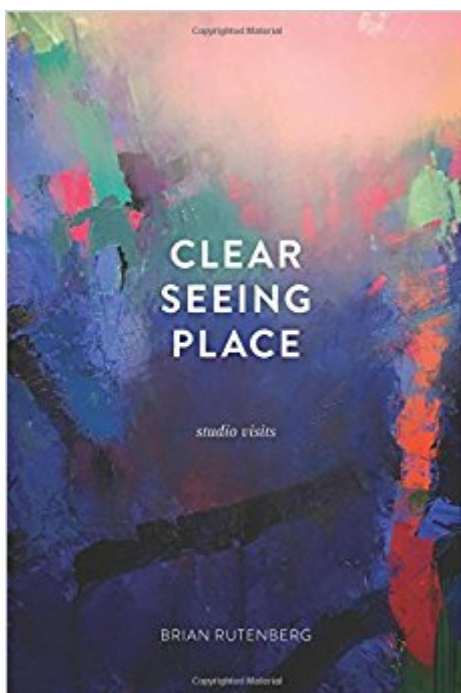


The book was found

Clear Seeing Place: Studio Visits



Synopsis

From the salt marshes and moss-draped live oaks of the South Carolina Lowcountry to the New York art world, *Clear Seeing Place* takes the reader behind the studio door to explore the making of a painter in intimate detail. Brimming with the joy of process and a love of art history, Brian Rutenberg reveals the places, people, and experiences that led to the paintings for which he is well known today. This book is packed with ideas, observations, techniques, and career advice all thoughtfully arranged into six sections designed to inspire artists of all levels, as well as anyone interested in creativity. *Clear Seeing Place* is a companion to the artist's popular YouTube series, "Brian Rutenberg Studio Visits," and is a love letter to painting written by a painter.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

"An original and stimulating memoir that takes readers into the mind and heart of an artist." - Kirkus Reviews (starred) "This book lets me get into the head of an artist. It surprises me. It entertained me. It educated me. It made me want to read it slowly so I can enjoy it longer." - Ali Julia Hall of Fame Top Ten Reviewer "Educational, enlightening, and warmly evocative of the rapture of creativity, Brian has succeeded in writing about art - and us." - Grady Harp Hall of Fame Top 100 Reviewer Vine Voice

Widely considered to be one of the finest American painters of his generation, Brian Rutenberg has spent forty years honing a distinctive method of compressing the rich color and form of his native coastal South Carolina into complex landscape paintings that imbue material reality with a deep sense of place. He is a Fulbright Scholar, a New York Foundation for the Arts Fellow, and a Basil Alkazzi USA Award recipient, and he has had over two hundred exhibitions throughout North America. Rutenberg's paintings are in private collections all over the world and are included in such public collections as the Butler Institute of American Art, Yale University Art Gallery, the Bronx Museum of the Arts, Provincetown Art Association and Museum, the Ogden Museum of Southern Art, Peabody Essex Museum of Art, Greenville County Museum of Art, South Carolina State Museum, and many others. He lives and works in New York City with his wife, Kathryn, and their two children. For more about Brian Rutenberg, please visit www.brianrutenbergbooks.com and www.brianrutenbergart.com.

There is a touch of irony in describing a book about the life of an artist as "beautiful", but I can think of no better word to describe it. I truly felt a kindred spirit with the author. While he grew up in the low country of South Carolina, and I grew up in the cold winters of Western NY, I understand his ability to see the world as art. Even as a child, I saw things in words; Rutenberg in colors. The author-artist takes us from South Carolina on his journey to the art world of NYC. Largely introspective, this book gives tips and anecdotes for any would-be artist. I highly recommend this book. If you or someone you know is a painter or any type of artist, this book will offer you an insight and a sense of belonging. I have always appreciated art museums for the historical and intrinsic value that they offer, but I will look at them with a fresh set of eyes now because painters definitely see things differently.

I am in no way artistic, myself, but I have always appreciated art in its many forms. This autobiography provided such beautiful insight into the mind of artist, Brian Rutenberg. It is as though I were walking through a gallery of Rutenberg's works and he was giving me a personal tour, answering any curiosities I may have. In his book, Rutenberg discusses what it means to be an artist. He shares his deep passion for art and how it came about. He brings the reader through his journey from the deep South to the big city. I loved reading the different accounts that influenced Rutenberg as an artist. Rutenberg's masterpieces are not exactly my style. I am not the most creative thinker, so while Rutenberg's works do provoke emotion, I prefer to have familiar shapes and objects to speculate. Nevertheless, I greatly appreciated the insights presented

in *Clear Seeing Place: Studio Visits*. The next time I have the opportunity to meander through an art gallery, I am positive my perspective will be changed.

This book is a journey through Brian Rutenberg's life and the monumental situations that led him to where he is today, his autobiography. I was able to feel his stories and how they connected to become the artist he became. He uses his personal stories to bring life to his life painting, basically this was his life's painting in a book. I am not an artist but I could definitely feel the love of art that this guy has and I could feel the excitement for art even though I do not have much knowledge about art. This book is recommended for everyone because it shows the process of pursuing goals.

This is really a poetic expression from the artist willing to share his process for fine tuning his craft. Rutenberg takes us along his journey of finding his "voice" on the canvas and it is mesmerizing how well he is able to communicate that to his audience. His prose seem to flow just as naturally as brush strokes, with each chapter leading into the next. I left with a deeper appreciation of not only his masterpieces but his thought process and pedagogy of art as a whole. Rutenberg's experiences, memories, and perspectives contribute to the work being produced today. It is this additional insight that provides a more extensive admiration and respect for the artist. *Clear Seeing Place* is like having the "Director's Commentary" on or a behind the scenes backstory. It reads like a conversation that makes it such a treat to consume in one sitting. similar to the YouTube series, we gain a fuller "picture" behind the art.

Brian Rutenberg is a contemporary artist that hosts a series on YouTube called "Studio Visits." Part autobiographical musings, part art theory, part talking about process, it's like sitting down with a friend for a talk about what it means to make art -- more the stuff of the late night coffeehouse than of the lecture hall. I've been painting for a couple of years and find these talks very motivational. There's a lot out there about how to paint or on art history but insights into a painter's mind are few and far between. *Clear Seeing Place* is an extension of the video series. Brian's writing flows and his enthusiasm for art is infectious. I see this book having a permanent place on my painting table for whenever I need inspiration or a kick in the pants. It occupies the same place for me as books like Bayles and Orland's *Art and Fear* or Joe Fig's *Inside the Painter's Studio*

Brian Rutenberg is a masterful painter - but this is not just a book for painters. It is a book for

anyone who is passionate about a goal and has encountered naysayers and cynics in it's pursuit. It is a thought-provoking, chuckle-evoking, delightful read. And yes, savvy painting techniques are embedded into this darn good story.

As a southern-bred 30-something female who identifies with the arts community and would rather create than do anything else, this book was fantastic to read! I was glued to every page. The author does an amazing job of putting creation of art into vibrant colors and feelings, not something you think about, but a moment a feeling. The story of his life and journey were very rich, and I loved knowing the places he spoke about in the south and hearing about the ones I never had; for he has a way of telling a vibrant fairytale in everyday things. The insight he has is amazing and I could not help but relish in my coffee reading and wanting to get back to my own creations. A truly motivating book to read, this book will stay in mind to pass around to all I know.

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