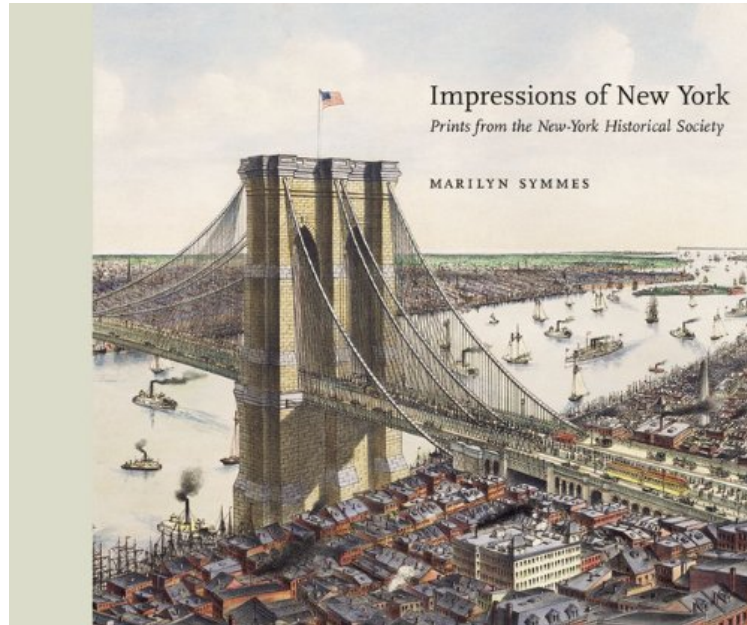


(Download pdf) Impressions of New York: Prints from the New-York Historical Society

Impressions of New York: Prints from the New-York Historical Society

Marilyn F. Symmes

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Marilyn F. Symmes : Impressions of New York: Prints from the New-York Historical Society before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Impressions of New York: Prints from the New-York Historical Society:

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Gorgeous book in brand new condition. By Robin Katz Cudrin I was surprised at the very low price for this book given that it has lavish illustrations and was sent from overseas. Great service, great price. 3 of 3 people found the following review helpful. An outstanding tribute which works as well alone as with the exhibit. By Midwest Book Review Impressions Of New York: Prints From The New York Historical Society serves a dual purpose: it provides a companion to an exhibition celebrating the Historical Society's bicentennial anniversary, gathering a selection of historic images of the city from 1672 to present; and it also serves as a stand-alone volume capturing the images and written stories of the people and places of the city. Each duotone print or illustration is centered on a full page with a facing page describing history and painting origin. An outstanding tribute which works as well alone as with the exhibit.

From its birth as a remote trading outpost on the fringes of the Dutch empire to its current status as the so-called Capital of the World, New York has always captivated visual artists. The extraordinary prints collected by the New-York Historical Society over the course of its history vividly preserve these impressions on paper. In this handsome volume more than 150 of these views of the city -- including two spectacular gatefold panoramas -- speak eloquently of the surging power of this dynamic urban center. At the same time, they present an intimate portrait of everyday life as it has been lived and savored in this great city for more than three centuries. The companion to an exhibition

celebrating the New-York Historical Society's bicentennial anniversary, this beautifully printed volume presents a full range of historic images, from 1672 to the present. In the lively essay and information-filled captions, curator and historian Marilyn Symmes tells the unique stories behind the people and places, parks and buildings, streets and neighborhoods, parades and events depicted in each image -- in essence, the story of New York City itself.

From Publishers Weekly New York City began collecting its own history 200 years ago and, in a beautiful tribute to its bicentennial, the New-York Historical Society gathers nearly 150 artistic portrayals of the city's ever-changing urban landscape. As curator Symmes points out in her informative introduction, artists have always been drawn to depicting the city's "architecture and infrastructure, its triumphs and disasters, its extraordinary monuments and everyday occurrences." One of two gatefolds reproduces a 1717 print of a view of Manhattan and the East River brimming with ships. The second gatefold gives a similarly panoramic view of the East River, drawn more than a century later. And, as proof that photography has not completely superseded art in portraying modern New York, the book also contains a 2003 woodcut by Yvonne Jacquette that evokes the glimmer of nighttime lights on the southern tip of Manhattan and a mezzotint, also from 2003, by Art Werger that uses composite images to convey the dizzying intensity of Times Square. Detailed captions by Symmes add to one's appreciation of the prints. This is a visual treat for those who have been captivated by the Big Apple in all its guises. Copyright Reed Business Information, a division of Reed Elsevier Inc. All rights reserved. ...a visual and celebratory feast...it will be hard to resist the charm of these works. -- Imprint, Spring 2005 Preserves a record of the city's growth and power as well as smaller-scale portraits of everyday affairs. -- The Sunday New York Times, Holiday Gift Guide, December 5, 2004 this book is a visual and celebratory feast that accomplishes what it intended. For the uninitiated to either nineteenth-century views or twentieth-century impressions, it will be hard to resist the charm of these works. -- Imprint, Spring 2005 About the Author Marilyn Symmes was the curator of drawings and prints for over ten years at the Cooper-Hewitt National Design Museum. She now lives and works in New York as an independent curator and art historian.