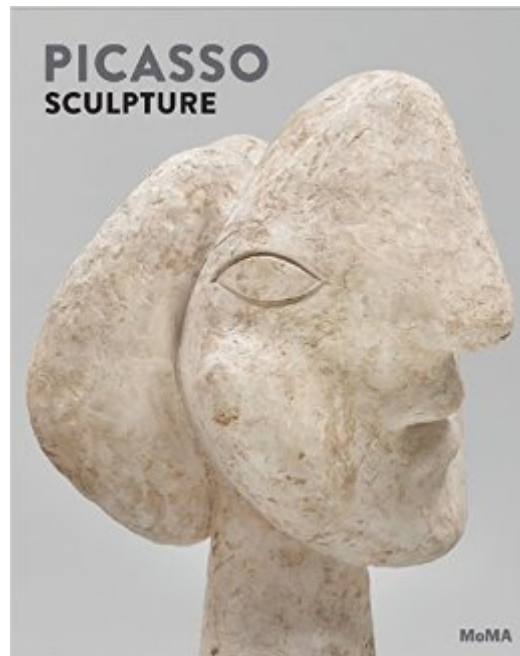


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Picasso Sculpture



Synopsis

Published in conjunction with the first large-scale retrospective of Picasso's sculpture in the US since The Museum of Modern Art's historic show of 1967, *Picasso Sculpture* is a sweeping survey of the artist's profoundly innovative and influential work in three dimensions. Over the course of his long career, Picasso devoted himself to sculpture wholeheartedly, if episodically, using both traditional and unconventional materials and techniques. Unlike painting, in which he was formally trained and through which he made his living, sculpture occupied a uniquely personal and experimental status in Picasso's oeuvre. He kept the majority of his sculptures in his private possession during his lifetime, and it was only in the late 1960s that the public became fully aware of this side of his oeuvre. *Picasso Sculpture* presents approximately 150 sculptures--many of them captured in newly commissioned and sometimes multi-view photographs--alongside a selection of works on paper and photographs. Organized into chapters that correspond to distinct periods during which Picasso devoted himself to sculpture, the publication features an introduction by the exhibition curators as well as a richly illustrated documentary chronology focusing on the sculptures included in the exhibition. A comprehensive bibliography and list of historic exhibitions related to Picasso's work in sculpture closes the volume, advancing the understanding of Picasso's practice and lifelong commitment to constant reinvention.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

An excellent job cataloging and describing Picasso's third dimension. The show at MOMA in New York required 11 galleries and many different variations in Picasso sculpture. The book did a great

job of describing his work in both text and photographs.

Roberta Smith's New York Times review of this MOMA exhibition begins thus: "Many exhibitions are good, some are great and a very few are tantamount to works of art in their right-for their clarity, lyricism and accumulative wisdom. The Museum of Modern Art's staggering "Picasso Sculpture" is in the third category. Large, ambitious and unavoidably dizzyingly peripatetic, this is a once-in-a-lifetime event." Given the seemingly never ending succession of exhibitions examining Picasso's artistic output from differing standpoints, his sculptural work has received scant attention. It's worth noting that Picasso produced around 4,500 paintings versus around 700 sculptures. He held onto many of the latter; this explains why a large bulk of the works in this exhibition are on loan from the Musee Picasso, Paris. While I will resist giving a comprehensive description of the broad scope of his sculptural oeuvre, suffice it to say that there is an astonishing variety of styles on view. Early sculptures show influences from primitive art, cubism and surrealism. In the thirties we note the influence of his muse Marie-Therese Walter and there are whimsical and playful creations from the fifties featuring painted sheet metal, carved pebbles, wood and ceramics. Two examples demonstrate Picasso's incredible inventive ability; the 1942 Bull's Head made from a bicycle seat and handle bars plus the 1958 Bird made from painted wood, forks (the legs), plaster, nails (the eyes), screws and eyebolts. This beautifully illustrated and annotated catalog will give some consolation to those unable to attend the exhibition in person. Given my previous unpleasant MOMA experience where massive crowds seemed more intent on taking selfies or photos of the exhibits rather than examining the artworks, perhaps the catalog might be the safer, more private option. The large sized illustrations are excellently reproduced and multiple views are supplied when appropriate. Highly recommended.

The museum I work for, Sculpture by the Sea in The Hague, will have a Picasso exhibition from October 2016. This outstanding catalogue makes me even more eager to be a part of it. I do love his paintings, but the sculpture and ceramics emphasize his constant play with perspective even

totally my expectations about this book

Beautiful, high quality book in all respects. Great catalog of the exhibition with informative text and historic photos illustrating the evolution of Picasso's sculpture

good book

This is an excellent book for an unbelievable exhibition. Beautifully printed. However it was shipped in a flimsy envelope and the corners were smashed. Too bad.

I bought this book for my husband who has a lot of books on Picasso and is crazy about him. This book met every expectation. He's very pleased with it.

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