



# Stories of Art

By James Elkins

Download now

Read Online ➔

## Stories of Art By James Elkins

*Stories of Art* is James Elkins's intimate history of art. Concise and original, this engaging book is an antidote to the behemoth art history textbooks from which we were all taught. As he demonstrates so persuasively, there can never be one story of art. Cultures have their own stories - about themselves, about other cultures - and to hear them all is one way to hear the multiple stories that art tells. But each of us also has our own story of art, a kind of private art history made up of the pieces we have seen, and loved or hated, the effects they had on us, and the connections that might be drawn among them.

Elkins opens up the questions that traditional art history usually avoids. What about all the art not produced in Western Europe or in the Europeanized Americas? Is it possible to include Asian art and Indian art in 'the story?' What happens when one does? To help us find answers, he uses both Western and non-Western artworks, tables of contents from art histories written in cultures outside the centre of Western European tradition, and strangely wonderful diagrams of how artworks might connect through a single individual. True multiculturalism may be an impossibility, but art lovers can each create a 'story of art' that is right for themselves.

↓ [Download Stories of Art ...pdf](#)

📖 [Read Online Stories of Art ...pdf](#)

# Stories of Art

*By James Elkins*

## Stories of Art By James Elkins

*Stories of Art* is James Elkins's intimate history of art. Concise and original, this engaging book is an antidote to the behemoth art history textbooks from which we were all taught. As he demonstrates so persuasively, there can never be one story of art. Cultures have their own stories - about themselves, about other cultures - and to hear them all is one way to hear the multiple stories that art tells. But each of us also has our own story of art, a kind of private art history made up of the pieces we have seen, and loved or hated, the effects they had on us, and the connections that might be drawn among them.

Elkins opens up the questions that traditional art history usually avoids. What about all the art not produced in Western Europe or in the Europeanized Americas? Is it possible to include Asian art and Indian art in 'the story?' What happens when one does? To help us find answers, he uses both Western and non-Western artworks, tables of contents from art histories written in cultures outside the centre of Western European tradition, and strangely wonderful diagrams of how artworks might connect through a single individual. True multiculturalism may be an impossibility, but art lovers can each create a 'story of art' that is right for themselves.

## Stories of Art By James Elkins Bibliography

- Rank: #170960 in Books
- Brand: James Elkins
- Published on: 2002-09-29
- Released on: 2002-10-31
- Original language: English
- Number of items: 1
- Dimensions: 8.50" h x .44" w x 5.50" l, .50 pounds
- Binding: Paperback
- 192 pages

 [Download Stories of Art ...pdf](#)

 [Read Online Stories of Art ...pdf](#)

## Editorial Review

From [Booklist](#)

Intrepid, personable, and prolific art historian Elkins shifts his keen gaze from art to art history in this surefooted and amiable disquisition on how the story of art has been told, and why. Elkins assesses the standard text in the field, E. H. Gombrich's often revised *The Story of Art*, and the vision it promotes of art history as an orderly, chronological progression toward the pinnacle of art, "naturalistic skill," which the moderns then abandoned. Elkins dissects the many pitfalls of this simplistic approach, and envisions provocative alternatives, all the while musing on how to address the many tricky questions art historians confront, especially the challenge of how to integrate non-Western art into the story of Western art, and how to answer urgent questions about race, gender, sexuality, and even language itself. Elkins' smart, knowledgeable, original, and engaging multicultural analysis ultimately celebrates the ongoing conflict between art, which often seeks to defy categorization, and our desire for order and definition, all the while recognizing this irresolvable debate is a wellspring for fresh perspectives on the crucial and fascinating story of creative expression. *Donna Seaman*

Copyright © American Library Association. All rights reserved

### Review

"Using sketches of his own and those of his students to illustrate alternatives to the standard chronology of the historical time line, Elkins proposes a number of thought-provoking ways to organize the stories of art that are not based on a strict adherence to dates, many of which can only be surmised."

-Kirkus Review, August 1, 2002

"Eminently readable and at times outright fun, *Stories of Art* is a terrific and transparent meditation on what's at stake in the histories of art we all so glibly recite. Instead of writing yet another survey, James Elkins provides the little counter-narrative that rubs up against the monumental survey volumes with a kind of graceful annoyance. The little buzzing bee that worries the elephant."

-Michael Ann Holly, Clark Art Institute

"A much needed, thoughtful, and intelligent reflection on the disciplinary status and cultural function of the history of art. *Stories of Art* is an invaluable aid in articulating the hidden agenda that informs art history as it is currently constituted, and an indispensable addition to our increasingly self-aware art historical enterprise."

-Keith Moxey, author of *The Practice of Persuasion: Paradox and Power in Art History*

### About the Author

**James Elkins** is Professor of Art History at the School of the Art Institute of Chicago. He is the author of many books. Among his books are *Pictures and Tears*, *How to Use Your Eyes*, and *What Painting Is*, all published by Routledge.

## Users Review

### From reader reviews:

#### Nathan Lawhorn:

In other case, little folks like to read book *Stories of Art*. You can choose the best book if you love reading a book. Provided that we know about how is important some sort of book *Stories of Art*. You can add know-how and of course you can around the world by a book. Absolutely right, since from book you can know

everything! From your country right up until foreign or abroad you will find yourself known. About simple thing until wonderful thing you can know that. In this era, we could open a book or perhaps searching by internet system. It is called e-book. You should use it when you feel fed up to go to the library. Let's examine.

#### **Russell Wade:**

In this 21st centuries, people become competitive in each way. By being competitive now, people have do something to make these individuals survives, being in the middle of the particular crowded place and notice by simply surrounding. One thing that sometimes many people have underestimated it for a while is reading. Yep, by reading a book your ability to survive increase then having chance to stay than other is high. For you personally who want to start reading a book, we give you this Stories of Art book as beginning and daily reading e-book. Why, because this book is greater than just a book.

#### **Mary Infante:**

The experience that you get from Stories of Art could be the more deep you excavating the information that hide inside words the more you get considering reading it. It does not mean that this book is hard to know but Stories of Art giving you thrill feeling of reading. The article author conveys their point in a number of way that can be understood through anyone who read the item because the author of this e-book is well-known enough. This specific book also makes your vocabulary increase well. Making it easy to understand then can go together with you, both in printed or e-book style are available. We suggest you for having this specific Stories of Art instantly.

#### **Victor McDowell:**

Some individuals said that they feel weary when they reading a book. They are directly felt this when they get a half regions of the book. You can choose the actual book Stories of Art to make your own reading is interesting. Your current skill of reading proficiency is developing when you similar to reading. Try to choose easy book to make you enjoy to read it and mingle the feeling about book and looking at especially. It is to be very first opinion for you to like to available a book and examine it. Beside that the guide Stories of Art can to be your friend when you're really feel alone and confuse in what must you're doing of this time.

**Download and Read Online Stories of Art By James Elkins  
#8VB6KQ0ZIYS**

## **Read Stories of Art By James Elkins for online ebook**

Stories of Art By James Elkins 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 Stories of Art By James Elkins books to read online.

### **Online Stories of Art By James Elkins ebook PDF download**

**Stories of Art By James Elkins Doc**

**Stories of Art By James Elkins Mobipocket**

**Stories of Art By James Elkins EPub**

**8VB6KQ0ZIYS: Stories of Art By James Elkins**