

A MENTOR BOOK

MQ 357  
94c



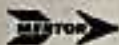
**THE HISTORY OF  
WESTERN ART**

**ERVIN O. CHRISTENSEN**

Features 377 illustrations.

A pictorial history of  
Western art from prehistoric  
times to the present - with  
special emphasis on  
modern art and its origins  
in the Renaissance.

Erwin O. Christensen **THE**  
**HISTORY OF**  
**WESTERN**  
**ART**



A MENTOR BOOK

Published by The New American Library, New York and Toronto  
The New English Library Limited, London

# CONTENTS

Preface	viii
Introduction	ix
<b>1. Prehistoric Art in Europe</b>	<b>11</b>
Origins. Hand Silhouettes. Periods. Caves and Rock Shelters. Aurignacian Art. Lascaux. Magdalenian Art: Altamira. Magic. Sanctuaries and Studios. Scandinavian Rock Pictures. Sculpture. The East Spanish Style. Transition to Agriculture. Neolithic Art: Megalithic Structures. Dolmens. Menhirs. Dwellings. Pottery. Bronze Age Art. Bronze Age Rock Engraving. Bronze Weapons and Utensils.	
<b>2. Egyptian Art</b>	<b>27</b>
Civilization. Environment. The Predynastic Period, before 4000 B.C. Historical Periods: 3200 B.C.-640 A.D. Beliefs. Gods. Myths. Architecture: Pyramids. Temples. Sculpture in the Round. Old Kingdom. Middle Kingdom. New Kingdom. Reliefs. Paintings. Crafts.	
<b>3. Ancient Near Eastern Art</b>	<b>49</b>
Mesopotamia. Regions and Periods. Sumeria: Prehistoric Period, 4000-3000 B.C. Early Dynastic Period: 3000-2340 B.C. Akkadian Period: c. 2340-2180 B.C. Neo-Sumerian Period: 2125-2025 B.C. Reliefs. Architecture. The Late Babylonian Period: c. 612-539 B.C. Persian Art. Cretan Art. Mycenaean Art.	
<b>4. Greek Art</b>	<b>63</b>
Significance. General Character. Early Historical Background, 1400-650 B.C. Sculpture: Archaic Period, 625-480 B.C. Transitional Period: 480-450 B.C. The Second Half of the Fifth Century B.C.: Phidias and Polycleitus. The Fourth Century, 400-323 B.C.: Scopas, Praxiteles, and Lysippus. Hellenistic (323-146 B.C.) and Greco-Roman Period (146 B.C. to about 1 A.D.). Painting. Architecture: Archaic Temples. The Acropolis of Athens. Doric Order. Ionic Order. Gems, Coins, and Metalwork. Conclusion.	
<b>5. Etruscan and Roman Art</b>	<b>98</b>
Etruscan Art, 800 B.C.-Empire Period. Painting. Sculpture. Imperial Roman Art, 31 B.C.-313 A.D.; Emperor Augustus to Constantine. Architecture: Forums. Dwellings. New Types of Buildings. Con-	

PUBLISHED BY THE NEW AMERICAN LIBRARY



MENTOR  
BOOK



Erwin O. Christensen's **HISTORY OF WESTERN ART** is the most comprehensive guide to the wonderful world of art ever published in inexpensive paperback format. This concise, readable survey covers five thousand years of Western painting, decorative arts and crafts, sculpture, and architecture. The author interprets the relationships between art and history, enabling us not only to understand the artist's role in society but also to share in the excitement of his inspiration and achievement.

Cover Design: S. Neil Fujita

A compact, illustrated history of Western art, traces the evolution of art from the cave painters to the abstractionists. The author places particular emphasis on the pre-Renaissance periods.



PUBLISHED BY THE NEW AMERICAN LIBRARY