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Spectrum 22: The Best In Contemporary Fantastic Art



Synopsis

The best-selling Spectrum series continues with this 22nd lavishly produced annual. Challenging, controversial, educational, and irreverent, the award-winning Spectrum series reinforces both the importance and prevalence of fantastic art in today's culture. With exceptional images by extraordinary creators, this elegant full-color collection showcases an international cadre of creators working in every style and medium, both traditional and digital. The best artists from the United States, Europe, China, Australia, South America and beyond have gathered into the only annual devoted exclusively to works of fantasy, horror, science fiction, and the surreal, making Spectrum one of the year's highly most anticipated books. Featured in Spectrum 22 are over 450 works by more than 240 diverse visionaries. With art from books, graphic novels, video games, films, galleries, advertising and the fine arts, Spectrum is both an electrifying art book for fans and an invaluable resource for clients looking for bright new talent. The entire field is discussed in an invaluable, found-nowhere-else Year In Review. Contact information for each artist is included. Often imitated, never equaled, Spectrum 22 continues the freshness and excellence that was established over twenty years ago.

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Pop Culture > Art

Customer Reviews

John Fleskes is the president and publisher of Flesk Publications. He has published over sixty books to date. Fleskes has contributed to numerous books as writer, editor and designer and serves

as the director of the annual showcase "Spectrum: The Best in Contemporary Fantastic Art."

Basics: Excellent, no complaints-Softcover, but good quality pages and prints. Standards are high.- Largish size (big as any previous), 300 pages packed with prints.Artwork Balance: overall very good, with worries- Artists are given 2 page spreads, often in theme, as well as being mixed together. I like this!- Gold & Silver winners get a full page with photo and commentary. This is nice, but borderline. More would be intrusive.- Humor is sparse, but there are enough lighter moments. (Little old witch & kitten is delightful)- Dimensional art is good this year, and the other various categories are generally well represented.- Magical Realism. Do I detect a whiff of snobbery against genre? (I am admittedly hypersensitive in this regard) This issue's judges skewed toward toward magical realism/mythology/symbolic. I like a good mix, but I buy my genre art book for the genre art. I would prefer a bit more high fantasy and the like.I am happy with my Spectrum 22 purchase.

As an artist, you don't want to miss this series of the best artwork of this generation. I know that the art world is very subjective in itself but this magazine needs to be a great visual art inspiration and motivation. I'm reviewing this particular volume but applies to all the volumes produced by Spectrum. Each volume has its own beauty, originality, and just stunning artwork. People that could be a little naive about the sophistication and complexity of the artwork featured should try it and see if you can even get close. I admire the artistry, creativity, and overall presentation of these amazing artists. A great care to showcase the best of the best and how I wish each day that I would be granted with such talent. However, I don't mind being the one appreciating and praising the great work of these current artists. I'm impressed with this magazine that I can't help but express my appreciation and admiration with the magazines' collection or such artwork.

The Spectrum series continues to deliver the very finest in fantasy art, in the widest possible range of styles, media, and venues. Categories include advertising, book art, comics, and more - including my favorites, the 'dimensional,' sculptural works. The styles range from classic realism (or surrealism), to inked line-drawings, to works that evoke medieval tapestries, to ... well, you name it, there are sure to be works here that have elements of it. Loose or literal, colored, B&W, or barely tinted, The collection, the printing, and the sheer variety earn this highest marks - even if digital media increasingly dominate hard media of the traditional kinds. So, why not that fifth star? Earlier volumes in this series lightened the mood with a rich mix of more whimsical, humorous works. Humor seems in short supply this time. Light works can be just as serious as darker ones, but the

general feel of this assembly has a grim edge to it. Still, it's a worthy successor, whether you look for inspiration in your own work or just want to wallow in imagination made real.-- wiredweird

An outstanding book. The artwork included in this newest volume is the best yet. I can't stop looking at it over and over. It's so great to see so much amazing fantasy art in one book. And the price is right. My favorite is titled, "Nightmares Unhinged" by artist, Aaron Lovett, art direction by Josh Viola. - Spectacularly creepy and hauntingly beautiful.

Another wonderful addition to the Spectrum series. Classic Fantasy and Science Fiction art for anyone that reads or follows the art of some very inventive illustrators. It is a must have for SciFi and fantasy readers.

Another great addition to the Spectrum collection. This year's entry sees drastically more traditional media artworks than the last few Spectrums. I highly recommend this book to any fantasy or art lovers.

I have all 22 volumes of this fantastic series and every year, I'm amazed by the great, interesting work. This year's volume is thicker than some of the previous years, which just means more great art to enjoy. If you like fantasy art, the Spectrum series is a must-have and this volume is no exception.

Incredible artwork and amazing book - BUY IT NOW!

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