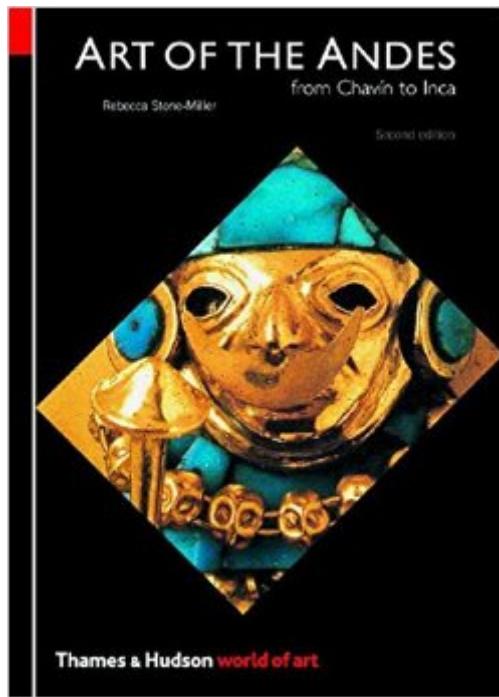


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Art Of The Andes (World Of Art)



Synopsis

This wide-ranging survey has established itself as the best single-volume introduction to Andean art and architecture. Now fully revised, it describes the strikingly varied artistic achievements of the Chavin, Paracas, Moche, Chim and Inca cultures, among others. Their impressive cities, tall pyramids, shining goldwork, and intricate textiles constitute one of the greatest artistic traditions in history. For the second edition, Rebecca Stone-Miller has added new material covering the earliest mummification in the world at Chinchorros, wonderful new Moche murals and architectural reconstructions, the latest finds from the Chachapoyas culture, and a greater emphasis on shamanism. Throughout, Stone-Miller demonstrates how the Andean peoples adapted and refined their aesthetic response to an extremely inhospitable environment. 185 illustrations, 35 in color.

Book Information

Series: World of Art

Paperback: 224 pages

Publisher: Thames and Hudson; 2 edition (December 31, 2002)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0500203636

ISBN-13: 978-0500203637

Product Dimensions: 0.6 x 0.1 x 0.8 inches

Shipping Weight: 8 ounces

Average Customer Review: 4.6 out of 5 stars [See all reviews](#) (14 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #615,062 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #63 in Books > History > Ancient Civilizations > Incan #452 in Books > Textbooks > Social Sciences > Archaeology #544 in Books > Textbooks > Humanities > History > Latin America

Customer Reviews

This book stands out, among many others, for the quality of insight that Rebecca Stone-Miller brings to her study of Andean art. Not content with simple typology and iconography, her account is illuminated by the cultural constants - "duality, reciprocity, hierarchy, and embeddedness in nature" (p. 218) that she finds in the underlying Andean cultures. Art history, in these terms, becomes an exploration of meaning, both of the art that is produced and of the culture that produces it. It's rare to find so much insight in an introductory book; I highly recommend it. Another strength of the book is the nicely-judged balance of attention that the author pays to the multitude of cultures (including the Chavin, Nasca, Moche, Wari, Tiwanaku, Chim, and Inca, to name just some) that weave together

into the Andean tapestry. The author also provides balanced coverage of all the arts -- metalwork, tapestry, featherwork, stone working, and architecture, in addition to the ever-popular ceramics (pottery). With so much ground to cover, there are relatively few individual ceramic examples in the book; this unfortunately gives a too-restricted an idea of the range of form, beauty, and variety of Pre-Columbian pottery from South America. I recommend a book such as "Ceramics of Ancient Peru," by Christopher B. Donnan, as a supplement to Rebecca Stone-Miller's study. A small number of errors have made it through the second edition. For example, the distance from Quito to Santiago is quoted as 3400 miles, rather than the correct 3400 kilometers. A bothersome number of specialized terms were left out of the index. A glossary would have been helpful, and one wishes that more of the photos had been printed in color rather than black and white. In summary, "Art of the Andes" is a balanced and insightful survey that should appeal to a wide variety of readers. It's the kind of book that doesn't just sit on the shelf after one reading, but gets picked up again, thumbed through, and read more than once.

This is an excellent overview of native Andean artform the earliest period through Chavin, Paracas, Nasca, Moche, Tiwanaku, Wari, to Incan. Covers architecture, textiles, pottery and metallic arts. Looks at the main themes of religious and secular art in these various mediums. Text is accompanied by many black and white photographs, drawings and plans. Some photographs are in colour. I found this work most interesting for the way it brings out the Andean worldview through the artistic artifacts remaining of those cultures. The work is also reasonably priced and up to date.

By examining ancient and more recent precontact Andean visual art, Stone-Miller provides an extraordinary insight into Andean culture, philosophy, and world views. In the 2002 revised version, she is able to include recent archaeological discoveries that push Andean civilizations and art further back in time. The book looks at architecture, gourd art, textiles, carving, jewelry and metalsmithing, and ceramics - the techniques of manufacture, trade, symbolism, religious and cultural significance, and aesthetics. She also examines major cultures throughout precontact Andean history and clearly explains how they influenced each other.

Makes a complex kinda hard to get into topic easy to read and interesting. Easy read light weight book. Only a couple hundred pages very different from other art history books. Very small in size as well.

I took a chance with this book, and lost. I usually check the size on art books to make sure they are not too small. Well the publisher of this book did one better, most the pictures in the book are thumbnail size. I was not please with this book.

While I have not read the book cover to cover, i appreciate how it goes from the antecedents to the Inca, which do not get the recognition they deserve. There was great art well before the Inca that was the basis for further levels of artistry. I take my time going through the book and learn a bit more extensively every day. Recommended

This was my textbook for an art history class about ancient Andean Art. I am a fan of these little books. Easy to read, lots of pictures, well laid out and divided. My professor uses books a lot to teach several classes.

This book was very intersting and has lots of really good information and examples. It was an easy read and helped a great deal in the class I took. It actually worked right along with the instructor's lectures.

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