



Visual Shock: A History of Art Controversies in American Culture

By Michael Kammen

Download now

Read Online 

Visual Shock: A History of Art Controversies in American Culture By Michael Kammen

In this lively narrative, award-winning author Michael Kammen presents a fascinating analysis of cutting-edge art and artists and their unique ability to both delight and provoke us. He illuminates America's obsession with public memorials and the changing role of art and museums in our society. From Thomas Eakins's 1875 masterpiece *The Gross Clinic*, (considered "too big, bold, and gory" when first exhibited) to the bitter disputes about Maya Lin's Vietnam War Memorial, this is an eye-opening account of American art and the battles and controversies that it has ignited.

 [Download Visual Shock: A History of Art Controversies in Am ...pdf](#)

 [Read Online Visual Shock: A History of Art Controversies in ...pdf](#)

Visual Shock: A History of Art Controversies in American Culture

By Michael Kammen

Visual Shock: A History of Art Controversies in American Culture By Michael Kammen

In this lively narrative, award-winning author Michael Kammen presents a fascinating analysis of cutting-edge art and artists and their unique ability to both delight and provoke us. He illuminates America's obsession with public memorials and the changing role of art and museums in our society. From Thomas Eakins's 1875 masterpiece *The Gross Clinic*, (considered "too big, bold, and gory" when first exhibited) to the bitter disputes about Maya Lin's Vietnam War Memorial, this is an eye-opening account of American art and the battles and controversies that it has ignited.

Visual Shock: A History of Art Controversies in American Culture By Michael Kammen Bibliography

- Sales Rank: #907937 in Books
- Published on: 2007-11-06
- Released on: 2007-11-06
- Original language: English
- Number of items: 1
- Dimensions: 8.00" h x .99" w x 5.19" l, 1.09 pounds
- Binding: Paperback
- 480 pages

 [Download Visual Shock: A History of Art Controversies in Am ...pdf](#)

 [Read Online Visual Shock: A History of Art Controversies in ...pdf](#)

Download and Read Free Online Visual Shock: A History of Art Controversies in American Culture By Michael Kammen

Editorial Review

From Publishers Weekly

From the Washington Monument to the 1913 Armory show to 9/11 memorials, controversies over art exhibitions, memorials and public art have abounded in the U.S. In this expansively researched history of major and lesser-known disputes from the 1830s to the 21st century, Pulitzer Prize winner Kammen (*A Time to Every Purpose*) argues that the "disturbations" roused by artworks and monuments are often both "destabilizing" and "enlightening and educational," indicative of healthy social change and increasing democratization. Structured chronologically, the book balances scholarly investigation and insightful analysis in its fascinating discussion of monuments, memorials and American national identity, and in its probing of modernism's threat to American concepts of morality, pluralism and art itself. While this is a work of meticulous scholarship with remarkable depth and range, Kammen's dry writing style sharply contrasts with the vigor of the controversies he so painstakingly details. Yet for scholars and students of cultural history and art history, Kammen's highly informed analysis will prove an invaluable contribution to American cultural history. (*Oct. 3*)

Copyright © Reed Business Information, a division of Reed Elsevier Inc. All rights reserved.

From [Booklist](#)

Starred Review Art and controversy have gone together like day and night throughout American history, and while the specifics of each conflict are unique, recurring patterns can be discerned. Pulitzer Prize-winning historian Kammen chronicles both particle and wave, as it were, in this kaleidoscopic survey of art-related battles. How instructive it is to learn that the objections raised against Maya Lin's Vietnam Veterans Memorial in the 1980s echo protests against the Washington Monument a century earlier. Concerns about decency led to furor over Rodin's sculptures in one era and the photographs of Robert Mapplethorpe and Sally Mann in another. Over the course of detailing myriad nineteenth- and twentieth-century art innovations and controversies, Kammen tells the fascinating story not only of artists overtly politicizing art but also of corresponding social change and backlash. Drawing on original sources, Kammen elucidates dramatic skirmishes over public art, race and gender issues, modernism and conceptualism, depictions of the American flag, and disputed museum exhibitions. Kammen's history of art considered shocking and art made to shock reveals that for all the controversy art arouses, efforts at censorship fail because even art's harshest critics value freedom of expression. *Donna Seaman*

