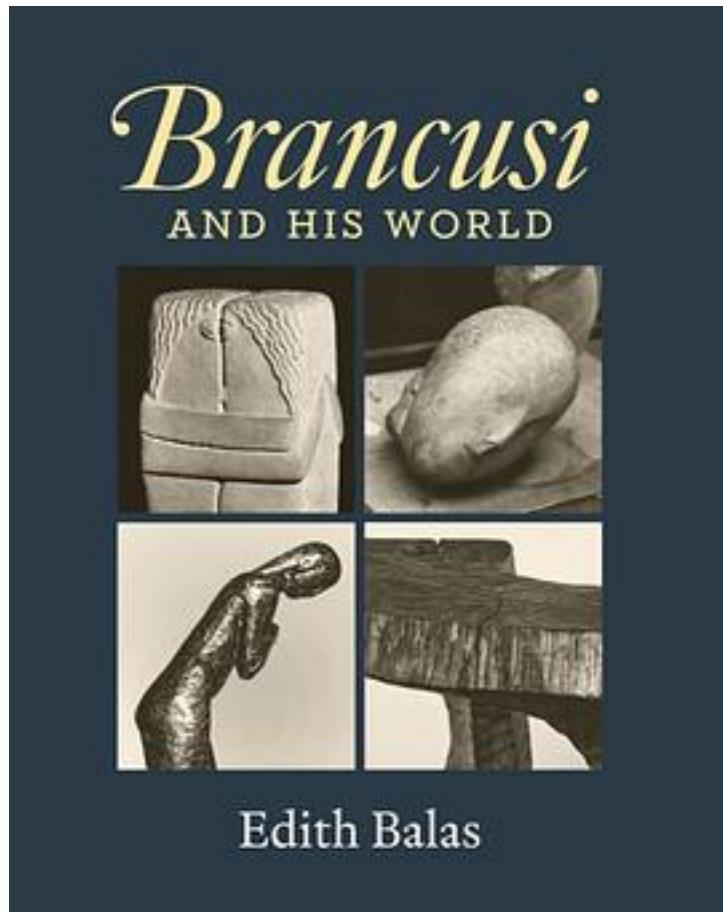


Brancusi and His World



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This collection of essays is based on 35 years of Edith Balas's scholarship of Constantin Brancusi, the twentieth century's most influential sculptor. In her 1987 book, *Brancusi and Romanian Folk Traditions*, Balas convincingly demonstrated that Brancusi's sculpture is rooted in his Romanian peasant origins, his artisan training and

the folklore familiar to him. The present collection now explores how this giant of the twentieth century also related to his Parisian environment. Brancusi's artistic evolution followed a tortuous path. Trained in his youth as an artisan he became a sophisticated artist of international renown. When along with others of his generation he rejected academic conventions, he evolved his artisan heritage into the modern sculptural language for which he is known today. In this collection of essays Balas shows that in doing so Brancusi is a product of his Parisian environment, and that his modernism grows from the interface of his Romanian origins with the art of the Parisian avant-garde. Without sacrificing his notorious independence, Brancusi was well informed about every contemporary artistic trend in Paris. Edith Balas shows not only how Brancusi became a pioneer of modern sculpture and one of the greatest artists of the twentieth century but also why his legacy continues into the twenty-first century.

作者介绍:

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