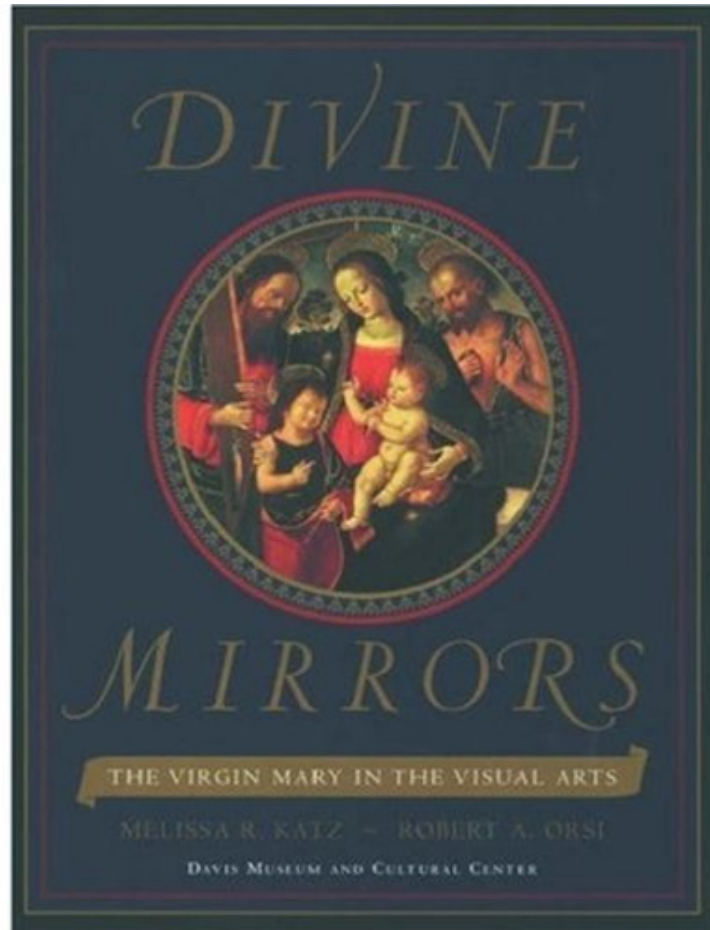


(Pdf free) Divine Mirrors: The Virgin Mary in the Visual Arts

Divine Mirrors: The Virgin Mary in the Visual Arts

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From Oxford University Press : Divine Mirrors: The Virgin Mary in the Visual Arts before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Divine Mirrors: The Virgin Mary in the Visual Arts:

2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. Big and BeautifulBy Dr. James GardnerThis book is the companion to a multi-year exhibition of (mostly) paintings at Davis Museum at Wellesley College. Most of the works are from the Renaissance, with a smattering of Medieval images and some recent. There are a series of essays included, most of which will not be electrifying to any beginning bible studies student. In fact, the lack of biblical scholarship in the discussion of Mary is quite startling.The biggest asset of this book is the catalogue section wherein they discuss the sociopolitical concerns at the time of the painting, the meaning of various images and symbols inside the painting, the religious beliefs of the artist, etc. This is truly revealing. And, of course, the sheer quantity of images is truly impressive, and would be difficult to find under any other circumstances.4 of 5 people found the following review helpful. An excellent overviewBy Cameron D. WarnerFor me the real beauty of this book was not the illustrated

catalogue of images in the Wellesley College collection, it was the excellent essay by Melissa Katz. Robert Orsi's essay was superb as usual, but rather short, and the other essays are so short (2 pages each) as to be almost unmentionable. Katz on the other hand takes her readers on a historical tour of Marian imagery that is also thematically related to the hours of her devotion. In this way, her essay is not only an overview of Marian imagery, but it is also an overview of the history of the Roman Catholic church, an overview of Marian devotional practices, and the social forces in Europe which shaped these two phenomena. My only criticism of her essay, which might be more accurately a criticism of the Wellesley College collection, is that there is very little information on Marian imagery and devotion outside of Europe. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Clear, assessible, and rich By Astoria Ann I truly enjoyed this tour through Wellesley's collection of Marian art. The essays are clear, accessible and thought-provoking. Melissa Katz gives an accurate and broad summary of Christian history, with a special focus on the development and uses of art as well as the development of the Marian cultus. Her introduction is thorough, presuming little previous knowledge of Christian history. Orsi's essay is concise, thought-provoking, and helpful. The images are diverse and beautifully presented, ranging from ancient to (some) modern images of Mary as well as some other Western Christian subjects. I enjoyed this book enough to purchase a copy.

