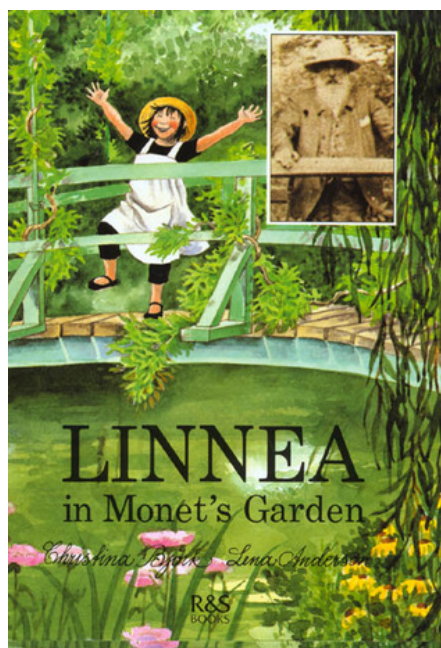




Linnea in Monet's Garden

Christina Björk , Lena Anderson (Illustrator)

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Linnea has visited Claude Monet's garden! In Paris, she got to see many of his actual paintings. Now she understands what it means for a painter to be called an Impressionist. This innovative art book for children contains full-color photos of many of Monet's famous paintings.

Linnea in Monet's Garden Details

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Author : Christina Björk , Lena Anderson (Illustrator)

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From Reader Review Linnea in Monet's Garden for online ebook

SJ says

The mix of nonfiction (Monet facts) and fiction (Linnea's adventure to France) could have been excellent, but unfortunately neither shines in "Linnea in Monet's Garden". Perhaps it's just a weird translation from Swedish to English, but the nonfiction sections seem jammed in and Linnea is such a painfully precocious character that she will only appeal to a specific set of readers. To me, she comes off as a a bougie Junie B. Jones wannabe written by the same people who write phony stories that kids are forced to read during American standardized tests. The story reeks of being thrown together for solely educational purposes, with little care for the reader's enjoyment. A kid just happens to have enough money in her savings to go on a multi-day trip "a long way away" (and presumably help pay for room and board) with her elderly upstairs neighbor? Linnea has no guardians to oppose or join them, apparently. Additionally, Linnea and Mr. Bloom speak perfect French and they have no problems finding anything. In fact, they conveniently get special access to a closed exhibit and meet one of Monet's great-grandchildren. Some people might say "Well, the book isn't really about those details- it's about MONET!" And that's true. True to the point that I'm not sure why anyone made up Linnea and Mr. Bloom, because this book would work much better as a straightforward nonfiction book.

Something else that rubbed me the wrong way as I read the book was the formatting of text and pictures. There are many full-page pictures and many other pictures that take up half or more of the page, reserving a narrow margin for text. I think that this imbalance of dense, small text with advanced vocabulary and large pictures with illustrations that seem to belong to a younger audience would be uncomfortable for many kid readers.

Who is the intended audience for this book? I'm not quite sure. Perhaps it's for adults who are nostalgic about reading this as a kid in 1985. Perhaps it's for adults who want to force a kid they know to read an 'educational book'. Personally, I think it belongs at the bottom of the lily pond at Monet's garden.

Ritva Strengell says

Beautiful book!

Lex says

I read this over and over when I was a kid and I hope my copy of it is somewhere in my parent's basement.

Judy says

Now I want to take a trip to France just like the one Linnea experienced! This story has three strands: One addresses Monet's art, illustrating some of his paintings and introducing a few techniques he used to capture the feeling of a moment in time. Another focuses on his family -- lots of names. The third is the fictional story of a young girl who visits Paris with a retired neighbor and visits museums and, of course, Monet's home. This neighbor happens to be a male. I wasn't comfortable with the idea that a little girl would go to

Paris with a man and share the room. There wasn't anything at all to suggest any inappropriate behavior, but I would have preferred having a woman in that role. I'm sure the author gave this some thought; I wonder why she decided on a male.

The art, which I love, is by Lena Anderson.

Sheri says

Linnea and Mr. Bloom take a trip to Paris to see where Claude Monet lived and painted. They visit the Marmottan and view his paintings, travel onward to Giverny to see the pink house and gardens, and then back to Paris and the Orangerie for a look at the Water Lily Rooms. The story and the pictures make you want to see the lovely gardens, Japanese bridge, and lily pond for yourself. An informative biography of Monet's life and his Impressionist style of painting told in a narrative style.

