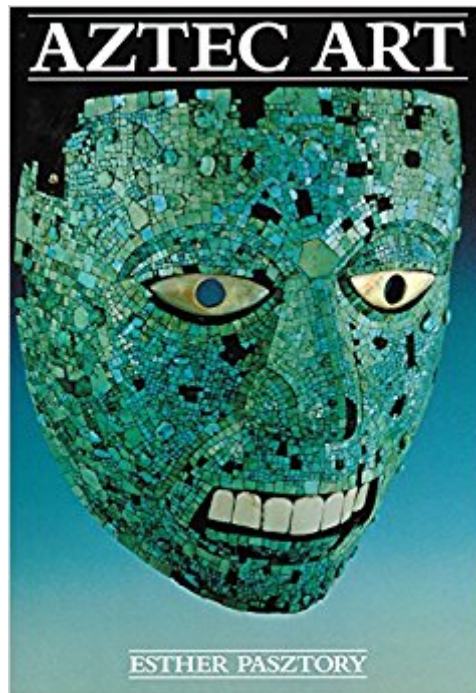




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# Aztec Art



## Synopsis

This is the first comprehensive book on Aztec art: eleven chapters illustrated with seventy-five superb color plates and hundreds of photographs, supplemented by maps and diagrams. Temple architecture, majestic stone sculpture carved without metal tools, featherwork and turquoise mosaic, painted books, and sculptures in terra cotta and rare stones - all are here. Pasztory has placed these major works of Pre-Columbian art in a historical context, relating them to the reigns of individual rulers, events in Aztec history, and the needs of different social groups from the elite to the farmer. She focuses on the little-known aspects of the aesthetics, poetry and humanity of the Aztecs.

## Book Information

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From the back cover: "Pasztory has placed these major works of Pre-Columbian art in a historical context, relating them to the reigns of individual rulers, events in Aztec history, and the needs of different social groups from the elite to the farmer. She focuses on the little-known aspects of the aesthetics, poetry, and humanity of the Aztecs. In 1984 the book received a Special Citation from the Charles Rufus Morey Book Award Committee of the College Art Association."

Best book ever!! Excellent seller!! Will buy again!!

I respect the author based on her previous works on Teotihuacan. However in this large work of 335

pages I found myself in the midst of too much text and not enough photographs or other depictions of art. Yes there are around 320 plates/illustrations. But the amount of text was a bit much for me. This is because often, even with an art historian doing the schpeel, you end up receiving accepted ideas about a piece which may or may not have anything to do with what the work was originally about. I ended up feeling I was reading through others ideas about the Aztecs and that there was no voice of the Aztec themselves. This is a common danger in archeological works. So while I can recommend this book as a check out from a library I find it not taking a significant place in a personal collection on MesoAmerican art.

This is one of the best books I have ever purchased regarding the Aztecs. It gives great background to Mesoamerican civilizations as well as a detailed history regarding the Aztec world. The book contains excellent pictures and descriptions of every piece of Aztec art you could possibly think of. I have been to the Museum of Anthropology in Mexico City and most if not all works at the museum are featured in this book. I would highly recommend this work to anyone interested in Aztec civilization, Aztec art, or art in general.

A wonderful book; I'd buy another like it in a heartbeat. For Mesoamerican/Aztec cultural arts fans, this is a "must buy" and makes a SUPER gift! Anyone serious about understanding the Aztec mind and social order should read both "Time and Sacrifice in the Aztec Cosmos" (K. A. Read) and also, "THE JADE STEPS" by Burr Cartwright Brundage (University of Utah Press; (c)1985; ISBN# 0-87480-247-4). FYI, Dr. Brundage has authored nearly a dozen extraordinarily well written and researched books on Aztec civilization; most are (sadly) tough to find.

Thank you.

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