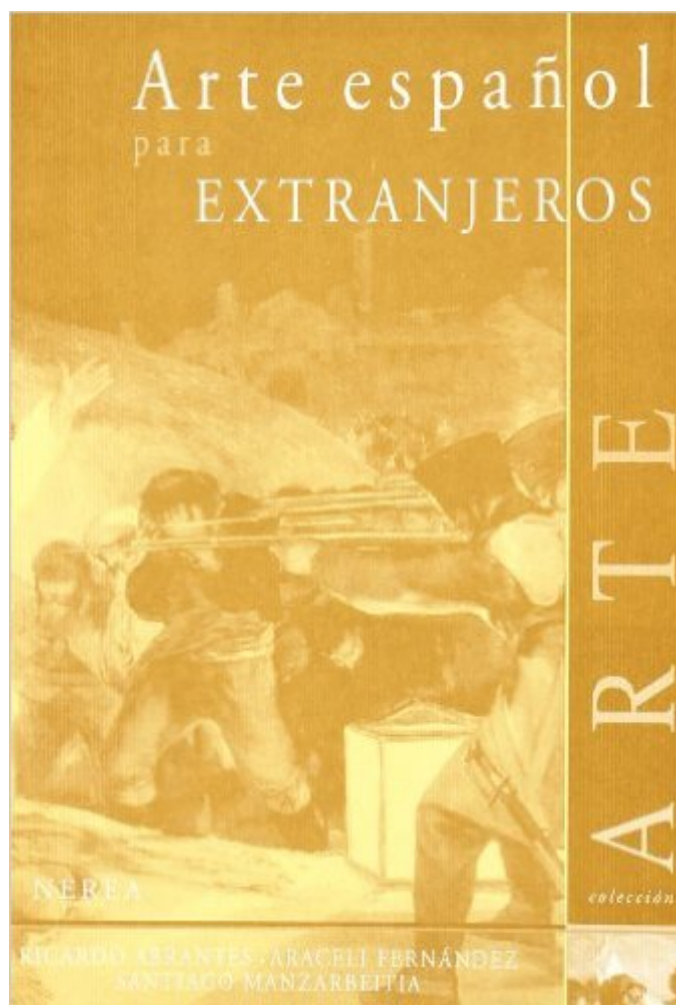


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Arte Espanol Para Extranjeros (Spanish Edition)



Synopsis

Aimed at students not originally from Spain, this reference offers an overview of Spanish art history, emphasizing those periods and artists that have been major influences in universal art. The pages in this book summarize and discuss the prehistory and history of Spanish art from Altamira to the end of the 20th century. With a perspective that avoids the academic and seeks clarity, this book can serve anyone interested in Spanish art, for it explains its nuances with a rigor and simplicity that facilitate and inspire an enjoyment of its beauty. Dirigido a estudiantes no españoles, esta referencia ofrece un resumen de la historia del arte español, enfatizando aquellos períodos y artistas que han sido muy influyentes en el arte universal. Las páginas de este libro resumen y discuten la prehistoria e historia del arte español desde Altamira hasta el fin del siglo XX. Con una visión que elude lo académico y busca la claridad, este libro puede servirle a cualquier persona interesada en el arte español, pues explica sus claves con un rigor y una simplicidad que facilitan e invitan a disfrutar de su belleza.

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Customer Reviews

Arte Español Para Extranjeros by Ricardo Abrantes, Araceli Fernández, Santiago Manzarbeitia is a superb idea, an excellent read and a perfect way of practising the language. The book charts chronologically the eras and styles of Spanish art. It starts with the pre-historical and archaeological, travels via the Iberian period, the Romans and the Visigoths, to the centuries of Islamic art and the Romanesque. By the time we have reached Gothic art, we almost feel we have come up to date.

The Renaissance was not as big an issue in Spain as elsewhere in Europe, but the Baroque flowered and led into what the authors call the modern era. Goya is presented quite convincingly almost as a Beethoven of painting, in other words a figure from whose work almost two hundred years of future development can be traced. Picasso, Dali and Miró bring us into the contemporary era and the book's final pages present abstract expressionism and works of Chillada. The Spanish text is immediately accessible. The descriptions are succinct and clearly written. Technical terms are included in a useful glossary whose definitions could not be more accessible or better written. Though there are copious illustrations, this is no mere picture book. The examples have been included to illustrate the text and they carry out the task admirably, thus offering quite remarkable clarity to the excellent descriptions of style, technique and content. What is so intriguing about Spanish art, the fact that separates it from the rest of Europe, is the Islamic period. Artistic and literary achievements in particular during those centuries have continued to influence both Spain's cultural life and its language. No other European country has this complexity.

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