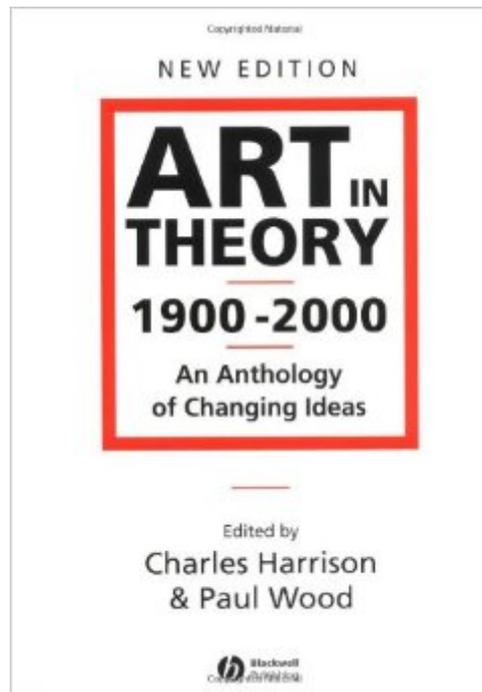


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# Art In Theory 1900 - 2000: An Anthology Of Changing Ideas



## Synopsis

This popular anthology of twentieth-century art theoretical texts has now been expanded to take account of new research, and to include significant contributions to art theory from the 1990s. New edition of this popular anthology of twentieth-century art-theoretical texts. Now updated to include the results of new research, together with significant contributions from the 1990s. Includes writings by critics, philosophers, politicians and literary figures. The editors provide contextual introductions to 340 texts. Complements *Art in Theory 1648-1815* and *Art in Theory 1815-1900* to create a complete survey of the theories underpinning the development of art in the modern period.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

Had I read the reviews about this book, I wouldn't have bought it. I had to though, for my "Art: Language and Theory" class, in my second year of Graphic Design major. I was shocked with it at first, it's almost 1300 pages, with not a single image in it! It looked extremely dull. But the thing is, I found it extremely useful, and enjoyable to read at times too. It covers art theories in the 20th century, and has texts written by artists, philosophers, politicians and much more. I now refer to it with every paper I write, every presentation I make and so on. There are also letters and notes in the book by artists such as Cezanne and Matisse, which are delightful to read. I use a dictionary sometimes, but not always, though I agree, the language is hard to comprehend at first glance. I don't think any art student or teacher could do without this book, I used it as a beginners guide while studying art, and I won't stop using it. Don't be put off when you first get this book, you'll learn to value and appreciate it with little time.

I used this book for a graduate theory class and ended up reading pretty much all of it. The book provides an excellent overview of the major movements during the past 100 years but also misses out on a lot of the most current trends. I believe there were less than 3 articles dated after 1999. The writings seem to be obscure at times, with the editors trying to draw distant similarities between varying fields. Most of the passages used overly pretentious language, so keep a dictionary nearby. This book is not a beginner guide and it helps to have some knowledge of art history as well as a little world history. A better or easier read would have to be "Theories and Documents of Contemporary Art"...

The subtitle to this book is "An Anthology of Changing Ideas", which is remarkably accurate. The excerpts in this book run the ideological spectrum from Winston Churchill to Adolf Hitler, and everyone in-between. The assembly of so many artists, politicians, philosophers, and theorists in one place has had a profound impact on my understanding of particular artworks, and my relationship to art in general. It's an intimidating book, but somehow this diverse group of thinkers is organized in a way that could be read straight through. Personally, I find it to be an invaluable tool for research and artistic growth.

This book is expensive but ends up repaying you back tremendously in the long run. Excellent paper material quality and typesetting very attractive. This is one book to carry on a deserted island. This is an anthology to treasure because it puts together extremely rare essays on art nowhere else in the current lexicon. Where else will you find essays by Trotsky on art criticism in politics? What about Max Weber's analysis of art? These by well known and not so well known authors makes for long reading sessions. The essays are grouped by thematic content and given well rounded introductions by the editors of the volume. A word of warning to the readers: do not take what is put in the volume at face value...which is a big temptation. The only way to really learn from this book is to challenge the authors and decide for yourself the merits of the analysis. Art theory is intellectually dense but extremely dangerous to accept without serious study. This book is a reference on art theory like no other in the world. So please do yourselves a favor and get this book before it's taken out of print. And when this book goes out of print thanks to the ipad and ebook craze putting book publishers out of business...you'll be very sorry you didn't get it when you could.

The book will give you a lot of historical knowledge on art in this time frame, through interviews and

reviews and such. It is, however, incredibly dry. Art history tends to be that way if you aren't really into it so I think book reviews are subjective! I happened to have a professor that was very knowledgeable and with her aid in explaining the content it was really a great read. I would look for the specific artists you appreciate most instead of trying to read the entire thing. There are some really important writings in here.

Great research reference text that I've consulted several times now over the course of my graduate study essay writings. Theories are discussed both in broad and complex terms without an overabundance of jargon, and there is a great deal of attention paid to why the ideas dissected have changed in the first place. If you're in graduate school for anything even peripherally encompassing art and theory, I would highly recommend obtaining a copy of this book for consultation throughout your ongoing education.

As an Art Historian I dread buying big brick books but this is one you'll actually need. Giving you classic theory (Roger Fry, anyone?) and a few surprises, this book is a must for any serious scholar in the field. This book is worth its weight and has paid for itself time and again. I'm currently in my last year of my MA and I have yet to take a class where it wasn't used. Like Kate Turabian and Sylvan Barnett you have to have it.

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