A market-focused approach to art history refuses the traditional notion of art’s disinterested nature, insisting instead on its inherent commercial dimension. Market participants—artists, collectors, patrons, dealers, experts, and investors—are considered as producers and consumers, their behaviors shaped by supply and demand. As the selections in this volume show, this commercial perspective potentially revises a number of the commonplaces of art history. Art markets flourished in these urban centers, which provided the requisite enabling conditions: a surplus of capital, centrality within international trade networks, and a critical mass of artist-producers (to encourage innovation and competition), and consumers of art. Discover the world's research. 19+ million members. All art history books attempt to help readers appreciate artistic expression, the meaning of images, and the development of style. While *A History of Western Art* achieves these goals, it also accomplishes something else. The book provides active learning tools to support the needs of college students, especially those who have little previous exposure to art history, as they embark on this long, sometimes challenging, journey. These tools include a carefully designed art program, a strong narrative that unifies the story of Western art, and pedagogy designed to foster critical thinking and visual analysis. *A History of Western Art* presents students with an accessible narrative of art history. I have refined this narrative over five editions, based on comments from instructors and students throughout the United States. Find history of western art from a vast selection of Books. Get great deals on eBay! Masterpieces of Western Art: A History of Art in 900 Studies 2 volume boxed set. New (Other). C $42.57. Top Rated Seller. Top Rated Seller. Was: Previous Price C $53.22 20% off. From United States.