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Michelangelo: Complete Works
Il divino: A glorious exploration of Michelangelo’s works

Before reaching the tender age of 30, Michelangelo Buonarroti (1475–1564) had already sculpted David and Pietà, two of the most famous sculptures in the entire history of art. As a sculptor, painter, draftsman, and architect, the achievements of this Italian master are unique: no artist before or after him has ever produced such a vast, multifaceted, and wide-ranging œuvre. This comprehensive book explores Michelangelo’s life and work with a richly illustrated biographical essay, and a complete four-part inventory of his paintings, sculptures, buildings, and drawings. Full-page reproductions and enlarged details allow readers to appreciate fine details in the artist’s vast repertoire, while the book’s biographical insights consider a previously unseen extent to Michelangelo’s more personal traits and circumstances, such as his solitary nature, his thirst for money and commissions, his immense wealth, and his skill as a property investor. In addition, the book tackles the controversial issue of the attribution of Michelangelo drawings, an area in which decisions continue to be steered by the interests of the art market and the major collections. This is the definitive work about Michelangelo for generations to come, to be delved into and put on display, with its slipcase neatly converting into a book stand.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

I wish I could give more stars, because 5 just doesn’t seem to be enough. This book is huge, heavy, and amazing. I really can’t believe how great it is. It is just stunningly beautiful, and worth every cent and then some. A must have.
For sheer stunning brilliance this collection is unbeatable. Considering the ridiculous crowds that surround M's works on public display, the distance from the human eyeball to the ceiling of the Sistine Chapel, and protective casing around other of his artwork, this may be the only way (other than being a conservator) of seeing any detail whatsoever. The text is dense and interesting (although holding the book to read it is nontrivial).

This is certainly the book on the great Michelangelo. Taschen does it again. It may weigh some, but worth the effort. The illustrations are the best you can get without actually visiting the Sistine Chapel or the Bargello or St Peters. I am just back from visiting Italy and I had planned to buy the book once I came home, and it just elevates your experience, believe me. What makes it even better is the excellent scholarship and is simply written, ideal for student and layman alike. If you are interested in knowing how the western consciousness evolved culturally through the medium of art, this is what you must have, and it’s not expensive for the ideas it conveys and for its timelessness.

Heavy book but it has a neat little contraption that when you bend the cardboard slipcover according to the directions, it forms a stand to view the book. No, we have not read it cover to cover. It’s huge. But it’s a real plus that we can leave it open to browse on the coffee table. Excellent photos, bright colors. The pages aren’t flimsy so they’re easy to turn.

This book is, in a word, superb. From its ginormous size and weight, to its thick pages and beautiful color printing, and its exquisite binding and slipcase, the publisher spared no expense. I absolutely love it. What a treasure for any home library!

$44.00 for this book? Are you flippin' kidding me??? This arrived yesterday and I had to triple check my order history because I can't believe this was not at least $144.00. The content is incredible. Bought this primarily for the Sistine Chapel and this book goes well beyond the detail I was hoping for.

This is one of the greatest values on .. An outstanding, comprehensive art book.

Great book, beautifully put together and well worth the money

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