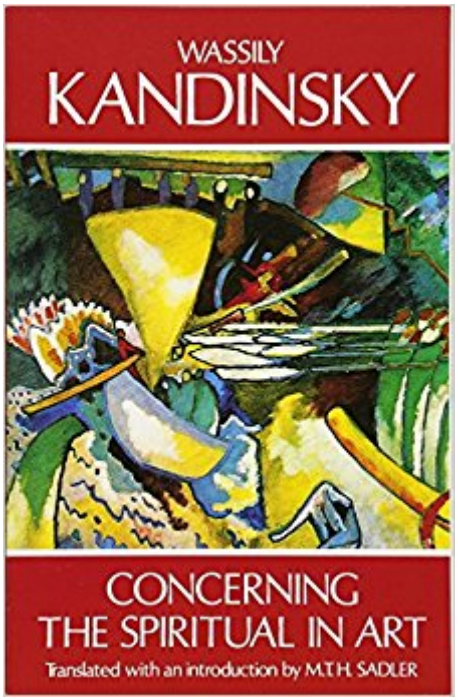
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Concerning The Spiritual In Art



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Synopsis

A pioneering work in the movement to free art from its traditional bonds to material reality, this book is one of the most important documents in the history of modern art. Written by the famous nonobjective painter Wassily Kandinsky (1866Ã¢â ¬â œ1944), it explains Kandinsky's own theory of painting and crystallizes the ideas that were influencing many other modern artists of the period. Along with his own groundbreaking paintings, this book had a tremendous impact on the development of modern art.Kandinsky's ideas are presented in two parts. The first part, called "About General Aesthetic," issues a call for a spiritual revolution in painting that will let artists express their own inner lives in abstract, non-material terms. Just as musicians do not depend upon the material world for their music, so artists should not have to depend upon the material world for their art. In the second part, "About Painting," Kandinsky discusses the psychology of colors, the language of form and color, and the responsibilities of the artist. An Introduction by the translator, Michael T. H. Sadler, offers additional explanation of Kandinsky's art and theories, while a new Preface by Richard Stratton discusses Kandinsky's career as a whole and the impact of the book. Making the book even more valuable are nine woodcuts by Kandinsky himself that appear at the chapter headings.This English translation of Ãƒ Å“ber das Geistige in der Kunst was a significant contribution to the understanding of nonobjectivism in art. It continues to be a stimulating and necessary reading experience for every artist, art student, and art patron concerned with the direction of 20th-century painting.

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Customer Reviews

Text: English, German (translation)

A pioneering work in the movement to free art from its traditional bonds to material reality, this book is one of the most important documents in the history of modern art. Written by the famous nonobjective painter Wassily Kandinsky (1866Ã¢â ¬â œ1944), it explains Kandinsky's own theory of painting and crystallizes the ideas that were influencing many other modern artists of the period. Along with his own groundbreaking paintings, this book had a tremendous impact on the development of modern art.Kandinsky's ideas are presented in two parts. The first part, called "About General Aesthetic," issues a call for a spiritual revolution in painting that will let artists express their own inner lives in abstract, non-material terms. Just as musicians do not depend upon the material world for their music, so artists should not have to depend upon the material world for their art. In the second part, "About Painting," Kandinsky discusses the psychology of colors, the language of form and color, and the responsibilities of the artist. An Introduction by the translator, Michael T. H. Sadler, offers additional explanation of Kandinsky's art and theories, while a new Preface by Richard Stratton discusses Kandinsky's career as a whole and the impact of the book. Making the book even more valuable are nine woodcuts by Kandinsky himself that appear at the chapter headings.This English translation of Ãƒ Å“ber das Geistige in der Kunst was a significant contribution to the understanding of nonobjectivism in art. It continues to be a stimulating and necessary reading experience for every artist, art student, and art patron concerned with the direction of 20th-century painting.

I was rather disappointed with this text for all the superlatives that I had seen about it. It is a manifesto and call to arms for the modern movement which is all good but he bases a large amount of his thesis on (now?) questionable science and philosophical constructs. What it does give is an insight into what he and others in his time were thinking.I have not read the original text, but the translation is laborious. Also missing, are illustrations referenced in the text. And what were the advertisements for Hootsuite doing in the front of the book?In summation, it has been said that all students of art must read this text. I would replace "must" with "may well want to" and add that they should look for a better translation.

I came at this after reading a Georgia O'Keeffe biography where it mentioned that this was one of her major influences. I wish I had read this years ago. It has been one of the best insights into modern art, its transcendence to the spiritual and its relationship to music and the philosophy of the

times. It has left me thinking about my own work and why I do what I do. I don't agree with every point, but it is definitely on my list of must reads for students of art and art lovers. I am sure I will read this a few times!

Great insight into creativity.....the art of one's heart and mind as seen through a great artist's lens. A read for beginning artists and those of experience.

Very heady excellent book on Spirit and Art. Must read for an Artist.

essential book for all serious anot only was Kandinsky an amazing, revolutionary artist,but he could write about his discoveries,so we can all (or most of us) understand what he was thinking and feeling

One of my favorit artists

Absolutely awesome book for anyone who is fascinated by the spirituality and art. A must read!

I used this as supporting reference material for my senior thesis, love it

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