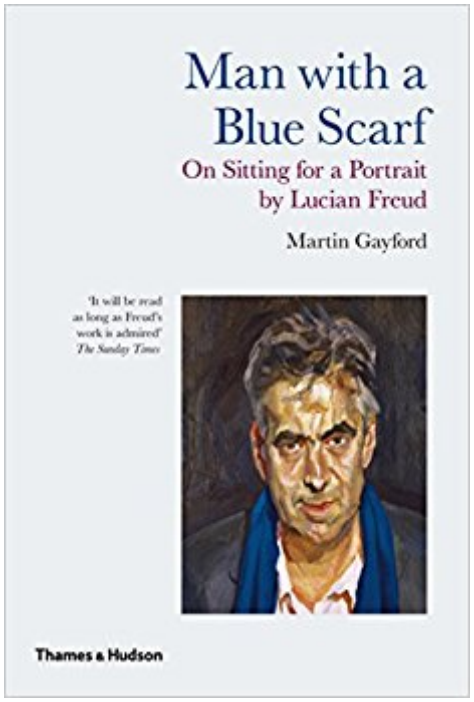
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Man With A Blue Scarf: On Sitting For A Portrait By Lucian Freud



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Synopsis

Ã¢â ¬Å“An extraordinary record of a great artist in his studio, it also describes what it feels like to be transformed into a work of art.Ã¢â ¬Â• Ã¢â ¬â •ARTnewsLucian Freud (1922-2011), widely regarded as the greatest figurative painter of our time, spent seven months painting a portrait of the art critic Martin Gayford. The daily narrative of their encounters takes the reader into that most private place, the artistÃ¢â ¬â„¢s studio, and to the heart of the working methods of this modern masterÃ¢â ¬â •both technical and subtly psychological. From this emerges an understanding of what a portrait is, but something else is also created: a portrait, in words, of Freud himself. This is not a biography, but a series of close-ups: the artist at work and in conversation at restaurants, in taxis, and in his studio. It takes one into the company of the painter for whom Picasso, Giacometti, and Francis Bacon were friends and contemporaries, as were writers such as George Orwell and W. H. Auden.The book is illustrated with many of Lucian FreudÃ¢â ¬â„¢s other works, telling photographs taken by David Dawson of Freud in his studio, and images by such great artists of the past as van Gogh and Titian who are discussed by Freud and Gayford.Full of wry observations, the book reveals the inside story of how it feels to pose for a remarkable artist and become a work of art.

Book Information

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Photography > Individual Artists

Customer Reviews

This is a fabulous book whether you like Freud's work or not. (I don't). But I could not stop reading it. The book is so beautifully written, the language such a pleasure, and it is fascinating to learn about Freud's painting style, and about all the thoughts swirling through the model's mind before, during, and after. I imagine that Anybody with the slightest interest in art, art history or culture in general, would enjoy this book.

It's rare to be able to read about how a master painter lives in his studio, relates to his models and audience, and how he handles and producing a painting. The writer knows a lot about painting, which adds to the detail and depth of his observations. Inspiring for painters of all levels!

This was a beautifully-done book -- quality paper and reproductions, yet still affordable. The author shares his personal and artistic insights after posing for a portrait by the incomparable (probably a good thing) Lucian Freud. It led to an interesting and lively discussion at our Art Lovers Book Club .

Even though I am not a fan of most of Lucien Freud's portraits and find them a bit grotesque, I did enjoy seeing his process through the eyes of Martin Gayford, who sat for the portrait referred to in the title. Gayford's writing is conversational, entertaining and informative without resorting to gossip and tale telling.

Just what I was looking for - an easy read that is full of insight and observation regarding how Lucian Freud worked. I was very pleased with this purchase.

I'm still reading it but, yes, I am quite pleased with this purchase

Good book even if you don't like Freud's paintings.

An up-close and personal view of the artist and sitter at work. Enthralling. If I weren't giving it away as a gift, I would read it again

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