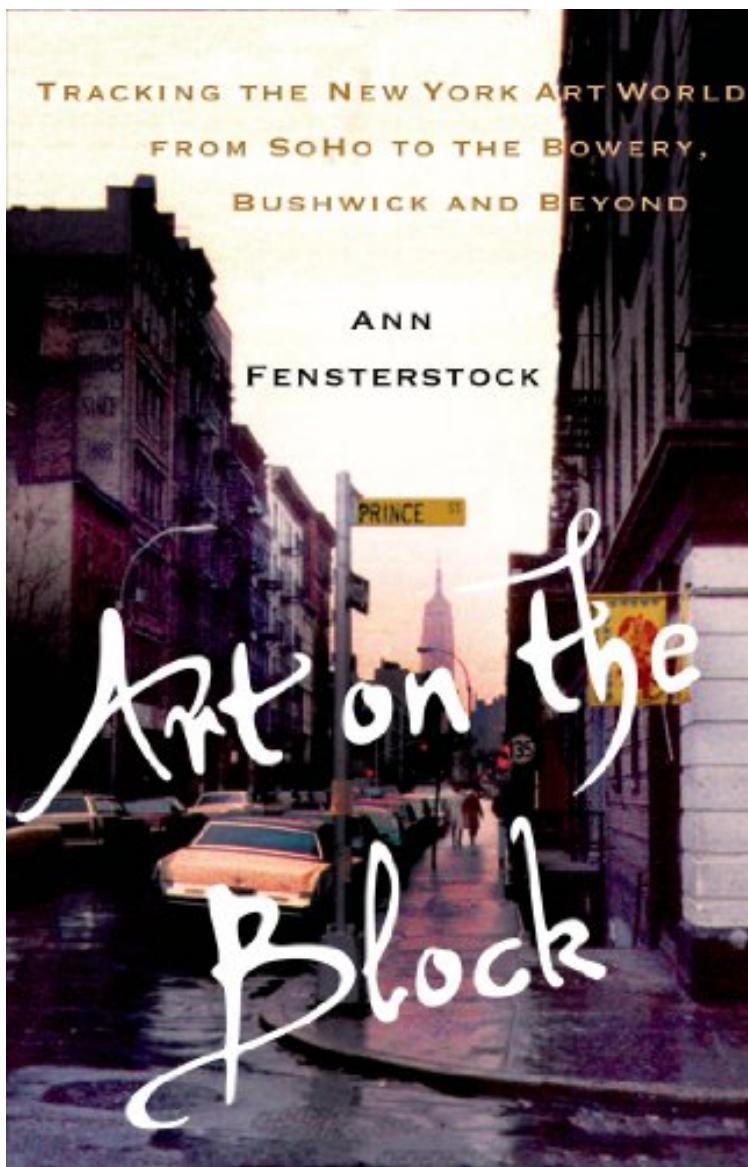


(Read free) Art on the Block: Tracking the New York Art World from SoHo to the Bowery, Bushwick and Beyond

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Ann Fensterstock : Art on the Block: Tracking the New York Art World from SoHo to the Bowery, Bushwick and Beyond before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Art on the Block: Tracking the New York Art World from SoHo to the Bowery, Bushwick and Beyond:

3 of 4 people found the following review helpful. Impressive and fun to readBy Susan L. MartinI'm a seasoned art

professional, lived in New York, a curator at one of its great museums. I wondered if this book could possibly offer the richness of the period she is describing. And she knocks it out of the park!! It is a richly detailed, even-handed, panoramic look at successive changes in the New York art world over several decades. She has a good bibliography and it is well researched but the scholarship is worn lightly. The prose carries one along through a fascinating tale of art, real estate, personalities and more. There is a lot of work and scholarship in this volume but it never gets in the way of the fun.3 of 4 people found the following review helpful. Art and the CityBy King's GambitArt on the block weaves the story of contemporary art as it meanders through the urban geography. The feedback loop between place and activity is masterfully documented in this fascinating book. The author has captured the organic growth of art as it evolves in a never ending search for new roots. Highly recommend!2 of 3 people found the following review helpful. An Insightful History of the Art World's Journeys through New York CityBy Timothy PetersonThis book provides an incisive account of the forces that have led artists and art galleries to colonize successive neighborhoods in Manhattan and Brooklyn. The book is elegantly written, with great good humor. As a reader with reasonable experience in the art world, I still found myself surprised and informed by Anne Fensterstock's research. I recommend this book highly!

A fascinating tour of the last five decades of contemporary art in New York City, showing how artists are catalysts of gentrification and how neighborhoods in turn shape their art--with special insights into the work of artists such as Jean-Michel Basquiat, Cindy Sherman, and Jeff Koons. Stories of New York City's fabled art scene conjure up artists' lofts in SoHo, studios in Brooklyn, and block after block of galleries in Chelsea. But today, no artist can afford a SoHo loft, Brooklyn has long gentrified, and even the galleries of Chelsea are beginning to move on. Art on the Block takes the reader on a journey through the neighborhoods that shape, and are shaped by, New York's ever-evolving art world. Based on interviews with over 150 gallery directors, as well as the artists themselves, art historian and cultural commentator Ann Fensterstock explores the genesis, expansion, maturation and ultimate restless migration of the New York art world from one initially undiscovered neighborhood to the next. Opening with the colonization of the desolate South Houston Industrial District in the late 1960s, the book follows the art world's subsequent elopements to the East Village in the '80s, Brooklyn in the mid-90s, Chelsea at the beginning of the new millennium and, most recently, to the Lower East Side. With a look to the newest neighborhoods that artists are just now beginning to occupy, this is a must-read for both art enthusiasts as well as anyone with a passion for New York City.

Ann Fensterstock's diligently researched *Art on the Block* is a must-read for anyone involved or even marginally interested in the New York art world. "Whitehot Magazine" Neighborhood loyalties, artists' sense of community, political and legal considerations, gentrification, and the broader social, civic and economic milieu all play a part. "Kirkus" A highly readable introduction to the New York art world. "Publishers Weekly" *Art on the Block* follows an adventurous migration of artists and their galleries from one lower Manhattan neighborhood to another and across the East River to Brooklyn, one step behind drug dealers and the police and one step ahead of lifestyle magazines and real estate developers. Fensterstock shows how gallery owners promote art--and themselves--and in the process, help to make the neighborhoods they inhabit more popular and desirable. But these changes ultimately make areas more expensive, killing the creative process. "Sharon Zukin, author, *Naked City: The Death and Life of Authentic Urban Places*" Ann Fensterstock has packed her up-to-the minute text with interesting art world facts, from mini-profiles of pioneering gallerists to the current burgeoning Bushwick scene. A comprehensive New York art-scene primer that will also appeal to cognoscenti. "Phoebe Hoban, author of *Basquiat: A Quick Killing in Art*" Significant art history in the making. Tracking the energy of New York's contemporary art world that may flag but never vanishes, the book provides an impressive windshield tour through more than half a century of the artists, dealers, entrepreneurs and real estate challenges of the contemporary art world. "Alexandra Anderson Spivy, writer, critic and former editor in chief of *Art Antiques*" About the Author Ann Fensterstock is an art historian and a collector who serves on boards and committees at several museums and nonprofits in New York City and Washington. She speaks regularly on contemporary art and lives in New York City.