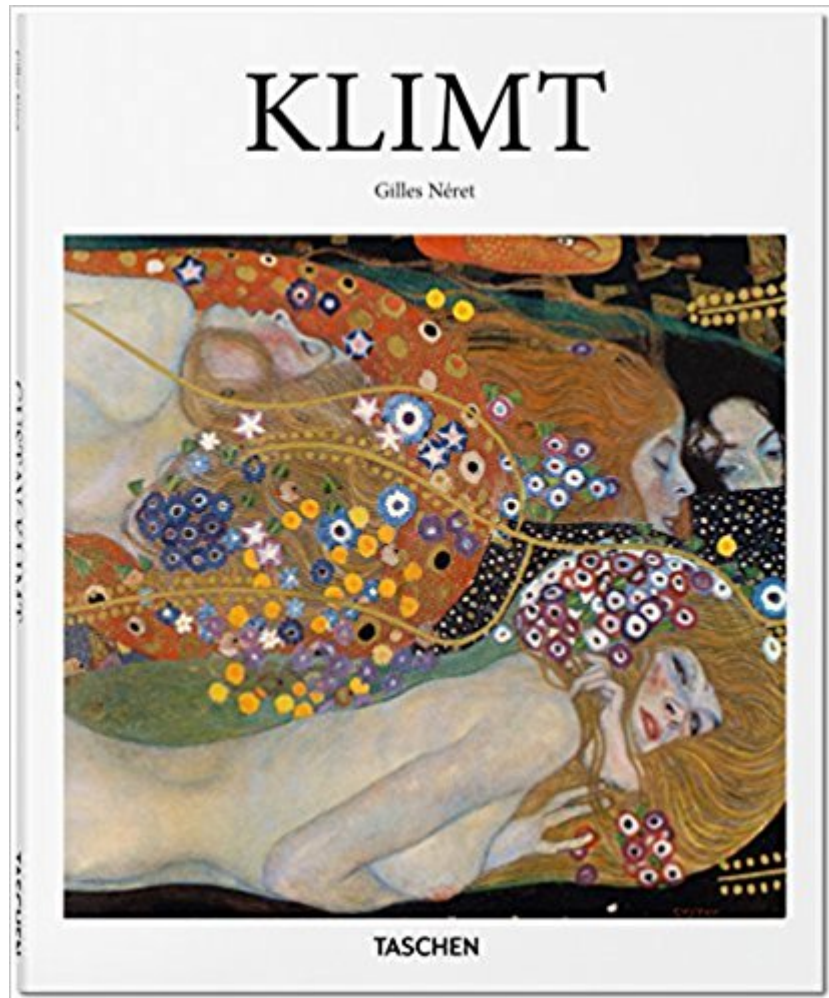




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Klimt (Taschen Basic Art Series)



Synopsis

Gold, flowers, and female beauty: The work of the decadent Austrian symbolist The unfading popularity of Gustav Klimt (1862–1918) attests not only to the particular appeal of his luxuriant painting but also to the universal themes with which he worked: love, feminine beauty, aging, and death. The son of a goldsmith, Klimt created surfaces of ornate and jewel-like luminosity which show influence of both Egyptian and Japanese art. Through paintings, murals, and friezes, his work is defined by radiant color, fluid lines, floral elements, and mosaic-like patterning. With a number of subjects dealing with sensuality and desire as well as anxiety and despair, all this iridescence is also charged with feeling. Klimt's numerous images of women, characterized by curvaceous forms, tender flesh, red lips and flushed cheeks, were particularly charged with passion, at a time when such frank eroticism was still taboo in Viennese upper-middle class society. This book presents a selection of Klimt's work, introducing his pictorial world of decoration and desire, as well as his influence on artists to come.

About the Series: Each book in TASCHEN's Basic Art series features: a detailed chronological summary of the life and oeuvre of the artist, covering his or her cultural and historical importance a concise biography approximately 100 illustrations with explanatory captions

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

On the Colour Library Series "Ideal introductions for students and museum-goers."-Independent
"Phaidon's excellent Colour Library series: [...] a good introduction to nearly 50 key artists and

movements in art history."-Antiques Trade Gazette "The Phaidon Colour Library Series provides an invaluable introduction to key artists and movements in art history."-Art & Craft --This text refers to the Paperback edition.

Text: English (translation) Original Language: German --This text refers to the Paperback edition.

Artist Gustav Klimt can easily be brushed off as the Art Nouveau master of gilding and creator of iconic, erotic paintings such as "The Kiss," yet in this thoughtfully and thoroughly wrought biography-cum-art criticism the reader is treated to an in-depth personal and familial history, with diverse interpretations of his seminal works, and fascinating retrospective of the painter's lifetime body of work. Especially fascinating were the examination of resistance to Klimt's work for the Viennese Great Hall, the so-called "faculty paintings" that led to a mass protest by professors and led to his censure at a parliamentary level. Lavishly illustrated, balanced, and not afraid to delve deeply, Gottfried Fliedl has created a wonderful reference volume and inspiring, realistic view of an artist and his work. Klimt's work is so appealing because not only did he develop a unique way of presenting and creating images, he went above artistic representation and presented a philosophy that is still fascinating to explore.

I was primarily interested in color plates illustrating Klimt's work, and this certainly provides this. However, the text is also very interesting. Klimt's very sexual works were actually done toward the end of the Victorian era, and must have been considered very scandalous. I certainly recommend this book to those with a specific interest in his work.

A good book of the collection of artwork by Gustav Klimt.

Very nice collection of the Klimt works. I bought it as a gift and it was delightfully received.

Good overall review of a true master

Nice book

Good book.

Beautiful book. The illustrations are excellent and the author was informative in explaining the symbolism of Klimt many paintings. I have it on my coffee table in my living room so I can enjoy looking at it frequently.

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