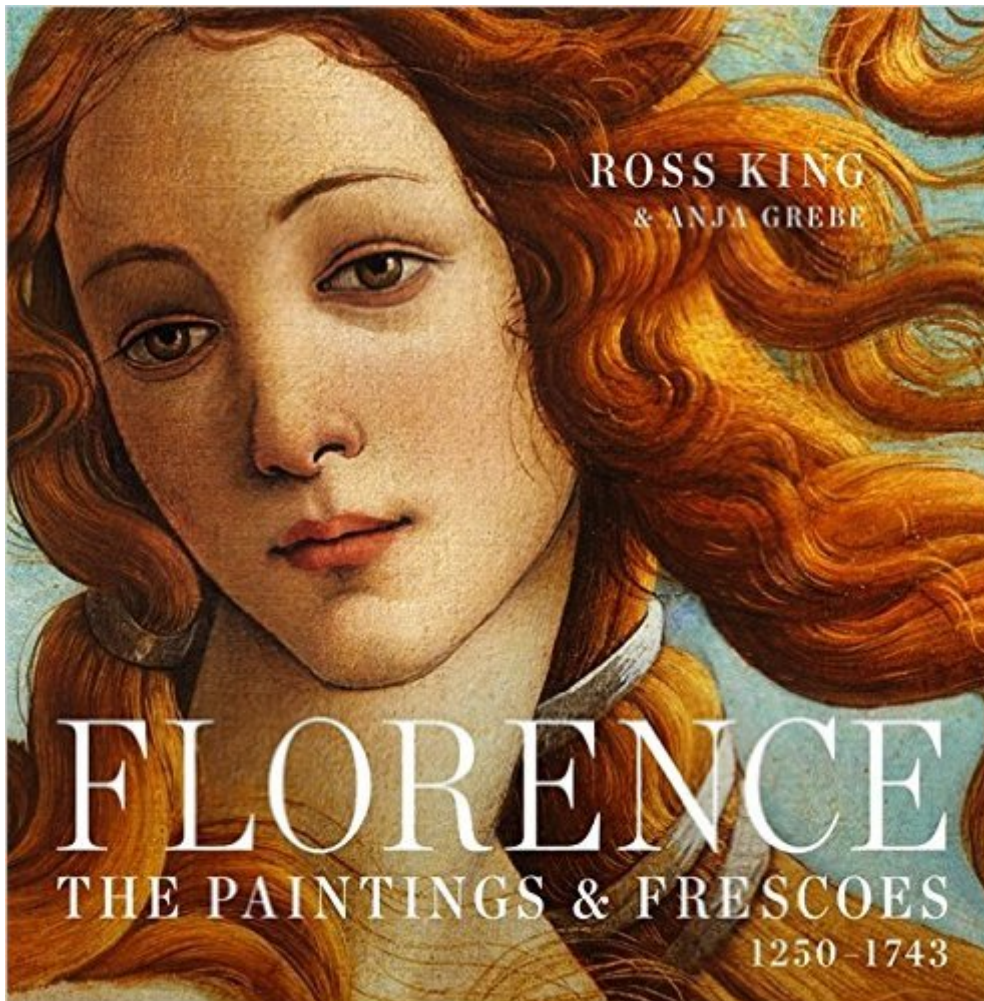


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# Florence: The Paintings & Frescoes, 1250-1743



## Synopsis

**NEW YORK TIMES BESTSELLER** This is the most comprehensive book on the paintings and frescoes of Florence ever undertaken, with nearly 2,000 beautifully reproduced artworks from the city's great museums and churches—produced in the same manner as BD&L's *The Louvre and The Vatican*. Every painted work that is on display in the Uffizi Gallery, The Pitti Palace, the Accademia, and the Duomo is included in the book, plus many or most of the works from 28 of the city's other magnificent museums and churches. The research and text are by Ross King (best-selling author), Anja Grebe (author of *The Louvre and The Vatican*), Cristina Acidini (former Superintendent of the public museums of Florence) and Msgr. Timothy Verdon (Director of the artworks for the Archdiocese of Florence).

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

This book delivers on its promise of including all the paintings in the Uffizi and the Pitti Palace, and it includes photos of frescoes in several churches that I can't find elsewhere. The problem, as stated in another review, is that many of the pictures are quite small. There are sometimes as many as 11 works reproduced on a single page, and nine per page is common. Despite this major flaw, I like the book and am keeping it because it does contain many pictures not available elsewhere and because the larger reproductions are often larger than those in other books; there are also some stunning double-page details. Among the churches and buildings whose frescoes are included are: Santa Croce, San Marco, Ognisanti, the Bargello, the Palazzo Vecchio, Santa Trinita, the Duomo, Santa Maria del Carmine, the Orsanmichele, and Santa Maria Novella. In summary, this book will

delight you by what it includes, and frustrate you because some of the illustrations are so small. It is definitely worth having, but, if you really love these paintings, you will want at least one other book with larger reproductions. (Really, is it possible to have too many?) A good choice for another book: the Bulfinch Press 1994 book "Paintings in the Uffizi and Pitti Galleries."

I was disappointed in this book. A large number of works (e.g., the Santa Croce frescoes by Giotto) are presented in so small a format that their figures or characteristics are difficult or impossible to elucidate. In addition, multiple works included on a single page are identified by notes listed top to bottom (with no numbering) while the related paintings are presented left to right; this requires careful self-checking of the minimal annotation (overleaf enlargements are not identified at all). Most painfully, there are mistakes (e.g., John the Baptist, rather than John the Evangelist, is identified in the Lamentation (Pieta) by Giovanni da Milano). Enjoy this book for its selection of large images and related notes on the most popular exhibits in Florence, and as a gazetteer for your next visit.

Beautiful images (thousands of them) including gatefolds (i.e. Botticelli's Birth of Venus across three pages.) Text by Ross King. Oversized hardcover with a slipcase. Best purchase of the year. Must have for art lovers.

What is there to say? This book is so lush and beautiful, I find it hard to describe it! I have been to Florence many times and want to return many times! This book capsizes so much of the breathtaking art work I have seen all over the city. One of my favorite places to visit was Fra Angelico's Convent, or, monastery, and, seeing the pictures from there, bring back that amazing place! Of course, that is only one memory this book brings back; it is filled with page after page of beyond elegant paintings. I received this book as a Christmas present, but, would purchase it myself had it not been a gift. For anyone who loves, enjoys, cherishes art work, rush to purchase this book. You will love it!

This is a beautiful book however the quality of the assembly of the book leaves a little to be desired. (Glue issues). The Text is very interesting and the illustrations although small in some instances are excellent. I would recommend this book to anyone with only the slightest interest in art.

I'm in the middle of reading this in preparation for my trip to Florence in January. I'm so excited and

this book is really helping me get a handle on what I will be seeing. It's very heavy and large so I can't exactly read it in bed, but it's still great!

Thanks to its artwork, Florence is the most beautiful city in the world. This book totally brought out the splendid beauty of this magnificent city. It's a way to relive a vacation and plan for future trips.

Beautiful book. Purchased as gift for children who have been to Florence. Made the mistake of having it shipped free to me. It is a heavy book and had to forward it flat rate to children.

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