Great Book To Revive Memories Of A Visit

Since first opening its doors in 1793, the Louvre has become one of the largest and most famous museums in the world and, with 8.3 million visitors per year, it is also the most visited. Louvre: 400 Masterpieces showcases a selection of works from this great institution, from the most famous—the Venus de Milo and Mona Lisa—to lesser-known gems.

With a foreword by the institution’s director, Henri Loyrette, the book is organized according to the museum’s eight departments: Near Eastern Antiquities; Egyptian Antiquities; Greek, Etruscan, and Roman Antiquities; Islamic Art; Sculptures; Decorative Arts; Paintings; and Prints and Drawings. The ninth and final chapter tells the history of this one time imperial palace as seen through its architecture. With its appealing format and carefully selected images, many newly photographed, Louvre: 400 Masterpieces is the perfect book for museum visitors, art lovers, and Francophiles.

My Personal Review:
In this amazing book, Daniel Soulié, Louvre historian, collects 400 of the more than 35,000 art objects from each of the museum’s eight departments--Greek, Etruscan, and Roman Antiquities; Egyptian Antiquities; Near Eastern Antiquities; Islamic Art; Sculptures; Decorative Arts; Paintings; and Prints and Drawings. Of course, many of the marquee objects are represented, the Mona Lisa and the Venus de Milo as the two big ones, but Soulié finds new objects, many of them probably overlooked by visitors too busy waiting in line for the Mona Lisa. Each chapter is introduced by a small essay about the history of the department, but the emphasis is on the art itself. Most pages are art, one or two pictures per page, with reference information about the pieces. The initial chapter is the
history of the Louvre itself, with pictures and paintings from its past, showing its development over the centuries.

The book itself is a small square hardcover without a dust jacket and is heavier than it looks. The gilded edges of the pages makes them stick together the first time you go through the book, but add a nice touch to the packaging. A very nice collection of art, from one of the premier art museums of the world.

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Louvre: 400 Masterpieces by Daniel Soulie - 5 Star Customer Reviews and Lowest Price!