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# Interaction Of Color: 50th Anniversary Edition



## Synopsis

Josef Albers's *Interaction of Color* is a masterwork in art education. Conceived as a handbook and teaching aid for artists, instructors, and students, this influential book presents Albers's singular explanation of complex color theory principles. Originally published by Yale University Press in 1963 as a limited silkscreen edition with 150 color plates, *Interaction of Color* first appeared in paperback in 1971, featuring ten color studies chosen by Albers, and has remained in print ever since. With over a quarter of a million copies sold in its various editions since 1963, *Interaction of Color* remains an essential resource on color, as pioneering today as when Albers first created it. Fifty years after *Interaction's* initial publication, this new edition presents a significantly expanded selection of close to sixty color studies alongside Albers's original text, demonstrating such principles as color relativity, intensity, and temperature; vibrating and vanishing boundaries; and the illusion of transparency and reversed grounds. A celebration of the longevity and unique authority of Albers's contribution, this landmark edition will find new audiences in studios and classrooms around the world.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

This volume is a modern reprint of the classic *Interaction of Color* that now resides most often in rare book collections. The reproductions are reasonably accurate. I use it in teaching color theory at the university. Along with some of the Itten's work, these two are still the best for color theory instruction. It is not a hobbyist approach, so lightweight students may find it too scientific, but for those interested in the meat of color theory, this is a good starting place. It does not cover additive

light structures or RGB media, but it was designed for painters, so it is what one would expect. Love it, and the photos of art works make a nice application of examples to the principles.

Albers was a pioneer in the systematic exploration of how our perception of colors is influenced by surrounding colors. The original edition of his classic work included numerous prints to illustrate the ways in which colors interact. The previous paperback edition included only a few of these prints; this edition includes more of these prints and so gives the reader more insight into a fascinating subject. The work is of interest not only to painters and printmakers but also to photographers and to anyone who is interested in how we perceive the world around us.

It is a very revealing way that we look at colors. It makes you wonder what you have seen in the past. He has found out a lot of things that the average looker at colors does not even realize what he is seeing. Some of the exercises require you to do them several times to grasp what he is trying to get across to you as a seer of colors. You see differently after doing what he has you do. The book is not just a read it quickly and you have what he has to say. It takes time to get through the material, but well worth the effort.

I bought this book after a lecture given at the Boston Museum of Fine Arts on color in quilts given by Gerald Roy. He then led us through the collection with comments on color combinations. The book gave me an appreciation of color use that I had not appreciated before and gave me many ideas for future quilt combinations. It also helped my appreciation of what many modern artists are doing in some of their paintings. In each of the sections of the quilt exhibit there is a modern painting which exhibits similar color effects as seen in the quilts. You have to concentrate when reading the book but it is fascinating information.

I learned lots more about color and its interaction. I had forgotten the physics of color and the perception of color from my college days. This book brought most of it back and added to my insight into color interaction.

As a professional colorist and a student of Albers' Yale students moved onto college professorships I can only say this is simply the best book on color that you can read. If you have any designs on being facile in the use of color you cannot miss studying this book and doing the exercises.

I haven't finished reading it - the color reproductions seem poor based on the description that the author provided. I have never seen the original so I may be mistaken. That said, the book is very interesting even to a someone like myself who is not a fine artist, just a crafty person.

This book is very inspiring and shows great examples of color theory. The only reason I didn't give it 5 stars is because I felt it needed more of that. It has way too many text only pages. Other than that it is a book to add to my "go to" list when I need ideas on color for art or any project requiring color.

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