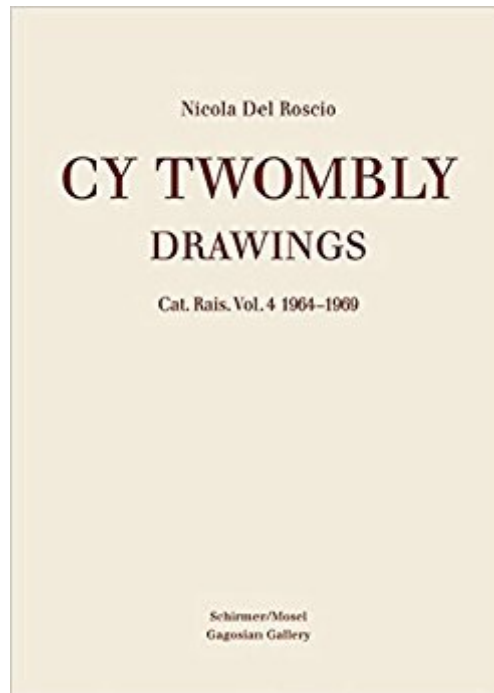




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Cy Twombly: Drawings Catalogue Raisonne Vol. 4 1964-1969



Synopsis

Cy Twombly, born in Lexington, Virginia, in 1928, entered the stage of contemporary art with his drawings. His nervous line making distinguished him from all his colleagues who in the 50s and 60s were involved in Abstract Expressionism. His tumbling and nervous markings opened new and psychological spaces to a personal and very conceptual art. At first mistaken for something between graffiti and écriture automatique, Cy Twombly's graphic notes eventually transformed into huge canvases of paintings in which he incorporated these notes as a maelstrom of emotional states. The Catalogue Raisonné of Drawings, edited by Nicola Del Roscio, is published in successive volumes. Volume 4, covering the years 1964-1969, features Twombly's First whorl works and his famous series Letters of Resignation.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Nicola Del Roscio, born in Rome in 1944, was Twombly's long-time assistant. The editor of the present Catalogue Raisonné, he is president of the Cy Twombly Foundation (New York/Rome) and the Fondazione Nicola Del Roscio (Gaeta).

Vol. 4 of the CR for Cy Twombly's drawings is a very good value at its current huge discount. I'd long had a mixed, disappointed impression about Twombly's work in the mid- to late-'60s, as though he were responding to New York's newly ascendant Minimalism simply by tailoring his style and concerns to it and doing his best to "fit in." But the book shows that his drawings and his relationship to Minimalism were much more complex and varied. Overview books on the artist by Varnedoe and

Leeman do far from adequate justice covering how multifaceted and fresh his work was in these years: as far as the drawings go, less than the majority of them were the "Gray Grounds" and "Swirls" that nonetheless seem to be most popular for representing this period of his. I was interested in buying this book because I wanted to find out how Twombly even could, on his own terms, "go Minimalist," and the answer would appear to be that he didn't to begin with. Instead he upturned what Minimalism might and could be, and not only that. You will recognize a lot of "standard, flourishing" Twombly in this book, a little recast in somewhat stricter, more pared-down elements, but the artist's heartbeat isn't any less present. Seeing the "Gray Grounds" and "Swirls" in series side by side, too, gives you a path into their dynamism, exploration and flexibility that you're unlikely to find with just a handful of examples to look at. I had three Twombly books and thought that was enough, took a chance on this volume because the price drop seemed too good to pass up, and I'm very glad I took the opportunity.

shipped in a tiny bag...all bumped..all around...a pity...

One of the best books on Cy Twombly yet!!

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