



The International Review, 1880, Vol. 8 (Classic Reprint) (Paperback)

By Unknown Author

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Print on Demand *****. Excerpt from The International Review, 1880, Vol. 8 I have mentioned by accident the tableaux vivants got up at public festivals in the time of Rubens, and this reminds me of a very par ticular merit in his compositions, which is, that, although the subjects so often approach perilously near to the subjects of tableaux viz/ants, the pictures themselves are always quite distinct from a mere con catenation of natural objects. The quality which so separates them from mere Nature is the fusing power of genius which unites things together in one whole. It is a quality by no means equally possessed by great artists. For example, Holbein and Albert Diirer were great artists, but they are famous for other merits; they scarcely had this quality at all. Even Raphael, though he had much more of it than these two, had much less of it than Rubens. It is difficult to men tion other artists who were fully equal to Rubens in this respect, except Correggio and Reynolds. The quality is essentially modern, if we date modernism from the Italian renaissance. You will...



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