



Smithsonian  
National Museum of Natural History

## SELECTED BIBLIOGRAPHY ON THE ARTS AND CRAFTS OF THE PLAINS INDIANS

*Some of these books are no longer in print, but may be obtained through your local library or through inter-library loan.*

- American Indian Art.* (magazine) American Indian Art, Inc., 1968-. (This heavily illustrated publication features a variety of artists and topics pertaining to the production of artworks)
- Alexander, Hartley Burr. *Sioux Indian Painting.* C. Szwedzicki, 1938. (Numerous reproductions of Indian paintings in color.)
- Bass, Althea. *The Arapaho Way, A Memoir of an Indian Boyhood.* Clarkson N. Potter, 1966. (Memoir of Arapaho artist Carl Sweezy, one of the pioneer contemporary Indian artists of western Oklahoma; many illustrations)
- Black Boy, Cecil. Introduction by Myles Libhart and Rosemary Ellison. *Painted Tipis by Contemporary Plains Indian Artists.* Oklahoma Indian Arts and Crafts Center, 1973.
- Blish, Helen H. *A Pictographic History of the Oglala Sioux, Drawings by Amos Bad Heart Bull.* University of Nebraska Press, 1967. (A detailed study)
- Casagrande, Louise B. and Melissa M. Ringheim. *Straight Tongue: Minnesota Indian Art from the Bishop Whipple Collections.* The Science Museum of Minnesota, 1980. (Includes many Eastern Sioux pieces given to Bishop Whipple by his Indian parishioners during the mid-19th century)
- Catlin, George. *Indian Art in Pipestone.* Ed. by John C. Ewers. Smithsonian Institution Press, 1979. (A photographic study of carvings in catlinite produced by Plains Indians of the nineteenth century)
- Conn, Richard. *A Persistent Vision: Art of the Reservation Days.* University of Washington Press, 1986. (An exhibit catalog with essays and photographs detailing late 18th century Plains Indian arts and crafts. Also informative about clothing construction techniques)
- Conn, Richard. *Circles of the World: Traditional Art of the Plains Indians.* Denver Art Museum, 1989. (This exhibit catalog discusses the role of art in traditional life)
- Dempsey, Hugh A. *Tailfeathers, Indian Artist.* Glenbow-Alberta Institute Art Series #2, 1970. (An illustrated biographical study of the Blood artist, Gerald Tailfeathers)

- Donnelley, Robert G., Candace S. Greene, and Janet Catherine Berlo. *Transforming Images: The Art of Silver Horn and His Successors*. 1<sup>st</sup> ed. Smart Museum Of Art, The University Of California, 2001.
- Dunn, Dorothy. *1877: Plains Indian Sketch Books of Zo-Tom and Howling Wolf*. Northland Press, 1969. (Illustrates works of two of the Fort Marion prisoners)
- Dunn, Dorothy. *American Indian Painting of the Southwest and Plains Areas*. University of New Mexico, 1968. (Traces the development of motifs, techniques, and material used in Southwest and Plains Indian painting)
- Earenfight, Phillip, Janet Catherine Berlo, Brad D. Lookingbill, and George Miles. *A Kiowa's Odyssey: A Sketchbook from Fort Marion*. University of Washington Press, 2007.
- Exposition of Indian Tribal Arts. *Introduction to American Indian Art*. Exposition of Indian Tribal Arts, 1931. (Accompanying illustrated articles by various authors covering weaving, quill and beadwork, modern painting, pottery, sand painting, masks, sculpture, basketry, symbolism, and a bibliography)
- Ewers, John C. *Plains Indian Sculpture: A Traditional Art from America's Heartland*. Smithsonian Institution Press, 1986. (A study of the miniature carvings produced by Plains artists on catlinite, effigy and tobacco pipes. Includes bibliography)
- Ewers, John C. "Climate, Acculturation, and Costume: A History of Women's Clothing among the Indians of the Southern Plains." *Plains Anthropologist* 24 (1980): pp.63-82.
- Ewers, John C. "Images of the White Man in 19th Century Plains Indian Art." In *The Visual Arts, Plastic and Graphic*. Edited by Justine M. Cordwell. Mouton, 1979.
- Ewers, John C. *Murals in the Round: Painted tipis of the Kiowa and Kiowa-Apache Indians: An Exhibition of Tipi Models Made by James Mooney of Smithsonian during his Field Studies of Indian History and Art in Southwest Oklahoma, 1889-1904*. Smithsonian Institution Press, 1978.
- Ewers, John C. "Blackfoot Indian Pipes and Pipemaking." *Bureau of American Ethnology Bulletin*, Vol. 186, No. 643. Smithsonian Institution, 1963.
- Ewers, John C. *Blackfeet Crafts*. Schneider Pubs., 1986. (Discusses the designs and construction techniques for a variety of crafts)
- Ewers, John C. "Early White Influence Upon Plains Indian Painting: George Catlin and Karl Bodmer among the Mandan, 1832-34." *Smithsonian Miscellaneous Collections*. Vol. 134, No. 7. Smithsonian Institution, 1957. Out of print.
- Ewers, John C. *Plains Indian Painting; a Description of an Aboriginal American Art*. AMP Press. Reprint of 1939 edition.
- Feder, Norman. *Art of the Eastern Plains Indians*. The Brooklyn Museum, 1964. (Illustrated catalog of the Dr. Nathan S. Jarvis Collection, much of it collected from the Eastern Sioux during the 1830's)

