Old Master Life Drawings: 44 Plates (Dover Fine Art, History Of Art)
From earliest days, artists have sought to record the beauty, form, movement, and infinite variety of
the human body. Among the most successful were the great masters of the various European
traditions and schools of art. The extraordinary skill, inspiration, and technique they brought to figure
drawing resulted in many masterpieces. This anthology, carefully reproduced from rare portfolios,
preis presents over forty of those works, by artists ranging from the 15th century Italian Filippino Lippi to
the 19th century French classicist, J. A. D. Ingres. Included are such highlights as a Michelangelo
study for a dead Christ; two drawings of seated women by Rembrandt; a study by Rubens for Daniel
in the Lions' Den, and splendid nudes by Tintoretto, Titian, Andrea del Sarto, Raphael, Pontormo,
and other celebrated artists. The drawings included in this volume reveal differences in attitudes
toward the nude figure and in artistic technique. Some masters, such as Tintoretto, use an agitated,
almost calligraphic line, while others, such as Michelangelo, create the illusion of a smooth,
undulating surface. The drawings are lessons in foreshortening, and in how to handle various media
ink, chalk, pencil, and charcoal. These and many more artistic insights, embodied in drawings of
striking beauty, are yours to study and enjoy in this collection, available nowhere else at this price.

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This book is an excellent and accessible resource for students. It has clear reproductions to analyze
and draw from at a very low price. While, the entire genre of master drawings can scarcely be
touched with only 44 plates, a nice selection of drawings has been chosen. I recommend it for anyone beginning their collection of fine art books, students, or someone who wants to give the subject a try without blowing a bundle on an art book. An excellent resource!

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