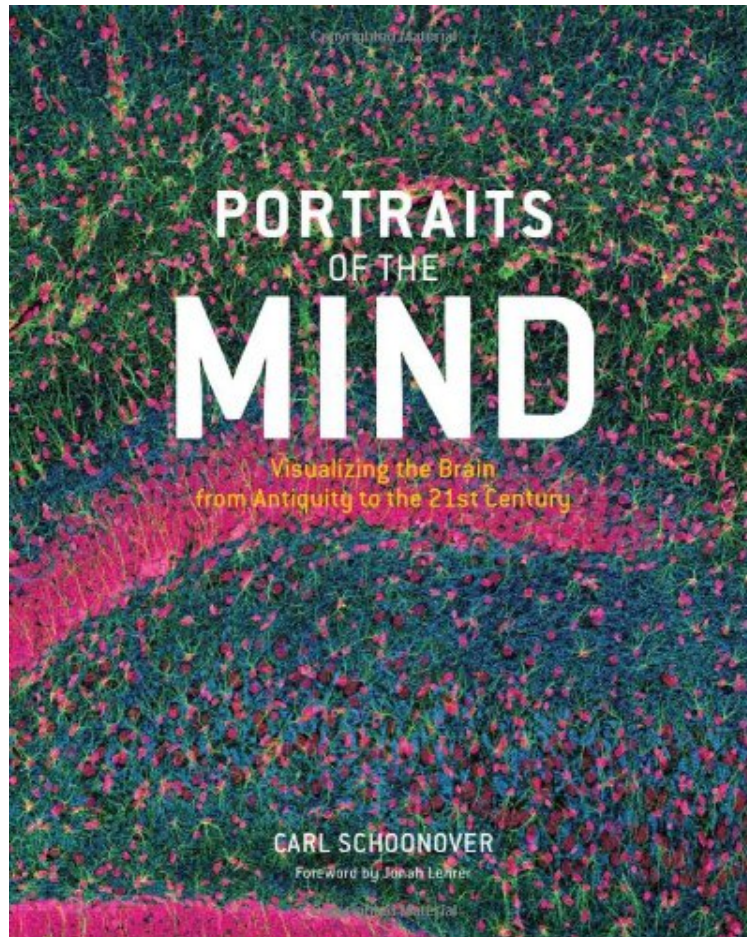


(Free read ebook) Portraits of the Mind: Visualizing the Brain from Antiquity to the 21st Century

Portraits of the Mind: Visualizing the Brain from Antiquity to the 21st Century

Carl Schoonover

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Carl Schoonover : Portraits of the Mind: Visualizing the Brain from Antiquity to the 21st Century before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Portraits of the Mind: Visualizing the Brain from Antiquity to the 21st Century:

1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Great pictures, good readingBy Louis I. JaffeAmong other virtues of this book, it's fascinating to follow the evolution of the illustrations over several decades of neuro-biological research, from simple graphs, to electron microscopy to today's colorful and sophisticated digital imagery. The pictures alone are worth the price; the historical essays opening each chapter are a great intro to this rapidly evolving field.3 of 3 people found the following review helpful. Man's brain/mind/behavior conundrum through picturesBy C. S. ALDAn amazing exploration of the brain through history up to present day. From the milestones of neurology such as

phrenology, to today's technological portraits as fascinating feats of mankind knowledge. The book itself is a small neurological museum! As a neurology resident I am fascinated by the way the mind is portrayed in a format that really means a million words. The network of "cables" that run through the complete nervous system, from the brain to the last nerve ending, from the most primitive C elegans nerve system to the human brain. I have so many neurology books, but this one is unique. It is delightful and I've shown the book to professionals of all fields who also find it fascinating. It is targeted to the general audience and it is a magical book. In the book, you experience the nervous system as a thing of beauty that assembles chemistry, electrical and cellular sciences together in a way that as life itself, shows a glimpse of God's great mysteries. Enlightening!

1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Gives meaning to the work I do. By S penticoff work in part for the National Center for Microscopy and Imaging Research (NCMIR) where many of these images originated. I'm a simple IT guy by trade and after seeing some of the work that comes out of our lab I now feel as if the work that I do matters in some small way, not just to the researchers I support but to humanity as a whole. They say that there are more connections in the human brain than stars in the known universe. Such a word of wonder right under my own skull, yet we strive to grasp what we can by looking at it all. "If the brain were so simple we could understand it, we would be so simple we couldn't." So maybe we are not capable of understanding it all but the sense of awe and wonder at some of these images is more than sufficient for me. Beautiful book (Admission of guilt: I haven't stopped looking at the pictures long enough to actually read all the text)

Portraits of the Mind follows the fascinating history of our exploration of the brain through images, from medieval sketches and 19th-century drawings by the founder of modern neuroscience to images produced using state-of-the-art techniques, allowing us to see the fantastic networks in the brain as never before. These black-and-white and vibrantly colored images, many resembling abstract art, are employed daily by scientists around the world, but most have never before been seen by the general public. Each chapter addresses a different set of techniques for studying the brain as revealed through the images, and each is introduced by a leading scientist in that field of study. Author Carl Schoonover's captions provide detailed explanations of each image as well as the major insights gained by scientists over the course of the past 20 years. Accessible to a wide audience, this book reveals the elegant methods applied to study the mind, giving readers a peek at its innermost workings, helping us to understand them, and offering clues about what may lie ahead. Praise for Portraits of the Mind: "An odyssey through the brain, illuminated by a rainbow" -- New York Times "Stunning images" --Scientific American "The collection of images in the new book Portraits of the Mind is truly impressive . . . The mix of history, science and art is terrific." -Wired.com "History, science, and art come together to provide a unique perspective on what's going on upstairs." --New Yorker.com "No knowledge of the source or subject matter of these images is necessary; the book is justified by their beauty alone." --Science "A remarkable new book" -Discover.com "John Keats's insistence that truth is beauty is exemplified by Carl Schoonover's wonderful book Portraits of the Mind. Since one cannot understand the present without examining the past, this book offers a delightful and instructive way of accomplishing just that. I enthusiastically recommend this beautiful book both to students of brain science and to lovers of art." -Eric R. Kandel, MD, Nobel Prize in Physiology or Medicine, 2000; University Professor at Columbia; Fred Kavli Professor and Director, Kavli Institute for Brain Science; Senior Investigator at the Howard Hughes Medical Institute; and author of In Search of Memory: The Emergence of a New Science of Mind "Portraits of the Mind achieves a rare combination of beauty and knowledge. Its images of the brain are mesmerizing, from medieval engravings to modern visualizations as gorgeously abstract as anything by Rothko or de Kooning. And in explaining the nature of these images, this book also delivers an enlightening, up-to-date history of neuroscience." -Carl Zimmer, author of Soul Made Flesh: The Discovery of the Brain-and How It Changed the World and The Mind's Eye Goes Blind: Fifteen Journeys Through the Brain "Portraits of the Mind is a remarkable book that combines beautifully reproduced illustrations of the nervous system as it has been visualized over the centuries, as well as lively and authoritative commentaries by some of today's leading neuroscientists. It will be enjoyed by professionals and general readers alike." --Dale Purves, MD, Professor of Neurobiology, Psychology and Neuroscience; and Philosophy at Duke University

About the Author Carl Schoonover is a doctoral candidate in neurobiology and behavior at Columbia University, where he is a National Science Foundation Graduate Fellow.