

[PDF] Why Paint Cats: The Ethics Of Feline Aesthetics

Burton Silver, Heather Busch - pdf download free book

Books Details:

Title: Why Paint Cats: The Ethics of

Author: Burton Silver, Heather Busch

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Description:

From Publishers Weekly While the popular and enduring *Why Cats Paint* (1994) profiled the creative output of house pets, highlighting tabbies and Persian long-hairs with smeary abstract canvases they ostensibly made, the authors' latest volume inverts the paradigm, and offers instead the cat-as-canvas. Rexes and Siamese sport rainbow colors on their faces and flanks or graphic designs on their hindquarters: cats are transformed into butterflies, or clowns, or furry American flags. Presented as the document of a developing art movement, the book features a potpourri of artists and their "schools" (Neo-Totemism, Semiotic Anthropomorphism, Avant Funk), pairing big photographs with faux-interpretive essays about each cat and artist. Perhaps the most amazing entry is a portrait of Charlie Chaplin, supposedly painted with peroxide and vegetable dye on the rear end of a ginger and white cat named Burger. Amusing as a novelty item if nothing else (and very

amusing at that), the book also offers a gentle kick in the pants to the gods of art criticism: a cat painted like a fish, for example, succeeds in "redefining and blurring the relationship between fur and scale, fin and tail, in order to create a shared intent that transubstantiates the species and repositions the notion of symbiosis." It's all so weird that it's sort of irresistible.
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Review "You'd think a person would have better things to do with \$5,000 than to have her cat painted to look like a pig. . . . I personally appreciate feline beauty without a brush, but for the person who has every art book, my bet is they don't have one showcasing cats as canvases." *Atlanta Journal-Constitution* "I would not paint a cat if someone paid me to do so. I would not paint a cat if Picasso rose from the grave and taught me how. If a cat represented the last piece of canvas on earth, I still would not paint that cat. I just know better. Sadly some people do not. . . . I'm pretty sure it's not a hoax." *Jackson Clarion-Ledger* "Suggests itself both as art and an art. Who am I to kibble?" *San Francisco Chronicle* "Painted cats transform into art with a purrpuess." *Las Vegas Review Journal* "By the time you finish flipping through *WHY PAINT CATS*, the latest art-book collaboration by writer Burton Silver and photographer Heather Busch, you'll have more questions than answers. Seeing Charlie Chaplin's face painted on a cat's rump has that effect." *Heather McKinnon, Seattle Times* "It felt wrong. I was appalled. Then I began to flip through the book, and was knocked back on my heels by the beauty of (some) of the works of art. A question I'd never considered nestled in my brain: Why not paint cats?" *San Diego Union Tribune* "Kitty Porn . . . What a little tramp! . . . Always wanted to paint your cat like an alien but never had the balls to try?" *Maxim magazine*

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