



# Psychoanalytic Studies of Creativity, Greed, and Fine Art: Making Contact with the Self

*David P Levine*

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Throughout the history of psychoanalysis, the study of creativity and fine art has been a special concern. *Psychoanalytic Studies of Creativity, Greed and Fine Art: Making Contact with the Self* makes a distinct contribution to the psychoanalytic study of art by focusing attention on the relationship between creativity and greed. This book also focuses attention on factors in the personality that block creativity, and examines the matter of the self and its ability to be present and exist as the essential element in creativity.

Using examples primarily from visual art **David Levine** explores the subjects of creativity, empathy, interpretation and thinking through a series of case studies of artists, including Robert Irwin, Ad Reinhardt, Susan Burnstine, and Mark Rothko. *Psychoanalytic Studies of Creativity, Greed and Fine Art* explores the highly ambivalent attitude of artists toward making their presence known, an ambivalence that is evident in their hostility toward interpretation as a way of knowing. This is discussed with special reference to Susan Sontag's essay on the subject of interpretation.

*Psychoanalytic Studies of Creativity, Greed and Fine Art* contributes to a long tradition of psychoanalytically influenced writing on creativity including the work of Deri, Kohut, Meltzer, Miller and Winnicott among others. It will be of interest to psychoanalysts, psychoanalytic psychotherapists, historians and theorists of art.

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