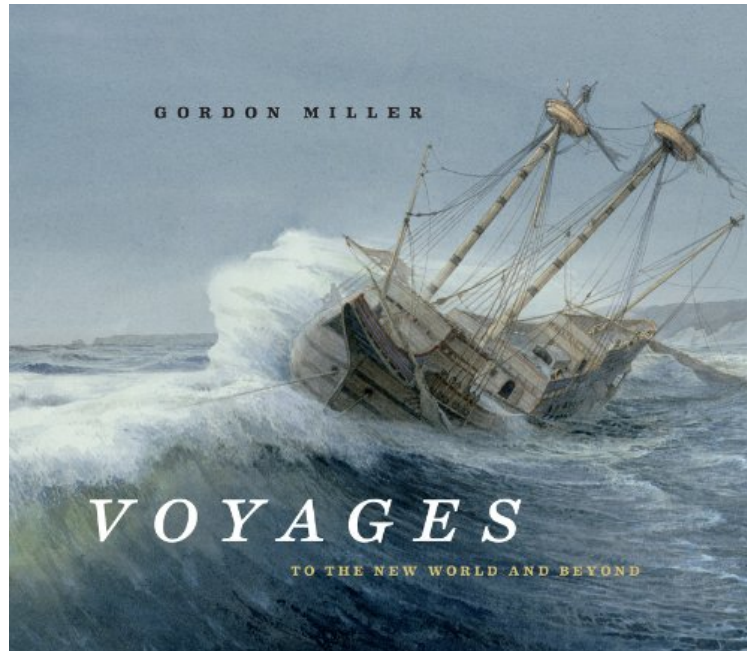


(Download pdf) Voyages: To the New World and Beyond

Voyages: To the New World and Beyond

Gordon Miller

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Gordon Miller : Voyages: To the New World and Beyond before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Voyages: To the New World and Beyond:

1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. From What I Have Seen: This is the Best Survey on Ships By Charles M. Marsteller This remarkable artist has compiled a very complete survey of ships--and from what I have seen, I think it is the best such book on the market for books of this type. Mr. Miller presents a survey of the basic ship types (Caravels, Carracks, etc) with profiles in his first chapter, and while not exhaustive, it is a good introduction. Miller goes on to briefly discuss the various technologies used and equipment found on the early sailing ships. The joy of the book is 100 or so paintings--all consistently excellent--which present in chronological order the great explorers. A brief list includes Leif Erickson, Bartolomeu Diaz, Columbus, Cabot, da Gama, Vespucci, Magellan, Cartier, Drake, Hudson, de Bougainville, Cook and Perez. Miller also raises many topics, such as the Romans, Hanseatic League, Jamestown, the Mayflower, the Swedes, Australia the Dutch explorers and the East India Companies. In other words, the book is exhaustive--and clearly, it has taken Mr. Miller decades to bring his presentation to us. This you will see when you purchase this book with its excellent historical narrative. We owe Mr. Miller our appreciation for his hard and fine work. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Beautiful paintings, excellent explication By G. Wagner The history of exploration is inextricably linked with the history of the sailing ship. This excellent book describes the ships, the voyages, and the navigators who filled in the maps and reunited the various corners of the globe. Carefully detailed drawings of the different vessels anchor the book, and the text is rich and detailed as well. As technology progressed, sailors' purposes evolved, from local trading to exploration, conquest, and eventually settlement, and finally to discovery for its own sake. Notable voyages for each purpose are highlighted, including brief biographies of the expedition leaders, their intentions, and the eventual outcomes. But the crowning glory of this work

are the more than one hundred beautiful oil paintings by the author, which capture the excitement of the voyages, from the terror of these tiny wooden boats on the vast seas to the thrill of the encounters with various native peoples. Details, again, seem incredibly well-researched and realistic, from the native attire to the lines and decoration of each individual ship. The author's love for this nautical history is infectious; his passion is a superlative tribute to the glory of this brave era. I received a copy from the San Francisco Book Review in exchange for an honest review. The opinions are my own. 2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. A rich, powerful and enchanting narrative

