



Experiences of Art: Reflections on Masterpieces

Hilda Werschkul

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| ISBN | 9781939621603 |
| Publisher | ORO Editions |
| Binding | Paperback / softback |
| Territory | World excluding USA, Canada, Australasia, China, Hong Kong, Taiwan, South Korea, and Japan |
| Size | 298 mm x 165 mm |
| Pages | 200 Pages |
| Illustrations | 200 color |
| Price | £15.50 |

- A key reference text for students of art history, of interest to anybody who wants to learn more about this field
- Sumptuous pictures accompany the text, allowing for detailed image study

Experiences of Art: Reflections on Masterpieces is a book that explores the history of art through the insights of students and critics. It engages with challenging, thought-provoking themes such as the origins of creativity in prehistoric art, the meaning and significance of the classical paradigm in art history since antiquity, the actual application of Renaissance art theory to an examination of famous masterpieces, and the tradition of individual subjectivity and expression in modern art reaching back to Van Gogh. In addition, one of its special features is an exploration of a new area of philosophical inquiry, which re-examines the 18th century as both a period of rationalism and anti-rationalism (rather than the “Age of Reason”, as it is commonly referred to). With its focus on well-known and often-discussed masterpieces, this work is adept at including both the mandatory framework of current critical thought and introducing fresh ideas and perspectives.

Hilda Werschkul holds a doctorate in art history from Columbia University. Her areas of specialization lay in the drawings of the Old Masters and drawing theory as well as Post-War American art. *Experiences of Art: Reflections on Masterpieces* draws upon over ten years of teaching experience devoted to the introductory survey course.