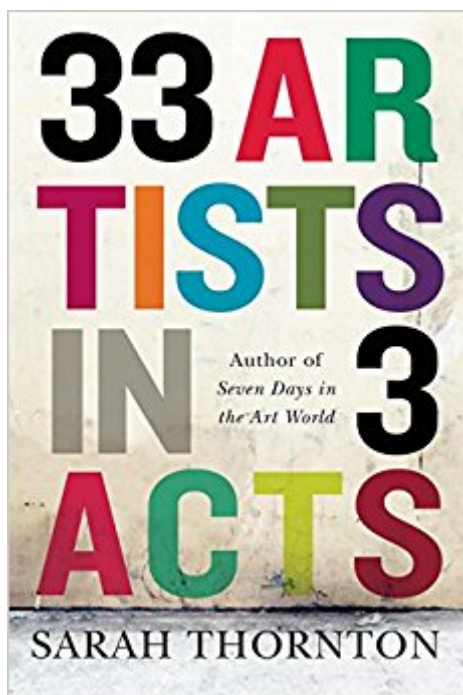


The book was found

## 33 Artists In 3 Acts



## Synopsis

This compelling narrative goes behind the scenes with the world's most important living artists to humanize and demystify contemporary art. The best-selling author of *Seven Days in the Art World* now tells the story of the artists themselves—how they move through the world, command credibility, and create iconic works. *33 Artists in 3 Acts* offers unprecedented access to a dazzling range of artists, from international superstars to unheralded art teachers. Sarah Thornton's beautifully paced, fly-on-the-wall narratives include visits with Ai Weiwei before and after his imprisonment and Jeff Koons as he woos new customers in London, Frankfurt, and Abu Dhabi. Thornton meets Yayoi Kusama in her studio around the corner from the Tokyo asylum that she calls home. She snoops in Cindy Sherman's closet, hears about Andrea Fraser's psychotherapist, and spends quality time with Laurie Simmons, Carroll Dunham, and their daughters Lena and Grace. Through these intimate scenes, *33 Artists in 3 Acts* explores what it means to be a real artist in the real world. Divided into three cinematic "acts"—politics, kinship, and craft—it investigates artists' psyches, personas, politics, and social networks. Witnessing their crises and triumphs, Thornton turns a wry, analytical eye on their different answers to the question "What is an artist?" *33 Artists in 3 Acts* reveals the habits and attributes of successful artists, offering insight into the way these driven and inventive people play their game. In a time when more and more artists oversee the production of their work, rather than make it themselves, Thornton shows how an artist's radical vision and personal confidence can create audiences for their work, and examines the elevated role that artists occupy as essential figures in our culture. 44 illustrations, 3 maps

## Book Information

Paperback: 448 pages

Publisher: W. W. Norton & Company; 1 edition (September 8, 2015)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 039335167X

ISBN-13: 978-0393351675

Product Dimensions: 5.5 x 1.1 x 8.3 inches

Shipping Weight: 14.4 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 3.6 out of 5 stars 30 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #128,268 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #36 in Books > Textbooks >

Humanities > Design #55 in Books > Arts & Photography > Business of Art #261 in Books >

## Customer Reviews

â œAnother art world page turner.â • - *Globe and Mail*â œA masterful picture of 33 artists, keenly bringing details of their lives to the surface with a skilled handâ |With effortless sophistication, Thornton takes readers on a journey across the globe and into the homes and minds of contemporary artists. In the process, she banishes cynicism about modern art, revealing it to be a volatile, healthy enterprise still deeply engaged with the world.â • - *Publishers Weekly*, Starred reviewâ œWill startle even art-world insiders.â • - *San Francisco Chronicle*â œ[*T*]he Jane Goodall of the art worldâ • - *Washington Post*â œHow can one be a real artist in the real world? Thornton sets off to find out, meeting and debating with many of the most important artists around the globe. Credibility, integrity, legitimacy, recognition and truth in art are all tackled here. While the basis of the book is contemporary art, the themes are of universal interest.â • - *The Bookseller*â œEngaging and ingenious.â • - *The New Statesman*â œA vivid and entertaining readâ |Thornton meets some interesting artists and her direction can be playful. Her interviews with Andrea Fraser stand out, as do all her meetings with Ai Weiwei.â • - *The Guardian*â œThornton nails some wonderful portraits of the people that, well, do wonderful portraits. These characters are no longer creators of icons but icons themselves and Thornton is in the front pewâ •but taking notes, not praying at all.â • - *Monocle*â œInspiringâ •as unique as each of the artists featured.â • - *Carolina A. Miranda, Los Angeles Times*â œA readable, approachable introduction to the rock stars of [contemporary art] and their work.â • - *Kevin Oâ™Kelly, Christian Science Monitor*

