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# Mark Ryden: The Gay '90s



## Synopsis

Celebrated Pop Surrealist artist Mark Ryden's newest body of work, presented in this book for the first time. Crowned "the high prince of Lowbrow," Mark Ryden has become a fixture of the contemporary alternative art movement. In his newest work, *Mark Ryden: The Gay 90s*, the artist casts his skewed perspective toward the turn of the nineteenth century with such creepy yet beautiful works as a portrait of Abraham Lincoln dressed in foppish 1890s fashion and surrounded with a heavenly nimbus, Jesus Christ playing a pink piano for an audience of kewpie triplet girls, and a Gibson girl in a tight corset constructed entirely of meat. With masterful painting technique and disquieting content, Ryden's newest paintings display his fascination with the earnest kitsch found in popular art of the end of the 1800s, yet reinforces how his paintings now more than ever are a skewering of both historical and current pop cultural touchstones.

Ryden's visual cues range from cryptic to cute, balancing his compositions between nostalgic cliché and disturbing archetype. This book showcases his talent for creating paintings that marry accessibility and technique with visceral resonance and sociocultural relevance, making it easy to see why he garners the ardent attention of museums, critics, and serious collectors alike.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

"...the artist's provocative sketches, sculptures and paintings toy with our preconceptions of societal and historical norms by mixing incongruous styles, objects and figures while bringing those uncomfortable paradoxes to the forefront of our consciousness. Suited for those both familiar with Ryden's work and those who are just getting acquainted, this book directs us to the crux of what

makes Ryden's work so delectable, its ability to bring together disparate things and create something that showcases both the beauty and the darkness of those encounters."

~coolhunting.com..an excellent opportunity to investigate what all the Mark Ryden hype is about  
~for both dedicated fans and newcomers to the weird world of Ryden."

~Typo-Graphical.com

Blending pop cultural themes with art techniques reminiscent of the Old Masters, Mark Ryden has created a singular style that blurs the traditional boundaries between high and low art. His paintings have been exhibited in museums and galleries worldwide, and his work is part of the permanent collection of the Los Angeles County Museum of Art. Amanda Erlanson is a writer, art collector, and editor of the art blog "Erratic Phenomena."

This is a well put together piece of work. The binding and the pages are of great material, and the colors just seem to pop the way I believe Mark Ryden wanted them to. This is a great purchase that I was debating over for some time, and I am glad that I did eventually decided that I need to have this adorning my shelves.

Mark Ryden is a true genius and this book and the work within is just another level....

I love his work. He pushes the boundaries of politics and religion.

Great condition

I love Mark Ryden's art! Visual artists are in a league of their own. My mother in law is a painter and it is amazing how detailed everything has to be to make the piece and how delicate every brush stroke is. This particular book is my favorite of Ryden's. It's bigger and the subject matter is a lot more interesting.. If you like him check out Camille Rose Garcia and Elizabeth McGrath. Both of them have books on which are really great too.

Mark Ryden's art is amazing and the quality of the images is beautiful. The only thing I don't understand about art or photography books is why do they always make a double or triple spread and the image gets "cut" in the middle cause is spread in 2 different pages, you end up losing detail and it's very uncomfortable to see.

Beautiful book! Arrived in perfect condition. Extremely happy!

I love Mark Ryden so I did like this book. Although I found a lot of his art to be more tame than I had expected. I bought another of his book's which was more what I had expected. But the Gay 90's has a pink portrait of Abraham Lincoln. You have to love that. There are so great paintings and drawings. He's the best!

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