Synopsis

Reissued for 2003! This comprehensive anthology offers a vast collection of classic and contemporary readings in aesthetics from both western and non-western sources. It is organized topically into four parts: Art and the Nature of Beauty, Interpreting and Evaluating Art, Challenges to the Tradition and Beyond the West.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

I found this a very frustrating book, because it could so easily have been a first-rate text. It is one of the few in print which includes both classic and contemporary essays by both philosophers and artists, and "covers" the basic topics. Unfortunately, many of the texts are cut down to such tiny snippets that major parts of the essential arguments and even some widely-quoted passages (e.g. in Plato, Bell, Bullough, Kant), are missing. On the other hand, there are long essays reprinted, with virtually no cuts, which are not only not "classic" but which strike me as quite absurd. For example, there are only 9 1/2 pages from Kant's Critique of Judgment, but 8 pages of nonsense (or, "postmodern paradoxes") about "The Fine Art of Rap." Disappointing!

It's a wonderful collection of articles, all of which are fascinating. Many are excerpts from larger works. Good selection for the price. This is perfect introduction to issues in aesthetics today.

Received this order just as expected and in the same condition as listed, got it just as I needed, no downfalls.
This book is good for people that want to understand aesthetics in art. The book begins with Plato and his thoughts of art, it moves to Hume, Nietzsche, and Kant. It has several indepths and a good analysis. It also looks at aesthetics in different societies.

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