

*“The Art & Artists of Art History”*

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As a double major at MSU in Art History and Studio art, I utilize this collection in two different ways. First, as an art historian I am interested in the back ground information of art. What were the artist’s inspirations? Why did they create what they were making? What were they trying to say? What did the artist create before a specific art piece or what did he create after? What can I learn about the artist that can better help me understand the art that they created? We do not often know what an artist was thinking when they create. It is through the exploration of the written word and particularly those autobiographical texts that reveal the true meaning of many creations. Secondly, as an artist I have been interested in art and the artists that produce that art. I am ever curious about different styles, images and the artist’s inspirations. The purpose of this collection is for my own personal resource of art of museums and the supporting background information of the artists who created the art. The scope of the collection is not confined to a specific period or style rather the collection is being assembled from a survey perspective of the History of art. Therefore many periods are represented. However, the collection is incomplete as not all periods are represented. As a result the collecting will go on. Large portions of the collection concentrate on the Byzantine period, Impressionists and the Classical Greek Period. These are three particular period of art history that intrigue me the most.

As my interest in surveying art has grown I have visited many museums. As a starting point of the collection are the museum collection guides, including: Philadelphia, Dumbarton Oaks, Walters Art Gallery, New York Metropolitan, The Cloister, Detroit Institute of Arts, The J. Paul Getty Museum, The Getty Villa, Toledo Institute of Arts. However, some of my favorite art books have been found at Antique stores and flea markets. You just never know when or where a great book will turn up.