



History of Modern Art: Painting, Sculpture, Architecture, Photography

H. Harvard Arnason

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For undergraduate course in Modern Art, Origins of Modernism, Art Since 1945, Contemporary Art and other courses focusing on art in the 20th century. Long considered the survey of modern art, this engrossing and liberally illustrated text traces the development of trends and influences in painting, sculpture, photography and architecture from the mid-nineteenth century to the present day. Retaining its comprehensive nature and chronological approach, it now comes thoroughly reworked by Michael Bird, an experienced art history editor and writer, with refreshing new analyses, a considerably expanded picture program, and a more absorbing and unified narrative.

History of Modern Art: Painting, Sculpture, Architecture, Photography Details

Date : Published January 1st 2013 by Pearson Educacion

ISBN : 9780205259472

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Format : Paperback 832 pages

Genre : Art, Art History, Nonfiction, History, Reference, Architecture, Literature, 20th Century, Academic, School, Textbooks

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Christopher says

After this book sitting around for years, I decided to actually read it from cover to cover. Not much depth... but, what can you expect in a book about THE HISTORY OF MODERN ART. Not much depth is what you can expect.

Perhaps this book is used for classes. Hopefully with supplemental texts.

Maria says

Amazing book specially if you want to prepare a unique graduation project.

Loliskulls says

Read this for my modern art class... for it being so expensive I wouldn't have expected so many black and white photographs...The text for this book is mediocre but it covers so much time that I guess its hard to get into any real detail... text mostly focusing loosely on the style of the paintings depicted in the book but gives a small amount of general background info on artists...The book also comes off as pretentious and opinionated in places, which lost it major brownie points with me... so I would not recommend this book for new comers to modern art...

Kent says

Friends, at 832 pages this monumental text is a serious commitment (Okay yes there ARE lots of pictures!). It'll take me a while, but these eyes are on the prize. Next stop: the rise of the Impressionists and the Avante Garde. Gentlemen, and lady, please line up when I call your name: Manet, Monet, Degas, Renoir, Cassat...

Noelle says

I read this for class. The first semester of 20th Century Art History at UW. I've read the first part about twice and am about to do my final for that. In a year i'll take the second half but i'm taking the book off the list for now. I'm though P438 and have learned so much

Mills College Library says

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Rebecca says

Copyright 1998. I still don't know enough about contemporary art, and I remember absorbing very little when this was my textbook. Many of the photos are B & W. Something to add to the "subjects to study further" list, with a newer book.

Lailai says

An expensive textbook for my art history class. To be honest, I don't like the writing style of the author because when you have to memorize something, you'll find you need to rewrite almost everything....

However, if you want to understand thoroughly about modern art, the book is a good choice.

Café says

If you're an art major trying to go through your art history class or just an aficionado, or someone looking for general knowledge, this could be a good starting point.

If you're serious about art criticism and theory you should check "Art since 1900" by Foster et al. That's an excellent starting point.

William says

Exceptional book, which I studied at MIT for a course in the Humanities in about 1972-73. Wonderful.

Amir Shadkam says

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Gordana says

:)

Hazar Bayindir says

Well, I believe it is kind of impossible to read it all. But I am always reading that book, and I will keep reading for long years.

Kasper says

Not bad, although it could be a bit deeper in some places, although there is a very even distribution of information among the works covered by this book. Useful in classes and it came to a very good use by me.

Erin J. Mullikin says

While Arnason's text is informative, this reads more like a piece of survey literature than a detailed account of the history of modern art. I highly suggest a supplemental text, such as *Theories and Documents of Contemporary Art: A Sourcebook of Artists' Writings* (Kristine Stiles and Peter Selz) for a more complete experience.
