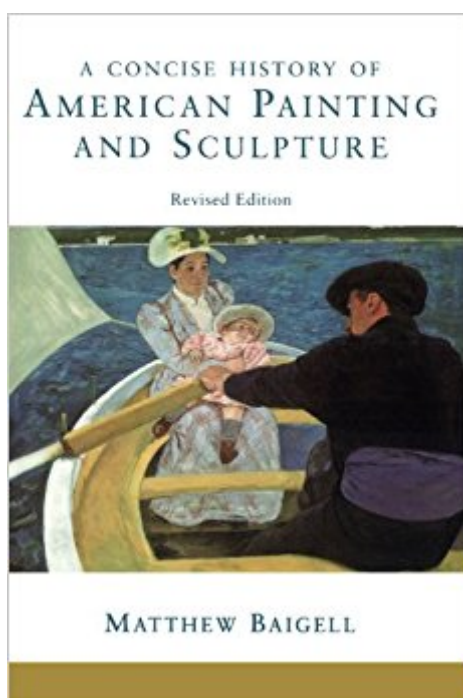


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A Concise History Of American Painting And Sculpture: Revised Edition



Synopsis

This clear, thorough, and reliable survey of American painting and sculpture from colonial times to the present day covers all the major artists and their works, outlines the social and cultural backgrounds of each period, and includes 409 illustrations integrated with the text. Although some determining factors in American art are considered, Matthew Baigell views the rich and diverse achievements of American art as the result of the efforts and talents of a pluralistic society rather than as fitting into a particular mold. This edition includes corrections and revisions to the text, an updated bibliography, and 13 new illustrations.

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Customer Reviews

This clear, thorough, and reliable survey of American painting and sculpture from colonial times to the present day covers the major artists and their works, outlines the social and cultural backgrounds of each period, and includes 409 illustrations integrated with the text. The book begins with a discussion of seventeenth-century art along the eastern seaboard and ends with sections on current realistic process and technological art. The eight chapters are arranged chronologically and each generally follows the same organizational sequence. From time to time the author suggests continuities of themes, ideas, and images; and contrasts or comparisons are made between artists of the same or different centuries to show continuities or discontinuities. Some determining factors in American art are considered, but Baigell views the rich and diverse achievements of American art as the result of the efforts and talents of pluralistic society rather than as fitting into a particular mold. This edition includes corrections and revisions to the text, an updated bibliography, and thirteen new

illustrations.

Matthew Baigell is Distinguished Professor of Art History at Rutgers University. He is the author of Dictionary of American Art and The American Scene: American Painting During the 1930s, as well as books on Thomas Hart Benton, Charles Burchfield, Frederic Remington, Thomas Cole, and Albert Bierstadt.

I actually had to buy this because I rented it from my library for a project, but found it so delicious I kept it for months after (and lost track of it). Definitely a read that will mainly appeal to people who like art history, but I really enjoyed his writing style (often it's like too dry or pretentious or recondite).

A Concise History of American Painting and Sculpture is a very good overview of American art by a professional who writes well. Highly recommended.

Well written although Baigell assumes in Chapter 1 that you know about some areas that he doesn't define. Google was useful in clarifying these.

I choose this for my class, it is a very good book. And the book is one hundred percent new.

I am reading this book as background to become a museum docent. I am finding the writing to be overly convoluted and dense, very jargony. I am finding that the author will create very long sentences full of words that need explanation for the context of the book. Lacking a description of the work itself, giving only critical words, and then having the image (black and white only) several pages away left me with a pile of words not tied to anything immediate, proximate or specific. He quotes lots of people, refers at a distance to words and works and fails to have them coherent. He, like many art analysts doesn't give the sense that what is implied is reflected in the writings or statements of the artists. I get the feeling that very often meanings are imputed without the support of the artists own words. All this negative being said, I have not finished the book and perhaps at some point down the line the lack of linearity will be overcome. All the images are bad black and white and with out supportive description don't mean a lot. Not a book for someone who is not an art historian or with an encyclopedic memory for paintings and sculptures they might have seen somewhere else. I would like to have seen a timeline included, to make the book concise.

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