

Your Guide to the Most Notable Art Books of the Year

 culturedmag.com/article/2025/12/10/the-critics-table-best-art-books-of-the-year

Blakey Bessire

December 10, 2025

John Vincler's Picks



Image courtesy of Primary Information.

Slides of a Changing Painting

Robert Gober

Primary Information

For nearly two decades, Primary Information has published consistently attention-worthy new and archival artists' books and writing by artists. The obvious choice this year might be their publication of *Stay away from nothing* documenting the exchange of photographs and correspondence between Peter Hujar and Paul Thek (well-timed with the release of Ira Sachs's biopic *Peter Hujar's Day*). But my favorite Primary Information offering of the year is *Slides of a Changing Painting*. This artist's book documents a year-long evolution of a single painting Robert Gober painted (and over-painted) on a single Masonite board in his East 7th Street storefront from 1982 to '83, then shown as a slide-show installation at Paula Cooper Gallery in 1984. The Hujar/Thek book is fantastic, but the Gober is a standalone work of art excellently and economically realized.