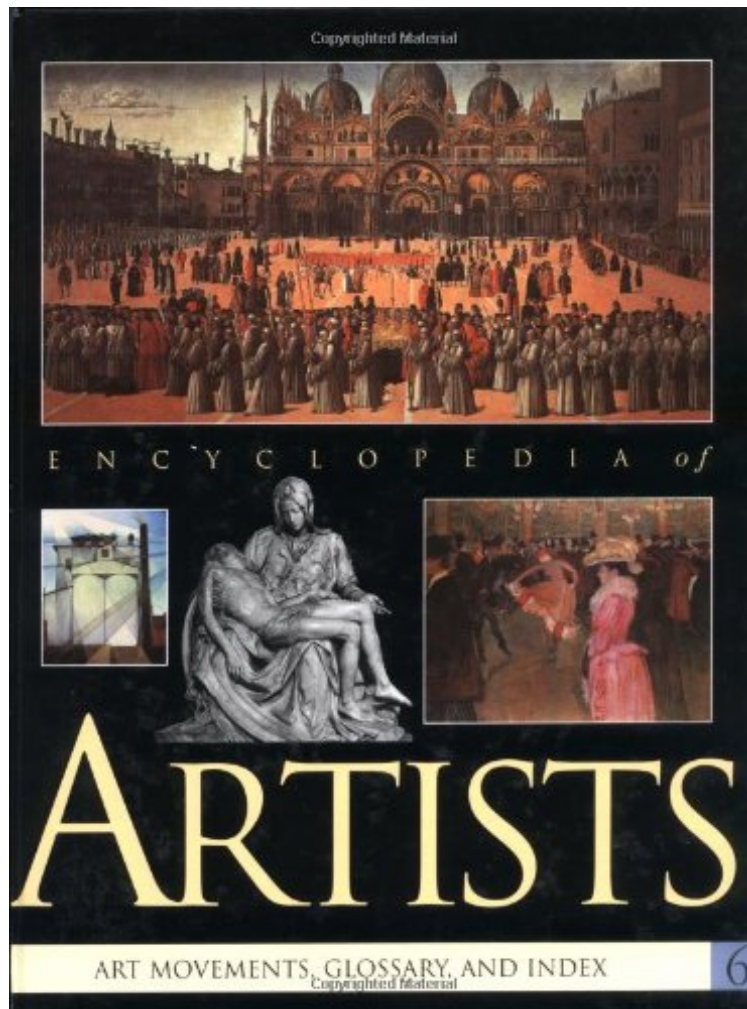


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Encyclopedia of Artists: 6-volume set

Andrea Cimabue

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Andrea Cimabue : Encyclopedia of Artists: 6-volume set before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Encyclopedia of Artists: 6-volume set:

9 of 10 people found the following review helpful. Not encyclopedic, missing entire art movements, unimaginative coverage of only mainstream artists, oversimplification errors
By S. MCCANDLISH
Far too basic and introductory to qualify as any kind of "encyclopedia", and riddled with errors. Covers only about 200 popular artists, in very little depth. The volume on art movements/schools is farcically inadequate. For example, it includes neither the Arts Crafts movement nor Art Deco, and devotes only a single page to Art Nouveau. Some of the "information" it contains is simply wrong. E.g., on the Art Nouveau page is states that "Glasgow style" was simply the Scottish name for Art Nouveau, which is so absurd an assertion it's downright stupid. The entire thing reads rather like a sophomore's

attempt to summarize a bunch of badly-researched Wikipedia articles and dumb them down (further) for an audience of perhaps middle-school-aged students at best. Most of the errors are of that sort - oversimplified assertions based on a misunderstanding of the underlying facts, a pattern that suggests this work was mostly cobbled together by low-paid researchers harvesting material from other, better books, and then compressing it down into what they thought were acceptable summaries, and was not written by anyone with a notable career as an arts academic. I can hardly believe Oxford University Press allowed their name to be used on this (notably they only did so for the US edition; the British copies are put out by Andromeda). In a bookstore, one would probably immediately recognize that this set of very slim volumes could not possibly be encyclopedic, but this is not evident to online shoppers. 0 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Book is good - but it was listed as 6 volume set ...By Terri A Danner Book is good - but it was listed as 6 volume set when it should have set volume 6 only.

A comprehensive, profusely illustrated guide to the world of art for young adults, this six-volume set is a fact-packed introduction to the masters and concepts of Western art. Featuring painters, sculptors, and printmakers from the Middle Ages through the present, the series has been produced through the exacting efforts of leading art historians and written in vivid, engrossing style that will be easily accessible to teenage readers. The first five books in the set contain biographical entries on 222 artists in the familiar A-Z format. Each double-page entry follows a consistent pattern. Its centerpiece is a brief essay focusing on the distinguishing characteristics of the artist's life and work. The essay is supplemented with a quick-reference biography sidebar and a feature box on the artist's style. Each profile is illustrated in color with up to two color reproductions of the works that best define the artist's style and contributions to the art of the time. Cross-references to other artists and movements follow each entry. Every volume features a timeline spanning the major movements of Western art. The final volume collects entries on the major schools and movements in art--from Abstraction through Barbizon school and dada to Vorticism--as well as a series index and a glossary with suggestions for further reading. Equally conducive to both serious research and browsing, this elegant set offers consistent visual treatment of the artists and multiple points of comparison. Young adult art aficionados will discover that an attractive page design coupled with lucid, energetic writing and exquisite scholarship hold the key to discovering the greatest talents in history and their artistic legacy.