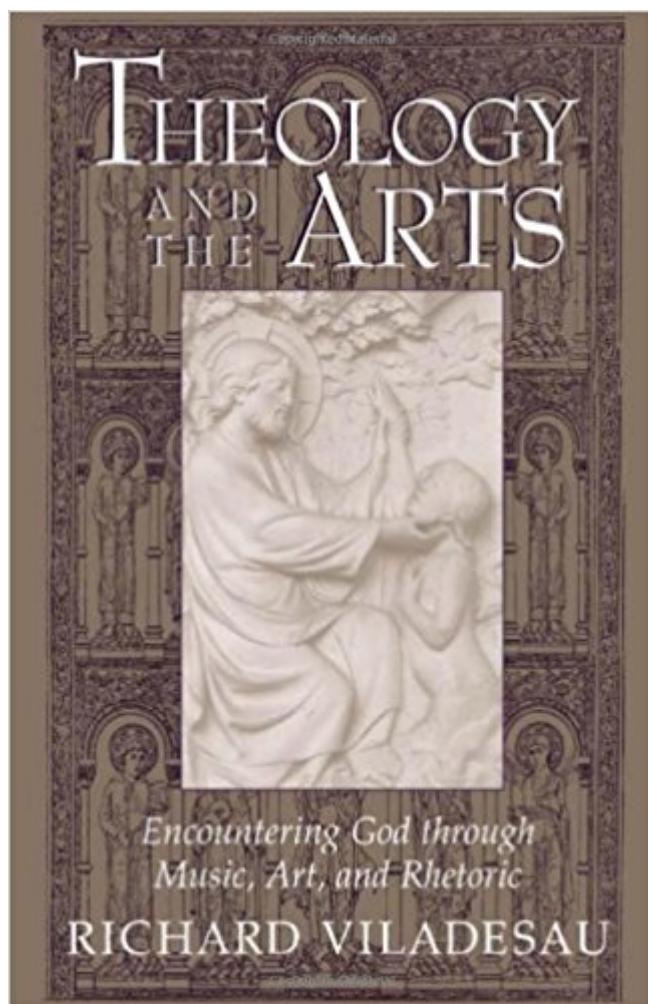


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# Theology And The Arts: Encountering God Through Music, Art And Rhetoric



## **Synopsis**

Richard Viladesau's book takes a look at an inviting topic that has come into increasing prominence in a number of fields lately--including theology. *Theology and the Arts* explores, in a timely and engaging manner, several aspects of the relations between theology and aesthetics, in both the pastoral and academic realms. The underlying motif of this work is that beauty is a means of divine revelation, and that art is the human mediation that both enables and limits its revelatory power. Using examples from music, pictorial art and rhetoric, the five chapters explore different aspects of the ways that art enters into theology and theology into art, both in pastoral practice, e.g., liturgical music, sacred art and preaching, and in the area of systematic reflection, where, Viladesau contends, art must be recognized as a genuine theological text. A reader-friendly feature of this work is the addition, after the central chapters, of a discography of illustrative musical works and lists of internet sights of sacred art and art history resources--a virtual museum-- that will complement the text. These enhance the value of this well-written, provocative text. Although aimed at undergraduate theology students, it will certainly capture the interest of art students, pastoral ministers and anyone who appreciates the arts.

## **Book Information**

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## **Customer Reviews**

An indispensable text for all seminary libraries and for other academic collections that support graduate level theological programs. -- Catholic Library World The author explores the theology of beauty in a challenging, well-informed and highly readable way. -- Ministry and Liturgy The book is

an accessible contribution to a subject which certainly ought to be of real concern to us. -- The Christian Parapsychologist This is a perfect solution for a book on art that aspires to be persuasive, and yet remains reasonably priced. -- Modern Theology With this book Viladesau opens a long overdue conversation. --The Living Light

Richard Viladesau, a priest of the diocese of Rockville Centre, holds an S.T.D. degree from the Gregorian University in Rome. He is currently a professor at Fordham University.

Is excellent. Am at beginning of studies on this area so dont have expert reviewing capacity.

An excellent introduction to a complex subject.

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