The works of René Magritte (1898 - 1967) and the ideas that underlie them are a special case both in the history of modern art and in surrealist painting. In the search for the mystery in which things and organisms are enveloped, Magritte created pictures which, taking everyday reality as their starting point, were to follow a different logic from that to which we are accustomed. Magritte depicts the world of reality in such unsecretive superficiality that the beholder of his pictures is forced to reflect that the mystery of it is not evoked by some sentimental transfiguration, but rather by the logic of his thoughts and associations. Magritte thus invented an inimitable pictorial language which he uses to question our usual comprehension of pictures. In this book, Jacques Meuris traces Magritte's artistic development from its beginnings until the end of his life, and in doing so underlines the originality of this great Belgian Surrealist.

Again, Taschen has done itself proud, the collection of magritte's imagery and reproductions are wonderful. Any art student would be happy with this book. Magritte is very mysterious, I used to think... after looking through my copy of this book, I now think Magritte is clear visioned and not mysterious at all. He just paints his point of view, and his view fascinates me. I am very happy with this purchase. If you want a great addition to your personal library, for whatever purpose, be you an artist or lover of art, this is the book to have.

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