



AKASHIC BOOKS

PO BOX 1456, NEW YORK, NY 10009

PHONE: 718-643-9193 FAX: 718-643-9195

info@akashicbooks.com www.akashicbooks.com

For Immediate Release

Contact: Kate Bogden, Publicity Director, 718.643.9193, kate@akashicbooks.com

THIS APRIL (AUTISM AWARENESS MONTH) LOOK FOR *DRAWING AUTISM*, AN EMPOWERING AND BEAUTIFUL ART BOOK INSPIRING FAMILIES AFFECTED BY AUTISM.

***Drawing Autism*, edited by Jill Mullin (March 25, 2014), with a foreword by Temple Grandin
Featuring the artwork of over forty artists diagnosed with Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD)**

Published to coincide with National Autism Awareness Month (April 2014)
ISBN: 978-1-61775-198-1, 160pp, 8"x11", \$22.95, full-color paperback

When editor Jill Mullin (MA, MEd, BCBA) met autistic artist Glen Russ in her capacity as a behavior analyst, she was taken by the weekly drawings he made of his favorite musicians. Not only were the drawings stylistically captivating and utterly unique, they also provided Mullin important clues into how Russ interacted with the outside world.

After a decade of working with individuals with ASD, Mullin began to perceive how the different aspects of autism manifest visually through artistic output. *Drawing Autism* is born of that understanding, and the results are spectacular. Far from a clinical book, it offers a breathtaking survey of the bountiful self-expression Mullin has come to recognize both in her clients and in autistic artists worldwide. Spanning 160 full-color pages, the book comprises a staggering array of work from established artists like Gregory L. Blackstock and Jessica Park, to the unknown but no less talented.

Mullin's introduction and the foreword by best-selling author Temple Grandin provide an overview of autism and advocate for nurturing the talents, artistic and otherwise, of autistic individuals.

Presently, ASD is diagnosed in 1 in 88 children, affecting over two million people in the US and ten million worldwide. The disease knows no racial, ethnic, or social barrier. It is known as a "spectrum disorder" because no two diagnoses are exactly the same. The drawings, paintings, and collages from the scores of international contributors to *Drawing Autism* reflect the highly individualized nature of the diagnoses. However, there are characteristic traits of ASD, and the book's seven chapters—Interaction, Individual and Societal; Repetition, Repetition, Repetition; Getting from Here to There; Bird's-Eye View; Another World; It's All History; Art for Art's Sake—speak directly to the core characteristics of ASD.

The United States, as well as many countries worldwide, recognize April's Autism Awareness Month as a special opportunity to educate the public about ASD. *Drawing Autism* directly serves this goal, giving families and loved ones affected by autism a point of entry into the unique—and often exhilarating—ways individuals diagnosed with ASD see the outside world, and how they interpret their place in it. If you are planning any stories on autism next April, *Drawing Autism* can help readers, family members, teachers and loved ones recognize the potential that a person with autism can possess.

- Editor Jill Mullin and select contributors are available for interviews.
- Review copies are available upon request.
- Jill Mullin is available to speak at events and fund raisers organized in support of National Autism Awareness Month.
- Special bulk discounts of *Drawing Autism* are available for autism organizations.
- A portion of the editor's proceeds will be donated to select organizations.