



The Cy Twombly Gallery: The Menil Collection, Houston

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The Cy Twombly Gallery: The Menil Collection, Houston From Yale University Press

American artist Cy Twombly (1928–2011) created paintings and sculptures that defied conventional classification. In his works, Twombly incorporated a wide variety of elements, from scrawls and calligraphic marks to text from poetry and mythology. Opening in 1995, the Cy Twombly Gallery at the Menil Collection was designed by Renzo Piano and has become a pilgrimage destination for the artist's avid admirers. The product of close collaboration between the Menil, Twombly, and the Dia Center for the Arts, the Gallery is one of the most extraordinary representations of any single 20th-century artist. Twombly chose the art that would be featured and worked closely with the builders to create the most appropriate venue for its presentation.

This sumptuous volume showcases thirty-three paintings and eleven sculptures, including an immense 13 x 52–foot painting. Featuring large-scale, close-up details of many of the works, the book looks at paint, plaster, paintings, sculptures, and the “cues” that Twombly gave in his art about this special collection.

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Editorial Review

Review

“This book infuses the artist's spirit into the pages, showing Twombly at work and at play.”—*Huffington Post*

“With the Dia Foundation having shortsightedly sold off its important early Twombly, this book and the permanence it presents seems all the more important. 'The Twombly Gallery' documents the Menil's famed single-artist space, and includes essays by Paul Winkler and Carol Mancusi-Ungaro . . . includes some wonderfully informal notes: Reproductions of a hand-written letter Twombly sent to former Menil director Paul Winkler and Mancusi-Ungaro's reminiscences of her conversations with Twombly.”—Tyler Green, *Modern Art Notes*

About the Author

Paul Winkler was the director of The Menil Collection when the Cy Twombly Gallery was built. Conservator **Carol Mancusi-Ungaro** is affiliated with the Center for the Technical Study of Modern Art at the Harvard Art Museums and the Whitney Museum of American Art.

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