

How To Paint Like The Old Masters

excerpt from the old masters and their pictures for the use of schools and learners in art with illustrations from paintings i wish to say in a very few words that this book is intended to be a simple account of the great old masters in painting of every age and country with descriptions of their most famous works for the use of learners and out siders in art the book is not and could not well be exhaustive in its nature i have avoid ed definitions of schools considering that these should form a later and more elaborate portion of art education and preferring to group my painters according to what i hold to be the primitive arrangements of time country and about the publisher forgotten books publishes hundreds of thousands of

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a pencil and paper a box of colours and a scrap book form so often a child's favourite toys that one might expect that a very large portion of men and women would prove painters but as we grow in years and knowledge the discrepancy between nature and our attempts to copy nature strike us more and more until we turn in dissatisfaction and disgust from the vain effort there was only one old woman in an esquimaux tribe who could be called forward to draw with a stick on the sand a sufficiently graphic likeness of the erebus and the terror it is only a few groups of men belonging to different countries throughout the centuries who have been able to give us paintings to which we turn in wonder and admiration and say that these are in their degree fair exponents of nature the old painter's half haughty half humble protest was true it is god almighty who in raising here and there men above their fellows makes painters

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are images such as portraits maps sketches etc we have endeavoured to keep the quality of these images so they represent accurately the original artefact although occasionally there may be certain imperfections with these old texts we feel they deserve to be made available for future generations to enjoy

come with david hockney on a journey as he rewrites the story of how the masterpieces of western art were created it was after a chance observation in london s national gallery that hockney became gripped by a desire to find out how the artists of the past managed to depict the world so accurately and vividly as a painter constantly faced with similar technical problems he asked himself how did they do this he set aside his brushes stopped painting and for the next two years sacrificed his own time as an artist to follow this mystery trail obsessively tracking down the hidden secrets of the old masters now hockney recounts the story of his quest as it unfolded he explains how he uncovered piece after piece of scientific and visual evidence each one yielding further revelations about the past hundreds of paintings and drawings among them the best known and best loved works in the history of western art are reproduced and accompanied by hockney s close passionate and accessible descriptions his own photographs and drawing illustrate the various methods used by past artists to capture accurate likenesses and present the results they would have achieved in addition extracts from the many historical and modern documents that he uncovered offer further intriguing evidence while correspondence between him and an array of international experts provides an exciting account of the remarkable story as it happened book jacket title summary field provided by blackwell north america inc all rights reserved

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