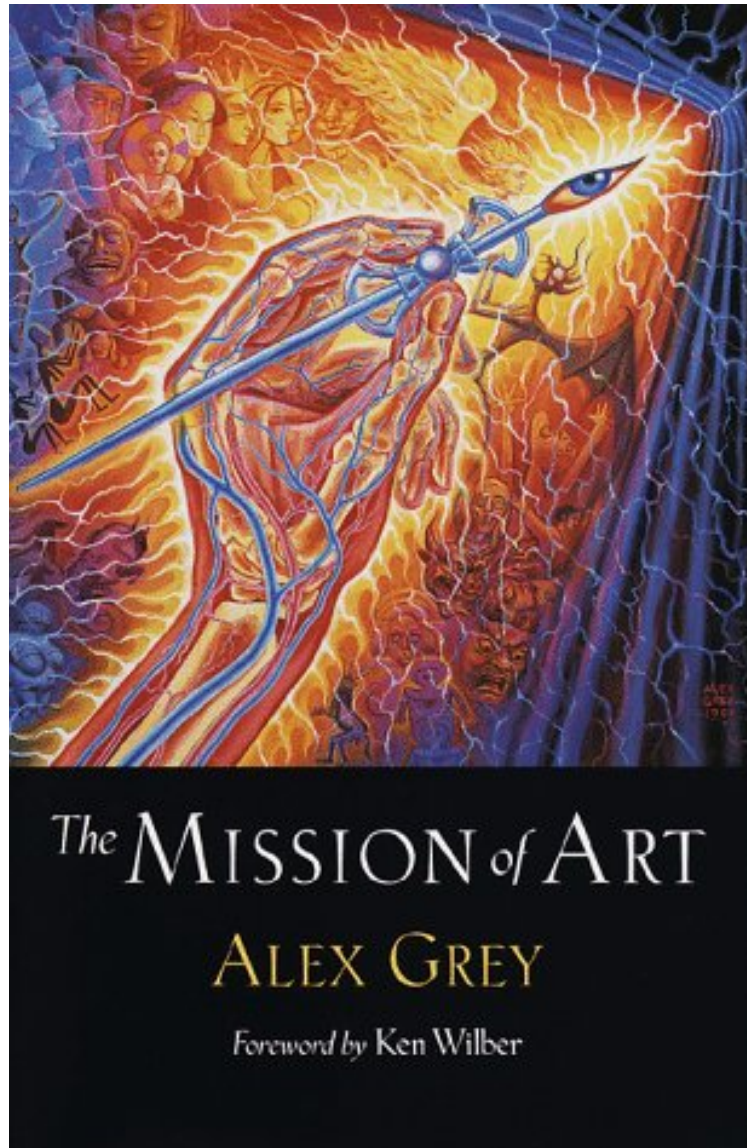


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The Mission of Art

Alex Grey

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Alex Grey : The Mission of Art before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Mission of Art:

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Fascinating book! By Yoga Addict This is a fascinating book on the intersection between art and spirituality. I have always loved Alex Grey's art - this book allows an intimate peek into his journey and process. Many pages are dog-eared as I have been reading because there are passages I want to read

again and again. As a yoga teacher, I also find this book insightful as it also dives into the subtle body, the chakras, etc. I highly recommend this book if you are interested in art as a spiritual endeavor. 1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. a slightly used copy for \$50 was a great find, especially when it was actually autographed by Alex Grey! By Kindle Customer 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! 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. The most beautiful artwork you'll ever see By Matt This book is high quality and filled with masterpieces

The Mission of Art is an inspirational text for artists and anyone who has glimpsed the spiritual power of art. Alex Grey traces the evolution of human consciousness through art history, seeking the threads of art's abiding mission. He reflects on the development of his own work, including provocative performances and the profoundly affecting psychedelic experiences which lead to his unique visionary art. He explores the role of an artist's intention and conscience, and how we of the postmodern age can draw on the creative process as a spiritual path. A thought-provoking examination of how culture makes the soul visible, The Mission of Art challenges us to aim high with our creativity and bring beauty and fresh vision to our depleted and cynical world. The text is accompanied by over fifty black and white reproductions of the author's own drawings and paintings.

From Publishers Weekly 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. Copyright 1998 Cahners Business Information, Inc. "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 About the Author Alex Grey is best known for his depictions of the human body that "x-ray" the multiple layers of reality and reveal the interplay of anatomical and spiritual forces. His paintings have been featured in venues as diverse as the album art of the Beastie Boys, Newsweek magazine, the Discovery Channel, rave flyers and sheets of blotter acid. Grey's artworks have been exhibited and performed throughout the world and are chronicled in the book Sacred Mirrors: The Visionary Art of Alex Grey. He lives in New York City.