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# John Currin



## Synopsis

Along with an insightful new essay, this beautiful book features over forty-five striking color reproductions of John Currin's most recent paintings, spanning from 2011 to 2015. At once highly seductive and deeply perplexing, John Currin's paintings draw inspiration from such disparate areas as Old Master portraits, pinups, pornography, and B-movies. Consistent throughout his oeuvre, however, is his search for the point at which the beautiful and the grotesque hold each other in perfect balance, and this new book from Gagosian Gallery demonstrates just that. In his most recent work, Currin layers each canvas with multiple scenes, creating paintings within paintings. He paints idealized yet challengingly perverse images of women, from lusty nymphs and dour matrons to more ethereal feminine prototypes. While his eroticized subjects often exist at odds with the popular dialogue and politics of contemporary art, they entice viewers, and are reproduced here in stunning detail.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

James Lawrence is a critic and historian of postwar and contemporary art. He is a frequent contributor to *The Burlington Magazine*.

To start off, the cover is different than what shows. There is green velvet that wraps around starting from the right before the spine and wraps across the back, so it actually feels very luxurious. The whole back cover is supple green velvet. The image is still the same its just cropped weird. The

problem I have with this book is that all the paintings are tiny. They pretty much just centered the image in the middle of these giant empty pages and called it a day. The page size is fairly large but for whatever reason they made each piece a tiny centered panel in the middle of an empty page. It really works against the paintings because John Currin put a lot of detail into each one and they kind of acknowledge that by putting a crappy cropped zoomed in picture on the back of each page. Its nice to see his brushstrokes but they seem arbitrarily cropped and just really make me want a larger picture to begin with. The book really feels like it lacks substance, towards the end there is a illustrated checklist and I found myself looking at that and wondering which painting that was, and flipping back only be disappointed with how small and unassuming it makes the artwork. As something that feels nice and looks good on a bookshelf, they succeeded, but as book meant to show off the art of an artist it fails miserably. Save your money and buy a different book of John Currin's artwork.

The book is beautiful , quality great but there's many paintings i long be that I don't see here. I will have to look out for more resources. The artist is brilliant, there's no doubt.

This book is beautiful and came in great condition. Couldn't be happier :)

good

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