Between the Lines: The Art of Lindsay Ward

Lindsay Ward (1907-1985) was an American artist known for his groundbreaking wood engravings and graphic novels that captured the social and political struggles of the 20th century.



Between the Lines by Lindsay Ward

★★★★ 4.4 out of 5
Language : English
File size : 40404 KB
Screen Reader : Supported
Print length : 48 pages



Ward's work is characterized by its stark black-and-white imagery, its powerful storytelling, and its unflinching depiction of the human condition. His art was deeply rooted in the social realism movement, and his work often addressed issues of poverty, inequality, and war.

Early Life and Career

Lindsay Ward was born in Chicago, Illinois, in 1907. He began his artistic career as a teenager, working as an apprentice to a commercial engraver. In the early 1930s, Ward became involved in the social realism movement and began producing politically charged wood engravings for radical publications such as *The New Masses* and *Left*.

In 1937, Ward published his first graphic novel, *Johnny Got His Gun*. The novel tells the story of a young American soldier who is blinded, deafened,

and paralyzed in World War I. *Johnny Got His Gun* was a critical and commercial success, and it remains one of Ward's most famous works.

The New Deal Era

During the New Deal era, Ward worked for the Federal Art Project (FAP), a government program that employed artists to create public art. During this time, Ward produced a number of murals and other public works that celebrated the American labor movement and the New Deal's social programs.

In 1943, Ward published his second graphic novel, *Vertigo*. The novel tells the story of a young man who is haunted by nightmares and visions of violence. *Vertigo* was a departure from Ward's earlier work, and it reflected his growing disillusionment with the world around him.

Post-War Years

After World War II, Ward continued to produce wood engravings and graphic novels, but his work became increasingly abstract and experimental. He also began to explore new themes, such as the nature of faith and the search for meaning in a post-war world.

In 1956, Ward published his third graphic novel, *God's Man*. The novel tells the story of a young man who struggles to reconcile his faith with the horrors of the world. *God's Man* was Ward's most ambitious work, and it remains one of the most important graphic novels of the 20th century.

Legacy

Lindsay Ward died in New York City in 1985. He is considered one of the most important American artists of the 20th century, and his work continues

to inspire artists and activists around the world.

Ward's art is a powerful reminder of the social and political struggles of the 20th century. It is also a testament to the power of art to make a difference in the world.

Works Cited

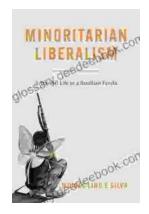
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- 5. Ehrenreich, Barbara. *The Worst Years of Our Lives: Poverty, Inequality, and the Betrayal of the American Dream.* New York: Henry Holt and Company, 2017.



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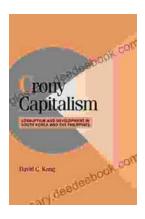
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