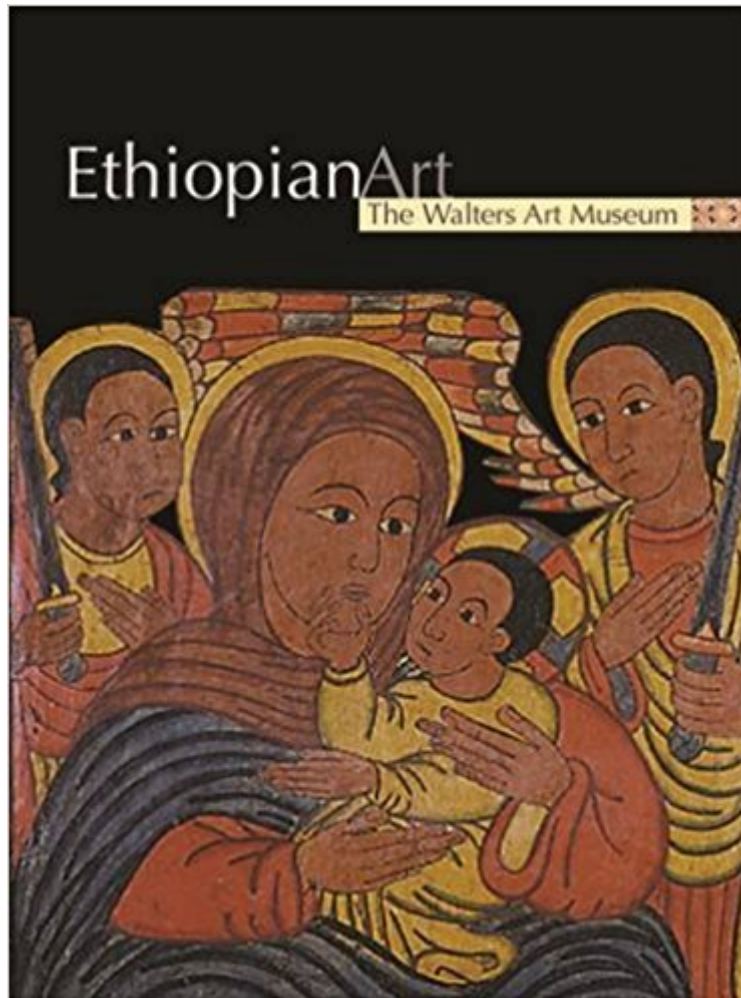




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Ethiopian Art: The Walters Art Museum



Synopsis

The collection of Ethiopian art at The Walters Art Museum, Baltimore is one of the largest and finest outside of Ethiopia, both in terms of depth and range. This book celebrates the art of the Christian kingdom of Ethiopia in metalwork, processional crosses, painted icons and illuminated manuscripts used in the services of the Church and reveals a vibrant artistic world of color, ritual and spirituality.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

The volume contains fine reproductions from the largest collection of Ethiopian art outside that country, held by the Walters Art Gallery in Baltimore. A text on the life and religious practices in Ethiopia by distinguished Ethiopian studies scholar Getatchew Haile and another by Jacques Mercier (Ethiopian Magic Scrolls) on the country's art history provide an introduction to the people, culture, and art of Christian Ethiopia and set the stage for an understanding and appreciation of the Ethiopian influence in works evocative of the religious art and iconography of Byzantium and Russia. Insightful contributions by C. Griffith Mann (The Visitor's Voice) on the role of various religious symbols in Ethiopian culture pay tribute to the technical skills of the artisans and place the artifacts within the customs and practices of that country. Offering useful information and delightful images for the student and enthusiast of world civilizations and cultures, this book provides, through an Ethiopian experience, a uniquely global perspective on the art of the Orthodox Christian world. Recommended for academic libraries. Edward K. Owusu-Ansah, Coll. of Staten Island Lib., CUNY

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Great book arrived on time

Very clean and serious. Recommend it

Nice pictures and very informative

This is a fascinating book that is at once interesting as it is beautiful in imagery. The Walters Art Museum boasts the largest Ethiopian art outside of Ethiopia alongside a permanent collection of Byzantium and Russian art. The Ethiopian collection in the City of Baltimore is only one part of a museum that builds its strengths on the art of the eastern Orthodox world. The collective authors give a brief but satisfying history of Ethiopia and its significance in the ancient world along the Mediterranean trade route. There is also an overview of daily life and religious practices, art history and the role of the Cross, illuminated manuscripts and painted icons that rivalled some of the best in the Orthodox world. The written word is essential to understanding the magnificent art that is displayed. If you are interested in icon art you will love this book with its unique representations. I also found the older wood work to be exceptionally beautiful and intricate in craftsmanship. The results are some of the most beautiful processional crosses you will probably ever see. Later these crosses were made to be more permanent using bronze. Probably equally as impressive are the icon painting and hand made illuminated books that were used for ritualistic purposes in Ethiopian culture. The plates in the book come from the museum catalogue and date from the 4th to the 18th century. The religious nature of the works reflect a combination of African roots and Christian influence. Jesus, Mary and all the saints are painted with distinctively non-Western features. It is unfortunate that there is no cover art available on this page otherwise you would be able to see the painting of baby Jesus and the Archangels with small afros as he sits in the arms of Mary. Much of the art is uncredited and the artist is lost in antiquity and known only as an anonymous painter. The Christian kingdoms art of Ethiopia gets its deserved recognition alongside the art of Russia and Byzantium in this book. The book features some of the most colorful unique Christian art imaginable. There is also a good bibliography featuring a list of over fifty books for further scholarship. This is the first time this magnificent collection is available in publication and will surely satisfy those interested in icon painting and the art of the Orthodox world.

the book arrived on time and in perfect condition. Based on my experience I would recommend seller.

Book is the best I have been able to obtain and provides excellent information for anybody interested in Ethiopian art, which is not too well-known.

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