Sylvia says

This book has been on my shelves for years. It's a children's book which I got as a present from one of my girl's parents. In the context of art education that year my school organized a project around Impressionism. My group chooses the paintings of Claude Monet, because of the waterlilies and the paintings of his garden in Giverny.

Monet has always been one of my favorite painters, so I could tell my kids a lot about his work and life. The project was supported by students of an art college and they provided lots and lots of material. The kids were encouraged to make paintings (on paper, not on canvas - expensive) in Monet's painting style. At the end of the project our school had been changed in a museum of Impressionist paintings, not only reproductions of real Impressionist art, but also the paintings of 150 kids. We opened the door for the exhibition so the parents and family could enjoy the results.

As this project was at the beginning of the schoolyear, the parents of girl I mentioned earlier decided to visit Giverny in the May Holiday. She can back with lot and lot of stories about the trip. Her parents had taken her through Paris, using this book as a guide, so she had seen all the famous paintings of Monet and visited his former home. Her parents surprised me with *Ik houd van de tuin van Monet*. As the project was over I thanked the parents and put the book on my shelf at home and (I must admit) forget it.

Last week I found it again, when reorganizing the books in my library. It's very quick read, but the trip of little Linea with her neighbour to Paris was a nice read.

Linea often read a book of Monet at her neighbour's - a former gardener. She is very fond of Monet's paintings of waterlilies. When she is told that the pond where Monet painted the waterlilies still exists and also the Japanese bridge, they go to Paris and Giverny to have a look themselves.

- Linea's favorite painting of the Japanese bridge

This semester my art study concentrates on Impressionisme and Expressionism, so that was one extra reason to read this book and enjoy the story. It a wonderful start for young children to get in touch with the beautiful paintings of Monet.

Amie says

I loved this book! It's a great resource to teach children about Monet, impressionism, and plants.

Jenny says

I enjoyed the combination of fiction and nonfiction as you read of Linnea's trip to see Monet's garden. It includes photographs from Monet's life, Monet's paintings, and illustrations of Linnea and her neighbor Mr. Bloom. I found the text quite interesting. My children were fascinated by page 8 and 9 where you can see what Monet's water lily looks like up close...a splotchy blob of paint...and what it looks like from a distance. While we have gone to two local art museums, they have not had the privilege yet of seeing any of Monet's work in person.

Ellinor says

Actually this is a very good book. It introduces kids to the world of painting and especially to Claude Monet. Everything is explained in a simple way and the pictures are lovely. What prevented me from rating it five stars is that I remember seeing this book in a bookstore as a kid. I skimmed through it and put it away again because I didn't like it. There wasn't enough of a story in it for my taste. Of course I see that differently now. But I still think most kids would feel the same way as I did then.

JeanBookNerd says

Christina Bjork's Linnea in Monet's Garden is the story of a small Swedish girl and her good neighbor friend, Mr. Bloom. They both share a passion for painting, particularly the kinds that Claude Monet creates. Their love of art brings these two friends together as they decide to visit Monet's garden in Giverny. With a journey ahead of them, the book details their adventure to Paris.

This book is a good representation of Monet's works and his method. Perhaps the most gripping part of this lovely story is that it is from a child's point of view. I like how Christina used real settings and incorporated actual photographs of Monet which made the story that much more special. The brilliant blend of history and art with Linnea's dream are just the perfect elements for a book that children ages 4 and up will enjoy and parents will appreciate. This lovely story of a young girl's dream of visiting Monet's garden is like a biography in disguise. There is a lot to learn about Monet, his works, techniques, and even his family. Linnea in Monet's Garden is a beautiful story with stunning illustrations and a great depiction of Monet's unique life.

Maureen says

This charming book recounts a young girls trip to Paris and her experiences at Giverny, the home of Claude

Monet. Through her eyes and voice, we learn about Monet's life, his family, his triumphs and struggles. Authentic photos of Monet, his family, and his art are embedded in the whimsical illustrations. This book in the Linea series will capture the hearts of young readers who have never heard of the impressionist masters.

Jenn says

I have it from high school when I was introduced to Monet and my mom bought it for me. She continues to buy kids books for me, even though I have my little people. Read it to 5 year old Lucy and a 4th grader that was visiting this summer, and they both adored it!

Tintaglia says

Linnea ha il nome di un fiore, la passione per la fotografia e il disegno, e un vicino di casa, Mr. Bloom, che possiede un libro speciale: un libro che racconta la vita eccezionale e mostra l'arte di Claude Monet, fra i fondatori dell'Impressionismo.

