**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**My Adventures as an Illustrator**

The Definitive Edition

By Norman Rockwell

as told to Tom Rockwell

Edited by Abigail Rockwell; Foreword by Steven Heller

Chronology and bibliography by the Norman Rockwell Museum

**The life of America’s most beloved artist, in his own words—back in print with restored text and drawings, new illustrations, and more**

**Published to coincide with a major new biographical exhibit at the Norman Rockwell Museum in Stockbridge, MA**

*“[Rockwell’s] voice is engaging, his stories are enlightening, and his exuberance for art is inspiring. (I wish I knew him.) This is a book about the life of the artist that bring life to his art.”*

 —Steven Heller, from the foreword

**New York, NY**—Abbeville Press is proud to announce the publication of a new Definitive Edition of Norman Rockwell’s classic autobiography, *My Adventures as an Illustrator*. Originally published in 1960—and regrettably out of print for the last several years, despite continued popular demand—this book is widely regarded as the best account of the artist’s life and career. Written with his son, Tom Rockwell (the best-selling author of *How to Eat Fried Worms* and other beloved children’s titles), it sparkles with keen observation and good-natured wit. Rockwell’s New York City boyhood, his apprentice days at the Art Students League, his first fateful visit to the *Saturday Evening Post*, his adventures abroad, his move to the countryside of Vermont, and then Massachusetts—all are vividly recalled. And throughout Rockwell invites the reader into his artistic process: he introduces his favorite models, candidly reveals his biggest flops, and documents the creation of a *Post* cover step by step.

This Definitive Edition—edited by Abigail Rockwell, the artist’s granddaughter—restores the original 1960 text of *My Adventures as an Illustrator*, as well as the playful vignettes that Rockwell drew to head each chapter. Thanks in large part to a massive image digitization effort undertaken by the Norman Rockwell Museum in Stockbridge, MA, it is also illustrated with 170 of Rockwell’s paintings and drawings, some of them rarely seen before. An introduction by Abigail Rockwell brings to light new facts about the artist’s life and work, and a foreword by the eminent design writer Steven Heller places Rockwell in the context of American art and illustration. An illustrated chronology and a selected bibliography—both newly contributed by Stephanie Haboush Plunkett, Deputy Director and Chief Curator of the Norman Rockwell Museum—serve as a valuable reference.

The publication of the Definitive Edition of *My Adventures as an Illustrator* coincides with a major new biographical exhibit at the Norman Rockwell Museum: *Norman Rockwell: Private Moments for the Masses* (June 8 to October 27, 2019), one of three special exhibitions celebrating the museum’s fiftieth anniversary. More information is available at <https://www.nrm.org/2016/12/norman-rockwell-private-moments-masses/>

**Publication Information**

*My Adventures as an Illustrator*

The Definitive Edition

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Edited by Abigail Rockwell

Foreword by Steven Heller

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216 illustrations, most in color

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