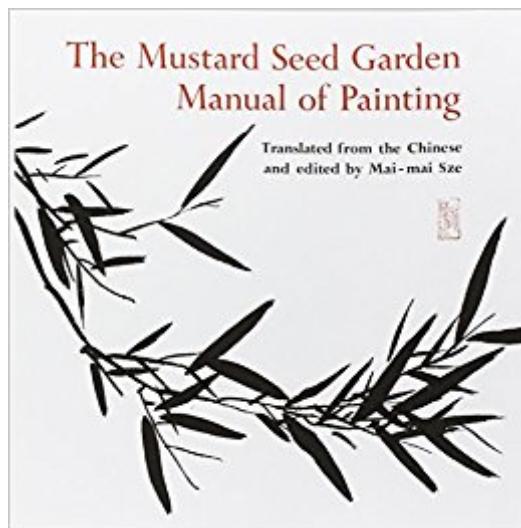


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The Mustard Seed Garden Manual Of Painting



Synopsis

Originally published as Volume 2 of The Tao of Painting, this is the first English translation of the famous Chinese handbook, the "Chieh Tzu Yān Hua Chuan" (original, 1679-1701). Mai-mai Sze has translated and annotated the texts of instructions, discussions of the fundamentals of painting, notes on the preparation of colors, and chief editorial prefaces.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

"The Mustard Seed Garden will always be one of the greatest manuals of the most marvellous painting the world has ever known, and one cannot be too grateful for having it, with its commentary, available in English."--Journal of the Royal Central Asian Society

Text: English, Chinese

Not written for your typical impatient modern reader, this book can be one's companion during the long journey of learning this deceptively simple but truly complex skill. Chinese brush painting is not so much copying what you see, but rather capturing the spirit of what is observed and adding that to your own spirit as you create your work. As others have written, this is an ancient text written for students who hoped to become masters of the art through years of practice and learning. It is a big volume that demands patience, yet is a pleasure to work through. The translation can often lose

something in the telling, but is good enough to compel you to learn and to entertain and enlighten as you do so.

The original gongbi bible of Chinese brush & ink painting - true classic from which all else flows. If one seeks the traditional instruction and progress according to the predetermined steps of progression, then this book is a must. Instruction with illustration for every conceivable classical art genre eg the four gentlemen, landscape, figures. Expanding further it shows the seasonal treatment of trees in a landscape painting for example. Age old techniques are covered. A gem. This is a direct English translation from the original text but nevertheless it remains true to form a timeless classic for gongbi method. Note however, the manual does not address the Xie Yi freestyle method. Deserves a spot on the book shelf of all Chinese art lovers from beginner on.

If you want only one manual for Chinese brush art, this is the one you should buy. Written in the 1600's it is as modern today and when written. It covers it all. Materials, technique, and from birds to bugs and everything in between. A wonderful book you will wear out with use. Huge too, over 600 pages of wisdom and clear instruction.

Thanks to the :" look inside this book" I purchased the The Mustard Seed Garden Manual Of Painting. It is amazing how didactic and philosophical can be a text written three hundred years ago ! I could not stop reading since opened the first page: for those who paints or admires chinese pictures (or even calligraphy) - it is really a must. I recommend to read carefully the : "look inside" because when you receive the book it will surprise you: it is much, much more than that. And, being a 640 pages book and in an almost squared form, it is also delightful to hold those messages that came from the past and is still valid today. Buy now, because if it goes out of print, for sure , you will repent to miss a Classic.

Used this for teaching materials in Chinese Brush Painting class. Reads like poetry, yet practical handbook for any brush and ink artist.

This was for my wife who has an old, worn small paperback that was also based on the original ancient Chinese volume but she wanted this as it was much larger, newer and had more illustrations. The instructional text is also very good.

This book shows how brush stroke-style and expressive technique conveys meaning with simplicity. Multiple examples with historical progression that honors the tradition of the painters and their unique contributions across centuries. As one reads, one can follow the specific commentary exemplified in the many, many illustrations that parallel the text.

This is a veritable encyclopaedia of Chinese brush painting. My copy had quite a few pages missing but that doesn't stop me from learning. It's giving me an understanding of the rules and methods that the Chinese have developed over centuries. It's a graceful language.

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