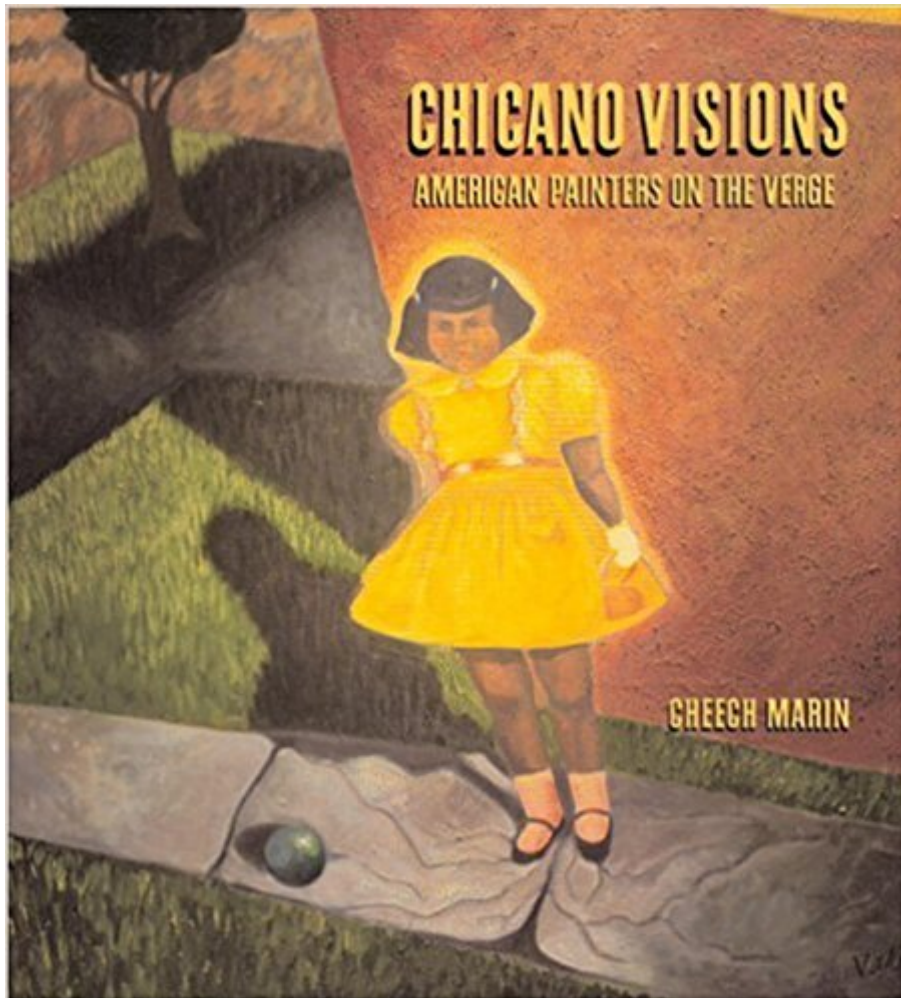




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Chicano Visions: American Painters On The Verge



Synopsis

Originating in the early seventies, Chicano art long remained unrecognized by the art and gallery world. This text features the work of 26 Chicano artists and marks the transition of this unique and exciting movement into the critical fold of contemporary art.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

It might be a challenge to think of a guy best known for enthusiastically inhaling (with Tommy Chong) as a serious art collector, but Marin has been acquiring paintings by Mexican-American artists for more than 20 years. *Chicano Visions* presents the work of 30 Chicano artists whose paintings will be exhibited at the Smithsonian and tour the country. The exhibition, which has major corporate sponsorship, is a breakthrough for a movement that has been largely excluded from museums and galleries, Marin notes. He defines the school as "a blending of influences-traditional Mexican and American Pop," and admires the spirit that drives these artists to show paintings "in restaurants, coffeehouses, or wherever there is a wall and an audience." There are 96 paintings in full color here, including Gronk's *Hot Lips*, a portrait in which a woman's large, loose curls of hair perfectly frame her title attribute, and Leo Limon's "Mas Juegos," in which a nude, smoking woman reclines on an ordinary couch, but daydreams extraordinary things. Copyright 2002 Reed Business Information, Inc.

Marin is an art collector and community activist as well as a director and actor (one-half of the Cheech and Chong duo and costar of *Nash Bridges*) and a pioneer in recognizing the vibrancy and

significance of Chicano art. The Chicano school began evolving 30 years ago as artists sought to combine traditional Mexican imagery, themes, and styles with American pop, and it is now the source for some of America's most evocative, animated, brilliantly hued, inventive, and gripping contemporary painting. Marin's extraordinary collection forms the foundation for this exciting and invaluable showcase for the spiritually powerful and aesthetically diverse work of 30 seminal artists, including John Valadez, Gronk, Diane Gamboa, Patssi Valdez, Adan Hernandez, and Carlos Almaraz. Gorgeous color plates are accompanied by brief artist bios, Marin's impassioned introduction, and illuminating essays by art critic Max Benavidez, who traces the political, social, and artistic roots of the Chicano sensibility; curator Tere Romo, who concentrates on Chicana artists; and art historian Constance Cortez, who discusses the concept of Aztlan, "a geographic and a symbolic locale" that inspires many Chicano painters. Sensuous, cosmic, or satirical, Chicano paintings reflect our symbiotic, bicultural world in all its conflicts and soulfulness, sorrows and beauty. Donna Seaman

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Book was in great condition and arrived as stated. The book has a wonderful history of Latin Art. I was surprised how Cheech Marin was so into art and has a wonderful collection of paintings.

Cheech Marin has collected some of the most amazing, enthralling pictures (paintings, drawings, etc.) by Chicano artists that I've come across! This book is such a rich collection to own because some of us can't afford to buy art, but we can look again & again at the copies he's put together. There are well-known artists, unknown artists, and people I'm thrilled to have found out about because their work is so brilliant. Some places where I've seen "Chicano" art collected before have stuck to one style, very pastely, very soft colors, a certain women's painting style that has its place but isn't representative. This book isn't like that. Marin has collected paintings of incredible scenes, showing car wreck victims, cholos, lovers embracing, a drive-by shooting in progress, a freeway accident, & a police shake down to name a few. The "realist" aspect of these pictures is so entertaining that it will provide owners of the book hours of transfixing study & discussion! Buy it!

Great!

If you love art and love Chicano culture this book is for you! It is filled with beautiful imagery with many different artists and styles.

Absolutely Outstanding!!

Great collection of Chicano Art, by a man who really appreciates art in general

I saw this exhibit in Albuquerque and have wanted this book ever since. I'm thrilled to have it as I think these are some of the best modern artists around. The descriptions about the paintings are extremely interesting as well.

Fast and just as described

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