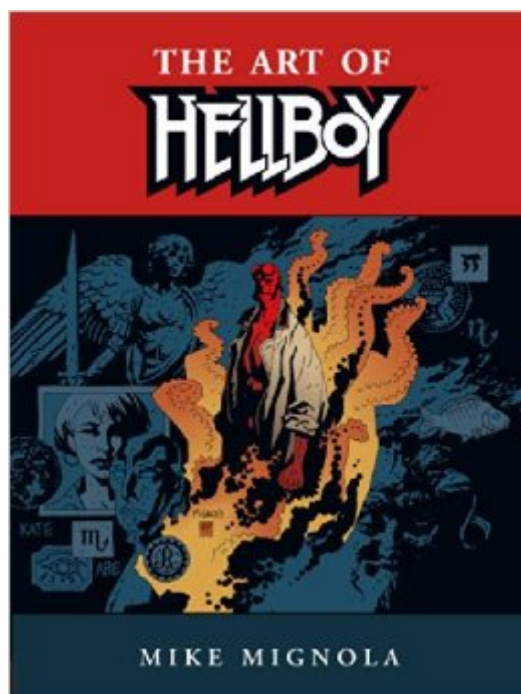


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Hellboy: The Art Of Hellboy



Synopsis

The Art of Hellboy softcover is a lower-priced, paperback version of the stunning limited edition hardcover Dark Horse released in the Spring of 2003. Featuring art never seen before the publication of the hardcover, unused and unfinished covers, and drawing upon ten years of sketchbooks, The Art of Hellboy provides the ultimate inside look at Mignola's design, storytelling, and color work. Page after page of rarely seen art reveals the labor involved in creating one of comics' most acclaimed books.

Book Information

Paperback: 200 pages

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Average Customer Review: 4.1 out of 5 stars [See all reviews](#) (22 customer reviews)

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Customer Reviews

I would be wary of spending too many of your hard earned dollars on this book. I am a new fan to Hellboy, and absolutely love Mignola's art. However, the reason I would be hesitant about recommending this art book is that there is very little new art in it. Most of it is just rehashed covers, pages and posters. Probably about 10% of it is stuff that you've never seen before; which in my mind, does not warrant the hefty price tag. If you have all the books in the series then you already have 90% of the art found in this book. The sketches and other doodles that are only in this book can most likely be found floating around the net if you look hard enough for it.

I paid retail for this book and have no qualms about doing so. It's definitely worth it, whether bought from or some other vendor. The Art of Hellboy is an oversized cloth-bound hardcover with embossing, metallic ink, and a glued illustration on the cover. A fairly short introduction gets you set

up for the barrage of Hellboy-related art that is to follow! You get color works, covers, pin-ups, sketches, preliminary drawings, comic page roughs, completed comic pages, concept art... the list goes on and on. The only downside is that many of these pieces have either been used in other Hellboy books or have appeared elsewhere. Still, it's nice to see them in a larger size. This is a beautiful book, end of story!

Mike Mignola's amazing art for Hellboy looks very different from anything else being used in comics today. His distinct linework and inking style, combined with a well-honed eye for panel layout makes his artwork a perfect complement to his stories. That said, this book is mostly a collection of finished art, covers and promotional pieces. What I really expected from an "Art of" book was process, sketches, and perhaps some discussion of technique. A fair comparison would be the recent Usagi Yojimbo art book or the Blacksad Sketch Files. Maybe one of these days Mr. Mignola will put out a "Making of Hellboy" book that fills the gaps. The few sketches and thumbnails in this book really aren't enough.

I don't know if I'd really say that Mike Mignola is one of my 100%, all-time favorite artists, though I do like his work. Even so, when I saw this book I just had to buy it (even at the fairly steep cover price) because it's just plain beautiful. It has to be one of the best-produced art books I've ever seen. The reproduction, even on Mignola's little scribbles and sketches, is top notch. You can actually see his brush strokes in the black ink, and the non-repro blue sketch lines that would fall away in the normal comic book printing process. Even if you've seen many of these comic pages and drawings before, you'll see them in a new light once you view them here. If you're one of those who loves to see how artists do what they do, get this book.

I love Mike Mignola's art. He has a brilliant style and this book definitely delivers. The images are mostly his well known covers and some some scenes from his comics. I just wish it had more of his sketches to see his thought process. Overall it's a perfect gift for any Mignola fan, and I do not regret buying it at all.

This book is absolutely gorgeous. Basically, it is a compilation of practically all the Hellboy comic book covers, pin-ups, merchandise designs, rare ads, prints - things like that. In addition, the book contains some of Mignola's sketches, unpublished drawings, conceptual ideas, finished pages from some of the comic books, and a decent amount of convention sketches. All in all, the book is

well executed and the quality and thought that went into it really shows. My only gripe is that more of Mignola's sketchbook pages would have been a great addition, but trust me, if you're a Hellboy fan or like the art style, this book is definitely for you.

I didn't buy this off of Amazon, but a local comic book store. I just got into Hellboy and comics for that matter, so I like everything in the book. However, the binding fell apart on the same day I bought it, and I take good care of my stuff. Also, I read from other reviews that there isn't much new artwork. There is a page with some initial concept art on Hellboy's appearance, and I would've liked to see more in-process works and concept art. For 30 bucks (it is cheaper on Amazon), I expected a bit more. 3 stars might be going a bit too low though. That said, there is still a bunch of nice artwork to take in, but the binding is horrible and the collection could be a bit bigger and various.

I would give the content of this book 4 stars. Great art by a great artist. The book however did not survive a single reading before falling apart. I was almost finished my first read through when the pages came unglued from the book cover.

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