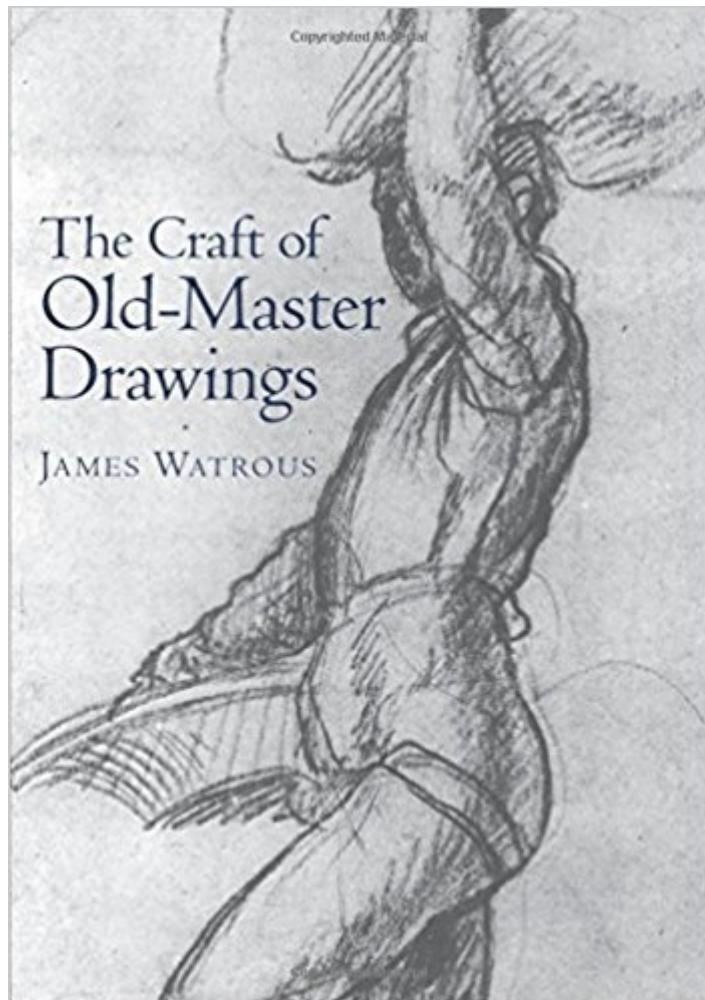


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The Craft Of Old-Master Drawings



Synopsis

A comprehensive study of the techniques of drawing, this is both a historical work, covering the period from the late Middle Ages to the present, and a useful manual for contemporary artists. It presents the old masters' techniques by means of a thorough study of the historical and written evidence of the tools and materials used. The author also includes a series of workshop procedures he has developed with which the contemporary artist may produce the equivalents of the techniques of earlier draughtsmen. This book comprises a body of knowledge that is essential to students of art history, curators, collectors and artists, and is a significant addition to the literature on drawing. In addition to his scholarly investigation of earlier practices, the author identifies materials and processes used by such important artists as Rembrandt, Van Gogh, Romney, Picasso, Michelangelo, Watteau, Holbein, Tiepolo, and Delacroix. For the artist interested in reproducing the effects achieved by these and many other acknowledged masters, there are full discussions and specific directions concerning the making of inks, styluses, reed and quill pens, fabricated chalks, and instructions for preparing grounds for metalpoint drawings. At every step, the discussion is supplemented with illustrations from laboratory experiments and from drawings by both old and contemporary artists. Of the more than sixty illustrations included, thirty-six are reproductions of master works, and among the others there are microphotographic enlargements of detail showing the differences in density and texture produced by various tools on different papers or grounds. Thus, as a collection of master drawings, the book is worthy of the art lover's library; as a technical study, it is an indispensable aid to the art student and practicing artist.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

This book was a very useful and resourceful book for me. Any body interested in the historical perspective of materials will want this book in there library. The Author provides valuable information about caulks, pastels, crayons, inks, pens, quills, metal points, and intaglio. The most interesting information the book provided me was recipes for each tool and medium. The author quoted many recipes from old text and sources and then presented more general recipes. One can expect to find the time and region in which these materials and recipes would have been most frequently used. The information is of great value for a historic perspective on materials and reproducing them. The book is well worth its price. My only complaint is that the book "The craft of old master drawings" doesn't detail information about supports and papers. Despite finding this an intriguing yet disappointing exclusion in a discussion about traditional drawing materials I still give the book five stars for every thing else.

This is a classic in matters of old master's crafts. Wonderful to have it reedited and at an accesible price. Contains detailed history and modern testing of the materials used by artists from the Middle Ages up to the IX century. Well chosen illustrations demonstrate the effects achieved. Some of the indications as to where one can acquire materials, such as hematite or quills, are unfortunately out of date, but a wise use of Internet can yield solutions.

very little new information but much of the material used to draw is covered....especially metalpoint. Illustrations are not so impressive but this is a source for draftsmen interested in medieval and renaissance techniques.

A friend of mine had a copy of this book that she used as a text book approximately 30 years ago. It is filled with exactly what it says...historical drawing techniques as well as recipes and keen insight into the materials used by the great masters. This is a wonderful book for those of us who are medieval re-enactors, and who are wanting to teach and demonstrate the authentic methods to a modern audience.

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