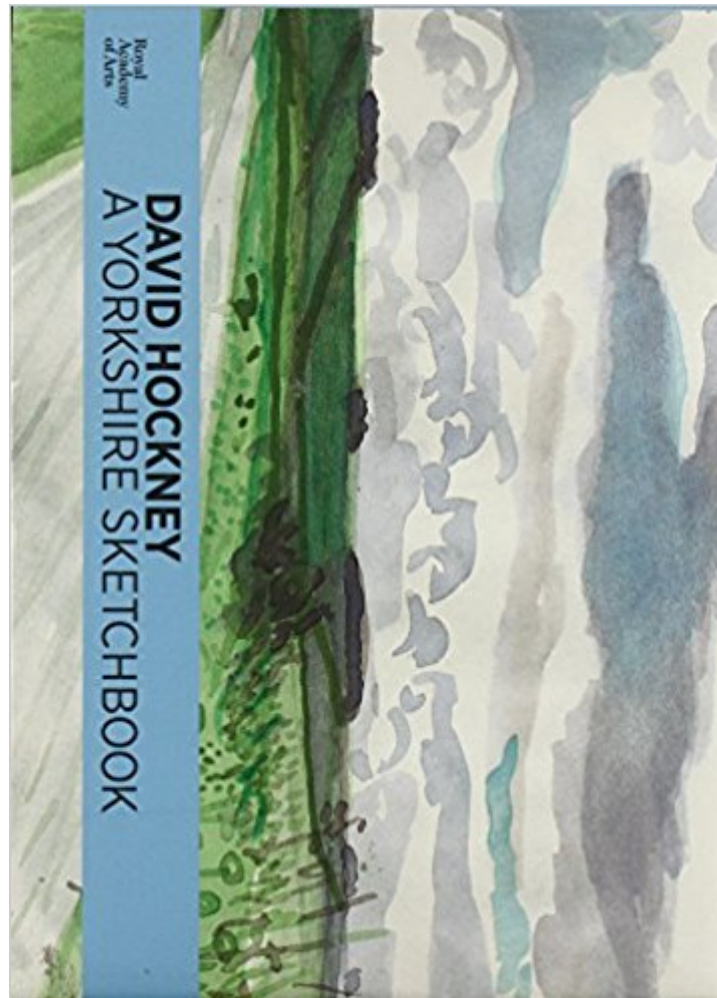




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David Hockney: A Yorkshire Sketchbook



Synopsis

In recent years renowned artist David Hockney has returned to England to paint the landscape of his childhood in East Yorkshire. Although his passionate interest in new technologies has led him to develop a virtuosic drawing technique on the iPad, he has also traveled outdoors with a traditional sketchbook, an invaluable tool as he works quickly to capture the changing light and fleeting effects of the weather. Executed in watercolor and ink, these panoramic scenes have the spatial complexity of finished paintings--the broad sweep of sky or road, the patchwork tapestry of land--yet convey the immediacy of Hockney's impressions. For those who know the East Yorkshire Wolds, the location of the sketches is unmistakable; for those who don't, its features will come to life in these pages.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

David Hockney (b. 1937) is an internationally acclaimed artist. He studied at Bradford School of Art from 1953 to 1957 and at the Royal College of Art, London, from 1959 until 1962. He has lived in Los Angeles since 1963 but now splits his time between the United States and East Yorkshire, where he grew up.

I enjoyed this Hockney sketchbook presentation because it shows an aspect of his artwork that you don't get to see very often. Many of the works look quickly done and are very loose compared to his paintings. But you still get a sense of his wonderful compositions and use of color. These are all landscapes which are my favorite part of his practice. My only complaint is that the paper is a very smooth surface and I would guess that the actual paper used in the sketchbooks has more texture

to it and less gloss. Still, for the imagery, this is an enjoyable book. Not the place to start your Hockney book collection, but one for the die-hards.

When you draw a landscape, the act of translating the visual perception into a created image makes it a part of your consciousness. If you're good at drawing, your representation will evoke not just the scene in front of you, but the living nature of the elements of the scene--the plants, the land, the sky and clouds. For some reason, a simple sketch--if the lines are true--evokes in the viewer a more dimensional sense of place than a photograph or finished painting ever can; perhaps this is because viewers must engage their imagination to recreate the scene from the mere suggestions of shapes and lines? David Hockney, of course, is very, very good. The completely natural arrangements of plants along the road edges, the nodding grass stems and occasional flowers, the shapes of the trees and the curves of their branches, the slopes of the furrowed hills, all feel so alive that I feel like I'm in the middle of them. If Hockney's Yorkshire paintings are an all-out banquet, this sketchbook is a dreamy lunch with a really good glass of wine.

I was disappointed. These are mostly rough sketches that do show us Hockney's work in progress but don't give (me, at any rate) any real impression of the Yorkshire countryside. I bought the book thinking it would help me with landscape-painting with watercolors. I suppose it might eventually but there are better sources of inspiration.

I have met David Hockney and enjoy following his career. This delightful book is for those who love sincere, humble and creative images of a much loved landscape by one of today's greatest painters. Here we have a great water colourist searching for the spirit of 'his' East Yorkshire. Christopher Pyett Melbourne Australia.

Loved this little sketch book. I'm a big fan of David Hockney...and Yorkshire. This is indeed a book of work on sketches the artist did. I received the book when promised and was in excellent condition! I would certainly recommend this seller!

An opportunity to see the work behind the work. At museums I am finding myself drawn to viewing the sketchbooks that are featured near an artist's finished work. This allows me to do it at my armchair at home.

I love this little sketch book of David Hockney's watercolor landscapes. His limited use of color, and interesting compositions are wonderful inspiration for plein air painters. The book arrived quickly and in perfect condition ... Thanks!

Hockney is a great, but this is truly for aficionados of an artist's reflections of a geographical region. If you are looking for wider survey of Hockney, seek other publications.

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