



A B B E V I L L E P U B L I S H I N G G R O U P

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An Inspiring Personal Exploration of the Impressionists' Lives and Legacies

TRAVELS WITH VAN GOGH
AND THE IMPRESSIONISTS
Discovering the Connections

Text by Lin Arison Photography by Neil Folberg

"This story is personal, lively, and well researched: a fascinating mix of emotional resonance and keen observation. Arison invites readers to witness through her eyes all the episodes of a truly remarkable journey."

– Serge Lemoine, President, Musée d'Orsay, Paris

Seven years ago, philanthropist, world traveler, and author Lin Arison set out on a trip to France. What began as a private escape following the death of her husband Ted, the convention-defying, visionary creator of Carnival Cruise Lines, became a journey of discovery as she stumbled upon inspiration in the work of the Impressionist painters. Arison found kindred spirits in Van Gogh and his contemporaries as she discovered eye-opening parallels between the artists' lives and their own. Still deep in mourning, and with her identity no longer linked to her iconoclastic husband, Arison began to feel a quietly persistent need to assert her own singular talents. In the years that followed, Arison's personal odyssey became an extraordinary collaboration with photographer Neil Folberg— a collaboration now brought to fruition in **TRAVELS WITH VAN GOGH AND THE IMPRESSIONISTS: Discovering the Connections** (\$45.00, cloth).

In one distinctive volume, Arison ushers readers from Auvers to Arles, Giverny to Mont Sainte-Victoire, in her quest to rediscover the lives, dwellings, and paintings of the Impressionists. En route, she debunks long-held myths about Van Gogh and Berthe Morisot, befriends twenty-first-century descendants of some of the masters, and finds inspiration in the Impressionists' mutually supportive relationships. Gracefully blending memoir, travelogue, art

history, and biography, Arison's intimate narrative brings new insight to our understanding of these artists and their legacy.

Interwoven with Arison's text, and with handsome reproductions of original masterpieces, Neil Folberg's photographs in *Travels with Van Gogh* capture the spirit of the Impressionists' work and reapply that spirit to contemporary subjects and settings. Monet's eerily beautiful steam trains are translated as a mist-bound nuclear plant; Morisot's enchanting children appear beside modern-day cherubs; Renoir's celebrated *Luncheon of the Boating Party* is here attended by contemporary young revelers. Following an intuitive sensibility that never misses its mark, Folberg deploys each artist's individual vision to new and striking ends, undergoing an artistic transformation of his own in the process.

Infusing this pivotal period of art history with 21st century immediacy, the memoir testifies to the universality and continued relevance of the work of Van Gogh and his contemporaries. *Travels with Van Gogh and the Impressionists* engages in the vital dialogue between old and new, offering a powerful tribute to the triumphant power of art.

ABOUT THE AUTHORS

Lin Arison is the author of *A Love Story in Mediterranean Israel* (2002, with photographs by Neil Folberg), and has contributed a daily column to the *Miami Review*, as well as travel writings to the Israeli business magazine *Link*.

Neil Folberg's previous publications include: *In a Desert Land* (1987); *And I Shall Dwell Among Them: Historic Synagogues of the World* (1995); and *Celestial Nights* (2001). His work has been exhibited at museums and galleries around the world, and is widely collected.

TRAVELS WITH VAN GOGH AND THE IMPRESSIONISTS:

Discovering the Connections

Text by Lin Arison, Photographs by Neil Folberg

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