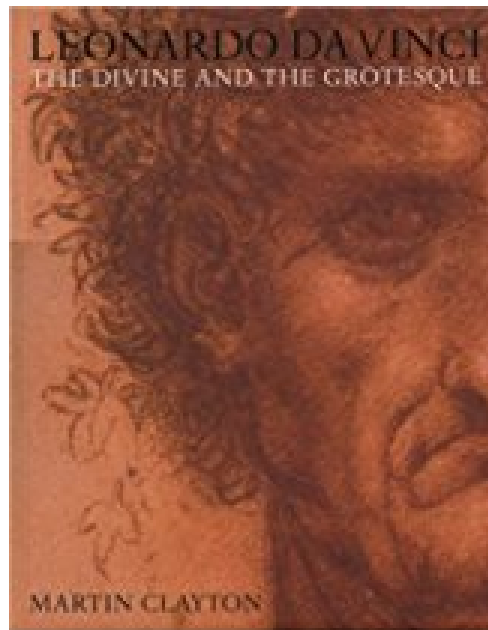




Leonardo Da Vinci : The divine and the grotesque



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192 pages

Présentation de l'éditeur

The pursuit of beauty and its opposite was one of the central themes of Leonardo da Vinci's life. This book looks in detail at 75 drawings of the divinely beautiful and the grotesquely ugly from the unrivalled collection preserved in the Royal Library at Windsor Castle. In his introductory essay, Martin Clayton explores Leonardo's life-long urge to create such drawings. Individual entries then look at each of the selected works, placing them in the context of contemporary attitudes to beauty, notions of perfect proportion, popular images of the comically ugly, and accepted modes of artistic creation and social behaviour. Among the drawings are studies for Leonardo's masterpieces such as the Last Supper and Leda and the swan, imaginary heads drawn to capture the perfect profile, satirical grotesques, dissections of the head, portraits of Leonardo's associates, designs for masks and festival costumes and much else. Leonardo's studies of heads are some of the most fascinating and idiosyncratic works ever produced by this archetypal genius. This is the first book to explore the subject fully.

Biographie de l'auteur

Martin Clayton is Deputy Curator of the Print Room in the Royal Library Windsor Castle, and an authority on the drawings of Leonardo da Vinci and Raphael. His previous publications include Leonardo da Vinci : The Anatomy of Man (with Ron Philo) and Leonardo da Vinci : A Curious Vision.

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