Feminism-Art-Theory: An Anthology 1968-2000
Synopsis
Charting over 30 years of debate on the significance of gender in the making and understanding of art, this anthology gathers together 99 representative texts from North America, Europe and Australasia.

Book Information
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Customer Reviews
While I found the perspectives a little dated, the most important thing this book did for me was to cover material from the 1980's and 1990's. Where my college studies had left off with biological reductionism, this book has a fair amount of material that covers the less severe perspective of essentialism. Of course, essentialism continues to be contrasted with social constructionism. So, the arguments over the years have not changed all that much. I was intrigued that a number of essays put women and feminists on the hot seat for supposed failures or mishaps in the development of feminist theory. I think there is a lot to learn for anyone who is in the business of social critique. There are a number of examples of how not all women or feminists see the world the same way or share the same goals. And, when commingling in order to address the issues of all women or women artists and historians, it remains an important truism that all involved must make every effort to listen to the perspectives of the subgroups within that group, like women of color or lesbians. This book predates intersex studies and only dabbles briefly in proto-queer theory. Some of the articles from the 1970's serve as period pieces at best. Still, the book is an excellent way to review what is, in essence, the beginnings of feminist art theory. I highly recommend it. For a classroom textbook, I
would suggest assigning only some of the essays as the whole book can be a convoluted read and it is best to spend some time with the ideas. Students could and should be encouraged to read any unassigned texts on their own time.

Huge number of theories covering a wide range of aspects of art and feminism, a little dated as most essays date from the 80's and 90's, but still an excellent source for any artists, gender studies, social sciences student and educators. Many must read essays included, truly fascinating.

In my current scholarship, I use the important quotes and references to enhance and to project the importance of art to feminism. The quotes have enlightened me and inspired me to write and to paint with joy. Collections such as this work will promote art, writing, and feminist thought. The Passing Light

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