Through a unique and stunning collection of paintings, sculpture, rare books, and works on paper, *Divine Mirrors* examines the complex relationship between sacred imagery and secular identity in the art of the Madonna. This magnificent work--born from a multi-year project that included a museum exhibition, scholarly symposium, and reinstallation of a segment of the permanent collection of the Davis Museum and Cultural Center at Wellesley College--features the work of such renowned artists as Il Pintoricchio, Mantegna, Munch, and Lger, alongside fresh, undiscovered masters and little-known works of art. The book's fifty catalogue entries range from a rare thirteenth-century panel painting to a specially commissioned artwork exploring the intersection of religion and modern life. This volume investigates everything from non-Western perceptions of European religious practices to the Virgin Mary's voice in musical composition. In the opening essay "The Many Names of the Mother of God" noted scholar Robert A. Orsi considers why images of Mary offer contemporary Americans such a powerful visual experience. Unlike paintings and sculptures created solely for aesthetic contemplation, Orsi writes, images of Mary are more than just artistic representations--they become for us an embodiment of the Virgin Mother herself. Then, moving into the historical realm, editor Melissa R. Katz guides us on a twenty-century chronological tour that explores the intersection of art history and world history in representations of Mary. Katz's essay "Regarding Mary: Women's Lives Reflected in the Virgin's Image" takes the elements of Marian iconography most relevant to the study of art and weaves them together to provide a guide for modern audiences to engage with the religious origins of our common artistic legacy. Filled with fascinating information, this important work requires no particular background in art history, religion, or the Bible. Readers of all levels will be rewarded with an in-depth encounter of a remarkable and complex figure.

From Publishers Weekly What do Gertrude Ksebier's photo "Heritage of Motherhood," Albrecht Dorer's woodcut *Life of the Virgin* series and Our Lady of Guadalupe spray cans have in common? All reflect *Divine Mirrors: The Madonna Unveiled*, in which multiple images and essays on the virgin mother attempt to elucidate her hold on world culture. Melissa R. Katz, assistant curator at the Davis Museum and Cultural Center at Wellesley College (where the title exhibition is permanently housed) and Robert A. Orsi (*The Madonna of 115th Street*), a professor of American religious history at Harvard Divinity School, have assembled six essays (the most intriguing being Ifeanyi Anthony Menkiti's "In a Corner of Africa: Reflections on the Virgin Mary") and a plethora of bw and color images from the exhibit. Copyright 2001 Cahners Business Information, Inc. From Library Journal From the beginning of Christianity, probably no subject has been interpreted and reinterpreted as often as the Virgin Mary except perhaps her son. This catalog documents an exhibit at the Davis Art Museum at Wellesley College, which explores the importance of Mary as a concept and image for the previous 2000 years and features paintings by artists such as Pintoricchio and Munch, as well as many lesser-known works. Katz (assistant curator, Davis Museum) and Orsi (American religious history, Harvard Divinity Sch.; *The Madonna of 115th Street*) provide several essays, discussing a range of topics, from our contemporary view of Mary and the passions she arouses to the major visual categories of the Annunciation, the Nativity, the Holy Family, and the Coronation. The exhibit's 50 works are reproduced in color, and a total of 177 figures, mostly in black and white, illustrate the catalog and essays. As much sociological as art historical, this scholarly book attempts to bridge the sacred imagery with secular culture. Recommended for large public libraries, and for museum and university art book collections. Ellen Bates, New York Copyright 2001 Reed Business Information, Inc. Praise for the exhibition: "A superb exhibition.... A fascinating, visually mesmerizing show."--Joanne Silver, Boston Herald Praise for the exhibition: "Katz has skillfully mixed nine centuries' worth of paintings, sculpture, drawings, prints, and photographs. She uses these as a springboard to examine themes including Jewish and Islamic parallels to the Christian Mary; the vulnerability in old age of the mother who had just one child; and the prosperous, contented images of the Madonna used to promote the repopulation of Europe in the wake of the plague."--Christine Temin, Boston Globe "This collection of works of art presents for us a clear picture of how Mary affected society in

the past and still dies today--a timeless vision no matter where we live or who we are. It is one of the most beautifully-illustrated and articulated volumes of its kind and as such is an invaluable educational and research tool for all interested in the topic."--Renaissance Quarterly