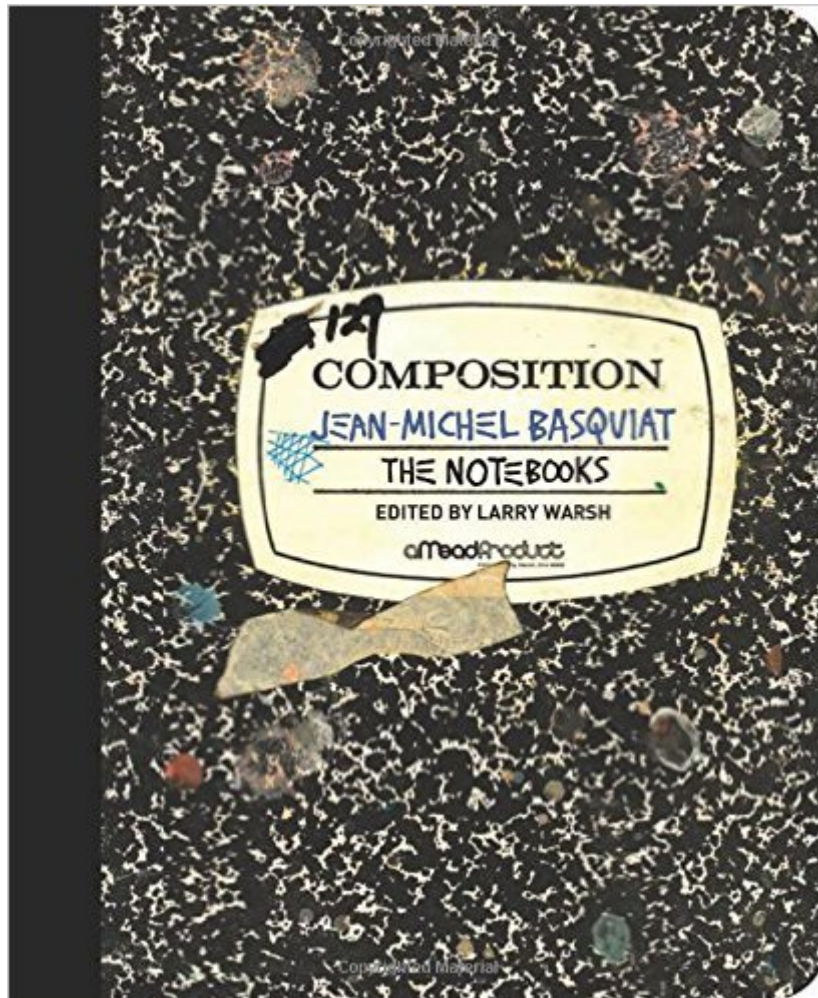


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# The Notebooks



## Synopsis

Brooklyn-born Jean-Michel Basquiat (1960-88) was one of the most important artists of the 1980s. A key figure in the New York art scene, he inventively explored the interplay between words and images throughout his career, first as a member of SAMO, a graffiti group active on the Lower East Side in the late 1970s, and then as a painter acclaimed for his unmistakable Neoexpressionist style. From 1980 to 1987, he filled numerous working notebooks with drawings and handwritten texts. This facsimile edition reproduces the pages of eight of these fascinating and rarely seen notebooks for the first time. The notebooks are filled with images and words that recur in Basquiat's paintings and other works. Iconic drawings and pictograms of crowns, teepees, and hatch-marked hearts share space with handwritten texts, including notes, observations, and poems that often touch on culture, race, class, and life in New York. Like his other work, the notebooks vividly demonstrate Basquiat's deep interests in comic, street, and pop art, hip-hop, politics, and the ephemera of urban life. They also provide an intimate look at the working process of one of the most creative forces in contemporary American art.

## Book Information

Hardcover: 304 pages

Publisher: Princeton University Press (May 26, 2015)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0691167893

ISBN-13: 978-0691167893

Product Dimensions: 7.6 x 0.8 x 9.7 inches

Shipping Weight: 1.7 pounds (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.4 out of 5 stars Â Â See all reviews Â (9 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #70,690 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #7 in Â Books > Arts & Photography > Other Media > Graffiti & Street Art #42 in Â Books > Arts & Photography > Individual Artists > Artists' Books #43 in Â Books > Arts & Photography > Collections, Catalogs & Exhibitions

## Customer Reviews

For the die-hard Basquiat fan this is a welcome addition to the library. This book presents pages from several of Jean-Michel Basquiat's notebooks in facsimile form. The paper is made to look and feel like the lined notebook paper Basquiat was using. Inside are page after page of words, sentences, and phrases. There are a few doodles here and there but if you are looking for pictures or paintings this is not the book for you. There is also nothing in the way of essays as this is meant

to capture the feel of Basquiat's actual notebooks. The writings inside are interesting to read but probably only to those Basquiat fans who have all of his other books and are still looking for more. This is definitely not the place to start if it's your first Basquiat book or if you're looking for a collection of his paintings. Recommended only for the Basquiat fan who has everything else.

For Basquiat completists only.....aka people like me that must have anything by him. This is some serious minimalistic writings.

I was disappointed with this book. It was almost entirely comprised of random thoughts and phrases of the artist - no sketches or art - nor added interpretation of how these "notebooks" of the artist related or influenced his future works.

Perfect in every way

Bought as a gift for someone who absolutely loved it.

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