-full of gorgeous color reproductions and images, helpful timelines, detailed close-ups, artists biographies, and with histories and explanations written in clear, concise prose, ART is a standout book for any student or aficionado, a volume [Ross] King aptly describes as an admirable feat and a true joy. --BookPage

About the Author

Ross King is a Professor of Korean and head of the Department of Asian Studies at the University of British Columbia.

Users Review

From reader reviews:

David Guyton:

Spent a free time and energy to be fun activity to try and do! A lot of people spent their spare time with their family, or their own friends. Usually they carrying out activity like watching television, planning to beach, or picnic inside park. They actually doing same thing every week. Do you feel it? Will you something different to fill your own personal free time/ holiday? May be reading a book might be option to fill your no cost time/ holiday. The first thing that you ask may be what kinds of book that you should read. If you want to test look for book, may be the guide untitled Art: Over 2,500 Works from Cave to Contemporary can be great book to read. May be it can be best activity to you.

Irving Brehm:

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