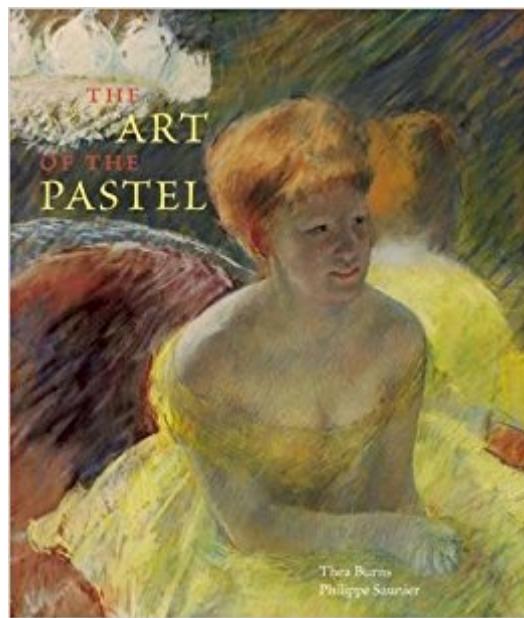


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# The Art Of The Pastel



## Synopsis

The only comprehensive history of pastel art, beautifully illustrated with works both celebrated and little known. The Art of the Pastel traces the evolution of this most appealing medium from the fifteenth to the early twentieth century, from its humble origins as a tool for sketching to the height of its popularity in Rococo portraiture, and its embrace by the Impressionists and Symbolists. Authors Thea Burns and Philippe Saunier, both leading experts on the subject, shed new light on the acknowledged masters of the pastel, such as Maurice Quentin de la Tour and Jean-Etienne Liotard, who used these magical sticks of color to capture the character of their sitters; Edgar Degas and Mary Cassat, who used them to reveal the unexpected beauties of the everyday; and Odilon Redon, who used them to explore the inner mysteries of the spirit. But Burns and Saunier consider the pastel work of many other artists as well, from forgotten yet pleasing society portraitists to such important names as Delacroix, Whistler, and Picasso. As a rare achievement, their graceful yet authoritative text is matched by the color plates in this volume, which reproduce the harmoniously blended hues of more than 330 choice pastels, from collections around the world. For reasons of conservation, most of these works are exhibited only rarely, and then only in low light. Now they can be admired all together, without interruption, in this museum between two covers. A delight for the eyes as well as an important work of art history, The Art of the Pastel will be eagerly welcomed by artists, scholars, and art lovers alike.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

"...this work is essential for anyone interested in the history and beauty of pastels." -- Library Journal

Not only is this a great book on Pastel, this is a very well executed art book. The images are great, good size and color clarity. There is a really great mix of artists presented. I will guarantee you will be introduced to many wonderful artists you have never heard of before. This is the type of book that, when it goes out of print, will quadruple in price. I own hundreds of art books. I would put this one in the top ten percent of those books regarding quality of content. Buy it !

Fantastic book, lavishly illustrated.

The best book I know on the Art of the Pastel. An excellent selection of figures and a very good text.

Best book on the subject.

Beautiful book, well written, a must have for all pastel painters.

This book is absolutely BEAUTIFUL!! It is a must have for every pastel artist!!

This is a well written and highly informative book on the history of pastel. All of the major pastel artist are covered. The color plates are large and wonderfully produced on heavy, glossy paper, and the binding is strong, all as one would expect from the Abbeville Press.

This is a great book, love it. If you love Pastels you will love this book.

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