



Monet Or The Triumph Of Impressionism

Daniel Wildenstein

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Along with Turner, no artist has sought more than **Claude Monet (1840-1926)** to capture light itself on canvas. Of all the Impressionists, it was the man Cézanne called "only an eye, but my God what an eye!" who stayed completely true to the principle of absolute fidelity to the visual sensation, painting directly from the object.

It could be said that Monet reinvented the possibilities of colour, and whether it was through his early interest in Japanese prints, his time in the dazzling light of Algeria as a conscript, or his personal acquaintance with the major painters of the late 1800s, what Monet produced throughout his long life would change forever the way we perceive both the natural world and its attendant phenomena. The high point of his explorations were the late series of waterlilies, painted in his own garden at Giverny, that, in their moves towards almost total formlessness, are really the origin of abstract art.

This biography does full justice to this most remarkable and profoundly influential of artists, and offers **numerous reproductions and archive photos alongside a detailed and insightful commentary.**

Monet Or The Triumph Of Impressionism Details

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From Reader Review Monet Or The Triumph Of Impressionism for online ebook

Paige Worrall says

This was a very insightful overview of impressionism. Instead of just focusing on the chronology it focused on why impressionists techniques were so influential at the time. It has also led me to some more intriguing artists that I would not have thought to look at if I had not read the book.

Am Y says

Would have got a higher rating if the text hadn't killed my eyes - it's absolutely microscopic! The book itself is sort of half-letter-sized, and *really* thick. Why didn't the publisher choose to go with a larger size, like A4 or letter then? For one, the pictures at least would be bigger, and more importantly the text.

That irritating fact aside, the book itself was an interesting read, and showcases almost all of Monet's works throughout his life, from the pencil sketches and caricatures done from when he was a boy, to the final paintings at the end of his life. It details whatever can be gleaned of Monet's life from letters written by himself to others and vice versa.

The book also has actual photographs of many of the places Monet drew/painted - viewed from the same perspective, so you can compare them with his version.

Momo García says

Aburrido a más no poder. No logro comprender por qué un autor escribiría una biografía tan detallada, llegando incluso a trazar el árbol genealógico de Monet o a mencionar los matices más ridículos sobre su bautizo. Mi única hipótesis es que quisieron replicar el estilo de la élite: frivolidad y autocomplacencia burguesa.

Las reproducciones pueden ser lo único que salve el honor de este volumen, pero el texto hace verlo como burdas producciones burguesas: sólo cosas que se ven "bonitas".

No quiero pensar mal y acertar, pero comienzo a sospechar por qué lo ofrecen con un descuento tan generoso, a pesar de haberse producido el año pasado...

Jennifer says

I found this to be the most interesting and informative book on the life and works of the painter, Claude Monet, that I have read so far. The book told the story of his life and how he came to be interested in painting. It then went through the pictures he did up until his death early in the 20th century. The origin of each painting is described in detail with information about the circumstances of their creation and the process

of exhibiting and selling them through art dealers. It was a look at what it was like to be a professional artist during the second half of the 19th century.

The last part of the book was rather sad. Here we see an ageing Monet, with various health problems, and, tragically, problems with cataracts on his eyes which hindered his work. It is a sad thought that perhaps all of those years working out in the 'plein air' depicting the real world as he saw it may have been the cause of his cataracts. Since reading this book, whenever I have been to see one of his paintings at an exhibition, I think of this and the price he paid for his success. Thinking of this as an Occupational Health and Safety Issue, as we would say today, he might have been advised to wear polarised sunglasses to protect his eyes. But he might have seen this as an issue with colour as it might have interfered with the way he saw it.

What is also interesting are Monet's ideas about art and those of his fellow artists and friends, how they developed and the subsequent rejection of their works for a long time, by the official art establishment. This book tells you what many others don't. Usually, you have a biography which concentrates on the details of his life, friends, dealers and family; and art books that concentrate on the paintings; this book does all of these things. It would be useful if other painters work and lives were told in a similar fashion.

Irina says

Happy to learn about all the different series he did; there is so much more to Monet than the lilies and the Japanese bridge ...

Heather says

An incredibly detailed history with very clear illustrations. I do wish that more of the plates were full page so that I could see even more detail, but it is an impressive catalogue of work, and shows many of his paintings of the same location in different light, which I love.

Kate says

This book is just about awesome as the paintings of Monet are. Detailed on-facts based chapters about his life listed out in front so reader can navigate well, all the copies and versions of pictures printed out on the page - except of course few because, the book is rather small and not everything can suite in. yet it is anyway full of information about Monet's personal and professional life.

I'm very glad I bought this book rather than buying myself another 3 cinema tickets as I planed to do with the money.

Edward says

--Monet, or the Triumph of Impressionism

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