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Landscape Painting



Synopsis

In 1855, Asher B. Durand, a founder of the National Academy of Design and a leading member of the Hudson River School, wrote a series of articles for his son's art magazine, *The Crayon*. The nine articles, *Letters on Landscape Painting*, outlined Durand's thoughts on learning how to paint landscapes. They are considered by many to be the textbook for the Hudson River School. In the early 1900s, Birge Harrison, a prominent figure in the American Tonalist movement and a director of the landscape school of the Art Students League, gave a series of lectures to the students at the League's summer school in Woodstock, New York. He later compiled those twenty-one lectures into the book, *Landscape Painting*. Then, as now, the book was considered to be a standard work for students. This volume presents Durand's and Harrison's writings together for the first time. We will never know what each might have thought of their words being combined in such a way, however, over the years hundreds of budding landscape painters and professionals alike have found value in these writings. It only seems fitting that the textbooks of two of America's great landscape painting movements be made available in a single work.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

If you're serious about knuckling down and learning how to see/paint/experience/wonder at landscapes, do not pass up the chance to read this book. Asher B. Durand comes through time, takes you by the hand (and sometimes kicks you in the pants to just get going with it!) and leads you to where you need to go in order to fully appreciate the landscapes you are trying to capture with paint. We sometimes forget, especially as we paint, how awe inspiring our views are. This book reminds you that you should pause, breathe, and wonder... THEN paint!

This is a reprint of letters written to starting artists in the mid 1800's. The advice given was interesting and will give you new ideas as to how to approach landscape painting but I was looking for a "primer". Printed in black and white with few illustrations it was not what I was looking for. I should have read the reviews to have an idea of this book first to better assess whether it fit my needs.

Durand offers insight and clear direction for artists and the classic struggles and obstacles encountered by artists. At times the content demands careful and focused attention and it yields wisdom that comes from practice and effortful thinking. A very worthwhile investment of time.

tops the chart in terms of art instruction just like all the other turn of the century masters.

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