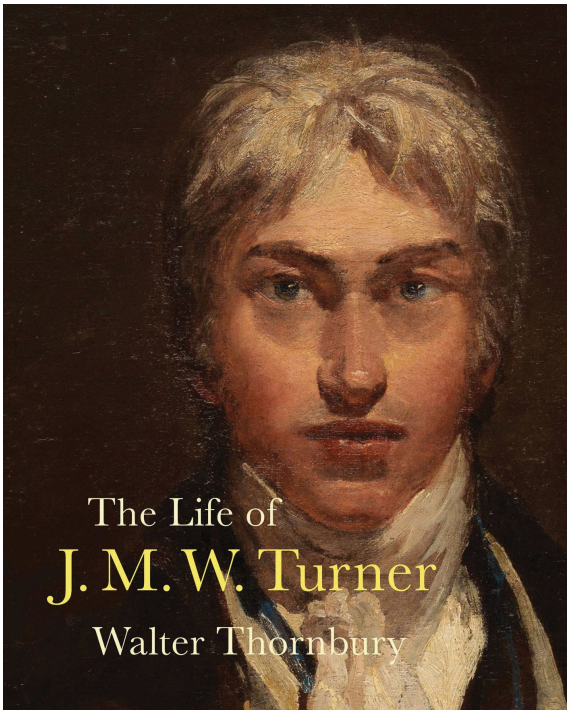
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Email: uksales@accartbooks.com
Web: https://www.accartbooks.com/uk



The Life of J. M. W. Turner

Walter Thornbury

Introduction by Ian Warrell

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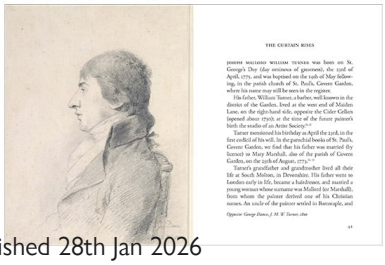
- The biography that provided most of what we know about Turner's life and career
- A vivid, compact and coherent arrangement of Walter Thornbury's ill-organised and prolix original
- Nearly 100 pages of colour illustration covering the full range of Turner's extraordinary output

Joseph Mallord William Turner (1775–1851) is without contest England's greatest painter – as his contemporaries were quick to admit, even when they could not understand his increasingly abstract art. Yet, despite achieving fame young, the man himself was so intensely private as to be almost unknown. Both brusque and kindly, tight-fisted and generous, taciturn and witty company, he remained a fascinating enigma and source of many legends.

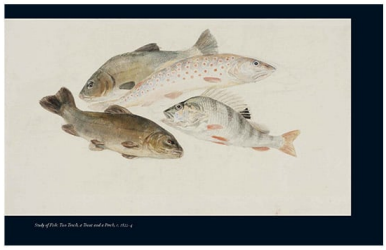
Soon after Turner's death the journalist, critic and novelist Walter Thornbury began collecting anecdotes from friends and colleagues. The resulting biography provides most of what we know about Turner. It is unfailingly energetic and entertaining – but also ill-organised and prolix. In this edition, the scholar Ian Warrell has arranged Thornbury's most illuminating passages into a compact, coherent narrative of the painter's life.

Unfailingly vivid and thought-provoking, and with nearly 100 pages of colour illustrations, this is the first stop on any exploration of Turner's life and career.

Walter Thornbury (1828–1876), journalist, historian, novelist, critic, poet and travel writer, is best remembered for his biography of Turner, and Old and New London. Hugely prolific and controversial, he died of over-work at the age of only 47.**Ian Warrell** is an independent curator specialising in British art of the 19th century. He has written extensively on Turner and has curated exhibitions worldwide on many aspects of his art. His latest publication with Pallas Athene is*Impressions in Watercolour: Turner and his Contemporaries.*







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