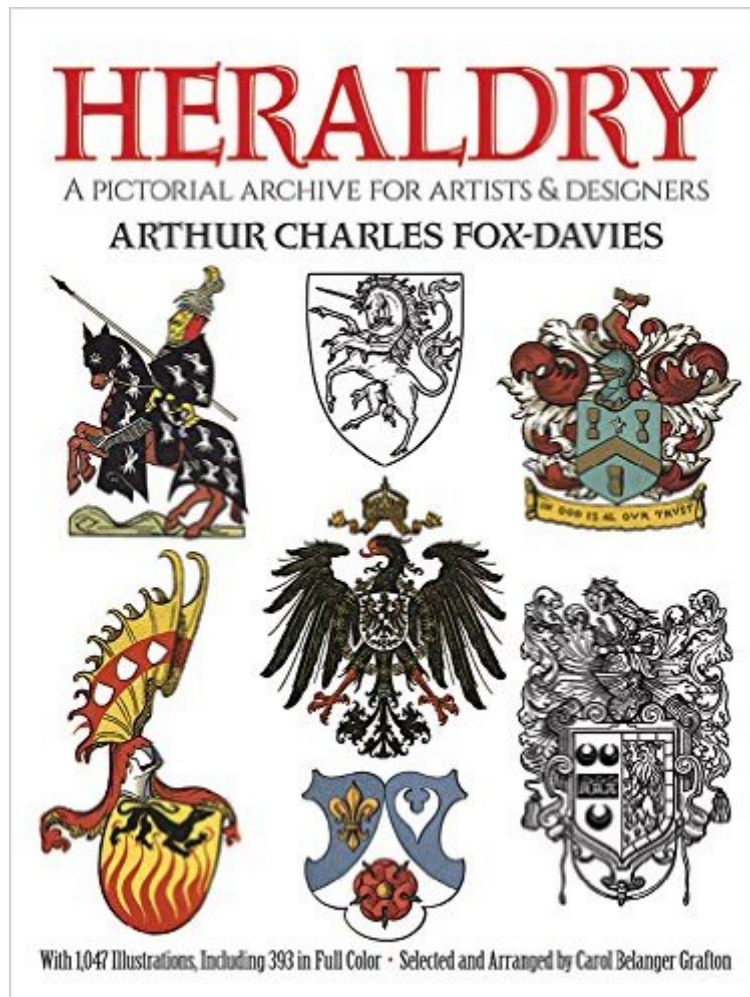


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Heraldry: A Pictorial Archive For Artists And Designers (Dover Pictorial Archive)



Synopsis

Heraldry had its origin in the decorative shields used in Western Europe in the twelfth century. Today the varied and colorful designs that have developed over the centuries carry a rich aura of medieval romance that can enhance any number of artistic and design projects. For this volume, Carol Belanger Grafton has selected 1,047 authentic heraldic designs and motifs from *The Art of Heraldry*, a classic study by Arthur Charles Fox-Davies (1871–1928), an English barrister and foremost authority on the subject. Dating from the fourteenth to the twentieth centuries, the illustrations include 393 full-color and 654 black-and-white designs: arms of individuals, among them such notables as Edward the Black Prince, John Milton, and Maximilian I; arms of institutions, corporations, guilds, towns, and cities; heraldic windows; examples of heraldic lions, eagles, and dragons; banners and crests; and more. These designs represent a superb source of authentic royalty-free images that will give aristocratic flair to book and magazine illustrations, advertisements, newsletters, and other graphic projects. This volume is also a valuable visual reference for those interested in genealogy.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

As an artist looking to create some designs based on European heraldry, this book is an absolute goldmine for me. Most of the images are in black and white, but printed crisply enough, and there are a number of color pages as well that are beautifully detailed. Each figure also includes a small caption to tell you things like whose arms are depicted, or what manuscript the illustration came

from (most of the color illustrations have dates also, so you can tell the period they were drawn in). That's helpful if you see something you like and you want to google for more reference images. This is a great reference book with a wonderful variety of artistic styles and devices, very helpful for anyone who's interested in the art of the period, or is involved in anything like SCA or Renaissance faires. Dover also offers a number of titles that include digital copies of the images on CD-ROM... this book is not one of those, and doesn't come with a CD. (If you want to find those, search for "dover heraldic designs CD" and you'll find quite a few options.) It'd be nice to have crisp digital versions of these images instead of just the printed pages, but they're a good starting point if you're just using the book for inspiration rather than wanting to scan the designs in hi-res, and you'll find a lot of delightful things as you flip through that you weren't expecting. (My favorite is one of the colored coats of arms that has a bizarre flying fish on the shield and a... person in a strange bear-suit of some kind on top.) If you're looking for a book that explains what heraldry is and how it works, this isn't the one for you... this is purely a graphic resource, as the subtitle suggests.

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