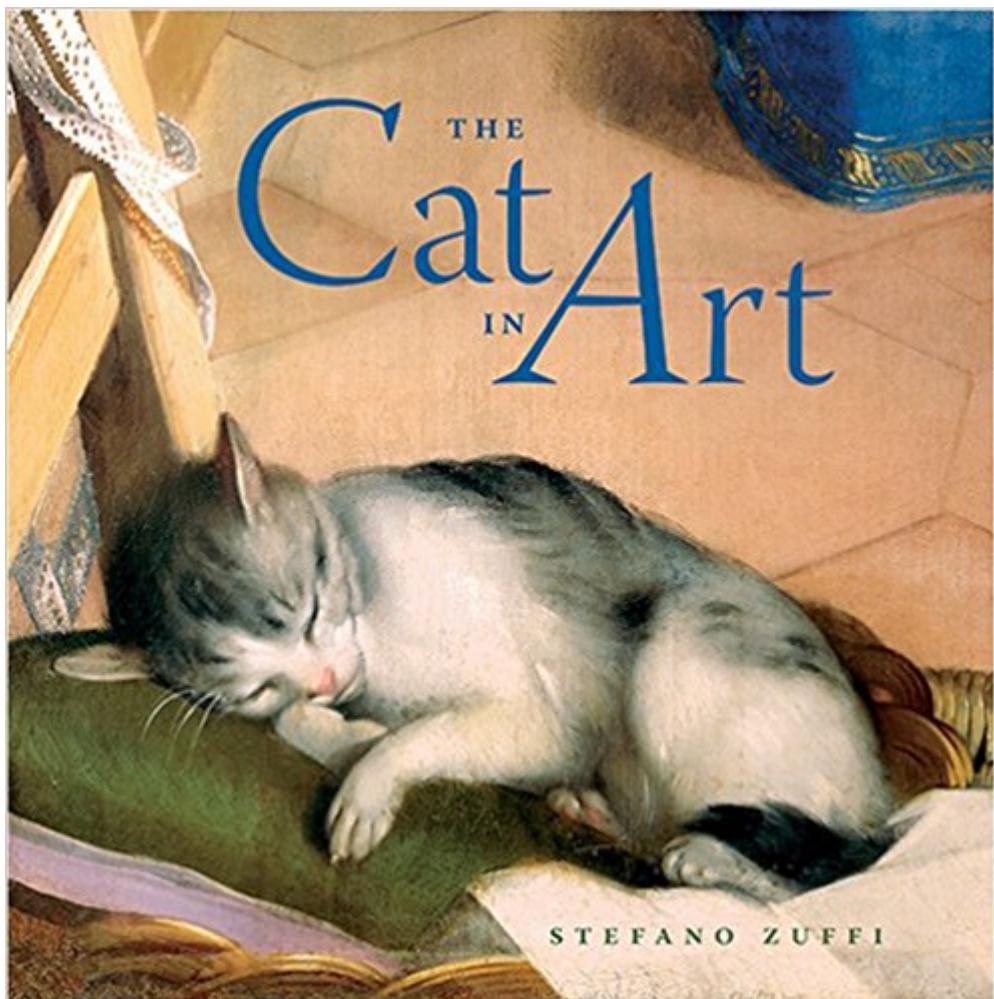


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The Cat In Art



Synopsis

The Cat in Art is both full of surprises and hauntingly familiar, as cats play and pounce and sleep and purr their way through 170 great art masterpieces from the ancient world to the present. What cats represent to us in life, they bring to art: elegance and grace; domestic tranquility; symbols of sensuality and mischievousness. Here are paintings by Van Eyck, Raphael, Leonardo, Bruegel, Rembrandt, Chardin, Gainsborough, Manet, Renoir, Bonnard, Gauguin, Matisse, Balthus, Picasso, Warhol, and many others. Sometimes the cats are the stars of the work, and sometimes they are working their magic from the corners of rooms; in which case both the whole work and a detail showing the cat are illustrated. Stefano Zuffi's charming text tells the reader what it all means, from the feline goddesses of the ancients, to the devilish cats of the Middle Ages, to the indispensable companions of our own time.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

The cat is an animal of a "thousand faces," observes art historian Zuffi in this grand tour of the cat's various artistic incarnations. Graceful, devious, playful, luxuriating, fierce, affectionate, petulant, and aloof--in short, domestic without being domesticated--the cat has inspired artists for centuries. As Zuffi informatively and entertainingly traces the cat's evolution from deity to witch's familiar, an emblem of wholesome bliss to a rapacious hunter, a figure of comic relief to a model of poise and serenity, he presents uncommonly reproduced works by artists famous and less familiar, creating a unique feline portrait gallery replete with Roman mosaics, French illuminated manuscripts, Dutch

interiors, Renaissance paintings, Japanese prints, imaginative works by Picasso and Klee, and sensual paintings by Gauguin. Cat lovers will delight in the many variations on the cat theme, while Zuffi's lively mix of aesthetics, history, lore, and interpretation turns the cat into a lithe guide to art history. Pair this volume with Best in Show: The Dog in Art from the Renaissance to Today (2006).
Donna Seaman
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Stefano Zuffi is an art historian who specializes in Renaissance and Baroque painting. He has written numerous popular books about art and artists, including Abrams’ Art in Venice (1999). He lives in Milan.

Interesting. My copy arrived falling apart, which is always irritating.....good for kids' arts & crafts.

It's a very beautiful book, it's well edited. It's recomendable for cats lovers and for anyone interested in art and culture.

Beautiful artwork and a lovely history on the pieces enclosed. If you love history and cats then this is one coffee table book that is sure to please!

I bought this book as a birthday gift and it was a big hit. It has hundreds of pictures and descriptions of paintings, some of which I'd never seen before. Everyone at the party was looking at it. It would be an awesome present for a cat lover or someone into art.

It's just lovely!

Since the cat is a study in art itself, this book is a huge pay-off for the feline lovers of the world. It's pure joy from cover-to-cover. I didn't know I could be so enthralled once more with a book about cats! It will remain out on my table for all to see to perpetuity! J. Stillman

As a cat person, I enjoyed looking at famous paintings to see where the cat was included. In some cases, it was like the "Where's Waldo" pictures. A few cats were well hidden - but there.

This is an incredibly beautiful book organized chronologically drawing attention to the detail of the cat which is so easily missed even by the fancier of the painter's medium. What a fantastic

educational variation on "Where's Wally?". Parent and child will have endless hours of fun finding the cat!

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