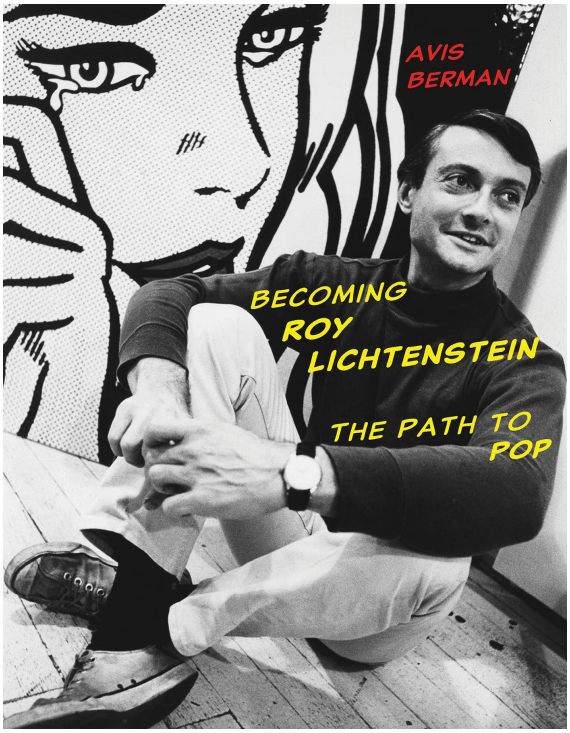
TITLE INFORMATION
Tel: +44 (0) 1394 389950
Email: uksales@accartbooks.com
Web: https://www.accartbooks.com/uk



Becoming Roy Lichtenstein

The Path to Pop

Avis Berman

ISBN	9780789215475
Publisher	Abbeville Press
Binding	Hardback
Territory	World excluding USA, Canada, Puerto Rico, and Australia
Size	229 mm x 178 mm
Pages	592 Pages
Price	£35.95

- A landmark artist biography that takes us inside the creation of Pop art
- The first biography of the young Roy Lichtenstein, from his New York boyhood to the breakthrough summer of 1961, when he painted his first Pop canvases
- Tells the surprising and dramatic story of Lichtenstein's struggle to survive as an artist and find his own style
- A book no one else could have written: author Avis Berman has interviewed hundreds of the artist's friends, relatives, students, and colleagues
- Illustrated in full colour throughout

A landmark artist biography that takes us behind the Ben-Day dots and into the invention of Pop.

When Roy Lichtenstein painted his breakthrough canvas *Look Mickey* in 1961—an image of Donald Duck and Mickey Mouse adapted from a storybook belonging to his young sons—he was an obscure thirty-seven-year-old assistant professor at Rutgers who had laboured for years on the periphery of the art world. Within a few years, Pop paintings like this one, in which he transformed the crude imagery and graphic techniques of the funny pages into carefully ordered compositions, would make Lichtenstein rich and famous like few artists before. His art, instantly recognisable yet cool and impersonal, had the curious effect of obscuring its own history and the man behind it. But who was Roy Lichtenstein? And how had he, at the moment of painting *Look Mickey*, finally been able to transcend the boundaries of his own good taste and elevate comics to high art? Now, for the first time, the story of Lichtenstein's life up through his *annus mirabilis* is told in full. Author Avis Berman, drawing on hundreds of interviews with the artist's friends, relatives, students, and colleagues, as well as extensive archival research, takes us from his childhood on the Upper West Side to his education at Ohio State, where a charismatic mentor teaches him "how to see"; his tumultuous first marriage and peripatetic teaching career; his struggle to find his own style and escape the shadow of Abstract Expressionism; and finally the fateful summer of 1961. It is an unexpectedly moving story, one that brings Lichtenstein to life as an American master to stand beside a Warhol, a Pollock, a de Kooning, an O'Keeffe. Illustrated in full colour throughout.

Avis Berman has written extensively on art for publications including the *New York Times*, the *Washington Post*, and the *Boston Globe*. Her books include *Rebels on Eighth Street: Juliana Force and the Whitney Museum of American Art; Edward Hopper's New York*; and *Roy Lichtenstein: The Impossible Collection*. She is also an oral historian of art, having interviewed more than five hundred artists, curators, critics, dealers, collectors, and other art world figures for such organisations as the Archives of American Art, the Metropolitan Museum of Art, and the Museum of Modern Art. The oral histories she compiled for the Roy Lichtenstein Foundation, starting in 2001, were the genesis of this book.

Publish date 11th Jan 2027