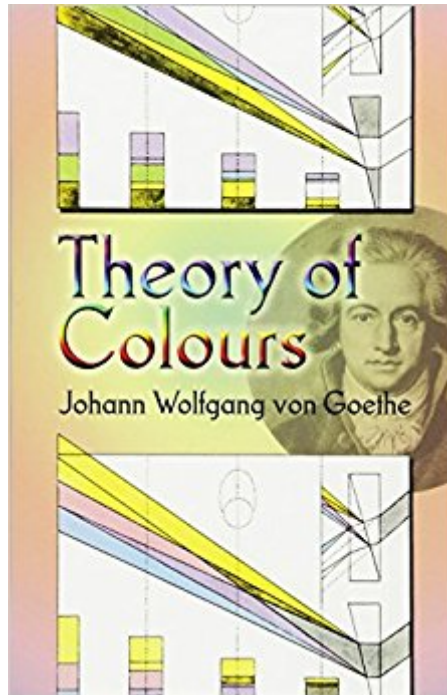


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# Theory Of Colours (Dover Fine Art, History Of Art)



## Synopsis

The wavelength theory of light and color had been firmly established by the time the great German poet published his *Theory of Colours* in 1810. Nevertheless, Goethe believed that the theory derived from a fundamental error, in which an incidental result was mistaken for a elemental principle. Far from affecting a knowledge of physics, he maintained that such a background would inhibit understanding. The conclusions Goethe draws here rest entirely upon his personal observations. This volume does not have to be studied to be appreciated. The author's subjective theory of colors permits him to speak persuasively of color harmony and aesthetics. These notions may evoke a positive response on their merits, but even among those who regard them as pure fantasy, the grace and style of Goethe's exposition provide abundant rewards. Although his scientific reasoning on this subject has long since been dismissed, modern readers continue to appreciate the beauty and sweep of Goethe's conjectures regarding the connection between color and philosophical ideas. In addition, he offers insights into early 19th-century beliefs and modes of thought as well as a taste of European life during the Enlightenment.

## Book Information

Series: Dover Fine Art, History of Art

Paperback: 288 pages

Publisher: Dover Publications (October 6, 2006)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0486448053

ISBN-13: 978-0486448053

Product Dimensions: 0.8 x 5.5 x 8.5 inches

Shipping Weight: 10.4 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 3.6 out of 5 stars 21 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #524,557 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #172 in [Books > Science & Math > Physics > Optics](#) #437 in [Books > Politics & Social Sciences > Philosophy > Aesthetics](#) #492 in [Books > Reference > Encyclopedias & Subject Guides > Art](#)

## Customer Reviews

Can you lend me *The Theory of Colours* for a few weeks? It is an important work. His latest things are insipid. (Ludwig van Beethoven, *Conversation-book*, 1820) --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

Johann Wolfgang von Goethe (1749-1832), a towering figure in German literature, was the author of The Sorrows of Young Werther, Faust, Italian Journey, The Theory of Colours (MIT Press edition, 1970), and many other works. --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

I am giving this book a three star rating for one simple reason and that is the way that the book has been formatted. I should have read it on the IPad, but the very fact that I have to keep going to the back to look at the images, is a pain. Without images, and with a style of writing that is now obviously hard to follow, it becomes a difficult book to read. there is some wonderful material in the book, but the chore of closing my eyes and constantly visualising stuff is too much of a pain.

This is a great book, and though the format wasn't as I expected at the beginning - the information was priceless. Definitely a plus and a recommended read.

Very interesting

Very science minded, hard to understand book (unlike the article which excerpted it) Thick reading.

This book is "Must have" for all serious Light Designers, for it's content that describes basic fundamentals for all the Light Designers that seriously perform their activities. One can find different editions of this book, so I would recommend the one that has a CD at the back.

I would think they should be printed on a larger size of paper. Because all the books are printed on too small a scale for the reader to be comfortable. Opening the pages to read forces the book to break its back.

I have used it as a resource book and not one I read from cover to cover...It will be good.

I was hoping for something useful from Goethe.

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