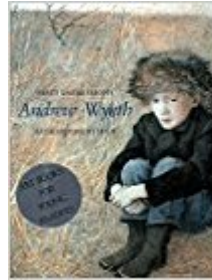




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First Impressions: Andrew Wyeth



Synopsis

Developed especially for older middle-grade and young teen readers, these exciting biographies bring to life the world's great artists.

Book Information

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Grade Level: 7 and up

Customer Reviews

In the "First Impressions" series, a detailed, perceptive portrait of a contemporary painter who has received both critical admiration and popular acclaim, by a long-time friend who first wrote about Wyeth in the 60's. Meryman's primary focus is Wyeth's boyhood--a choice that, in this case, is appropriate: his lively youth and relationship with his colorful but overwhelming father, N. C. Wyeth, is not only of particular interest to young people but crucial to Andrew's development. N.C., who had hoped for recognition as a painter, was best known as a fine illustrator; he was also a respected teacher. Andrew was lucky to be the last of his five gifted children, thriving in the vibrant family milieu but also benefiting from some benign neglect. His own work is seen here as a rich, creative blend of N.C.'s rigorous instruction and fertile example, and of an artist's compelling need to find his own way. Countering the popular conception of Andrew as a throwback or traditionalist, Meryman points out both the emotional complexity of his subjects and their treatment and the intellectual nature of compositions that, like abstract art, are determined more by form and color than by content. The paintings reproduced are well chosen to represent Wyeth's development and range. A fascinating, entertaining, and beautiful book. Excellent color reproductions with full citations; b&w

photos; index. (Biography. 11+) -- Copyright ©1991, Kirkus Associates, LP. All rights reserved.

Of all the Wyeth artists, Andrew is the most prolific and most lauded. If you wonder why, read this book. The idea is simple: A picture and a reminiscence. Thomas Hoving conducted a series of interviews with Andrew and placed the artist's insight into his own work next to the work itself. The format is as austere and magnificent as the paintings themselves. The plate qualities are excellent and all of the pieces are shown in their entirety. This is not an autobiography of Andrew's life but rather a penetrating look into sixty years of peerless artistry. The book contains no detail plates nor does it attempt to explain Andrew's often cryptic commentary, but it takes you into the mind and soul of the artist. Delight in this. It is a treasure.

This book is a MUST HAVE for any Wyeth or "realist" fan. Or for any fan of American Art. Or for any fan of painting or art in general. Last night I was browsing the book while watching the news- and before I knew it I was completely transported. I felt like I had been on a little vacation. It's that kind of book. Beautiful format- and a wonderful, extremely interesting insight into the mind of the artist.

As a longtime Andrew Wyeth admirer this book is a pure delight. It ties beautifully back to the early books of Wanda Corn and others who have written on Andrew. But what is wonderful is that, with the recent passing of Andrew we now have a complete overview of a remarkable man and his inner thoughts underscoring and illuminating a choice selection of some of his most progressive works of art in this text. Surely this is the book that will become the classic in the Wyeth lore and well it should be. William Havlicek PhD.

I didn't know a lot about Andrew Wyeth's work before reading this book. I had seen the paintings and I liked them a lot, but I didn't know that much about them. The book is labeled as an autobiography, but its form is not what many might expect. This is not a book consisting of prose with the occasional picture, it is a book that mainly shows Wyeth's paintings with a paragraph or two about the paintings below. Written by Wyeth. For some this may not be what they are looking for, but I liked this very much. It is a very good introduction to Wyeth's paintings and the subject matter he painted. The people, the places and their history. There isn't a lot of information about Wyeth himself in the book. At least not in the sense one would expect from a traditional biography. But after reading it I feel I know a lot more about both Wyeth and his paintings than a typical art-history or biographical text would give me. I'd be happy to recommend this book.

Oh this is a fabulous book. My first copy was bought on a whim. Someone 'borrowed' it and it was missing from my stash of art inspiration books. I found myself constantly wishing I had this book (unlike others in my collection that I sometimes rediscover and then forget about again)! So, I reordered this. I am so happy to have it back! (Good speedy service from too). What a treat to get into the mind of such a talented artist. It's like having a chat w/a genius each time you open it. He describes what inspired him and any thoughts about the painting. The picture quality is superb. This is an amazing book to see the breadth and scope of a master's body of work.

Loved this book on Andrew Wyeth! Great pictures. An interesting insight into the artist as he narrates each painting, giving a greater understanding to the man - showing his more human side that I've never glimpsed from other readings. Highly recommended!

Wonderfully informative book. Accurate depiction of colors. Good to read Wyeth's words and background on each painting. Both those new to Wyeth and longtime fans should benefit from this book.

The book I received was worn but still incredible and an instant favorite. Beautiful reproductions and information all painstakingly laid out in a huge book. If you like Andrew Wyeth then this book is very worthwhile and a bargain considering what it would cost to produce the same quality today.

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