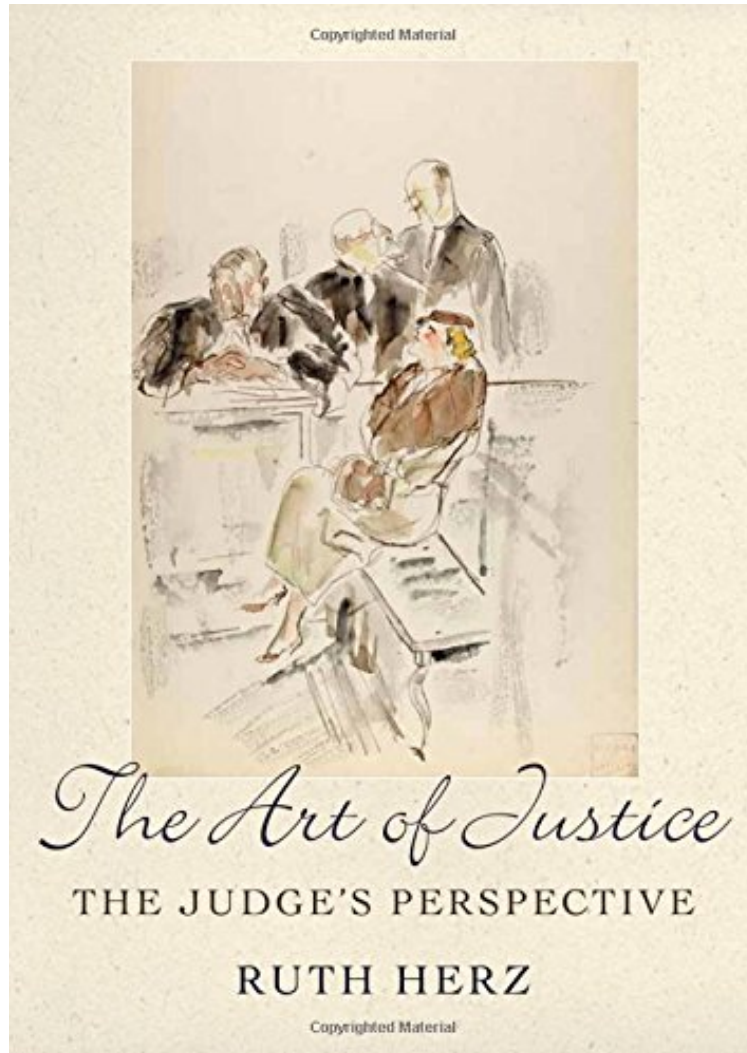


The Art of Justice: The Judge's Perspective

Ruth Herz

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Ruth Herz : The Art of Justice: The Judge's Perspective before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Art of Justice: The Judge's Perspective:

This book presents a unique and intriguing collection of drawings of courtroom scenes. Entering the courtroom wearing his robe, Judge Pierre Cavellat literally had a secret up his sleeve. Hidden in it were pens and pencils which he used to sketch the scenes he observed from his bench during a trial. Throughout a 40 year judicial career in one of France's more important regional appellate courts, Cavellat produced hundreds of revealing drawings and paintings of court scenes, depicting the proceedings, as well as the main actors: the prosecutors, defense counsels, his fellow

judges, the defendants, witnesses, policemen, the general public, as well as the courtroom itself and its architecture. The resulting vivid and uncensored impressions give an unprecedented insight into how a judge perceives his profession and the institution of justice as a whole. Given the scarcity of written autobiographies by judges, as well as their reticence to expose their inner feelings and thinking, the images reveal, in a candid and immediate fashion, the deeply hidden emotions, ambiguities, and fantasies of a judge going about his work. The author, a judge herself, interprets the images through the lens of her own judicial experience, exploring how judges think and act and how their thinking is constructed through their education, professional training, gender, and class. In doing so, she exposes how personal background, history, and experience play an additional, sometimes conflicting, role in 'judgecraft.' While relevant to both practitioners and students of law, this book should also have an appeal to a wider public that seeks an insight into the world of the court.

...we all owe a debt to Ruth Herz for negotiating access to, and reproduction of, this fascinating set of pictures. Even if the text accompanying the images were to be removed, the 92 illustrations produced in this book provide scholars of visual jurisprudence with a wealth of material on which to reflect. (Linda Mulcahy Law and Humanities, Volume 7(1))...an extraordinary book. (Leslie J Moran Law and Humanities, Volume 7(1))There is no equivalent body of work in the history of justice or art; nothing that reveals so immediately the dramas lived out in the theatre of law. Created with materials smuggled into court in the sleeves of Cavellat's judicial robes ... these images might have remained secret forever if Ruth Herz had not happened upon them. It is rare to find a legal publisher that attends with such care to the artistic and presentational aspects of its book list, as it is to find a judge who takes the court list for the day and turns it into a work of art. (Gary Watt Times Literary Supplement)Practising lawyers and judges rarely write anything that advances understanding of the legal process. An exception is the French judge Pierre Cavellat, whose drawings from the bench are the subject of Ruth Herz's fascinating new book *The Art of Justice*. (David Pannick The Times)About the AuthorRuth Herz is a former judge at the Court of Cologne. She has been a visiting fellow of the Centre for Criminology at Oxford University and is currently a visiting professor at Birkbeck College, University of London.