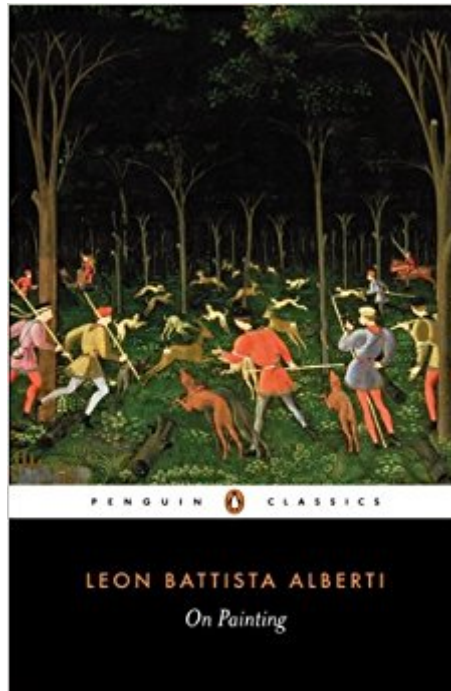




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# On Painting (Classics S)



## Synopsis

Artist, architect, poet and philosopher, Leon Battista Alberti revolutionized the history of art with his theories of perspective in *On Painting* (1435). Inspired by the order and beauty inherent in nature, his groundbreaking work sets out the principles of distance, dimension and proportion; instructs the painter on how to use the rules of composition, representation, light and colour to create work that is graceful and pleasing to the eye; and stipulates the moral and artistic pre-requisites of the successful painter. *On Painting* had an immediate and profound influence on Italian Renaissance artists including Ghiberti, Fra Angelico and Veneziano and on later figures such as Leonardo da Vinci, and remains a compelling theory of art. For more than seventy years, Penguin has been the leading publisher of classic literature in the English-speaking world. With more than 1,700 titles, Penguin Classics represents a global bookshelf of the best works throughout history and across genres and disciplines. Readers trust the series to provide authoritative texts enhanced by introductions and notes by distinguished scholars and contemporary authors, as well as up-to-date translations by award-winning translators.

## Book Information

Series: Classics S

Paperback: 112 pages

Publisher: Penguin Classics; Reprint edition (July 2, 1991)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0140433317

ISBN-13: 978-0140433319

Product Dimensions: 5.1 x 0.3 x 7.7 inches

Shipping Weight: 1.4 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.2 out of 5 stars 17 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #87,639 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #11 in [Books > Arts & Photography > Individual Artists > Essays](#) #147 in [Books > Arts & Photography > Painting](#) #476 in [Books > Arts & Photography > History & Criticism > History](#)

## Customer Reviews

Text: English, Latin (translation) --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

Alberti's *Della Pittura* was the first modern analytical study of painting, a pioneering treatise on the theory of art. A systematic description of the one-point perspective construction, it was primarily

designed to persuade both patron and painter in the Renaissance to discard the old tastes in painting for the new. In his prologue, Alberti states that his work consists of three books: 'the first, all mathematics, concerning the roots in nature which are the source of this delightful and most noble art. The second book puts the art in the hand of the artist, distinguishing its parts and demonstrating all. The third introduces the artist to the means and the end, the ability and desire of acquiring perfect skill and knowledge in painting.' --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

I am glad that this book is available on Kindle and in print! Leon Battista Alberti was definitely the da Vinci of his lifetime! Many of his architectural and other works are still in existence in Italy. This treatise has been consulted by many great artists over the centuries, and Leonardo commented on it in his own writings. The diagrams are especially well done! If anybody wants to learn about the rediscovery of perspective in Western art, this is the book to get!

Great

Thanks, important resource book

I wanted Alberti's book, but when I clicked the Kindle edition, it reverted to Da Vinci's book which is not what I wanted. I wound up with a book I don't need and it will not allow me to select the correct Alberti book. I am not happy. What happened here??

Considering that the text was written 600+ years ago, it is quite interesting when you think about how some of the concepts mentioned now have scientific backing and is accurate to a certain degree. Only downside is that it can be very hard to understand at times especially when Alberti talks about perspective problems. Overall an okay book for most part, but probably not something I would read for fun.

a classic edition of a classic.

This book is a little difficult to read seeing as how it was written a few centuries ago but good info if you can get through the language of the book. It was translated from old Italian.

The historical relevance is significant in art history and the introduction by the translator makes it a great read. do not skip the introduction.

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