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Durer (Art & Ideas)



Synopsis

Authoritative yet highly approachable new monograph of the great German artist Albrecht Durer (1471-1528) Both a comprehensive introduction to and an insightful reappraisal of the life and works of the most famous North European Renaissance artist. Jeffrey Chipps Smith seeks to demystify Durer by considering his life and art within the context of his fascinating and tumultuous age, analysing the myths and explaining his artistic processes. All Durer's major works, from prestigious altarpieces to well-known prints and drawings, are illustrated generously and explored in depth. Richly illustrated with more than 200 colour reproductions, with glossary, biographies, chronology, maps and a further reading list supporting the text.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

"[Jeffrey Chipps Smith is] an established authority... An admirably lucid overview of the life and work of one the greatest and most various of all renaissance artists."-The Spectator On the Art & Ideas series "Art & Ideas has broken new ground in making accessible authoritative views on periods, movements and concepts in art. As a series it represents a real advance in publishing."-Sir Nicholas Serota, Director, Tate London "The format is wonderful and offers what had long been missing in academic studies: usable manuals for specific themes or periods... I am definitely not alone in welcoming Art & Ideas as a precious set of teaching tools."-Joachim Pissarro, Yale University "Phaidon's series may prove to be the pick of the crop. It boasts expert but undogmatic texts and a wealth of illustrations."-The Sunday Telegraph

Jeffrey Chipps Smith holds the Kay Fortson Chair in European Art at the University of Texas at Austin. His books include *German Sculpture of the Later Renaissance* (1994) and *Sensuous Worship: The Jesuits and the Early Catholic Reformation in Germany* (2003).

All the Phaidon Art & Ideas books I have are great, whether on artistic movements or specific artists: they have clear writing that is informative and written by leading scholars and despite their small size, good reproductions of the art concerned and ample examples. Dr. Smith's volume on Dürer is no exception and it is a great introduction to the artist's life and work. I've noticed with these books (Art & Ideas) some reviewers take issue with their small size, however, since they're meant for reading and not as coffee table books, I'm very pleased with the size as you can actually pick them up and read them with ease. They make good, informative, and affordable textbooks for college-level art history courses, too, and I hope they're being used in that regard.

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