- Gebhard, David. *Indian Art of the Northern Plains*. University of California Press, 1974. (A photographic catalog)
- Gilman, Carolyn and Mary Jane Schneider. *The Way to Independence: Memoirs of a Hidatsa Indian Family, 1840-1970*. Publications of the Minnesota Historical Society, Museum Exhibit Series #3. Minnesota Historical Society, 1987. (Extensively illustrated from important well-documented collections of Hidatsa materials)
- Greene, Candace S., and Russell Thornton, eds. *The Year the Stars Fell: Lakota Winter Counts at the Smithsonian*. University of Nebraska Press, 2007.
- Greene, Candace S. *Silver Horn: Master Illustrator of the Kiowas*. University of Oklahoma Press, 2002.
- Hail, Barbara A. *Hau, Kola! The Plains Indian Collection of the Haffenreffer Museum of Anthropology*. Brown University, Haffenreffer Museum of Anthropology, 1983. Reprint of 1980 ed. Also published by the University of Washington Press, Seattle. (This exhibit catalog contains very good color photographs and covers a wide range of Plains art produced in the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries)
- Handbook of North American Indians*, vol 13: *Plains*, parts 1 & 2. 2001. Volume editor, Raymond J. DeMallie. General editor, William C. Sturtevant. Smithsonian Institution.
- Hartmann, Horst. *Die Plains und Prairieindianer Nordamerika*. Museum fur Volkerkunde, 1973. (Well-illustrated catalog of a fine Plains Indian collection in the Museum fur Volkerkunde. Includes many examples collected by German scholars before 1840)
- Hoebel, E. Adamson and Karen Daniels Peterson. *A Cheyenne Sketchbook by Cohoe*. 2<sup>nd</sup> ed. University of Oklahoma Press, 1978. (Drawings by a Cheyenne prisoner at Ft. Marion, Fla. in 1875)
- Horse Capture, G.P. ed. *Fifth Annual Plains Indian Seminar in Honor of Dr. John C. Ewers*. Buffalo Bill Museum, 1980. (Focuses on northern Plains Indian art from 1875 to 1881, with special emphasis on ceremonial objects, ledger art, and beadwork.)
- Hungry Wolf, Adolph and Beverly. *Blackfoot Craftworks Book*. Rev. ed. Northwest Printing and Lithographing, Ltd., 1977. (Basic instructions on crafts, clothing construction, and decoration)
- Hunt, David C. *Legacy of the West*. Center for Western Studies, Joslyn Art Museum, 1982. (An exhibit catalog showing many art and craft items of the western Plains)
- Images of a Vanished Life. Plains Indian Drawings from the Collections of the Pennsylvania Academy of the Fine Arts*. Pennsylvania Academy of the Fine Arts, 1985. (An exhibition catalog of works by Indian students from Northern Plains Reservations at Hampton Institute, Virginia in 1881. With essays by John C. Ewers, Helen M. Mangelsdorf, and William S. Wierzbowski)
- Koch, Ronald. *Dress Clothing of the Plains Indians*. (Civilization of American Indian Series.) University of Oklahoma Press, 1990. (Contains many illustrations and step-by-step instructions for making Plains clothing)

