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Chagall



Synopsis

The painter as poet: A world of floating symbols For Marc Chagall (1887–1985), painting was an intricate tapestry of dreams, tales, and traditions. His instantly recognizable visual language carved out a unique early 20th-century niche, often identified as one of the earliest expressions of psychic experience. Chagall's canvases are characterized by loose brushwork, deep colors, a particular fondness for blue, and a repertoire of recurring tropes including musicians, roosters, rooftops, flowers, and floating lovers. For all their ethereal charms, his compositions were often rich and complex in their references. They wove together not only colors and forms, but also his Jewish roots with his present encounters in Paris, markers of faith with gestures of love and symbols of hope with testimonies of trauma. Across scenes of birth, love, marriage, and death, this dependable artist introduction explores the many versions of Chagall's rich vocabulary. From visions of his native Vitebsk in modern-day Belarus to images of the Eiffel Tower, we explore the unique aesthetic of one of the most readily identifiable modern masters and one of the most influential Jewish artists of all time. About the series: Each book in TASCHEN's Basic Art series features: a detailed chronological summary of the life and oeuvre of the artist, covering his or her cultural and historical importance a concise biography approximately 100 illustrations with explanatory captions

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Customer Reviews

If you were only going to buy one book on Chagall (a brief, affordable version) this is it. It covers enough of the artist's life, with good examples of his work and it's very readable for the novice as well as informative for even art historians (with plenty of good cross-referencing)... It does site

Chagall's autobiography from 1922 - so there's some insight into Marc's subconscious and explanations for his use of certain imagery in his paintings. This was my first purchase of a book from this series and I will purchase more of them - which feature other artists...

His muse was Bella. He celebrated every anniversary of his wedding with a picture in which he and her appeared. "The inner world is perhaps, more real than the visible world.", affirmed once. Almost all his work have consisted in love pictures, sinuous fantasies that seemed to disorient the spectator, where birds, quadrupeds and fishes join to a Ode to Joy. His chosen colors acquire vivid tones of the rainbow; with them variegates details such as tress curdled with exotic flowers, a horse that plays a violin, hen's eggs inside a gold's nestle, or a cow that jumps on the ceiling of a house. You will also see, the his famous etched plates to illustrate the Bible as well as his famous pictorial motive on the roof of Paris Opera. This detailed and splendid biography has everything you request. "The three candles" has always been one of my favorites works of this notable artist. It's pleasantly illustrated with abundant information and wonderful reproductions. Go for it without dilation.

I know and love the work of Marc Chagall. This is a poor representation of his work and life, but most importantly the book is very small. It was impossible to tell this from the product advertisement. I have been an customer for many years and have always been happy with my purchases but this is most certainly a rather expensive exception.

Chagall is given to us in this book the way I have always thought he should be. When an artist can sing, sum up, let our eyes see what his heart knows in its rhythm, he gives us himself and more than himself.....the author lets me rejoice in that. Mary Truesdell

Very glad I bought this. I don't always understand Chagall, but I really relate to what seems to be his playful and romantic spirit and I appreciate having these pictures to study and copy in my art class.

The Marc Chagall book is excellent. It has great photos of his most famous paintings, and is very reasonably priced for those of us on a budget!

Of course I'm not finished with this book; you don't 'finish' books like this; you go back to them. It's a fine, informative book on Chagall who is one of my favorites.

Good selection of paintings and chronology at a reasonable price. Comfortable to hold, not heavy, easy to use as a study.

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