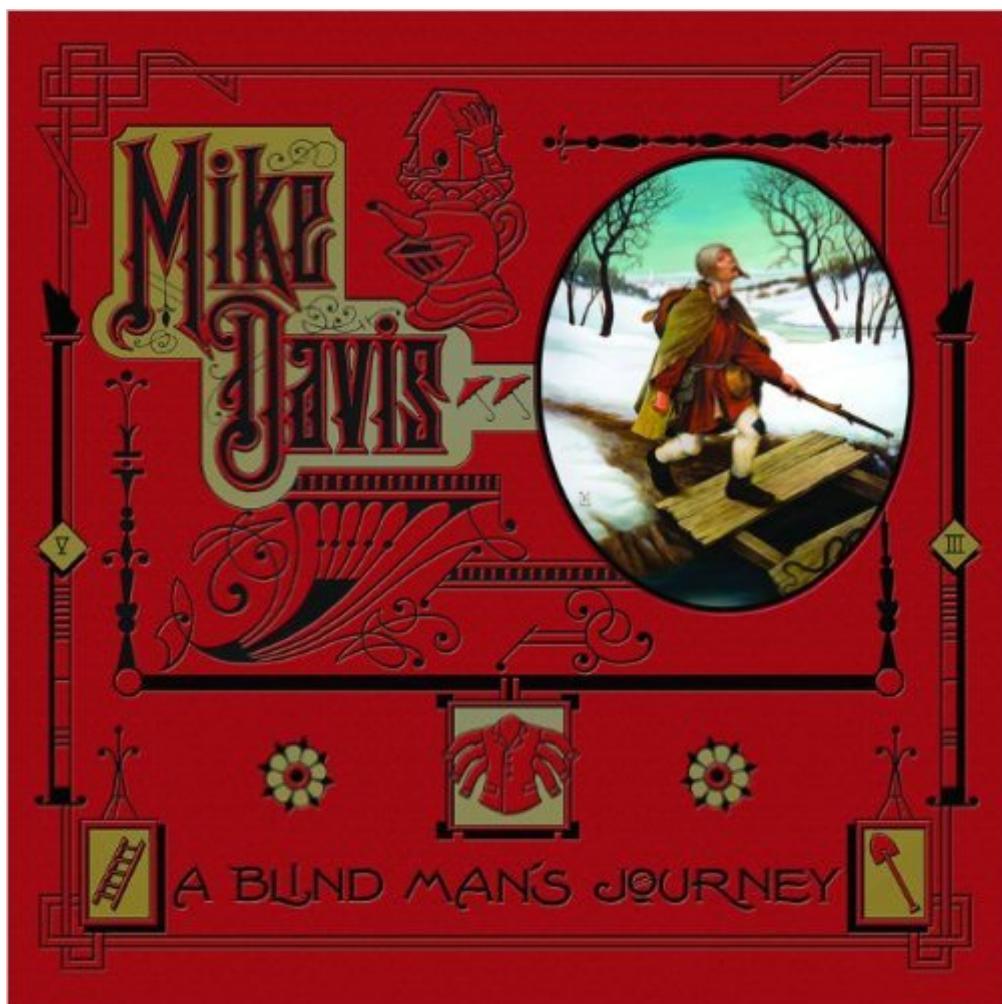


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A Blind Man's Journey: The Art Of Mike Davis



Synopsis

Surrealist painter Mike Davis captures mysterious scenes in the style of the Dutch Masters. Davis uses oil paint to create an alternate world where anything is possible, combining arcane personal symbols with social commentary. His vivid, narrative work pulls viewers into dreamscapes where they are soon lost among burning birdhouses, cannon-toting eggs, anthropomorphous insects, and skeletons holding what may be the keys to it all. Will the forlorn subjects who populate his paintings spill their secrets? What happened among the rubble and where are the travelers going? Davis' tableaus can reveal important parables to the attentive mind, but only if we study well and learn to read his visual poetry.

Book Information

Hardcover: 120 pages

Publisher: Last Gasp (November 20, 2014)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0867197935

ISBN-13: 978-0867197938

Product Dimensions: 10 x 0.8 x 10 inches

Shipping Weight: 2.1 pounds (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 5.0 out of 5 stars (See all reviews) (11 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #988,205 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #274 in Books > Arts & Photography > Other Media > Body Art & Tattoo #1253 in Books > Arts & Photography > Individual Artists > Monographs #9236 in Books > Arts & Photography > History & Criticism > History

Customer Reviews

Like most of the artists who get their hooks into the back of my brain, Mike Davis has a connection to the history of art that transcends similarity or coincidence. It stems from deep intellectual and imaginative affinities, but the way in which a contemporary artist chooses to express these affinities must transcend mere fanfare of homage. Akira Yamaguchi's inventive application of classic Yamato-e and Ukiyo-e styles to examine modern Japanese society, as well as his playful fusion of traditional Far Eastern techniques with Western oil painting methods, reveals a profoundly satirical and often fantastic vision of the past, present and future of High-Low culture. Walton Ford's prodigious style emulates the art of Natural History's greatest talents, and J.J. Audubon in particular -- his interpretation of written accounts detailing encounters between man and beast use the

dreamlike distortions of surrealism and Neue Sachlichkeit, forming a remarkable body of work that charts a secret history of our relationship to the natural world. Glenn Brown has mastered the 'Trompe L'Oeil' techniques pioneered during the Renaissance, but uses them in a thoroughly post-modern way. His 'super-flat' paintings are modelled on reproductions of works found in art monographs, periodicals, and glowing, high-res .jpeg; he then uses apps like Adobe Illustrator to manipulate the paintings that will be recreated on canvas. The end results are stunning and often terrifying mutations of Auerbach, Dali, John Martin, etc. Mike Davis has come closer than any artist I know of to distilling the essence of the Northern Renaissance.

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