

Renaissance



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A new perspective

Western culture's great rebirth

Art as we know it today would not exist without the Renaissance. Widely considered the most influential phenomenon in European art, architecture, literature, and science, the movement revolutionized the Western conception of reality and heralded the emergence of modernity out of the Middle Ages.

The Renaissance first gained momentum in Italy, at the end of the 14th century, spreading across Europe over the course of the next centuries, with dynamic epicenters in Florence, the Low Countries, and Germany. The movement found its intellectual basis in humanism, derived from classical Greek philosophy. Across art, science, literature, and politics, proponents of the Renaissance avowed that man was the “measure of all things” and determined to replace scholastic medieval confines with a revival of antiquity.

Under the influence of humanism, artists advanced anatomy and geometry to reach

new feats of figurative accuracy and revolutionize renderings of perspective to reflect the human experience of place in space. In Flemish painting, artists such as Bruegel brought new techniques and an everyday sensibility to landscapes and still lives while in Germany, Dürer and Cranach pioneered an unprecedented drama and psychology in woodcut and engraving.

From Florence to Nuremberg, Venice to Bruges, this essential introduction in TASCHEN's Basic Art series provide a dependable foundation to the transformative reach and sweep of the Renaissance era. Through the movement's famed luminaries and lesser-known proponents, its social and political circumstance, and its diversions and developments over time and geography, we take in an extraordinary phenomenon of centuries of change that proffered individual genius, regional variety, and a wholesale reconfiguration of seeing and representing the world.

Featured artists include: Fra Angelico, Giovanni Bellini, Hieronymus Bosch, Sandro Botticelli, Pieter Breughel, Lucas Cranach the Elder, Albrecht Dürer, El Greco, Matthias Grünewald, Hans Holbein the Younger, Fra Filippo Lippi, Masaccio, Michelangelo, Parmigianino, Pontormo, Raphael, Tintoretto, Titian, Paolo Uccello, Veronese, and Leonardo da Vinci.

作者介绍:

Manfred Wundram studied art history, archaeology, music history, and German literature. He taught art history at Ruhr University in Bochum for many years and has published widely on Early and High Renaissance.

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