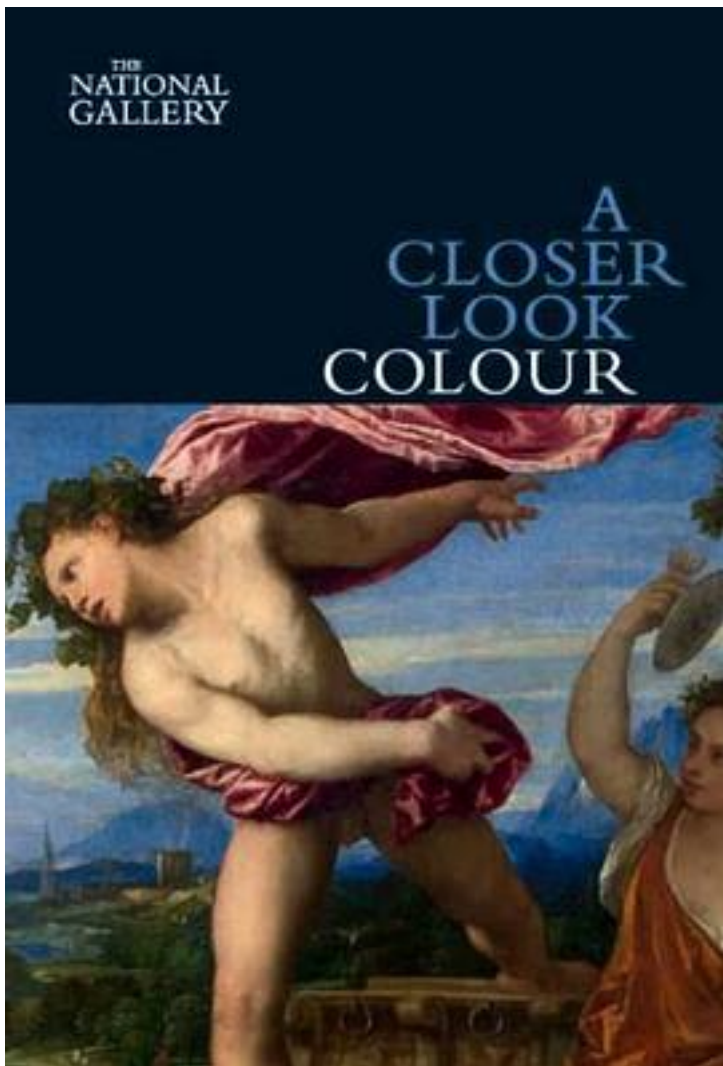


# A Closer Look



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This is the essential book on conservation theory and practice. "A Closer Look" is the new series title for the updated and refreshed National Gallery Pocket Guide range. The series has been enhanced with a stronger format, attractive design, new photography and additional information. "Conservation of Paintings", always a popular title in the original series, is extended with new case studies. The series, "A Closer Look" examines in straightforward terms different themes and subjects in painting. The preservation of works of art for future generations is a central function of the National Gallery. This expert guide shows how modern conservation differs significantly from that of previous eras: the emphasis now is on long-term stabilisation by methods that alter the structure of a painting as little as possible. Nevertheless, if paintings are obscured by discoloured varnishes and old repaints, there may be a case for cleaning, and this has often sparked controversy. Some of those issues are examined here. "Conservation of Paintings" discusses and describes the material nature of paintings, how they age and the main types of conservation treatment carried out on panel and canvas paintings, along with some of the problems involved in cleaning and restoration. A series of case studies of pictures from the National Gallery vividly illustrates the complex and varied issues that confront the conservator.

作者介绍:

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