By Marc Ranger
First thing, the drawings alone are well worth your time. Gordon Miller is a talented artist, you can easily lose yourself in those pictures of forgotten ships and adventures. One can imagine himself onboard, leaving his former life to embrace mystery, exploration and discovery. The book itself features all the great stories of exploration, from the Norse's venture into the North Atlantic to the exploration and exploitation of North America West Coast. The only drawback, for my taste, is that the author spent too much space on the Vancouver area. However, what a rich, powerful and enchanting narrative Gordon Miller treats us with about the world's oceans exploration. The stars of Gordon Miller's work are Ferdinand Magellan, Jacques Cartier, Christopher Columbus, Martin Frobisher and James Cook. Sailors were highly courageous men, absolutely experiencing a living hell while at sea. Scurvy, hunger, deplorable living conditions, gales and so on transformed those epic expeditions into horrendous death sentences. Even with so many obstacles he had to face, a genius had the wisdom and intelligence to make life at sea more than bearable. About Cook, Miller wrote: "In fact, men who sailed with Cook were more likely to survive than if they stayed ashore". You could not write a better epithet for the best seaman humankind ever knew.

We know the shape of the world today because ships of the mid-fifteenth to mid-eighteenth centuries, driven by wind and human muscle, were navigated into every last bay and estuary on Earth searching for new riches. First the trade was spices and other exotic products of the Orient, then gold and ivory from Africa, followed by beaver pelts, coffee, and goods from the Americas, and finally luxurious sea otter pelts from the Northwest Coast of North America. The ships that made these voyages evolved over time and their navigators benefited from centuries of accumulated experience. *Voyages* recounts the extraordinary feats of more than twenty of Europe's most daring maritime explorers as they ventured into the unknown and braved uncharted territory, including Christopher Columbus, Bartolomeu Dias, Vasco da Gama, John Cabot, Giovanni da Verrazzano, Jacques Cartier, Martin Frobisher, Ferdinand Magellan, Francis Drake, and James Cook. Exquisitely illustrated with almost 100 of Gordon Miller's paintings, many detailed maps, and ship drawings, *Voyages* reveals the evolution of maritime technologies, the rise and fall of maritime empires, the extreme dangers of sailing uncharted waters, the courage and brutality of life at sea, and the discovery of new continents, cultures, and products. Through their voyages, these ships and sailors defined the true dimensions of the oceans and coastlines of the world.

"The illustrations are almost magical, transporting the reader to a specific time and place . . . Together with the text, the imagination is balanced with enough historical information to make the reading and viewing of this book a delight on many levels." Jeffrey Smith, *Oregon Historical Quarterly*

Miller's painstaking style has produced plates that are, in effect, rendered, three-dimensional working drawings; one can literally count the number of planks in a vessel's hull. . . . precisely what the historian and researcher wants to see. . . . the paintings are marvelous simply to look at." John McKay, *International Journal of Maritime History*, December 2011

"Visually spectacular." Tracey Sherlock, *Vancouver Sun*, December 2011

"This 200-page coffee-table style art book is a very special pleasure to browse through from beginning to end, and a highly recommended addition to personal, community, and academic Art History and Marine History collections." Midwest Book "Miller has the talent to carry off both painting and text. . . . Miller's well-paced narratives reopen a lost world of navigation . . . Miller's paintings are beautifully rendered as they reimagine the ships according to the historical record. . . ." Mike Dillon, *City Living*, October 2011

"A handsome coffee-table book that tells the story of world exploration . . . Miller, a maritime artist and illustrator living in Vancouver, B.C., wrote the text and illustrated the book with almost 100 of his own beautifully detailed paintings." Mary Ann Gwinn, *The Seattle Times*, September 2011

"Gordon Miller's art is informed and enriched by scholarly respect for historical detail. Many years of commissions from major Canadian museums place his historical paintings in a special category of interest to native people, to students of anthropology, ethnology, natural history, and to those of us who love art for its own sake." Bill Ellis

About the Author
Gordon Miller is a distinguished maritime artist and illustrator living in Vancouver, British Columbia. He has received commissions from such institutions as the UBC Museum of Anthropology and the National Film Board of Canada, as well as magazines, including *National Geographic*. His paintings appear in collections in Los Angeles, New York, San Francisco, Seattle, Ottawa, Toronto, and Vancouver.