



Van Gogh and Gauguin: The Search for Sacred Art

By Debora Silverman

Download now

Read Online ➔

Van Gogh and Gauguin: The Search for Sacred Art By Debora Silverman

A leading scholar offers fresh insight into one of the key moments in modern art history

During the fall of 1888, Vincent Van Gogh and Paul Gauguin lived and worked together in Provence. There in a yellow house at Arles, they changed the course of modern art. The relationship between the two painters came at a critical point in each of their careers, and began as a plan for a new community of artist-brothers, who would flourish in a harmonious condition of mutual support. While the two painters never achieved the goal of brotherly harmony, they nonetheless found their creativity spurred by association.

Until now, the Arles period has been interpreted in the light of the temperamental differences between the artists, culminating in the famous incident in which Van Gogh cut off part of his left ear lobe to spite Gauguin. In the shadow of the drama, their larger intellectual and theoretical debates at Arles have been neglected. Debora Silverman demonstrates here for the first time the great significance of their religious backgrounds and conflicts, with important new research on Van Gogh and Gauguin's respective Protestant and Catholic origins and formations, and fresh readings of the major pictures of the period. Both artists emerge in startling new ways, as the paintings they produced at Arles are reevaluated in the light of their divergent attempts to create a new sacred art.

 [Download Van Gogh and Gauguin: The Search for Sacred Art ...pdf](#)

 [Read Online Van Gogh and Gauguin: The Search for Sacred Art ...pdf](#)

Van Gogh and Gauguin: The Search for Sacred Art

By Debora Silverman

Van Gogh and Gauguin: The Search for Sacred Art By Debora Silverman

A leading scholar offers fresh insight into one of the key moments in modern art history

During the fall of 1888, Vincent Van Gogh and Paul Gauguin lived and worked together in Provence. There in a yellow house at Arles, they changed the course of modern art. The relationship between the two painters came at a critical point in each of their careers, and began as a plan for a new community of artist-brothers, who would flourish in a harmonious condition of mutual support. While the two painters never achieved the goal of brotherly harmony, they nonetheless found their creativity spurred by association.

Until now, the Arles period has been interpreted in the light of the temperamental differences between the artists, culminating in the famous incident in which Van Gogh cut off part of his left ear lobe to spite Gauguin. In the shadow of the drama, their larger intellectual and theoretical debates at Arles have been neglected. Debora Silverman demonstrates here for the first time the great significance of their religious backgrounds and conflicts, with important new research on Van Gogh and Gauguin's respective Protestant and Catholic origins and formations, and fresh readings of the major pictures of the period. Both artists emerge in startling new ways, as the paintings they produced at Arles are reevaluated in the light of their divergent attempts to create a new sacred art.

Van Gogh and Gauguin: The Search for Sacred Art By Debora Silverman Bibliography

- Rank: #1975077 in Books
- Published on: 2000-11-15
- Original language: English
- Number of items: 1
- Dimensions: 1.39" h x 10.32" w x 8.60" l,
- Binding: Hardcover
- 512 pages

 [Download Van Gogh and Gauguin: The Search for Sacred Art ...pdf](#)

 [Read Online Van Gogh and Gauguin: The Search for Sacred Art ...pdf](#)

Editorial Review

From Publishers Weekly

The paintings of Vincent Van Gogh and Paul Gauguin continue to attract critical attention in books like Stephen Eisenman's acclaimed *Gauguin's Skirt*. The artists' stormy friendship, which climaxed in the famous incident when Van Gogh cut off part of his ear and sent it to an Arles prostitute, contains high drama amid some world-class art. Now Silverman (UCLA professor of modern European history, art, and culture and author of *Selling Culture*) weighs in with this massive new study, as ponderous as it is extensively pondered. Attempting to deepen the understanding of Van Gogh and Gauguin's work during the time the artists spent together in Arles, Silverman examines their religious education in sections like "Catholic Idealism and Dutch Reformed Realism" and "Peasant Subjects and Sacred Forms." A galumphing prose style does not lighten the load of these subjects. The author goes on at great length, for example, about Bishop Dupanloup, a 19th-century French pedagogue, and Cornelius Huysmans, a Dutch teacher, and their supposed influences on Gauguin and Van Gogh, respectively. However, these influences come off as generalized at best, and indisputably dull at worst, smothering the natural drama and excitement of both the work and the artists' lives. Dramatic rights, Sandra Dijkstra Literary Agency. (Nov.)
Copyright 2000 Reed Business Information, Inc.

