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The Art Of Richard Thompson



Synopsis

Known for being the creator of the comic strip Cul de Sac, Richard Thompson's art prowess extends to many other levels. Richard Thompson is renowned among cartoonists as an "artist's" cartoonist. Little known to all but those close to him is the extent of his art talent. This is the book that will enlighten the rest of us and delight us with the sheer beauty of his work. Divided into six sections, each beginning with an introductory conversation between Thompson and six well-known peers, including Bill Watterson, the book will present Thompson's illustration work, caricatures, and his creation, Richard's Poor Almanack. Each section is highly illustrated, many works in color, most of them large and printed one-to-a-page. The diversity of work will help cast a wider net, well beyond Cul de Sac fans.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

If life were fair, Richard Thompson, would continue to live, draw, and make us laugh at least as long as Charles Schultz (77), Herblock (91), Benjamin Franklin (84), or Michelangelo (88). He'd continue to create Cul de Sacs and Richard's Poor Almanacs until he and his characters had said all they had to say and then retire/hide from the public (a la Bill Watterson, Gary Larson) to the dismay of his fans. Sadly, Parkinson's Disease has taken that option away from him. This fascinating book (suitable for your coffee table in a color scheme of B&W with a touch of red to match any decor) showcases a sampling of RT's life's work and LOL wit/wisdom with interesting biographical info written (mostly in interview and sidebar form) by Richard and his fellow cartoonists (who all seem to be envious of his genius because they know exactly how hard it is to be funny, on deadline, day

after day). It shows the growth of Richard Thompson as an artist/cartoonist with representative samples -in beautiful full color--from his life work. You can see and appreciate his growth as an artist from his early days working on his college newspaper to the Washington Post and New Yorker and colorful caricatures. Reading his interviews with fellow cartoonists' is like being a fly on the wall at the most interesting Washington-DC dinner party ever --where the honored guest is witty, funny, informed, observant, smart, and so humble as to deliver his zingers completely without partisanship or pretension. (And that's before we even get to Cul de Sac and my favorite character, the preschooler who dances atop the cul de sac's manhole cover, Alice. And yes, he has a real-life daughter who did that very thing.

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