John Singleton Copley was the leading portraitist of the American colonial era. This volume, which accompanies a major exhibition of Copley's work organized by the Smithsonian American Art museum, one of the world's largest and finest art museums, is designed to be read by general audiences as well as by specialists. It presents information about Copley's life and work, and features illustrations of major works of art from throughout his career. The exhibition was held at the Saint Louis Art Museum, the Metropolitan Museum of Art, the National Gallery of Art, the Boston Museum of Fine Arts, and the Museum of Fine Arts, Houston.