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Helen Frankenthaler



Synopsis

Helen Frankenthaler, an early pioneer of the stained-canvas method, has produced a body of paintings, sculpture and prints whose impact on contemporary art has been significant. This study of the artist's career offers an analysis of the year-by-year evolution of her art.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

A protean abstract expressionist painter, Helen Frankenthaler can be tender and delicate, powerfully archetypal, explosively lyrical, quietly introspective or mystically transcendental. Her splashy, symbol-laden *Eden* (1956) seems to conjure up the gates of paradise itself. Her loose, evocative 1950s style, a synthesis of Gorky, de Kooning and Pollock, gave way to '60s color-field experiments a la Mark Rothko, followed by witty, complex, ambivalent metaphors of the '70s and explorations in ceramic tile, steel or clay sculpture, and works on paper. Director of drawings at New York's Museum of Modern Art, Elderfield provides the most thorough survey of Frankenthaler's stylistic growth to date in this huge, sumptuous album. She can pack more meaning into one daub of color than do many artists into an entire canvas, and this volume's plates of incomparable quality render visible the texture and hue of the paint. Well over half of the 400 illustrations are in color. Copyright 1989 Reed Business Information, Inc.

This is a handsomely produced, highly readable study of American abstract artist Helen Frankenthaler. Winning early recognition for her evocative, color-stained canvases, Frankenthaler has fused drawing and painting techniques in her explorations of fluid color, line, and transparency.

Elderfield, director of Drawing at the Museum of Modern Art, emphasizes the paintings while weaving in examples of Frankenthaler's works on paper, book designs, tapestries, stage sets, sculpture, and murals. He writes with confidence and authority, drawing upon extensive interviews with the artist. With its 262 color and 138 black-and-white illustrations, detailed chronologies, and lengthy bibliography, this superb critical account is highly recommended for all 20th-century art collections.- Annette Melville, Research Lib. Group, StanfordCopyright 1989 Reed Business Information, Inc.

This book is fantastic. I would have preferred to purchase the even more beautiful \$250+ books on Frankenthaler however many gorgeous images live inside this book as well. The paintings are truly mesmerizing.

Great insight into Helen Frankenthaler, her life, her art.

I was dreaming about this book for years. Helen Frankenthaler was my favorite artist. Sadly she passed away last year, I had to buy this book honoring to her memory. Beautifully printed, the best art book you can think of ! It was not cheap but well worth it.

As a long-time fan of Helen Frankenthaler, I bought this weighty coffee-table book as inspiration to myself as an artist. The book, like Frankenthaler herself, has abstract art bigger than life, imaginative, colorful, transcendently beautiful: unafraid and on the edge. Artists and art lovers everywhere can benefit from this tome. Magnificent plates throughout are true to life color.

This book is one of my treasures. The work is amazing as are the plates. What a gift. I am sorry that another customer used this reviewing system to rate the post office, or her vendor. This book is worth 10 stars.

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