From Library Journal

The stormy relationship of Paul Gauguin and Vincent van Gogh during their tenure in Arles has enjoyed a long history of speculation. The relationship's failure and van Gogh's infamous self-mutilation are usually interpreted to be the result of Van Gogh's psychopathology. Silverman (*Selling Culture*; *Art Nouveau in Fin-de-Si cle France*) provides a broader perspective, emphasizing key ideological differences that likely drove the two artists apart. Gauguin and van Gogh were engaged in developing a contemporary form of sacred art, but they approached their subject matter very differently. Gauguin, who was Catholic, saw the material world as an obstacle to spiritual attainment. Van Gogh, on the other hand, was enmeshed in the social fabric of the Dutch Reformed Church and saw the material world as a direct expression of the divine. For Van Gogh, the highest form of contemplation was daily activity and attention to one's craft. It's no wonder that this brotherhood of artists, which began in friendship and was generally positive, was due to have conflict. Silverman's scholarship and lucid writing makes this one of the most refreshing and insightful texts on these two artists in years. Because there are so many, this is saying a lot.

-DSusan Lense, *Columbus, OH*

Copyright 2000 Reed Business Information, Inc.

From [Booklist](#)

Silverman concedes that the story of van Gogh and Gauguin painting together in Arles has been told many times, but she believes that art historians haven't delved deeply enough into the religious legacies of these two revolutionary painters or considered the specific nature of their divergent quests for a "new and modern form of sacred art." She redresses these omissions in a series of adept and biographically flavored readings of major paintings by both artists, in which she articulates a rarely discerned connection between the technical and the theological. Silverman contrasts van Gogh's Protestant belief in the sanctity of labor and his ecstatic reverence for nature with Gauguin's lapsed Catholicism and preoccupation with a transcendent ideal, then links these orientations to their artistic techniques. Van Gogh was lavish in his application of thick layers of paint and palpable brushstrokes, exalting in the life force he depicted, while Gauguin, more concerned with the mystical and the symbolic, used a minimum of paint to subvert painting's physicality. Silverman develops these fresh perceptions with energy and expertise, powerfully altering and enhancing her readers'

perspectives on these seminal figures and their timeless masterpieces. *Donna Seaman*
Copyright © American Library Association. All rights reserved

Users Review

From reader reviews:

Linda Manuel:

Information is provisions for anyone to get better life, information presently can get by anyone at everywhere. The information can be a expertise or any news even restricted. What people must be consider when those information which is inside former life are difficult to be find than now's taking seriously which one would work to believe or which one the resource are convinced. If you find the unstable resource then you understand it as your main information it will have huge disadvantage for you. All those possibilities will not happen with you if you take Van Gogh and Gauguin: The Search for Sacred Art as your daily resource information.

Karena Figueroa:

Spent a free the perfect time to be fun activity to try and do! A lot of people spent their free time with their family, or their own friends. Usually they doing activity like watching television, gonna beach, or picnic inside park. They actually doing same every week. Do you feel it? Will you something different to fill your personal free time/ holiday? May be reading a book is usually option to fill your cost-free time/ holiday. The first thing that you will ask may be what kinds of e-book that you should read. If you want to consider look for book, may be the guide untitled Van Gogh and Gauguin: The Search for Sacred Art can be excellent book to read. May be it could be best activity to you.

Mathew Jones:

Are you kind of occupied person, only have 10 or even 15 minute in your day time to upgrading your mind proficiency or thinking skill perhaps analytical thinking? Then you have problem with the book as compared to can satisfy your short space of time to read it because all of this time you only find e-book that need more time to be study. Van Gogh and Gauguin: The Search for Sacred Art can be your answer because it can be read by anyone who have those short spare time problems.

Richard Russell:

It is possible to spend your free time to study this book this book. This Van Gogh and Gauguin: The Search for Sacred Art is simple to deliver you can read it in the park your car, in the beach, train and soon. If you did not include much space to bring typically the printed book, you can buy typically the e-book. It is make you simpler to read it. You can save typically the book in your smart phone. So there are a lot of benefits that you will get when you buy this book.

**Download and Read Online Van Gogh and Gauguin: The Search
for Sacred Art By Debora Silverman #5Y79XI0QZ3N**

Read Van Gogh and Gauguin: The Search for Sacred Art By Debora Silverman for online ebook

Van Gogh and Gauguin: The Search for Sacred Art By Debora Silverman Free PDF d0wnl0ad, audio books, books to read, good books to read, cheap books, good books, online books, books online, book reviews epub, read books online, books to read online, online library, greatbooks to read, PDF best books to read, top books to read Van Gogh and Gauguin: The Search for Sacred Art By Debora Silverman books to read online.

Online Van Gogh and Gauguin: The Search for Sacred Art By Debora Silverman ebook PDF download

Van Gogh and Gauguin: The Search for Sacred Art By Debora Silverman Doc

Van Gogh and Gauguin: The Search for Sacred Art By Debora Silverman Mobipocket

Van Gogh and Gauguin: The Search for Sacred Art By Debora Silverman EPub