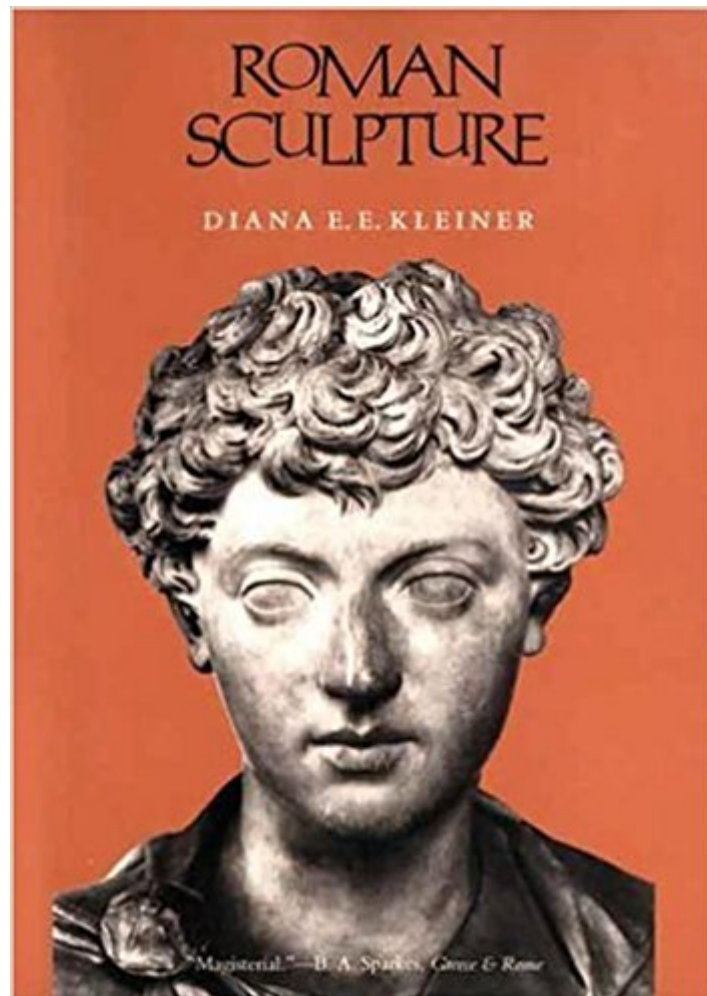




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Roman Sculpture (Yale Publications In The History Of Art)



Synopsis

Roman sculpture was an integral part of Roman life, and the Romans placed statues and reliefs in their fora, basilicas, temples, and public baths, as well as in their houses, villas, gardens, and tombs. In this beautifully illustrated book—the first in almost a century devoted solely to Roman sculpture—Diana E. E. Kleiner discusses all the major public and private monuments in Rome, as well as many less well known monuments in the capital and elsewhere in the empire. She examines art commissioned by the imperial elite and by private patrons, including freedmen and slaves, and she also highlights monuments honoring women and children. Kleiner demonstrates that the social, ethnic, and geographical diversity of Roman patronage led to an art that was eclectic and characterized by varying styles, often tied to the social status of the patron. She also examines the interrelations between works produced for different kinds of patrons. Kleiner begins with a long thematic introduction that describes Rome and its empire, characterizes patrons from the capital and the provinces, discusses the position of the artist in Roman society and the materials he used, and presents a history of the study of Roman art. The remaining chapters constitute a chronological examination of Roman sculpture from the foundation of Rome in 753 B.C. to the transfer of the capital to Constantinople in A.D. 330. In each period the monuments are divided by type, for example, portraiture, state relief sculpture, the art of freedmen, and provincial art. Throughout, Kleiner treats Roman sculpture in its cultural, political, and social contexts and, wherever possible, as an element of the architectural complex in which it was set.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Diana E. E. Kleiner is Dunham Professor of History of Art and Classics at Yale University.

Ms. Kleiner does indeed show how eclectic Roman sculpture is/was. But she also shows and explains how artists wrought texture out of stone, their flare for facial features, the thoughtful tilt of the head or the significance of a raised eyebrow. There is more to Romans than conquest. This book makes that clear. This book also does an excellent job of relating historical events to tastes in sculpture.

Amazing book

Great Transaction! Perfect for school!

This book is part of what I have to read in my introduction course in greek/roman art. In this respect it is maby not optimal, the autor focuses too much on works of art that no longer excicsts, and works that aren't that well known. I wish she would focus more on the really famous pieces. What is realle good is that it follows the Emperors cronologically, and that makes it easier too understand the connecton between art and society. For people with special interests in the field, it is probably wonderfull, but with 460 pages it is long and a bit too much information for a new student.

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