Synopsis

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Author: Rubins, David
K.
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Best Sellers Rank: #78,216 in Books (See Top 100 in Books)  #31 in Books > Arts & Photography > History & Criticism > Themes > Human Figure  #65 in Books > Arts & Photography > Drawing > Figure Drawing

Customer Reviews

If you want a male anatomy reference book this one is for you. If you need female anatomical references, it's not very helpful. There are no comparative views of male and female forms. This is a major drawback, considering that men and women have different exterior shapes despite the similarities of their skeletal structures. All of the anatomical illustrations are of male standing poses and each section of the book has a small thumbnail illustrations to illustrate what effects movement have on the underlying musculature.

I have had this book almost since its first publication, and even today I find myself returning to it on occasion. Broken down into seven chapters, it begins with "The Human Body", a three+ page written introduction to anatomy and movement. The next chapters are "The Head And Neck", "The Trunk", "The Arm", "The Hand", "The Hip And Leg" and finally "The Foot". Beginning with a few pages of text describing the form and function of the part in question, each chapter then follows the by-now-familiar route of showing the skeletal substructure, fleshed out with the muscles in plan and side views. Each chapter is rounded out with a number of small drawings showing movement and its effect on surface form and the consistency with which the male figure is depicted throughout is
quite extraordinary, if a little idealised. I would recommend "Drawing Human Anatomy" by Giovanni Civardi as the best stand-alone anatomy book for artists, however this is a solid reference and the beautiful style in which Rubins draws I still find inspirational after more than twenty years. While aesthetically I find this title much more pleasing, Joseph Sheppard's "Anatomy: A Complete Guide for Artists" together with his other books "Drawing The Male Figure" and "Drawing The Female Figure" have proved more versatile on a problem-solving basis. I am very pleased to see this back in print again and am sure it will find a new generation of fans.

This is a great book. I was first introduced to this book when I took a sculpting class in college and throughout art school, this is still my favorite anatomy book. Rubins spells out the muscle mass in direct almost simplified ways that makes it very understandable and easy to grasp. Each area is broken down into front side and back views and even includes a page at the end of each chapter that shows the body part of discussion in various poses. Fundamentally this is the best book I've run into. I recommend it highly if you want an easy guide to the understanding of human anatomy.

Having been an illustrator for years and artist most of my life, I came upon this book - lost in the overwhelming galaxy of anatomy books for artists online and elsewhere - and bought it thinking it looked okay based on the pictures of the inside of the book on . I bought it at the same time that I bought about 5 other anatomy books, many of them elaborately illustrated with HD photographs and overlays, often ten times more expensive than this little, compact book written by David Kresz Rubins in 1953. But those other books still - for the most part - sit on my desk in a neat pile only occasionally used. This book, however, is extraordinary in its simple yet detailed display of muscles and how bones are wrapped in them, how the body can move and why, and why it looks the way it does. The amazingly clear way that Rubins shows each part of the body, layering it up from bones to muscles to skin, and then shows those parts of the body bending and twisting, and how those forms are created by what's beneath - is really tremendously helpful. He's really detailing the architecture of the body, and I've copied his drawings a great deal. (Just this weekend, for instance, I've been copying his wonderful drawings of leg muscles and how legs are structured... and I've learned so much.) I draw these days on a Cintiq, and next to it is this book, forever bent open to some page from which I am copying anatomical drawings by Rubins. Every time I go through it and closely observe his drawings, draw from them, I discover new about a muscle group or the way the body is formed. It's a jewel of a book. If you spend time with it and really study and draw from its contents you will advance your anatomical understanding by leagues.
This is a book Marshall Vandruff recommends, and I am somewhat disappointed. The cover shows nice 3/4th type of perspective views with well done anatomical 3 dimensional form based anatomy. IF ONLY THE WHOLE BOOK WAS LIKE THIS! I like the art style. Instead you get a lot of flat face on or straight side views, and it's a short book at only 94 pages, with 25 or so of them not having drawings on them. The good? Well as far as boring views go, it's one of the better books I've come across, similar to Steven Roger Peck's. The anatomy is drawn nice and cleanly, with some large drawings here and there. There is definitely better books though, so I can't highly recommend it.

One of the best books about the human figure. It was recommended by one of my art professors and he was so right. Each page has in-depth illustrations with perfect explanations on each part of the body. If you take it step by step through the whole book you will be learning how to identify and draw each part of the body. The art is crisp and clean which is why I recommend taking a colored pencil and filling in each different piece with a color to help you break up each section. The book I ordered was used, but came with no marks, no bent pages and over-all was what I considered to be like-new quality.

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