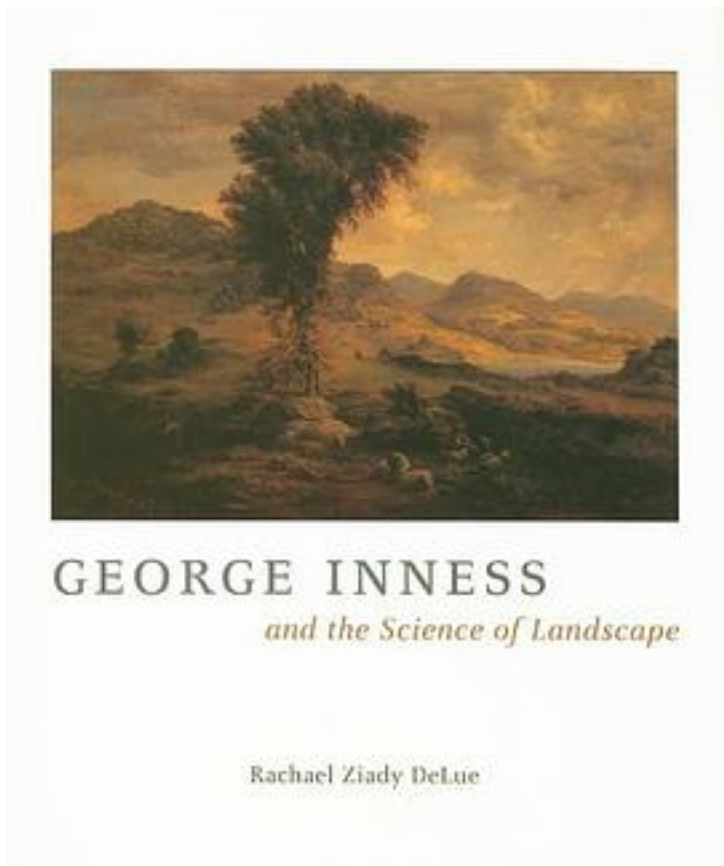# George Inness and the Science of Landscape

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出版者:Univ of Chicago Pr

出版时间:2008-3

装帧:Pap

isbn:9780226142302

George Inness (1825-94) is considered one of America's greatest landscape painters. A complicated artist and thinker, he painted stunning, evocative views of the American countryside.Throughout his career, Inness struggled to make visible what was invisible to the human eye by combining a deep interest in nineteenth-century scientific inquiry - including optics, psychology, physiology, and mathematics - with an idiosyncratic

brand of mysticism. Rachael Ziady DeLue's "George Inness and the Science of Landscape" - the first in-depth examination of Inness' career to appear in several decades - demonstrates how the artistic, spiritual, and scientific aspects of Inness' art found expression in his masterly landscapes. In fact, Inness' practice was not merely shaped by his preoccupation with the nature and limits of human perception; he conceived of his labor as a science in its own right. This beautifully illustrated work reveals Inness' profound investment in the science and philosophy of his time and illuminates the complex manner in which the fields of art and science intersected in nineteenth-century America.

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