Sarah Thornton's *Seven Days in the Art World* was named one of the best art books of the year by the New York Times and is available in sixteen languages. She's been the chief writer on contemporary art for the Economist. She holds a BA in art history and a PhD in sociology.

Couldn't put it down. As someone who enjoys but doesn't hold much contemporary art up to the importance or value as classical/ traditional art, I found myself loving the perspective as well as the insights and candid interviews. It was easy to read through, and provided a beautiful and sometimes harsh view of aspects of the contemporary art scene. Great read, which I'll be returning to again and again.

Although I liked Sarah Thornton's first book, *Seven Days in the World* better, this was still a very

interesting read. The book is ultimately Sarah's opinions on the intentions and motives of various famous contemporary artists. A bit gossipy, a bit insiders scoop, it ultimately does a good job of showing a range of personalities who make up the varied, complicated and fraught stables of art world stars. And it's pretty clear she doesn't think much of Jeff Koons!

As an artist some of the author's explanations/clarifications were unnecessary for me. But if you don't know that much about the art world it's a great read. It was especially nice to read about the wildly different studio practices of various artists, from the factories of Koons and Wei, to the much smaller studios of Cindy Sherman and Gabriel Orozco.

An engrossing read. As an artist, normally I don't pay much attention to the opinions of other artists but this is an exceptional volume. I like how the author engages the people she interviews and the questions she asks.

It was a didactic yet enjoyable experience throughout the different art scenes in the world. Well chosen representatives of the elite art world so would like to see from such a good author about the underdogs.

I learned a lot about artists practicing now and their work that had been only 'names' before reading this book. It helps to search the web for images of them work discussed.

Very interesting if you care about contemporary art and its many complexities

Poorly organized but interesting interviews. Wish there was more diversity of artists interviewed.

[Download to continue reading...](#)

33 Artists in 3 Acts An Atlas of Animal Anatomy for Artists (Dover Anatomy for Artists) An Atlas of Anatomy for Artists (Dover Anatomy for Artists) Lives of the Artists: Portraits of Ten Artists Whose Work and Lifestyles Embody the Future of Contemporary Art Dress a Bridal Party Paper Dolls: 4 dolls and 170 outfits by 48 artists of the Original Paper Doll Artists Guild The Rights of Authors, Artists, and other Creative People, Second Edition: A Basic Guide to the Legal Rights of Authors and Artists (ACLU Handbook) Harlem Renaissance Artists (Artists in Profile) Anatomy: A Complete Guide for Artists (Dover Anatomy for Artists) Money, Murder, and Dominick Dunne: A Life in Several Acts Immodest Acts: The Life of a Lesbian Nun in Renaissance Italy (Studies in the History of

Sexuality) Forbidden Acts: Pioneering Gay & Lesbian Plays of the 20th Century Natural Acts:  
Gender, Race, and Rusticity in Country Music (Class : Culture) A Man for All Seasons: A Play in  
Two Acts Kindness Counts: A Story for Teaching Random Acts of Kindness (Without Limits)  
Invisible Acts of Power: Personal Choices That Create Miracles Theatre: Collaborative Acts (4th  
Edition) Barefoot in the Park: A Comedy in Three Acts Lanark: A Life in Three Acts: adapted for the  
stage The Birthday Party: A Play in Three Acts Acts of Faith: The Story of an American Muslim, in  
the Struggle for the Soul of a Generation

[Contact Us](#)

[DMCA](#)

[Privacy](#)

[FAQ & Help](#)