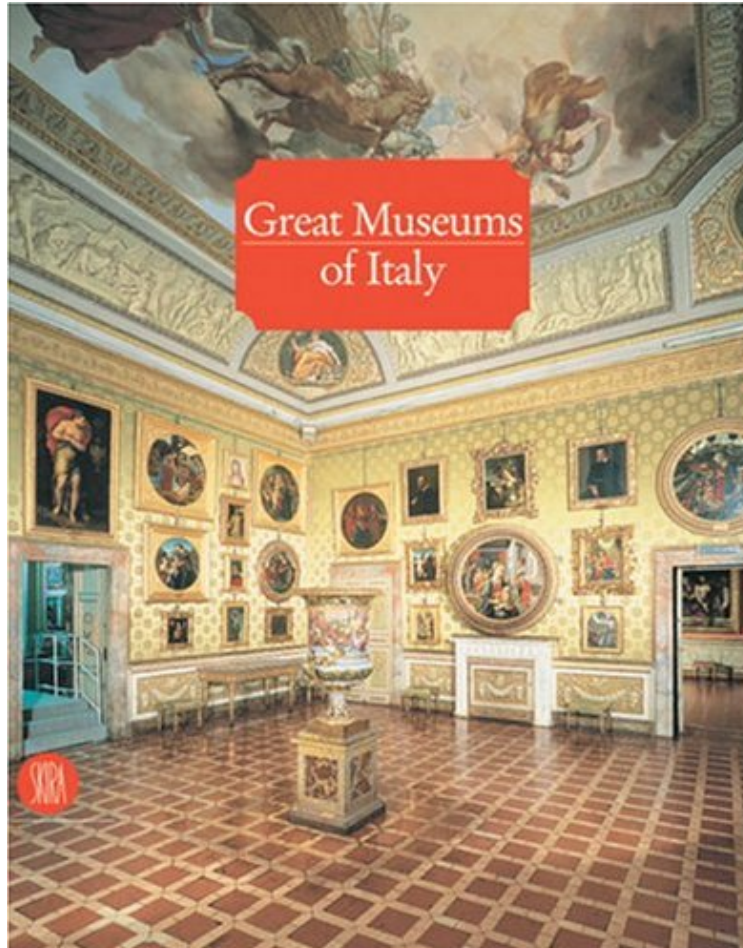


(Library ebook) Great Museums of Italy

## Great Museums of Italy

*Annamaria Petrioli, Luisa Arrigoni*  
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#4072200 in Books Milan : Skira Editore ; New York : Distributed In North America By Rizzoli Inter 2002-03-06 2002-03-06 Original language: English PDF # 1 12.10 x 1.10 x 9.40l, 3.86 #File Name: 888491017X256 pages | File size: 63.Mb

**Annamaria Petrioli, Luisa Arrigoni : Great Museums of Italy** before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Great Museums of Italy:

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Three Stars By David E. Thomas The subject is greater than the achievement. 8 of 8 people found the following review helpful. Not at all what I expected By A Customer I guess it's my own fault. I mean, the title of the book IS "Great Museums of Italy," NOT "Art from the Great Museums of Italy." I knew, when I bought the book that, given that it was trying to cover 8 major galleries in about 230 pages, there would not be more than a small representative selection of works from each museum; but, even so, I expected much more than I actually got. While each museum IS represented by a small selection of major works, large amounts of space are devoted to text on the history of the museum and its collections, detailed descriptions of the works shown (discussion of the artist, the provenance of the work, etc.), and photos of the interior and exterior of the building. If you are

interested in museum history, this may be the book for you (and even I found interesting the picture of the Brera Gallery in the late 19th century, with artwork hung, literally, edge to edge and floor to ceiling on the walls -- and comparing it to pictures of the galleries today, with some major paintings getting an entire wall to themselves, and most others spaced widely on the gallery walls), but, as a book for museum lovers, it provides a frustratingly minimal selection of works. A few other issues with the book: 1. Reproduction of the art is often poor. At first I thought that maybe the pictures themselves were dirty/faded, and the printer had done the best he could. But, when I compared a couple of pictures in this book with reproductions of the same pictures in my 1970 "Brera Milan" (by Newsweek Books), it seems that this is not the case. Mantegna's famous "Dead Christ" is noticeably more washed out and bluish in the newer book, while Caravaggio's "Supper at Emmaus" is far darker and lacking in color contrast. 2. The inclusion of the Uffizi Gallery is a bit of a puzzle to me. Being, with little question, the most important gallery in Italy (perhaps second to the Vatican Museums), the Uffizi is already well covered by numerous, well printed, art books, several of which are still in print. (And available from .com!) So perhaps the space devoted to the Uffizi could have been better utilized exploring another major, but less well-known collection -- the Ambrosiana in Milan? The Villa Giulia (Etruscan Museum) in Rome? The Guggenheim in Venice? All in all, quite a disappointment.

A grand tour of the premier art collections of Italy would require an 1000-mile trip from Milan to Rome over to Venice and down to Naples--and then back to Florence--and long hours in line). Now Italy's foremost art publisher has brought these eight art institutions and their history together in a beautiful and elegantly-priced volume. Here are Italy's premier art institutions presented by their directors, gallery by gallery, including docent selections of major works from each collection, like the Uffizi's Primavera by Botticelli, Leonardo's The Annunciation, and Michaelangelo's Tondo Doni.\* The Egyptian Museum, Turin One of the largest collection of Old Kingdom artifacts outside Egypt\* Galleria dell'Accademia, Venice The premier collection of northern Italian masters includes the Presentation of the Virgin by Titian, Miracle of the Holy Cross by Carpaccio, the Storm by Giorgione, Portrait of a Man by Lotto, and Titian's Peit.\* The Uffizi, Florence The world's finest collection of Renaissance masterpieces, among them the Madonna by Giotto, The Battle of San Romano by Paolo Uccello, Pope Leone X by Raphael, and Baccho by Caravaggio\* National Archeological Museum, Naples Italy's best public collection of classical art including ceramics from the Magna Grecia period, statuettes and objects of art from Pompeii and Ercolano, Roman portraiture, and the famous mosaic depicting The Battle of Alexander.\* Palatina Gallery, Florence Beautiful rooms in the Pitti Palace hold masterpieces of Italian Renaissance painting and decorative arts\* Galleria Borghese, Rome Recently restored galleries present paintings by Raphael, Dosso Dossi, and Caravaggio, as well as magnificent sculptures by Bernini and Canova\* Capodimonte Museum and Gallery, Naples Includes both Renaissance and Seicento masterworks, Flemish 16th-century tapestries and interior decorations in rococ style\* Pinacoteca di Brera, Milan Holds masterpieces by Titan, Caravaggio, Canaletto and other North Italian masters including The Marriage of the Virgin by Raphael, The Dead Christ by Mantegna, and The Supper in Emmaus by Caravaggio Although none are the scale of the Louvre or the Metropolitan, taken together these institutions hold a sizeable part of the Western civilization's art heritage. Each institution has its own place in the history of art in the country that invented the museum, presented here in a sumptuous large-format volume with spectacular views of both the masterpieces and the treasure-buildings that hold them.