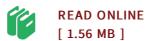




Painting a Hidden Life: The Art of Bill Traylor (Hardback)

By Mechal Sobel

Louisiana State University Press, United States, 2009. Hardback. Book Condition: New. 231 x 155 mm. Language: English. Brand New Book. Born into slavery on an Alabama plantation in 1853, Bill Traylor worked as a sharecropper for most of his life. But in 1928 he moved to Montgomery and changed his life, becoming a self-taught lyric painter of extraordinary ability and power. From 1936 to 1946, he sat on a street corner -- old, ill, and homeless -- and created well over 1,200 paintings. Collected and later promoted by Charles Shannon, a young Montgomery artist, his work received star placement in the Corcoran Gallery s 1982 exhibition Black Folk Art in America. From then on, the spare and powerful radical modernity of Traylor s work helped place him among the rising stars of twentieth-century American artists. Most critics and art historians who analyze Traylor s paintings emphasize his extraordinary form and evaluate the content as either simple or enigmatic narratives of black life. In Painting a Hidden Life, historian Mechal Sobel s trenchant analysis reveals a previously unrecognized central core of meaning in Traylor s near-hidden symbolism -- a call for retribution in response to acts of lynching and other violence...



Reviews

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