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Hugh Honour

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[Mobile pdf] Romanticism (Style Civilization)

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Hugh Honour : Romanticism (Style Civilization) before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Romanticism (Style Civilization):

4 of 4 people found the following review helpful. Excellent Overview of Art in the Romantic EraBy MalamatiThis is a wonderful book on the subject by a man who was principally an art critic, so it is primarily focused on the emergence of 'romanticism' among painters, with some reference to sculptors and architects (with abundant discussion of writers, too). A major strength of the book (which could also be seen as a weakness) is its inclusion of representative artwork (again largely paintings). It's a strength, because the reader can see examples, and in some cases specific works, of artists discussed by Honour in his essay. It's a weakness, because the black-and-white reproductions leave much to be desired, both in their small size, lack of color, and lack of detail. Setting that weakness aside, though, this is a marvelous trip through art of the period 1790-1850, intended as a followup to Honour's "Neoclassicism" book, which focuses on the period 1750-1790. Honour gives the usual and proper caution about "periodizing," even though he has grouped his examples and conducts his essay in accordance with the decades and designations indicated. Honour's writing style isn't the most "user-friendly" you'll find, but he packages his discussions of individual artists in relatively small, self-contained bites, and is I think careful to avoid highly individual and subjective judgments. His catalog of illustrations is thorough and in often contains useful details about the works. Highly recommended for anyone who is studying the romantic era from the standpoint of literary works; there are many examples here of artwork in other media that were being produced during the same era.0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Good

ScholarshipBy Dwight L. CramerIf you want to understand modern art history, a good place to start is at the beginning of the Industrial Revolution, in the aftermath of the French Revolution. A great deal changed in terms of the economic and political organization of society, and in the role of the visual arts in modern culture. So, I found this book to be very useful. Some of the parallels with contemporary trends and attitudes are eerie, some of the differences are thought-provoking. One caveat--the quality of reproductions in any mass market paperback art book from before about 1980 is going to be very disappointing to the modern reader. I would disregard any reviewer dinging an old book for that reasons. The easy way to deal with it is to get on the Internet and use the extraordinarily rich visual resources it offers to see decent color reproductions of whatever the author is discussing, and ignore the grey mud images bound into the book. 32 of 36 people found the following review helpful. A classic readingBy M. FerrerThe idea of Romanticism in art is a difficult task. To define and understand the movement that started at the end of the XVIIIth century needs a wide knowledge not only of art, but also of history, politics and, in fact the whole time when Romantic artists lived. This is probably one of the best essays written about the subject. Honour makes a great effort to display the variety of Romantic art, and artists, because their individuality was strong and powerful. But also explaining the great rupture with what art has been before it. The constant fight between academies and those new free-lancer is explained here accurately. Making this book not only interesting for those who are interested in art alone, but to anyone who would like a good written book.

A study of the influence Romanticism exerts upon Western culture.

From the Back Cover" This stylish and erudite thematic study of the influence Romanticism exerts upon Western culture and particularly the visual arts is the companion volume to Honour's equally valuable New-classicism.... The text is supported by a useful selection of illustrations.... Excellent footnotes and a good index.