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The Art of Life

by

Sabin Howard and Traci L. Slatton

Beauty: The New Radicalism

**NEW BOOK DETAILS THE PROCESS, PHILOSOPHY, AND
POWER BEHIND FIGURATIVE SCULPTURE**

When we look upon Michelangelo's *David*, do our eyes behold a literal re-creation of reality, or a mere illusion of it?

The Art of Life, the visually stunning new book from world renowned Italian-American classical sculptor Sabin Howard and his wife, bestselling author Traci L. Slatton, asks its reader consider this question – and more. A unique fusion of documentation, analysis, and personal anecdotes as they relate to classical sculpture's history and Howard's processes, philosophies and figures, *The Art of Life* surveys the transformative power of art from ancient times to the most recent, breathing new life into one of the most enduring forms of human expression.

Howard has been reviewed in publications from *American Arts Quarterly* to the *New York Post*, and the *New York Times* called him “a sculptor of immense talent.” *The Art of Life* delves into the details of his development as an artist, presenting never-before-seen drawings, sketches, photographs and stories.

Providing context in which to place Howard's impressive body of work, as well as that of the masters who came before him, *The Art of Life* takes on major philosophical issues such as perspective, tradition, aesthetic value and the truth about so-called objective reality.

“It's a written narrative that explains the process, as well as the urgent underlying necessity for beautiful figurative art,” says Slatton.

Exploring the physical, emotional, spiritual and psychological aspects of sculpture in past and present, *The Art of Life* looks at:

- Howard's body of work, processes, personal anecdotes and the history that informs his figures
- The role of the sculpture's viewer: passive or active participant?
- The power and importance of beauty – why post-modernism is “ugly, worthless crap”
- Why figurative art is not, as is commonly believed, ‘real,’ but a complex translation of the artist's reality
- The evolution and transformation of the artist: from sculptures that show and feel the effects of gravity to open and expansive figures

Traci L. Slatton is a graduate of Yale and Columbia, where she taught freshman composition. She lives in Manhattan with her husband, sculptor Sabin Howard, whose classical figures and love for Renaissance Italy inspired her historical novel *Immortal* [Bantam Dell], which is currently in film pre-production and reached bestseller status in Italy, Russia and Brazil. Also the author of *The Botticelli Affair* and *Fallen*, Slatton has published a book of poetry, *Dancing in the Tabernacle*, and a non-fiction title on science and spirituality, *Piercing Time & Space*.

Sabin Howard grew up in both the visual splendor of Italy and the urban hotbed of New York City in the 60's and 70's, a dual upbringing to which he credits his lifelong passion for self-expression and visual beauty. Formally trained in Philadelphia and New York, he apprenticed in Rome, and taught figure sculpture for 20 years. The recipient of many awards and public and private commissions, Howard's figures have been the focal point of several prestigious retrospective showings throughout the U.S. and has found itself in the entryway of the Edith Wharton Museum, Time Warner Center in NYC and within the collections of many prominent collectors. He lives in New York City with his wife, Traci L. Slatton.

The Art of Life is published by [Parvati Press](http://www.parvatipress.com) and available on [Amazon](http://www.amazon.com) in hardcover. A special signed collector's edition of *The Art of Life* is also available through the Parvati Press website.

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