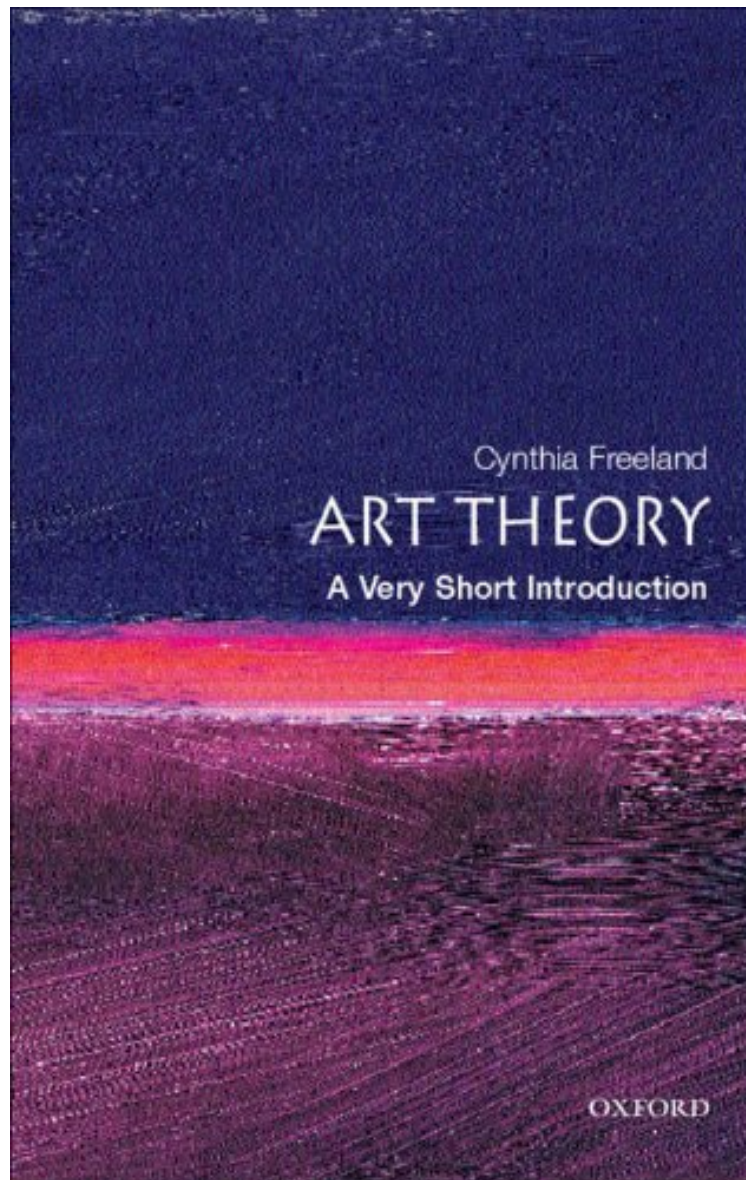


Art Theory: A Very Short Introduction (Very Short Introductions)

Cynthia Freeland

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This book is really interesting with many good points on the theories of art. It has expanded my view of art as well as taught me a lot about different artists and their art. By reading this book, I have expanded my

own personal art theories and learned to incorporate what I have learned into my own artwork. I will definitely be using this book in my future classroom as well as in my own life. 1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Subject very well treated By G. H. Goodwin Great coverage in a short book. A bit of art history along with theory and fair to all genres of art. I enjoy this series a lot and have over a dozen of them. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Five Stars By Jerold L. Davis This is a great introduction to the subject

In today's art world many strange, even shocking, things qualify as art. In this Very Short Introduction Cynthia Freeland explains why innovation and controversy are valued in the arts, weaving together philosophy and art theory with many fascinating examples. She discusses blood, beauty, culture, money, museums, sex, and politics, clarifying contemporary and historical accounts of the nature, function, and interpretation of the arts. Freeland also propels us into the future by surveying cutting-edge web sites, alongside the latest research on the brain's role in perceiving art. This clear, provocative book engages with the big debates surrounding our responses to art and is an invaluable introduction to anyone interested in thinking about art. ABOUT THE SERIES: The Very Short Introductions series from Oxford University Press contains hundreds of titles in almost every subject area. These pocket-sized books are the perfect way to get ahead in a new subject quickly. Our expert authors combine facts, analysis, perspective, new ideas, and enthusiasm to make interesting and challenging topics highly readable.

from previous edition So many of the questions that define us as a culture have been raised through and by the art of recent decades, that without coming to terms with our art, we can scarcely understand ourselves. Cynthia Freeland has written a very smart book, in which high philosophical intelligence is applied to difficult questions raised by real works of art. It immediately situates the reader where thought and action meet, and since the issues are inescapable, it should be required reading for everyone. I know of no work that moves so swiftly and with so sure a footing through the battle zones of art and society today.' Arthur C. Danto, Columbia University, author of *After the End of Art* 'This pocket potboiler provides some answers, a lot of questions and plenty of entertainment along the way' TNT Magazine 'a pacy and readable introduction to art history' Independent on Sunday 'admirable for its scope, compactness and exceptional clarity. Reader-friendly and thought-provoking' The Independent 'a book of simplicity and clarity that may well come to rival John Berger's *Ways of Seeing* as a reader's digest of the rubric of theories that make up contemporary art criticism . . . This is a valuable book for anyone perplexed by the arcane theorising of contemporary art' Sue Hubbard, The Independent 'a useful crib' Guardian About the Author Cynthia A. Freeland is Professor of Philosophy at the University of Houston. She has published on topics in the philosophy of art and film, ancient Greek philosophy, and feminist theory. She is also author of *The Naked and the Undead: Evil and the Appeal of Horror* (1999) and co-editor of *Philosophy and Film* (1995).