Copyright © American Library Association. All rights reserved

Review

"Deep, richly detailed, and enlightening."—*The Boston Globe* "Compelling. . . . A nuanced study . . . offers an important context for looking at ongoing issues of censorship and debates about the point of art."—*The Miami Herald* "Kammen . . . handles these variegated brouhahas with welcome deftness; he squeezes in all the facts while maintaining a nice narrative flow."—*The Nation* "A detailed and comprehensive survey of the history of artistic battles in the United States."—*The Houston Chronicle*

Users Review

From reader reviews:

Laura Rogers:

Do you have favorite book? In case you have, what is your favorite's book? Guide is very important thing for us to know everything in the world. Each book has different aim or maybe goal; it means that book has different type. Some people really feel enjoy to spend their time to read a book. They are reading whatever they take because their hobby will be reading a book. Consider the person who don't like reading through a book? Sometime, particular person feel need book if they found difficult problem or perhaps exercise. Well, probably you'll have this Visual Shock: A History of Art Controversies in American Culture.

Cheri Turner:

The book Visual Shock: A History of Art Controversies in American Culture can give more knowledge and information about everything you want. Why then must we leave the great thing like a book Visual Shock: A History of Art Controversies in American Culture? Some of you have a different opinion about publication. But one aim which book can give many info for us. It is absolutely proper. Right now, try to closer with your book. Knowledge or facts that you take for that, you could give for each other; you could share all of these. Book Visual Shock: A History of Art Controversies in American Culture has simple shape but you know: it has great and massive function for you. You can appearance the enormous world by available and read a book. So it is very wonderful.

Virginia Hughes:

Can you one of the book lovers? If yes, do you ever feeling doubt if you find yourself in the book store? Try and pick one book that you just dont know the inside because don't ascertain book by its cover may doesn't work this is difficult job because you are frightened that the inside maybe not as fantastic as in the outside look likes. Maybe you answer is usually Visual Shock: A History of Art Controversies in American Culture why because the wonderful cover that make you consider concerning the content will not disappoint a person. The inside or content will be fantastic as the outside or maybe cover. Your reading sixth sense will directly guide you to pick up this book.

Susan Woods:

What is your hobby? Have you heard this question when you got students? We believe that that question was given by teacher on their students. Many kinds of hobby, All people has different hobby. And you also know that little person like reading or as reading become their hobby. You have to know that reading is very important and also book as to be the matter. Book is important thing to add you knowledge, except your own teacher or lecturer. You discover good news or update concerning something by book. Different categories of books that can you choose to adopt be your object. One of them is Visual Shock: A History of Art Controversies in American Culture.

**Download and Read Online Visual Shock: A History of Art
Controversies in American Culture By Michael Kammen
#QIHPAM20F64**

Read Visual Shock: A History of Art Controversies in American Culture By Michael Kammen for online ebook

Visual Shock: A History of Art Controversies in American Culture By Michael Kammen Free PDF d0wnl0ad, audio books, books to read, good books to read, cheap books, good books, online books, books online, book reviews epub, read books online, books to read online, online library, greatbooks to read, PDF best books to read, top books to read Visual Shock: A History of Art Controversies in American Culture By Michael Kammen books to read online.

Online Visual Shock: A History of Art Controversies in American Culture By Michael Kammen ebook PDF download

Visual Shock: A History of Art Controversies in American Culture By Michael Kammen Doc

Visual Shock: A History of Art Controversies in American Culture By Michael Kammen Mobipocket

Visual Shock: A History of Art Controversies in American Culture By Michael Kammen EPub