

The book was found

The Painted Word



Synopsis

"America's nerviest journalist" (Newsweek) trains his satirical eye on Modern Art in this "masterpiece" (The Washington Post) Wolfe's style has never been more dazzling, his wit never more keen. He addresses the scope of Modern Art, from its founding days as Abstract Expressionism through its transformations to Pop, Op, Minimal, and Conceptual. The Painted Word is Tom Wolfe "at his most clever, amusing, and irreverent" (San Francisco Chronicle).

Book Information

Paperback: 112 pages

Publisher: Picador; 1 Edition edition (October 14, 2008)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0312427581

ISBN-13: 978-0312427580

Product Dimensions: 5.5 x 0.4 x 8.1 inches

Shipping Weight: 3.2 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.4 out of 5 starsÂ Â See all reviewsÂ (136 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #29,282 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #33 inÂ Books > Arts & Photography > History & Criticism > Criticism #109 inÂ Books > Arts & Photography > History & Criticism > History #428 inÂ Books > Medical Books > Psychology > General

Customer Reviews

Well, here we go - time to criticize a culture critic. Try saying that three times fast. Anyone who knows anything about Tom Wolfe will know exactly what to expect from this 1975 exploration of the 1950-1970 Art World. Considering that he's always on the lookout for something funny to say, he does quite a good job, probably because the Art World is apparently a pretty funny place. Then again, that's always true of any insular group that develops its own vocabulary and learns to take itself too seriously. According to Wolfe, that judgment applies equally to the artists, their critics, and the small world of collectors that support them both. He uses as an example the following cycle: Jackson Pollack and Willem de Kooning paint a few pictures using mere blobs of paint. At about the same time, Clement Greenberg and Harold Rosenberg conclude in their columns that painting must naturally go in the direction of increased "flatness" to fulfill its destiny (and they do, in fact, write in such semi-apocalyptic terms). To illustrate their point, Greenberg and Rosenberg talk up Pollack and de Kooning. Art patrons in Milan, Rome, Paris and New York read the columns and get interested in Pollack and de Kooning. Thus encouraged, these artists paint even flatter paintings,

Greenberg and Rosenberg chat them up even more in their columns, the Art World gets more excited, and round and round we go until a guy named Leo Steinberg smashes into the cycle. He declares that they've got it all wrong, the true "flatness" exists in the Pop Art of Jasper Johns and Robert Rauschenberg, and the whole thing starts all over again. Only with even more feverish declarations of theoretical orthodoxy this time.

[Download to continue reading...](#)

The Book of Judges: Word for Word Bible Comic: World English Bible Translation (The Word for Word Bible Comic) The Book of Ruth: Word for Word Bible Comic: World English Bible Translation (The Word for Word Bible Comic) The Painted Word Detroit's Historic Places of Worship (Painted Turtle) Classical Splendor: Painted Furniture for a Grand Philadelphia House Scandinavian Painted Decor Alice Neel: Painted Truths (Museum of Fine Arts, Houston) The Replacements: Waxed-Up Hair and Painted Shoes: The Photographic History Techno Rebels: The Renegades of Electronic Funk (Painted Turtle) Painted Bodies: African Body Painting, Tattoos, and Scarification The Painted Veil The Painted Zoo My Painted House, My Friendly Chicken, and Me Frida Kahlo: The Artist who Painted Herself (Smart About Art) Coney Detroit (Painted Turtle) Painted Porcelain Jewelry and Buttons Trail of Painted Ponies Coloring Book: Native American Edition Painted Applique: A New Approach Painted Furniture Patterns: 34 Floral, Classical and Contemporary Designs (Paintability) Revolution Detroit: Strategies for Urban Reinvention (Painted Turtle)

[Dmca](#)