

clearly state the significance of each topic.

Despite the great interest in (and numerous recent publications on) evolution, creationism, and Darwin, there is nothing quite like this volume. Patrick H. Armstrong's excellent *All Things Darwin* (Greenwood, 2007) is limited to Darwin and his era, though for these it does do a better job of suggesting further reading; *More Than Darwin* is sparse with its referrals, but does have a website with additional information. Nils Eldredge's *Life on Earth: An Encyclopedia of Biodiversity, Ecology, and Evolution* (ABC-CLIO, prepared in collaboration with the American Museum of Natural History, 2002) focuses on science (creationism is barely mentioned, under "Evolution") and social, not religious, issues. All of the above are aimed at the high school and older audience. The extensive, comprehensive, and scholarly *Encyclopedia of Evolution*, edited by Mark Pagel (Oxford, 2002), is aimed at a more academic audience, with lengthy essays and technical articles by top people in the field as opposed to the dual authorship of *More Than Darwin*.

This book does a good job of fulfilling its aim of explaining the history, people, and places behind science. It does not seek to reconcile the sides of the controversy between evolution and creationism but to provide background on what and how and why people think as they do. Highly recommended for public and high school libraries; also useful for undergraduates approaching these topics for the first time.—Cindy Stewart Kaag, *Head of Science Libraries, Washington State University, Pullman*

Oxford Dictionary of American Art and Artists. By Ann L. Morgan. Oxford Paperback Reference. New York: Oxford Univ. Pr., 2008. 537p. acid free \$17.95 (ISBN 978-0-19-537321-0).

Written by Ann Lee Morgan, an independent scholar with art history teaching experience at the University of Illinois in Chicago, this book provides 945 brief entries relating to American art from the colonial times to the present day.

Most of the entries are biographical, with some topical entries, limited to American movements. The biographical entries include only Euro-American artists, including expatriates and foreigners with influence in the United States. The biographies also include critics, collectors, curators, historians, art dealers, and other figures important in American art. Nonbiographical entries cover American movements, styles, magazines, studios, and related topics, with cross references where appropriate. The succinct dictionary does not include bibliographies, glossaries, illustrations, or entries related to American Indian art or artists.

There has not been a comparable work published since Baigell's *Dictionary of American Art* (Harper and Row, 1979), and Morgan's book provides updated information about artists and related topics from the past thirty years. Compared to a nontopical biographical dictionary, the entries in Morgan's book include valuable subject entries related to art, and compared to the listings in *Who Was Who in American Art* (Sound View, 1999), Morgan's entries contain more detailed

information from a scholarly point of view. The three-volume *American Art Analog* (Chelsea House, 1986) is longer and more expansive, with glossy reproductions and auction information, but Morgan's book provides a concise, albeit not as thorough, dictionary.

The book is appropriate for academic, public, and school library reference shelves where concise and introductory information about American art or artists is needed.—Sigrid Kelsey, *Electronic Reference Resources and Web Development Coordinator, Louisiana State University Libraries, Baton Rouge*

The Sage Encyclopedia of Qualitative Research Methods. Ed. by Lisa M. Given. Los Angeles: Sage, 2008. 2 vols. acid free \$350 (ISBN 978-1-4129-4163-1).

This two-volume set edited by Lisa M. Given (University at Alberta) covers a vast range of qualitative research methods spanning multiple disciplines in the humanities, social sciences, and health sciences.

The encyclopedia's entries provide introductory information pertaining to every aspect of qualitative research, from approaches and methods to theoretical and philosophical frameworks. The entries are succinct and generally range from two to four pages. Each entry is followed by a bibliography of further readings that lists primary readings and websites on the topic. In addition, each entry has cross-references to direct the reader to related topics.

Included in each volume is a reader's guide that organizes the complex content of the encyclopedia and distributes the entries into sixteen subject categories, such as "Data Analysis," "Dissemination and Writing," and "Research Design and Planning." The reader's guide is a helpful tool that encourages browsing and the discovery of theoretical concepts, and is especially useful for the nonspecialist or student. Also included in volume 2 is an exhaustive sixty-page index.

All of the entries were written by international experts from a variety of fields, including individuals outside of academe working as qualitative methods consultants or trainers. According to Given, her intention as editor was to be comprehensive, but she acknowledges that an encyclopedia on qualitative methods will never be complete: "Qualitative methods are in constant evolution—being recrafted and reshaped within and between disciplines. New methods and techniques, new journals, and new software packages are created every year" (xxx).

The content of the encyclopedia is unique and, as the editor puts it, "fills a gap in the existing literature for a general, interdisciplinary guide to the core concepts that inform qualitative research practices" (xxix). A major strength of this superior encyclopedia is its wide and deep scope and well-written and well-designed contents. The encyclopedia transforms sophisticated and conceptual content, which ordinarily is too abstract and specialized for ready processing by the average student or reader, to render it accessible to a wider audience. *Sage Encyclopedia of Qualitative Research Methods* is also available in electronic format in the Sage E-Reference