

Recent Books on Art and Art History - April 2011

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A Curious World / Hylton Nel
Johannesburg, South Africa : Jacana Media, 2010
144p.;
ISBN 9781431400768
\$ 70.00

This richly illustrated book brings together images of his recent work with extracts from his journals as a young man and photographs of his home and garden on the outskirts of Calitzdorp in the Klein Karoo.

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=129064>

Insiders Guide: Top Wildlife Photography Shots in SA / Shem Compion
Johannesburg, South Africa : Jacana Media, 2010
296p.;
ISBN 9781770098350
\$ 33.50

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=129065>

Positions: Contemporary Artists in South Africa / Peter Anders and Matthew Krouse
Johannesburg, South Africa : Jacana Media, 2010
292p.;
ISBN 9781770098893
\$ 46.75

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=129066>

Making Your Art Work - A Guide to Making a Living from Art in South Africa / Ann Gadd
South Africa : Create Yourself Publications, 2010
176p.;
ISBN 9780620489720
\$ 30.00

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=129067>

Dumile Feni: The Story of a Great Artist - Volume 1 / PRINCE MBUSI DUBE
Johannesburg, South Africa : Ste Publishers, 2011
286p.;
ISBN 9780986983306

\$ 66.00

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=129068>

Teo Eng Seng: Art and Thoughts / T. K. Sabapathy

Singapore: Ethos Books, 2011

239p. ; 29cm.

ISBN-13: 9789810884611

1. Teo, Eng Seng, 1938-
2. Artists – Singapore
3. Painting, Singaporean
4. Installations (Art) – Singapore
5. Paper art - Singapore

\$ 50.00

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=129331>

Private Passion: The Photographs of Pioneer Politician and Diplomat S. Rajaratnam /
Foreword by President S. R. Nathan

Singapore: ISEAS Publishing, 2011

xii. 120p. ; 25cm.

ISBN-13: 9789814311434

\$ 29.90

Sinnathamby Rajaratnam was one of Singapore's founding fathers and her first Foreign Minister. While much has been written about his distinguished public career, which spanned almost thirty years, and his significant political accomplishments, this book is about his private passion for photography and introduces his photographic art to a wider audience for the first time. The introductory essay provides essential biographical information as well as new insights into the depths of Rajaratnam's nearly life-long interest in photography. This is followed by an album of images selected from the thousands that he left behind -- images from his student years in London, from his extensive travels, and from Singapore and his home surroundings. Thus the reader is introduced to another facet of this Singapore pioneer, namely his humanity and his quest for creative expression. Whilst the photographs can be enjoyed in and of themselves, they also invite the reader to consider the life and times of the man behind the lens.

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=129332>

Singapore Biennale 2011 Open House

Singapore: Singapore Art Museum (SAM), 2011

1v.

ISBN-13: 9789810880507

\$ 90.00

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=129334>

Zhao Mengfu : Calligraphy and Painting for Khubilai's China / Shane McCausland

Hong Kong : Hong Kong University Press, 2011

152 colour or b/w illus.

460p. 26cm.
ISBN 9789888028573
\$ 55.00

Zhao Mengfu has enormous significance for Chinese art history. This work presents a new, synthetic portrait of the artist's development from the 1280s to his death in 1322, and evaluates his pivotal role in the social-political context in Yuan China as well as the development of the artist's self-consciousness. Shane McCausland's study features detailed interpretation of pictorial forms in light of historical changes, and close readings of critical colophons, many appended to artworks, but neglected as visual sources. These readings are meant to stimulate visual analysis of the oeuvre as well as debate about the use of Tang (618–907) and other period modes as models for the 'Yuan renaissance'.

The book challenges stereotypes portraying Zhao Mengfu as a traitor or careerist. The historical background of dynastic change and Mongol rule is treated in a revisionist manner that aims to contextualize the traditional Chinese hostility towards Zhao Mengfu as a Yuan scholar-official. The concern here is for his development, in the context of Mongol rule, as a Chinese scholar-artist. This book is a must for scholars, curators and other specialists in Chinese painting and calligraphy, especially those focusing on Yuan dynasty and literati painting.

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=128111>

The Heart of Ma Yuan: The Search for a Southern Song Aesthetic / Richard Edwards
Aberdeen: Hong Kong University Press, 2011
xxxiii. 340p. ; 26cm.
ISBN-13: 9789888028658 (HB)
\$ 55.00

Ma Yuan, one of China's best-known artists, was a key figure in the period widely celebrated as the golden era of Chinese landscape painting. The Heart of Ma Yuan offers a careful discussion of Ma Yuan's painting as it emerged within the sophisticated artistic environment of Hangzhou in the late twelfth and early thirteenth centuries.

Beautifully illustrated with more than 300 illustrations from leading museums and private collections around the world, the book includes discussions of Ma Yuan's family of six generations of skillful painters, his many patrons, and his distinctive style in engaging Confucian, Taoist and Buddhist genres and his superb landscapes, including animals, flowers, and detailed studies of water.

Widely noted for his own keen eye and masterful stylistic analysis, Richard Edwards cultivates the art of looking for a broad readership, from general art lovers to specialists in art history. As a Western scholar exploring the significance of a highly refined Eastern culture, he draws on natural history, poetry, and relevant contemporary writing as well as the work of other artists.

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=129585>

Afghanistan: A Window on the Tragedy / Alan Rachins, Bahman Ghobadi ... [et al]

Malaysia: Alen Silva, 2011
157p. ; 18 x 23cm.
ISBN-13: 9780981989174
\$ 18.00

[Photographs]

Alen Silva's window on the tragedy of Afghanistan is a wondrous demonstration of the value art can bring to life. His work vividly depicts the history, the haunting beauty, the glory and the honor of Afghanistan. This book rips at the conscience while it begs for a future for this ravaged land.

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=129615>

Without Walls : A tour of Philippine Paintings at the turn of the Millennium / (Ed) Francis Francisco

Pasig City, Philippines : Winrum Publishing, 2010

271p.

978-971-93867-1-1

\$ 195.00

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Pananaw : Philippine Journal of Visual Arts Vol. 7 / (Ed) Eileen Legaspi-Ramirez

Philippines : National Commission for Culture and the Arts, 2010

140p.

ISSN : 0118-4504

\$ 25.00

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=129813>

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