



# The Artist's Mind: A Psychoanalytic Perspective on Creativity, Modern Art and Modern Artists

*George Hagman*

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## **The Artist's Mind: A Psychoanalytic Perspective on Creativity, Modern Art and Modern Artists**

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For the past century psychoanalysts have attempted to understand the psychology of art, artists and aesthetic experience. This book examines how contemporary psychoanalytic theory provides insight into understanding the psychological sources of creativity, Modern Art and modern artists.

*The Artist's Mind* revisits the lives of eight modern artists including Henri Matisse, Marcel Duchamp, Jackson Pollock and Andy Warhol, from a psychoanalytical viewpoint. It looks at how opportunities for a new approach to art at the turn of the twentieth century offered artists a chance to explore different forms of creativity and artistic ambition. Key areas of discussion include:

- developmental sources of the aesthetic sense
- psychological functions of creativity and art
- psychology of beauty, ugliness and the Sublime.
- co-evolution of the modern self, modernism and art.
- cultural context of creativity, artistic identify and aesthetic experience.

Through the examination of great artists' lives and psychological dynamics, the author articulates a new psychoanalytic aesthetic model that has both clinical and historical significance. As such this book is essential reading for all those with an interest in the origins and fate of Modern Art.

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