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# Pictures Telling Stories: The Art of Robert Ingpen

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Cox, Sarah Mayor and Robert Ingpen. *Pictures Telling Stories: The Art of Robert Ingpen*.  
Illustrated by Robert Ingpen. Penguin Young Readers Group, 2005. ISBN 0698400119.  
\$35.00. 112 pp.

Reviewer: AnnMarie Hamar

Reading Level: Young adult

Rating: Outstanding

Genre: Informational books;

Subject: Ingpen, Robert--Juvenile literature; Illustrators--Juvenile literature; Illustration--  
Juvenile literature;

Australian artist Ingpen has illustrated over 100 books in his 30-year career. *Pictures Telling Stories* is a coffee table-size book that highlights some of Ingpen's finest paintings and book illustrations. The main intention of the book is to explore how pictures act as a narrative and how they bring literature to life. Most of the text consists of interesting, substantial and informative captions, but it also includes quotes from the artist himself which reveal the thought-processes behind his work. The reproductions of his paintings are outstanding and the illustrations include brainstorming ideas and rough sketches as well as finished artwork. Many of the paintings cover a double-page spread. The variety of artwork showcased gives readers an idea of what is involved in book illustration. Ingpen received the Hans Christian Andersen Medal, the highest honor in the area of children's books, in 1986. This book will be most beneficial for teachers trying to encourage students to consider illustration as a first option career and not just something to "fall back on."