



Egon Schiele: Drawings and Watercolors

Jane Kallir , Ivan Vartanian (Editor) , Richard Avedon (Foreword by)

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Schiele's oils have often been reproduced and are well recognized. However, limited access to the fragile works on paper and dispersion among several collections have made for an unbalanced representation of his work as a draftsman.

This book assembles drawings and watercolors from public and private collections and reproduces work from every year of the artist's career, beginning with the juvenilia and early academic studies. The focus means that work that is rarely reproduced is represented extensively, providing a unique opportunity to study the rapid artistic development of Schiele over the course of his brief twelve-year career.

The book is organized chronologically and divided into year-by-year sections. Each section includes a text that discusses the major events in Schiele's life and the interrelation between the artist's drawing and developments in his oil painting. Features a previously unpublished Schiele watercolor and several works that have never been reproduced in color.

Egon Schiele: Drawings and Watercolors Details

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Author : Jane Kallir , Ivan Vartanian (Editor) , Richard Avedon (Foreword by)

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From Reader Review Egon Schiele: Drawings and Watercolors for online ebook

Jesse says

My more exhaustive overview of Schiele's work (the title is a bit deceptive: a number of oil paintings are included as well), with countless full-color reproductions and brief biographical essays meant to provide a loose chronological context. But I read it less than I pore over the work itself.

Todd says

I know this book is not for everyone, but i totally love egon schiele's loose narrative nature in painting. He describes a lot with his linework(unusual in painting-sort of frowned upon), but it is more graphic that way...and possibly harsh. His patterns and layout is expressive, much like his teacher Klimt, but totally of his own merit.

Tony says

Beautiful book. Clear, lucid writing.

Tim Pendry says

This is a review of Egon Schiele's drawings and watercolours, perhaps around 10% of his 3,000 works, but not of his oil paintings which need to be explored elsewhere.

Jane Kallir, who appears to have dedicated her scholarly life to understanding and interpreting Schiele, provides a succinct and coherent psychological biography, tracing his short life year by year.

The production values (Thames & Hudson but owing a great deal to the editing of Ian Vartanian of Goliga Books in Japan) are superb with full page illustrations of the works to a very high standard.

There is not much to add other than that I am persuaded by Kallir's thesis that Schiele's power to move lies in his ability to express individual maturation from adolescence to adulthood.

There is, of course, the strong sexual element to his drawings but it should not be studied to the exclusion of what became his true area of genius - the portrait.

What Schiele does is rescue humanity from the false dichotomy between the erotic and the pornographic in his art while clearly struggling to come to terms with and eventually submit to social expectations.

This is why the life story is usefully read alongside the more intimate drawings and watercolours, away from

grand and pompous allegories and market-driven portraiture great though these may be.

The works are an essay in strategies of love and objectification in dealing with the power of the sexual.

They will last so long as men and women are free to choose what they can see in order to effect personal transformation and so long as new individuals emerge to deal with sex and society.

It is a male perspective but, as Ms. Kallir points out, it comes to a view of women as persons in his final years (1917/1918). We can only guess where he might have headed if he had survived the Flu at 28.

Petabyte says

Saw and scanned this at the shop yesterday. It's positively pornographic! Is that a bad thing? You decide.

Oh, but the pages are breathtaking. Might have to go back and get a copy, after all.

the gift says

i do not know if it was one of his works in Drawing classes at u that showed me i did not express myself best in visual art- but this excellent chronological text with reproductions certainly reminds me. now, decades later, i can philosophically think more of his work, but even so... would i ever be able to catch that swift, perfect line?... well i can look at his work... (only failing is the critical/biographical text is printed very small)...

E7boehm says

Exceptional art book...

Wing says

I think the monograph made a strong start, but it started to wane like an engine losing steam as the chronology went on. The pacing of the artwork really annoyed me—they seemed to just fill vacant pages like a photo album (almost as if she wanted to please collectors by featuring the pieces they owned: she is also a gallerist).

Jane Kallir is no doubt an authority on Schiele. Throughout the book, she occasionally gives insight on what is prominently believed, and contrasts it with a telling tidbit of Schiele's personal history. At the heart of the book is Kallir's explanation of the role that the drawings and the paintings played in Schiele's oeuvre—and this is the one thing that I take away from her book—the drawings ask questions, and the paintings, however much successfully, try to answer them. I think this is probably the most relevant point she makes in connection to the title of the book: Why not select a more appropriate title, such as "Schiele: A Chronology"?

The story of Egon Schiele is as much a P.R. story spun by clever Europeans as is Jesus Christ and the Bible. I think Kallir helps demystify Schiele, if that was ever her intention.

Let the art do the talking! However, I do agree when Frank Whitford says that Schiele is an artist where interpretation is indeed helpful. But maybe some CRITICAL interpretation would be helpful instead of a rehash of Schiele's personal history.

Robert Seitz says

I didn't read all of the accompanying text, but it is thorough enough to return to for years. Densely packed with a chronology of almost purely figurative works on paper, great to show anyone who admits hands and feet are tough, that if you give it ten years even Schiele can get the bone length right. A beautiful document of skill development. The digest size is nice to hold.

Robert says

This book takes a simple approach. The editor links external events in the life of Egon Schiele to the subtle progression of his style through copious reproductions. Each chapter chronicles a year of the artist's short artistic life, starting with a summery and followed by page after page of meticulously organized watercolors and drawings. Complete with triumph, defeat and a coming of age, the book reads almost as well as an experimental novel as an artist monograph.

melissa bock says

a beautiful coffee table book purchased for me by my love.

Lita says

I like how this book is arranged chronologically, with essays about each body of work, and it's a small, thick, hardcover paperback, so it is an artbook you can read in bed without being in danger of it falling on your face like a huge block.

Good reproductions and tons of his work represented. Nice quality book.
