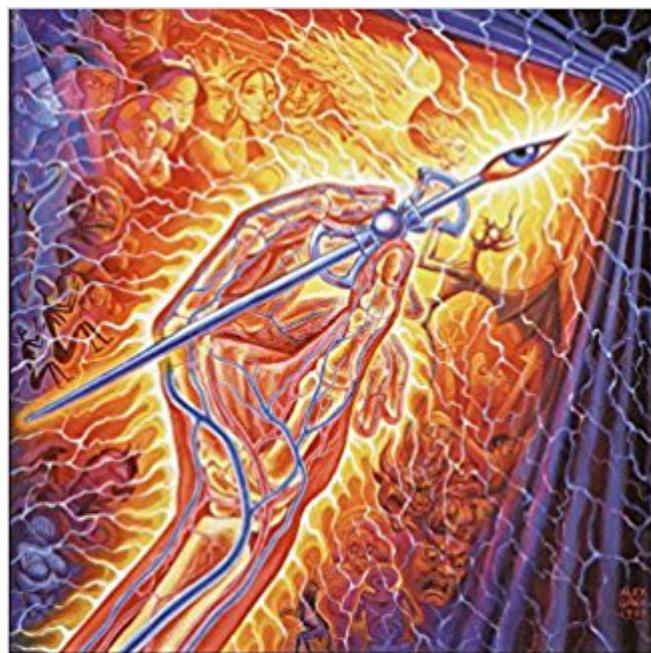


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The Mission Of Art



The MISSION of ART

ALEX GREY

Foreword by Ken Wilber



Synopsis

This is an inspirational book about art's power to bring about personal catharsis and spiritual awakening. Alex Grey's reflections combine his extensive knowledge of art history and his own first-hand experiences in creating art on the boundaries of consciousness. Included are practical techniques and exercises that can be used to explore the spiritual dimension of art. Challenging and thought-provoking, *The Mission of Art* will be enjoyed by everyone who has ever contemplated the deeper purpose of artistic expression.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

In this Technicolor manifesto calling for a renewed spiritual content in modern art, Grey argues that contemporary artists have lost touch with the search for transcendence that infused the work of such masters as Michelangelo, van Gogh, Pollock and Kahlo. In a freewheeling narrative, Grey compares what he sees as the materialism and moral irresponsibility of most contemporary art to his own creative endeavors, which draw on meditation, visualization, shamanic drumming, Taoism, yoga and Tibetan Buddhism. The book is bursting with his own mystical paintings and drawings, depicting floating cosmic eyes, the soul leaving the body of a dying person, haloed skulls, metaphysical thought-diagrams, human torsos lit from within by chakras or psychic energy centers. If this sounds reminiscent of the psychedelic 1960s, that may be because, as Grey freely admits, "sacramental" hallucinogens like LSD and mescaline have been a source of inspiration for him since the mid-1970s. He's found equal inspiration, however, in the works of Blake, Kandinsky and the drawings he made of Michelangelo's sculptures and paintings during a 1994 trip to Italy. Grey

acknowledges a big debt to transpersonal psychology, the study of manifold dimensions of human consciousness, a science whose leading philosopher, Wilber, contributes the hyperbolic foreword ("Alex Grey might be the most significant artist alive"). As a hodgepodge of art-historical analysis, social commentary and spiritual philosophizing, the book is so idiosyncratic, and sometimes so preachy, that many readers will find it difficult to penetrate. But Grey's insistence that art should be a revelatory and healing force in our culture should resonate with artists in virtually any discipline.

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"Alex Grey's mission is nothing less than the transformation of our 'depleted world' through art that supports the evolution of human consciousness. He discusses the lives and work of artists throughout history, and his own journey, as examples of the higher mission of art, and encourages others to break out of the prevailing mood of irony and cynicism and create work with the heart and spirit."• Yoga Journal "An inspirational text for artists and for everyone else who has ever had a glimpse of art's power for personal catharsis and spiritual awakening."• Branches of Light "Grey's insistence that art should be a revelatory and healing force in our culture should resonate with artists in virtually any discipline."• Publishers Weekly

At first when I first got the book, I was concerned the autograph was not authentic but when it arrived and I saw it I just knew it was done by Alex Grey's hand. He has a very distinctive signature and I am quite familiar with it being a big fan and all. Also it had one of his CoSM doodling's above it! My gf was very happy come xmas morning Thanks again for the wonderful gift!

I bought this for a school assignment and it ended up changing my life. My viewpoints of art and life in general have been transformed. This is a worthwhile read for anyone who is interested in how art impacts all of life throughout all of time. Thank you Alex Grey for being so insightful and inspiring!

SPEEDY SHIPPING! EXCELLENT QUALITY!

A Life affirming and inspiring book for artists of all types. Guides one to expressing their higher nature through art in order to affect change to the world around him/her.

This is not an instruction manual on how to make art, this is an enlightening book on the sacred

nature of art. It's perfect for those looking to find that "inner something" within themselves and then express it within their art. Great stuff.

Everyone needs to read this book, especially artists of any kind.

A wonderful and honest book by artist and teacher Alex Grey. Filled with personal history, poignant insights and fresh hope. The potential of artists on a spiritually transformative path which speaks to the individual and beyond to a greater community restoration.-Domenico Petrillo, Beacon NYThe Mission of Art

brilliant book by a brilliant artist.

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