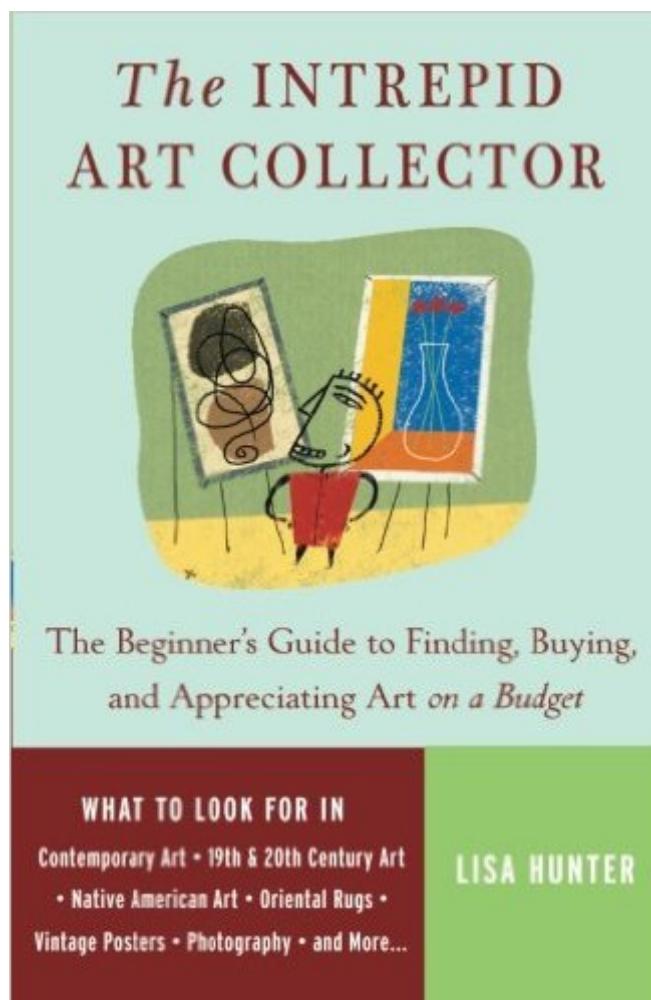


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The Intrepid Art Collector: The Beginner's Guide To Finding, Buying, And Appreciating Art On A Budget



Synopsis

Ready to upgrade your artwork from framed Monet posters but intimidated by what you see in galleries? In *The Intrepid Art Collector*, Lisa Hunter shows you how to start a fine art collection without spending a fortune. This accessible, jargon-free resource contains up-to-date information on the most popular original art—“everything from photography and posters to African art and animation”—including where to find it and how to buy it at a fair price. Easy-to-use checklists help you evaluate original art and steer clear of clever fakes. In addition, Hunter has interviewed top dealers, curators, arts lawyers, and appraisers to bring you the best advice on: • Advantages to buying real art instead of reproductions • Determining if a piece of art is fairly priced • Predicting if an artist’s work will go up in value • Techniques for negotiating a price with a dealer • Developing your artistic taste, so you’ll know if you’ll still love your purchase ten years down the road • How to preserve art in your home • Resources, websites, and magazines that will help you learn more about the market and where to find different types of art

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Customer Reviews

This is a great starter reference for the novice. The guidance is sound, and Lisa Hunter’s enthusiasm is contagious. A few color photographs would have been nice, but wisely this book focuses on cultivating the reader’s own intelligence and knowledge rather than dictating taste. If you have ever been interested in starting an art collection of your own, or buying that Kashmiri silk rug, a little research is a good thing. This is a grand place to start.

This is a great book for someone starting out and not really sure where or how to approach art collecting. Though I can see why some would think it's too simplistic, for someone either new to the collecting world or someone who is interested in collecting a different type of art, this book has really helpful background information. It makes you look at the art you are about to purchase with a different set of eyes, and the checklists are really helpful to evaluate any purchase. This book has probably saved me hundreds of dollars in "art" that was not worth collecting.

Hunter gives a good overview of how to go about collecting art, and this book should take a beginning collector pretty far. While it's not exactly a page turner, it's pretty readable for those interested in the subject. The book runs through the major collecting categories including paintings, sculpture, prints, posters, photography, oriental rugs, Native American art, African art, and antiquities. In each category she offers broad pointers for recognizing things like quality, scarcity, age, how to recognize originals from reproductions, as well how to avoid common pitfalls and scams that collectors run into. This book isn't going to make you an expert in any of these subjects, but it should point you in the right direction and get you asking the right questions. The second part deals with actually acquiring these items. Hunter outlines protocols, etiquette, and the pros and cons of working with dealers, consultants, auction houses, as well as scavenging for finds in places like eBay and garage sales. Most of her tips are useful and thoughtful, though they often boil down to the common refrain found throughout this book, that you should seek out a trusted expert for guidance. Some minor complaints: This book was written in 2006, and the options for buying art online have exploded since then. This subject is covered briefly, but probably warrants additional material in another edition. Also, Hunter offers some additional resources for collectors to augment the information presented, but there's not too much there. I would have liked to see some additional pointers on where I can bone up on collecting photography, for instance.

This book was the easiest to read of all of the art collecting books I have read. Lisa does a fantastic job of showing ways that art collecting can improve our lives without making us wealthier. If you preparing to be an art investor read this book to remind yourself of the fun of collecting!

Only part way through this book but, so far, it is highly informative and I am learning a great deal. Looking forward to buying additional works of art in the future now that I understand the art market a bit better.

There are lots of books with pictures of art, not so many on what it takes to build a good collection, for the ordinary person. You don't have to be J Paul Getty to buy art that is pleasing and makes a good investment. Lisa Hunter's book is by far the best book I have ever read on this subject.

I love art but I've always felt nervous buying art. How do you know if you're getting the real thing? How do you know if you're overpaying? What's that rug really worth? Why is a photograph worth so much? What's the difference between a valuable vintage photograph and a copy of it that looks exactly the same? No one can tell you what a piece of art will be worth in ten years, but Ms. Hunter explains how to go about buying the real thing (and avoid buying fakes) -- and why you should buy the real thing. I feel much more confident about buying a few pretty things for the house now.

This book served my purpose completely: I wanted to understand how the art market works, and what collectors should be aware of, and it gave me exactly this. No bells and whistles, just the thing needed.

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