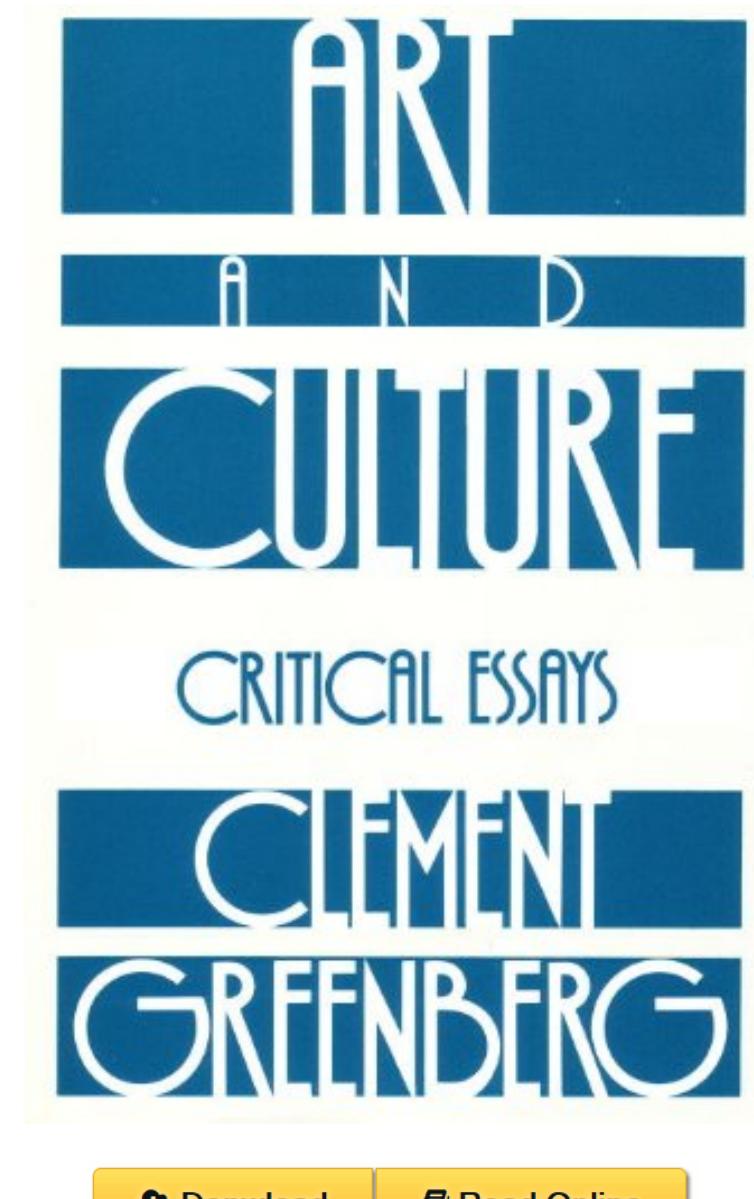


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Art and Culture: Critical Essays (Beacon Paperback)

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One may agree or disagree with Clement Greenberg's ideas, such as the importance of the medium (paint, canvas) over the content (subject matter), the fact that avant-garde art is by essence elitist and preoccupies itself with itself (art for art's sake), as a reaction against

the ever invading and nefarious presence of kitsch (art for the masses), or the idea that what matters is the end-product, the work of art itself, as an object, with physical characteristics (what he calls "the resistance of the medium"). Yet, what remains from these seminal essays is an original definition of modernism, a vision of American art from the 1950's that was to shape much of what was to be created in New York in the following decade, and words that turn art criticism into an art in its own right.

"Clement Greenberg is, internationally, the best-known American art critic popularly considered to be the man who put American vanguard painting and sculpture on the world map. . . . An important book for everyone interested in modern painting and sculpture."—The New York Times

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'This book should be read by anyone who is interested in modern painting and is willing to look at its spectrum through the vision of a tough-minded, rightfully opinionated critic.' —Washington Post
About the Author
Clement Greenberg (January 16, 1909 — May 7, 1994) was the author of *Juan Miro* and *Matisse*. His essays have appeared in the *New Republic*, *Nation*, *Partisan*, *Art News*, *New York Times* and *Horizon*, among others.