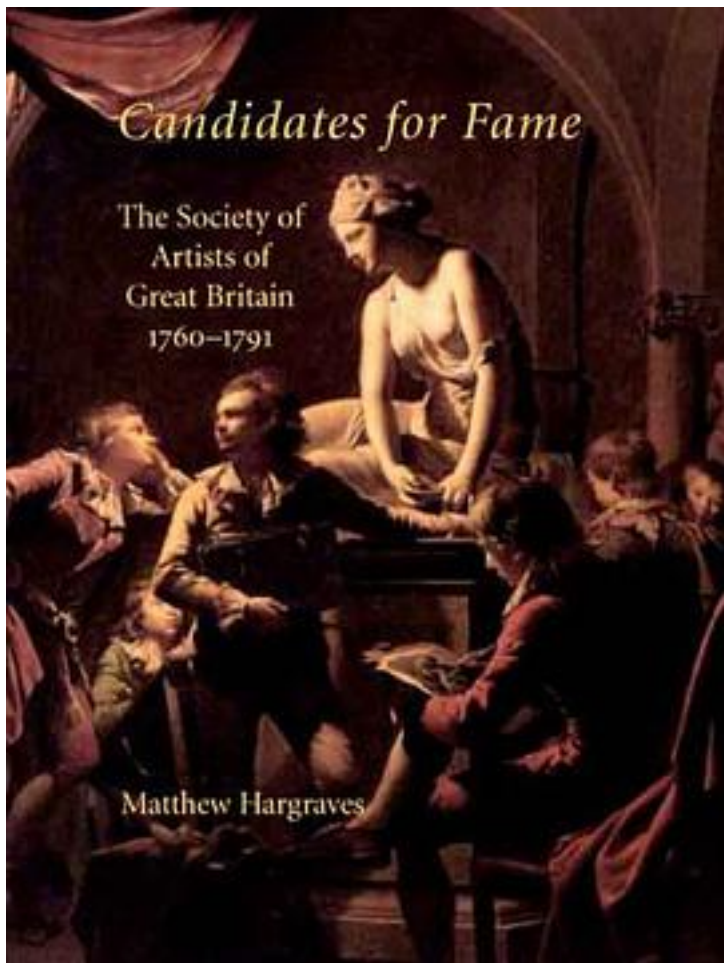


# Candidates for Fame



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In 1760, an innovation transformed the character of artistic life in Great Britain: the first public exhibition of art. The successful London exhibition was repeated in 1761, but a dispute in the wake of the first show split exhibitors into rival groups, among them the

Society of Artists of Great Britain. This book is the first to closely examine the Society from its origins to its demise in 1791. Matthew Hargraves looks at the politics and personalities behind the earliest public exhibitions to uncover the profound impact of the Society of Artists on the history of British art. The book analyses the motivations behind the public exhibitions and explores the competing interests that shaped their development. It offers new insights into the conflicts within the Society of Artists that led to the foundation of the Royal Academy and the subsequent rivalry between the two institutions. Far from being eclipsed by the Royal Academy, as has been assumed, the Society, as this book highlights, provided a serious alternative and acted as a haven for some of the leading artists of the time.

作者介绍:

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