



DOGS in Art

by Stefano Zuffi

The book

Man's best friend. This is how the dog has been described in culture and in the history, evolution and selection of breeds. During the course of thousands of years, dogs have learned to live alongside their masters, satisfying their needs and often even interpreting their feelings. This is why we prefer to think of dogs as "friends", rather than simply as "animals".

In its observation and interpretation of history and society, art offers us an extraordinary portrait gallery of dogs: we find them in the mosaics at Pompeii and in mediaeval sculptures, we see elegant pedigree dogs being distractedly stroked by kings, and charming mongrels in the works of Titian, dignified Renaissance hunting dogs, and balls of fluff in eighteenth-century alcoves, and of course there are those on nineteenth-century bourgeois promenades and the inseparable companions of so many writers, musicians and artists.

Dogs find their way into the masterpieces of the greatest artists of all ages, in the most diverse situations: in a hushed drawing room, against the savage martyrdom of a saint, or on the perilous trail of some adventurous journey. But whatever the context may be, the meaning and symbolism of the art always reflects the nature of dogs as friends who share the lives and feelings of people. Theirs is a world of fondness and devotion, of loyalty and courage, and it is one that is comprehended and revealed by art.

Edited by Stefano Zuffi, this volume is published in the same format as the previous one on cats, with 360 pages and about 200 illustrations, tracing the history of the dog in pictures from archaeology through to contemporary art.

The author

Stefano Zuffi (1961), a Milanese art historian, specialized in museology, collaborates with museums, institutions and associations for the organization of exhibitions and the development of cultural projects. He is the author of specialist essays and studies of Renaissance and Baroque painting, but especially of countless popular works on art and history, translated and distributed all over the world. His books of greatest success include *La pittura italiana* (1997, new edition 2005), *Dürer* (2001), *Il grande atlante della pittura* (2002), *Episodi e personaggi del Vangelo* (2002), and *Il Cinquecento* (2005), all published by Electa. He is also a scientific consultant for this publishing house for the realization of widely distributed editorial series.

Size: cm 23x23

Pages: 336

Photos: approx. 200 + details

Text: General introduction of about 15,000 – 20000 signs

Single introductions to 7 chapters of about 6000-7000 signs

Captions for images of about 800-900 signs each

Total: approx. 230,000 signs

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