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Drawn From Nature: The Plant Lithographs Of Ellsworth Kelly



Synopsis

An American artist of worldwide renown, Ellsworth Kelly has consistently returned to nature as a subject throughout his extraordinary career. Kelly began making prints in 1964; shortly thereafter he created his first suite of plant lithographs. To date he has produced 72 plant lithographs that fall into five major series: Suite of Plant Lithographs (1964–66); Leaves (1973–74); Twelve Leaves (1978); Series of Plant and Flower Lithographs (1983–85); Oak Leaves (1992); and several individual works. This comprehensive book serves as a beautiful portfolio of the plant lithographs accompanied by informative texts on all of these works as well as an insightful discussion of how they relate to the ink and pencil plant drawings that the artist has produced concurrently with the lithographs throughout his career. Kelly has occupied the center stage of modernism since his early years in Paris in the 1950s. Distinguished for his abstract style of pure color and shape, Kelly believes that his art remains rooted in the natural world. In their simplicity of line and shape, his widely admired and accessible plant lithographs provide a critical link to the character of abstraction and are a remarkable achievement within the framework of Kelly's lifetime of accomplishment.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Large sharp illustrations make this book a must for any Kelly fan. Rarely do you find such a collection of Kelly's Plant lithographs. It is great for someone wanting to study his work or for the person who appreciates the beauty of a line drawing. I have been waiting a long time for such a book. 5 stars

This book is a joy to go back to now and then. The lines are so simple and so beautiful. These lithographs seen in relationship with Kelly's paintings and sculptures are just thought provoking. Thank you !

Inspiring book for the artist in everyone. As a ceramic artist, I found the prints so helpful and had never seen them together before. In addition, the works are beautifully presented in a large format.

Lovely book although some of the reproductions seem to have lost detail in the process.

This is an elegant book, more for a drawing fan than a Kelly fan. There is no color in this book. Included are the Plant Lithographs from 1964-1966 (Leaves, Grapefruit, Tangerine, Lemon, Cyclamen, Camellia, Pear etc.) There are also other leaves from other decades: Grape Leaves, Sarsaparilla, Calla Lily, Oak leaves (1992), Wild Grape Leaves (2004!). The man is still alive!! I had no idea. A largish, but slim (1.5 cm) book that has a beautiful feel to it.

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