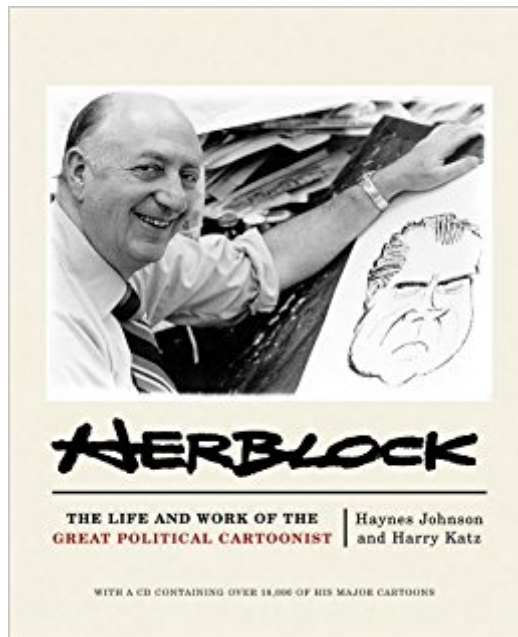




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# Herblock: The Life And Works Of The Great Political Cartoonist



## Synopsis

A celebration of the man and his work, including a DVD with 18,000-plus cartoons. There was no one like him. Throughout a career spanning seventy-two years and thirteen American presidents, Herblock's spare, folksy cartoons made complex issues seem simple and moral choices clear. Syndicated throughout the country, his cartoons focused on important issues of the time, making Americans take note of the human folly that is politics. Published in conjunction with a Library of Congress exhibition chronicling his life and times, Herblock will warm the hearts of all who have followed his work in the past and serve as an introduction of his work to a new generation. It is a celebration of his life that reinforces the importance of editorial cartoons as a vital means for expressing political opinion in America. Haynes Johnson provides a reverent and insightful biography, while Harry Katz places Herblock and his work in context. In addition to more than two hundred fifty cartoons in the text, a DVD containing more than 18,000 cartoons completes the collection. 256 cartoons

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

The diminishing profession of editorial cartooning has been a particularly doleful canary foretelling the decline of the daily newspaper format. In this context, this retrospective of the late cartoonist's work defiantly documents the extraordinary career of a daily visual commentator on American political life. Designed to accompany an exhibit at the Library of Congress, the book briefly outlines the artist's career and its historical context, starting with Herbert Block's early career during FDR's

term. His first Pulitzer, in 1941, earned him independence when he came under editorial fire for advocating U.S. entry into WWII. After his own military service, he joined the Washington Post, an association that lasted until his death in 2001. The bulk of the book showcases highlights of the artist's seven-decade career. Politically independent but largely progressive, Herblock is presented as prescient on issues including McCarthyism (a term he coined), civil rights and environmentalism. Herblock's best cartoons do more than provide color commentary on political skirmishes. They manifest characters vividly: his viciously ineffectual Eisenhower brandishes a feather opposite an ax-wielding McCarthy, for instance. The book is accompanied by a DVD containing 18,000 cartoons, a nearly complete collection of Herblock's indispensable oeuvre. (Oct.) Copyright © Reed Business Information, a division of Reed Elsevier Inc. All rights reserved.

"[A]s this generous selection of cartoons verifies, [Herblock] was drawing his trademark fat-cat big shots and portentous atmospheres (he was a master of shading) virtually from the beginning. Castigated as a knee-jerk liberal, he was really on the side of the little guy, repeatedly pointing out how big labor as well as big business, homegrown demagogues as well as exotic dictators, oppressed the common person.... Herblock's Post reporter colleague Johnson, cartoon curator Katz, and the man himself, via snippets from his occasional writings, contribute to the text, and a DVD containing more than 18,000 cartoons accompanies the book." - Ray Olson, Booklist

This man had the ability to portray the truth with simple imagery. Even as a child I would search for his cartoons in the newspaper. Every time I pick up the book I feel the march of time and know the history we shared. This book is a treasure. The biggest failure of the American Public is to know history. Oh if only he could ridicule the idiot politicians of today. I miss Herblock in a personal way.

A well-written commentary on a great cartoonist and humanitarian, this book is priceless. The book also includes Herblock's most famous cartoons about critical political, economic, and social issues during his long years at the Post. And, thousands of his cartoons in an easily accessible, well organized DVD. I am a "book renter," using our excellent local library as the source of my reading pleasure. However, having seen an Herblock exhibit at the National Gallery in WDC, I found out that thousands of his cartoons would become available in this book. Therefore, this rare -- for me -- decision to buy the book, is one I made over one year before publication. It was worth the wait!

Wonderful illustrations. The companion dvd is worth the price of the book as it has so many more cartoons than one could ever fit in a book and they are organized by category, These cartoons date back to the new deal, yet their messages often strike a chord for me today.

If you're of an age, Herblock was your guy, through the years. This, along with the accompanying DVD are excellent. If you're younger, this is perhaps the sharpest take on U.S. political history you can find...in cartoons, mind you!

Very good book outlining history and politics through cartoons. If you are political it is a must and if you are not... you will still enjoy the cartoons.

Herblock was a genius. I use these cartoons in my classroom all the time to help illustrate the time periods in a visual way. Its a pricey book but a timeless classic.

A huge cartoonist. Sharp, clear, light, accurate, and economical ( He just use the necessary pen strokes, as Mozart always used just the perfect amount of notes).

Excellent purchase

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