

NEWS FROM ABRAMS

From Michael Sonino

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PRE-COLUMBIAN ART AND LATER INDIAN TRIBAL ARTS

FIRST BOOK IN ABRAMS' NEW 18-VOLUME ARTBOOK SERIES

A handsomely illustrated volume dealing with the arts of the New World, PRE-COLUMBIAN ART AND LATER INDIAN TRIBAL ARTS by Ferdinand Anton and Frederick J. Dockstader will be published this month by Harry N. Abrams, Inc. It is the first of an exciting new series of popular art history books which will be issued during the next two years.

The series, entitled PANORAMA OF WORLD ART, promises to be a publishing event of major importance. Lavishly illustrated in color and black-and-white, the complete set of eighteen volumes will present an exploration of the arts of mankind, in a format that is easy to read -- neither oversize nor overweight.

Each volume will be devoted to one particular style, epoch, or area. All aspects of art will be covered -- from the Old Stone Age to the latest experiments of the 1960s, from Africa and Oceania to the Far East. Each volume will be independent, but together they will form a stunning panorama of world art in more than 5,000 illustrations, over half in full color, and each individual volume will have more than 250 illustrations. New photographs have been taken especially for this series, and many subjects have never before appeared in print.

The PANORAMA OF WORLD ART has been conceived as a joint venture with distinguished European publishing houses, thus enabling the great number of high-quality color-plates to be produced at comparatively low cost: therefore the price of each volume will be far less than for artbooks of comparable excellence.

The texts for the eighteen volumes of the PANORAMA OF WORLD ART have been prepared by scholars and specialists from all over the world, each an acknowledged authority in his own field. Packed with information, yet concise, the texts and illustrations will permit the reader to enjoy and understand all of the facets of these vital,

exciting areas of world art.

Each volume will contain a bibliography, index, and, in many cases, maps and chronological tables. The range of illustrations is amazingly rich and varied, from carved gems to the vast architectural achievements. All of these features make the PANORAMA OF WORLD ART series equally valuable to the student and the interested reader.

The series consists of individual volumes on the following subjects -- PREHISTORIC EUROPEAN ART . PAINTING, SCULPTURE, AND ARCHITECTURE OF ANCIENT EGYPT . ART OF THE ANCIENT NEAR AND MIDDLE EAST . ART OF CRETE, MYCENAE, AND GREECE . ETRUSCAN AND ROMAN ART . ART OF THE BYZANTINE WORLD . ART OF THE DARK AGES . ART OF THE EARLY MIDDLE AGES . ART OF THE LATE MIDDLE AGES . RENAISSANCE AND MANNERIST ART . BAROQUE AND ROCOCO ART . ART OF THE NINETEENTH CENTURY . ART OF THE TWENTIETH CENTURY . ART OF INDIA AND SOUTHEAST ASIA . ART OF ISLAM . AFRICAN AND OCEANIC ART --

The first volume to be published, PRE-COLUMBIAN AND LATER INDIAN TRIBAL ARTS, is an expression of the arts of the ancient Americas and of the Indian peoples since the coming of the white man. From the Arctic, the expanses of North America, the great civilizations of Middle America, and the still-baffling cultures of the Andes -- all of the native art in the Western Hemisphere is here. Rarely have the arts of the highly developed civilizations of Central and South America been so clearly joined with those of the tribal cultures of the North and the still-flourishing aborigines in the jungles below the Equator.

Dr. Ferdinand Anton, noted archaeologist-photographer, discusses the vanished Pre-Columbian civilizations. He tells of their extraordinary sophistication, and of the peoples who built the great cities and temples and created works in an astounding variety of mediums--stone, terracotta, gold, silver, jade, alabaster, and obsidian. These splendid objects give eloquent testimony to an inspiration and inventiveness that is certainly the equal of the traditional styles of the Classical world.

The later Indian tribal arts are surveyed by Dr. Frederick J. Dockstader, Director of the Museum of the American Indian, New York. He explores indigenous art: the sensitive ivory carvings of the Eskimos, the powerful totemic art of

the Northwestern tribes, the weird wooden masks of the Seneca, the intricate basketwork of the Plains tribes, the Kachina figures of the Hopi, and the textiles, featherwork, and pottery of the Brazilian aborigines.

Taken together, these authors provide us with an unrivaled summary of three thousand years of the art of the Western Hemisphere, illustrated with a superb series of photographs. The awesome architecture of the Middle and South American civilizations is shown in color, giving them an added dimension that has seldom been communicated so well before. All in all, this volume is an auspicious beginning of a brilliant series of books.

PRE-COLUMBIAN AND LATER INDIAN TRIBAL ARTS

by Ferdinand Anton and Frederick J. Dockstader

277 illustrations, including 148 plates in full color,

5 maps, and 4 chronological tables

264 pages, 7 1/2 x 8 3/4"

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