



# Tools As Art

*Pete Hamill*

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## **Tools As Art** Pete Hamill

Tools As Art presents more than 200 works in full color from the Hechinger Collection - an impressive collection celebrating the amazing variety of twentieth-century art that represents or incorporates tools and hardware. There are elegant and witty sculptures of tools - from common hammers, saws, screwdrivers, pliers, and wrenches to machine tools such as the lathe and the drill press - in wood, glass, metal, paper, and stone; constructions of found objects and building materials that use familiar forms to make works of imaginative power; and paintings, prints, and photographs depicting tools of all sorts. The artists range from well-known figures such as Jim Dine, Arman, Jean Tinguely, Lucas Samaras, Richard Estes, Claes Oldenburg, and Walker Evans to younger men and women, some of whom are published here for the first time. They all share the strong attachment to everyday things that undergirds much modern art, and it is this quality that makes their works so evocative. The nature of this attachment is explored by popular writer Pete Hamill in a wonderful essay on tools and art that brings to bear his insights into the creative process and the meaning of tools and other commonplace objects in our lives. There is also a biographical sketch of each of the more than 150 artists whose work is included. Pete Hamill (b. 1935) is an American journalist, novelist, essayist, editor and educator. Widely traveled and having written on a broad range of topics, he is perhaps best known for his career as a New York City journalist. Hamill was a columnist and editor for the New York Post and The New York Daily News. He is also the author of the national best-seller "A Drinking Life" as well as eleven novels and a number of screenplays. John Hechinger became a serious art collector in the late 1970s. This collection, owned by John Hechinger, was inspired by the family lumber and hardware business started by his father in 1911. 240 plates in full color.

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