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Art in the Hellenistic Age

By Jerome Jordan Pollitt

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'The best reason to study Hellenistic art is for its own sake' writes Professor Pollitt in the Preface to *Art in the Hellenistic Age*. 'But', he continues, 'I would suggest that there is an additional quality that should make the art of the Hellenistic age of particular interest to modern audiences: the fact that in background and content it was the product of an age in many ways similar to our own ... The result of the historical conditions (of the age) was an art which, like much modern art, was heterogenous, often cosmopolitan, increasingly individualistic, and frequently elite in its appeal'. This 1986 book is an interpretative history of Greek art during the Hellenistic period - i.e. from the death of Alexander the Great in 323 BC, to the establishment of the Roman Empire at the end of the first century BC - which also explores ways in which that art is an expression of the cultural experience and aspirations of the Hellenistic age.

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Review

"...excellent overview of the art and temperament of the Hellenistic Age....The focus of this book is admirably wide-ranging....In the process of his skillful art historical analyses, Politt presents many astute and thought-provoking observations on and interpretations of the social history of this pivotal period in the development of western civilization." David W. Rupp, Classical Views

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