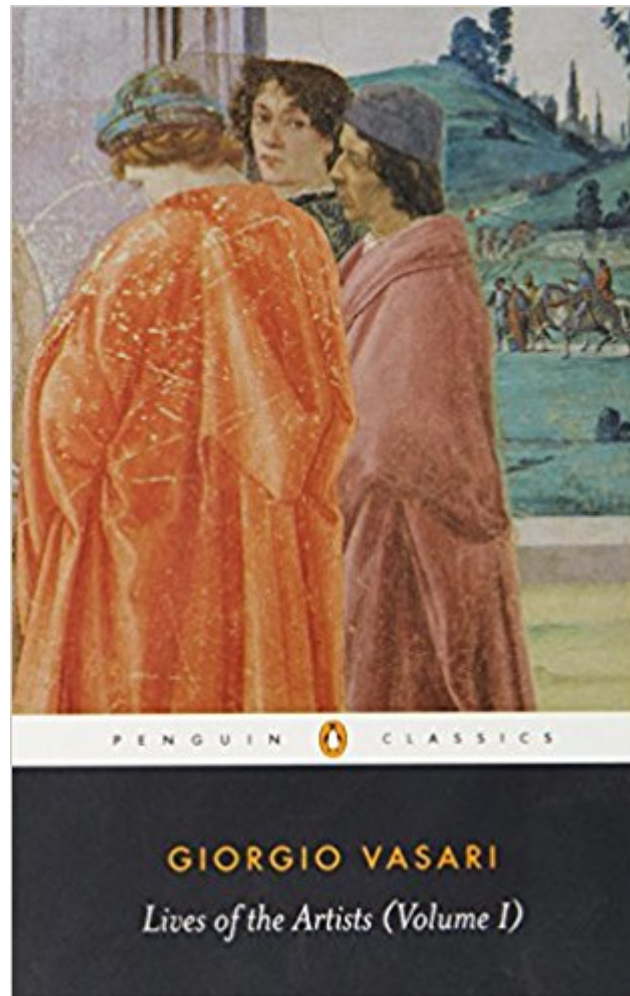




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# The Lives Of The Artists Volume 1



## Synopsis

In his *Lives of the Artists of the Italian Renaissance*, Vasari demonstrated a literary talent that outshone even his outstanding abilities as a painter and architect. Through character sketches and anecdotes he depicts Piero di Cosimo shut away in his derelict house, living only to paint; Giulio Romano's startling painting of Jove striking down the giants; and his friend Francesco Salviati, whose biography also tells us much about Vasari's own early career. Vasari's original and soaring vision plus his acute aesthetic judgements have made him one of the most influential art historians of all time.

## Book Information

Series: *Lives of the Artists* (Book 1)

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## Customer Reviews

'...a book which has come to be recognised as the single most important contemporary source of information on hundreds of artists of the Italian Renaissance period.' --Irish Independent --This text refers to the Audio CD edition.

Giorgio Vasari (1511-74) was an accomplished painter and architect, but it is for his illuminating biographies that he is best remembered. George Bull translated widely from the Italian, including for Penguin Classics including Cellini's 'Autobiography' and Machiavelli's 'The Prince'. He is also the author of a number of books on the Renaissance.

This is a beautiful set of books. Color pictures! Seriously geeking out over them! Nothing but some art historian love over this set! Highly recommend!!! Came in great condition from the seller. They answered questions I had quickly and accurately.

One of the best books that go into detail about the lives of such artists and sculptors as Michaelangelo Buonarroti, Leonardo de Vinci and Filippo Brunelleschi. A must read for any artist and historian.

Printed originally in Italian in the mid-sixteenth century, this book is considered not only the first history of art but also the first to put into words the process of growth and rebirth that characterized the Renaissance. Vasari writes about artists who were, for the most part, his contemporaries. He knew of their work and their lives, if not first-hand then by reputation or by association. The little stories he weaves into their lives give insight into each artist's personality. Though Vasari does try to make them all fit the mold of the Renaissance man, he shows us the chinks in the facade.

A good introduction to Medieval, Renaissance, and Mannerist artists written by someone who lived around their time and had actual contact with some of the artists, as well as personal painting experience. He is, however, colored by his personal relationships with the artists, hyperbolic, and constrained by the Zeitgeist of the era. In exploring the relationships of artist and patron he is able to shed light on their social situation and the constant struggle of the elevation of the art of painting among the liberal arts. In English, some of the grandeur of his writing is lost, and it lacks the poetic ease of the Italian original. If you want a fuller version, I suggest (especially for bilingual speakers) a translation with the Italian original on the other side of the page.

I have several translations of Vasari's Lives and this was the most readable. I recommend the audio version as it really helped bring Vasari's anecdotes about the various artists' quirks to life! I loved it!

EXCELLENT. I was so happy to receive this

This is a wonderful book! I have recently discovered that I lost this book, but will replace it because I enjoyed it so much!

It's a wonderful tool to have when you're studying this time period. You feel as if you know who the

artists really were.

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