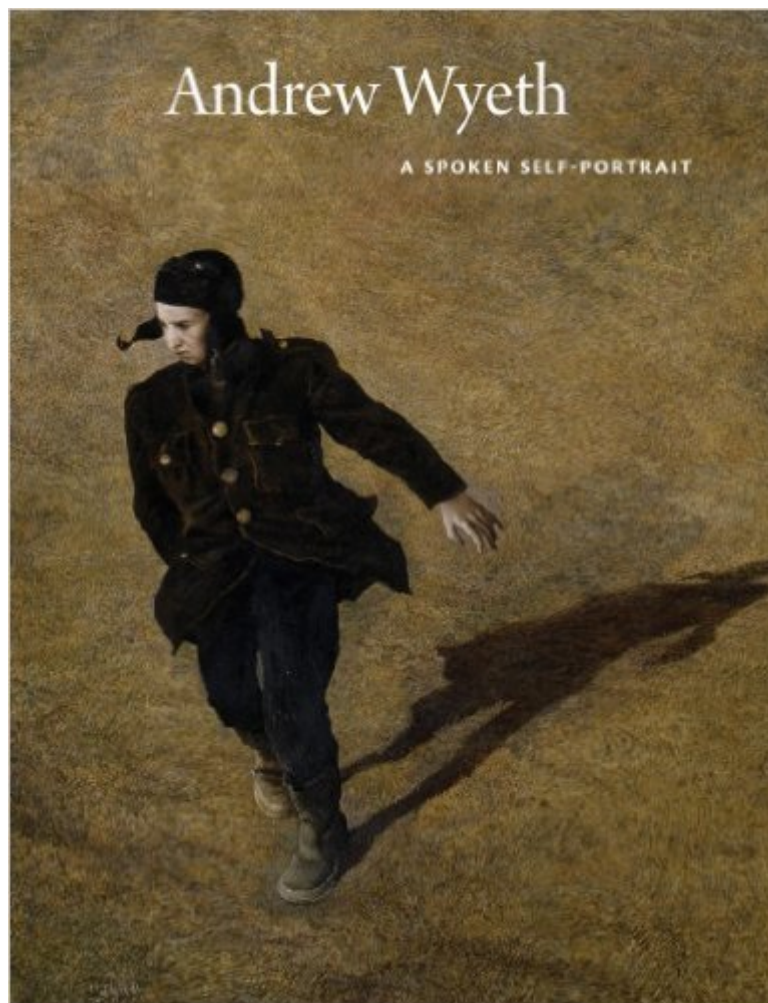


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# **Andrew Wyeth: A Spoken Self-Portrait: Selected And Arranged By Richard Meryman From Recorded Conversations With The Artist, 1964-2007**



## Synopsis

Richard Meryman began an enduring friendship with Andrew Wyeth (1917–2009) while on the job as a Life magazine editor in 1964. For Meryman, this unique friendship yielded more than four decades of recorded conversations with Wyeth, his family, friends and neighbors in Wyeth's homes in Pennsylvania and Maine. Meryman notes that, whether during formal interviews, shared meals, car rides or long walks, Wyeth applied to himself the same sensitive understandings that fueled his art. A lifelong realist who swam against the art world tide of modernism, he showed himself to be fundamentally a painter of emotion--of people and objects that somehow embodied his memories and imagination, triggering feelings inexpressible in words, but recognized by viewers. In five skillfully crafted monologues composed by Meryman around key themes in Wyeth's work, we hear the voices of not only the artist but also his subjects, neighbors, relatives and critics. The book includes reproductions of the works of art discussed by Wyeth in his own words, as well as previously unpublished photographs of Wyeth's studio taken in 2009. Richard Meryman is the author of the acclaimed biography *Andrew Wyeth: A Secret Life* (1996).

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

I am a great fan of Andrew Wyeth and this revealing interview shows the earthy guy behind the brushes. I have a personal friend who lived in Brandywine area for many years and knew him through a local business he owned in Chadd's Ford. His personal knowledge and this book mesh completely. My friend's stories were more the day-to-day interaction of two guys just shooting the breeze so now I have a pretty well-rounded picture of him.

This is an outstanding book. Richard Meryman has written this book in a way that really gives insight into Wyeth's thinking as well as his art works. The illustrations and the discussions about them bring the paintings to life by having quotes that Wyeth made about them. This is one of the best books on Wyeth I have ever read!

I am sorry to say I was less than pleased with this book, especially after reading Mr Merryman's fine biography of Andrew Wyeth. I feel a lot of material that should have been included has been omitted. Anna Keurner who played a very important role is given only scant notice.. I did enjoy the photos of the studio and several other places of interest not shown in other books. I rate this book as a fine reference for elementary school students, but not for adults who are making a deep study of the works of Andrew Wyeth. This is why I gave it a rating of 2.

Great book. Very interesting artist. Interesting to read Andrew Wyeth's perspective on his art.

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