E con Mr. Bloom decidono di realizzare un sogno: viaggiano fino a Parigi, e dopo averla esplorata prendono il treno per Giverny, il villaggio in cui la casa rosa di Monet, il luogo in cui dipinse la maggior parte dei suoi quadri (e tutte le magnifiche ninfee che Linnea ama tanto) è aperta al pubblico: vogliono respirare l'aria dell'artista, e passare dove lui e la sua variegata famiglia sono passati.

Acquerelli che raccontano il viaggio, foto d'epoca della famiglia Monet (che ha una storia che dir strana è dir poco @@.), foglie e fiori pressati accompagnano il diario di Linnea a il suo viaggio alla scoperta di un grande artista e di un movimento, l'Impressionismo, che rivoluzionò l'arte.

Linnea in Monet's garden è un libro chiarissimo dal punto di vista delle nozioni e estremamente intelligente e gradevole nella loro esposizione; la Sorcebook festeggia i venticinque anni dalla prima edizione (ho visto che in Italia è stato pubblicato nei primi anni '90, dire che sarà irrecuperabile è dir poco... :() di questo classico con una nuova edizione in grande formato e, soprattutto, con una bibliografia aggiornata agli ultimi studi.

Ringrazio l'editore per avermi fornito una copia digitale al fine di realizzare questa recensione. :)

Dolly says

I loved this book! I read it to myself as our girls played, but I will look for it at the library and hope to read it to them too. It's a bit long, especially if you have children with short attention spans, but it weaves a wonderful tale around an homage to the famous painter. It really makes me want to visit his home and garden.

This book was selected as one of the books for the May 2014 - Gardening discussion at the Picture-Book Club in the Children's Books Group here at Goodreads.

Kathleen says

This is the book that inspired me to go to Europe! Yep! A children's book that I happened to catch a review of in the paper. Bought it that day. Booked my trip a year later! Magical, engaging story that teaches a lot about Monet throughout it! Very good book! A must read for a young artist in your family.

Emilymenz says

My mom gave me this book when I was 12, and ever since then I have been hooked on Impressionist art. To this day, Monet is still one of my favorite painters. I remember going to the art museum in Chicago shortly after reading this book. I was amazed that I could stand in front of his oil paintings with nothing between me and his work but air. Just looking at the cover of this book brings me back to a loving, joyful time of discovery and wonder in my life.

Joelle says

This is a book for children but people of all ages can appreciate the beautiful artwork of Claude Monet. Linnea, a little girl, visits the home and garden of Claude Monet at Giverny, France where she learns about the artist's paintings and life. The book shows pictures of Monet's work and is a fun way for students to learn more about Impressionism and one of the most famous French artists of all time.

Kagama-the Literaturevixen says

I both find this book good and the worst book of all time.
Have my reasons.

Cassandra says

Linnéa und Blümle reisen nach Paris um auf den Spuren des Malers Claude Monet zu wandern. Gemeinsam erkunden sie Museen und den Garten von Giverny, das kann doch viel interessanter sein als ein Besuch beim Eiffelturm.

Liebevoll illustriert und mit Fotos bebildert bekommen Kinder und Erwachsene hier einen Einblick in das Schaffen und Leben des Impressionisten Claude Monet. Ganz nebenbei, in eine kleine Geschichte eingewoben, erfährt man hier etwas über seine Maltechnik, wie seine Bilder wirken, die Schönheit seines Gartens mit dem rosfarbenen Haus und das auch ein großer Maler die meiste Zeit nicht immer finanziell auf rosaroten Wolken gebettet war. Durch Linnéa lernen Kinder auch Blumen anhand von Fotos zu unterscheiden. Es gibt eine Begegnung mit Monets Urenkel, die die Lebensgeschichte von Monet einleitet und einen Überblick über Museen, Sehenswürdigkeiten in Paris, Zeittafel, Stammbaum und eine Erklärung, wie man die französischen Begriffe richtig ausspricht.

Warum man vielleicht zu diesem Buch greifen sollte:

1. Weil man Kinder an Kunst heranführen möchte
2. Man bildschöne Kinderbücher sammelt
3. Weil man sich einen ersten und leichten Einblick in das Leben Monets verschaffen möchte

Fazit: Dies Buch ist, zumindest für mich, ein kleines Kunstwerk.

Juli Anna says

I don't know how I missed this book as a kid when I was positively *obsessed* with Giverny. While the prose certainly isn't the most sparkling stuff, the illustrations are lovely in a traditional way, and the story of Linnea's journey is fun to read. Also, serious style kudos to Linnea in her black tee and leggings, white pinny, and straw hat--I could wear that outfit every goshdarn day.
