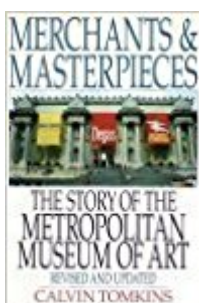


The book was found

Merchants And Masterpieces: The Story Of The Metropolitan Museum Of Art



Synopsis

Unlike the treasures of European museums, accumulated during centuries of royal patronage and plunder, the Metropolitan's vast collection reflects the tastes and resources of only a handful of remarkable nineteenth- and twentieth-century individuals, including J.P. Morgan, John D. Rockefeller, Jr., and Philip and Robert Lehman, who developed, along with their millions, a taste for immortality through art. Blending anecdote with lively social history, Calvin Tomkins reveals the ideas, personalities, and financial power behind the Metropolitan's dramatic climb to greatness. His story is nothing less than the story of art in America.

Book Information

Hardcover: 415 pages

Publisher: Henry Holt & Co; Rev Upd Su edition (September 1989)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0805010343

ISBN-13: 978-0805010343

Package Dimensions: 9.2 x 6.6 x 1.5 inches

Shipping Weight: 2.2 pounds

Average Customer Review: 4.6 out of 5 stars 6 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #428,553 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #708 in [Books > Arts &](#)

[Photography > Collections, Catalogs & Exhibitions](#) #3958 in [Books > Arts & Photography > Architecture](#)

Customer Reviews

Unlike the treasures of European museums, accumulated during centuries of royal patronage and plunder, the Metropolitan's vast collection reflects the tastes and resources of only a handful of remarkable nineteenth- and twentieth-century individuals, including J.P. Morgan, John D. Rockefeller, Jr., and Philip and Robert Lehman, who developed, along with their millions, a taste for immortality through art. Blending anecdote with lively social history, Calvin Tomkins reveals the ideas, personalities, and financial power behind the Metropolitan's dramatic climb to greatness. His story is nothing less than the story of art in America.

It's always good to read Tomkins, but I was hoping for a little more contemporary insiders' gossip. This is serviceable, but unless you're going for a degree in museum management, you might want to skip it. I had the feeling (perhaps unfounded) that whoever was writing Tomkins' paycheck was

looking over his shoulder most of the time.

The history of our country's greatest art museum sounds dull and pedantic. Mr. Tomkins's history is anything but dull. There are revelatory altercations between curators and trustees, monumental egos of wealthy donors that still need to be assuaged, and enough descriptions of dysfunctional interpersonal relationships that read like the "true confessions" of gossip magazines. And yet there is a wealth of facts and figures to keep the most demanding of readers satisfied. This museum means a lot to me. I learned art history just by being exposed to the best of the best. My mother took me many times when I was a little boy, from 1947 to 1955. Thereafter, I would go on my own. I've seen a lot of changes to the "Met" over the years, and this wonderful, easy-to-read book explains how it all happened. You will not be disappointed. It's entertaining and informative at the same time. Mr. Tomkins is a well-known writer this book is his masterpiece. (written by Steven E. G. Melamed)

Outstanding! Book was in pristine condition. Super fast shipping. Many thanks. Pat

Great book! Hope it's reissued in a new edition.

Excellent

Fast service. Item as advertised. Thank you!

[Download to continue reading...](#)

Merchants and Masterpieces: The Story of the Metropolitan Museum of Art Augustus Saint-Gaudens in The Metropolitan Museum of Art (Metropolitan Museum, New York: Exhibition Catalogues) The Metropolitan Museum of Art: Metropolitan Cats (Paintings, Sculpture, Prints, Drawings, Book Illustrations, Needlework, Lacquers, and Ceramics) The Art of Illumination: The Limbourg Brothers and the "Belles Heures" of Jean de France, Duc de Berry (Metropolitan Museum of Art) The Magnificent Hermitage Museum - One-day Guide with 10 Masterpieces of the St. Petersburg Museum Rogues' Gallery: The Secret Story of the Lust, Lies, Greed, and Betrayals That Made the Metropolitan Museum of Art Royal Art of Benin: The Perls Collection in the Metropolitan Museum of Art Reshaping Metropolitan America: Development Trends and Opportunities to 2030 (Metropolitan Planning + Design) Phoenix Metropolitan Area (Thomas Guide Phoenix Metropolitan Area Street Guide & Directory) Rand McNally 2002 Metropolitan Tucson Area (Rand McNally

Metropolitan Tucson Area) America's Art: Masterpieces from the Smithsonian American Art Museum American Furniture in The Metropolitan Museum of Art: I. Early Colonial Period: The Seventeenth-Century and William and Mary Styles King Harold's Cross Coinage: Christian Coins for the Merchants of Haithabu and the King's Soldiers (Publications from the National Museum Studies in Archaeology & History) Vogue and The Metropolitan Museum of Art Costume Institute: Parties, Exhibitions, People Dangerous Liaisons: Fashion and Furniture in the Eighteenth Century (Metropolitan Museum of Art) Roman Portraits: Sculptures in Stone and Bronze in the Collection of The Metropolitan Museum of Art Wisdom Embodied: Chinese Buddhist and Daoist Sculpture in The Metropolitan Museum of Art Extreme Beauty: The Body Transformed (Metropolitan Museum of Art Series) The Model as Muse: Embodying Fashion (Metropolitan Museum of Art) The Robert Lehman Collection at the Metropolitan Museum of Art

[Contact Us](#)

[DMCA](#)

[Privacy](#)

[FAQ & Help](#)