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Episodes With Wayne Thiebaud

Eve Aschheim and Chris Daubert

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Teacher's Supper, split, oil on canvas, 1974, 10 1/2 x 14 1/2 inches



Synopsis

In Episodes with Wayne Thiebaud, Eve Aschheim and Chris Daubert interview Wayne Thiebaud in four extensive conversations in his studio. Thiebaud, known for his iconic paintings of cakes, pies and counter displays, is one of the last living painters of the Pop era. Staunchly maintaining his independence from that group and others, he went on to develop vertiginous cityscapes, deeply abstracted rural landscapes and, most recently, monolithic mountains. In these extended conversations, conducted between 2009 and 2011, Thiebaud reveals himself to be extremely well read, articulate, humorous, self-deprecating and opinionated. Covering a wide range of topics, he discusses his early years in New York, where he became friends with Willem and Elaine de Kooning and hung out at the Cedar Tavern; his return to California; the many influences on his work (Krazy Kat, Persian miniatures, de Kooning, Diebenkorn, Hopper, Balthus, de Chirico); his working methods and thoughts on painting; and his advice to young artists.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

This book-length interview of American painter Wayne Thiebaud collects many insightful and historically important stories and anecdotes and teachings into one small volume. It is full of Thiebaud's legendary humor and wisdom, a must for any student of painting in the 21st century. Daubert and Aschheim are former students of Professor Thiebaud and they know where to go with the questions to get a real sense of how the artist thinks and works. Must read, and re-read!

I wasn't sure what I was getting when I ordered this book. As an admirer of Thiebaud's artwork, I

found his opinions, observations and comments on his art and art in general very interesting and thought provoking as an artist myself. There are a number of artists/artwork references made during the interview sessions made by both parties that I found myself going on the internet to see who or what was being talked about. And I guess that is where I was a little disappointed in this book, I wish it had been more self-contained with additional images of these works instead of my having to go and search for them on another source. At least the works presented in the book are in color and not B&W, which is always an awkward way of presenting a full color piece of art. If you are a fan of Mr. Thiebaud, you will enjoy this book regardless. If you are new to his work I'd suggest buying something with more reproductions of his art first before getting Episodes.

These interviews are full of Wayne Thiebaud's wit and wisdom. The book is an amazing insight into one of the greatest painters of our generation. The questions from two wonderful artists in their own right are thought out and probing. It is a great read for seasoned artists as well as students.

good

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