- Lessard, Dennis ed. *Crow Indian Art*. Papers presented at the Crow Indian Art Symposium. Sponsored by the Chandler Institute, Pierre, SD, 1981.
- Libhart, Myles, ed. *Contemporary Southern Plains Indian Painting*. Indian Arts and Crafts Board, U.S. Department of the Interior, 1972. (An illustrated exhibit catalog)
- Libhart, Myles. *Contemporary Sioux Artists*. Tipi Shop, Inc., 1970. (A survey of Sioux painting from the nineteenth century hide painting to contemporary works in diverse media)
- Milton, John R., ed. "Poetry, Fiction, Art, Music, Religion By the American Indian." *South Dakota Review* 7(2), 1969. University of South Dakota, 1969. (Includes statements and works by artists Oscar Howe, Jose Rey Toledo, R.C. Gorman, Robert Penn, Fred Beaver, and Richard West)
- Morrow, Mable. *Indian Rawhide: An American Folk Art*. University of Oklahoma Press, 1975. (Mostly deals with parfleche decoration but also includes good details on the Cheyenne women's craft and sewing societies)
- Paladin, Vivian A. "William Standing (Fire Bear) Native American Talent Caught in the Maw of Clashing Cultures." *Art West*, Vol IV, No. 3, 1981. (An unusual Assiniboin artist, 1904-1951)
- Pennington, Robert. *Oscar Howe, Artist of the Sioux*. Haskell Institute Press, 1961. (Well illustrated)
- Peterson, Karen Daniels. *Plains Indian Art From Fort Marion*. University of Oklahoma, 1971. (An illustrated account of the graphic art produced by Southern Plains Indians while they were imprisoned in Fort Marion, Florida during the mid-1870s)
- Peterson, Karen Daniels. *Howling Wolf, A Cheyenne Warrior's Graphic Interpretation of His People*. With introduction by John C. Ewers. American West Publishing Company, 1968.
- Peterson, Karen Daniels. *A Cheyenne Sketchbook*. With commentary by E. Adamson Hoebel. University of Oklahoma Press, 1964. (Drawings by Cohoe, one of the Fort Marion prisoners of the 1870's)
- Powell, Peter J. *To Honor the Crow People: Crow Indian Art from the Goelet and Edith Gallatin Collection of American Indian Art*. Foundation for the Preservation of American Indian Art and Culture, Inc., 1988.
- Ray, Dorothy Jean, ed. *Contemporary Indian Artists: Montana, Wyoming, Idaho*. Tipi Shop Inc., 1972. (An illustrated exhibition catalog).
- Rodee, Howard D. "The Stylistic Development of Plains Indian Painting and its Relationship to Ledger Drawings." *Plains Anthropologist*. Vol. X, No. 9, 1965.
- Southwest Museum Leaflets*. Southwest Museum. (A series of leaflets dealing with art and cultural topics. Titles include: Painted Tipis and Picture-writing of the Blackfeet Indians (#6), Cornhusk bags of the Nez Perce Indians (#1).)

- Speck, Frank G. "Notes on the Functional Basis of Decoration and the Feather Technique of the Oglala Sioux." *Indian Notes*, Vol. 5, pp.1-42. New York: Museum of the American Indian, Heye Foundation, 1928. (Good reference for Plains techniques, specifically feather use and symbolism)
- Stirling, Matthew W. "Three Pictographic Biographies of Sitting Bull." *Smithsonian Miscellaneous Collections*. Vol. XCVII, No. 5. Smithsonian Institution, 1938.
- Supree, Burton. *Bears Heart: Scenes from the Life of a Cheyenne Artist from One Hundred Years Ago with Pictures by Himself*. J.B. Lippincott Company, 1977.
- Taylor, Colin. *The Warriors of the Plains*. Arco Publishing Company, Inc., 1975. (Includes culture, arts, crafts, and religion of the Plains Indians, with special emphasis on the Cheyenne, Dakota, and Comanche. Numerous illustrations of clothing and ceremonies)
- Taylor, Colin F., and Hugh A. Dempsey, eds. *The People of the Buffalo, Volume 1: The Plains Indians of North America, Military Art, Warfare and Change: Essays in Honor of John C. Ewers*. Tatanka Press, Wyk auf Foehr, Germany, 2003. The book includes an unpublished article by Ewers titled "Military Art of the Plains Indians."
- Vestiges of a Proud Nation: The Ogden B. Read Northern Plains Indian Collection*. With essays by Raymond J. Demallie, Royal B. Hassrick, and Glenn E. Markoe. University of Nebraska Press, 1986. (Illustrated catalog of a well-documented collection in the Robert Hall Fleming Museum, University of Vermont)
- Walton, Ann T., John C. Ewers, and Royal B. Hassrick. *After the Buffalo Were Gone*. Northwest Area Foundation, 1985. (This exhibit catalog documents a unique collection of Plains Indian art from the late period of westward expansion. Features many fine examples of the traditional art of the Blackfeet)
- Wildshut, William and John C. Ewers. *Crow Indian Beadwork. Contributions from the Museum of the American Indian, Heye Foundation*. Vol. 16. Liberty, UT: Eagles View Pubs., 1985.
- Wissler, Clark. "Costumes of the Plains Indians." *Anthropological Papers, American Museum of Natural History*, Vol. XVII, pt. II. American Museum of Natural History, 1915. (A well-illustrated reference on construction and decoration of Plains Indian for dresses, shirts, leggings, and breech-clouts)
- Wissler, Clark. "Decorative Art of the Sioux Indians." *Bulletin, American Museum of Natural History*, Vol. XVIII, pt. III, pp. 231-278. American Museum of Natural History, 1905. (Article deals specifically with the construction techniques and the designs used by the Dakota Indians)