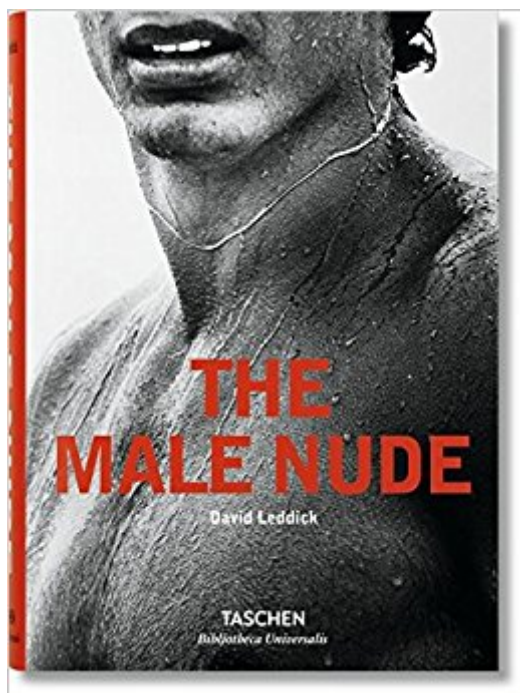


The book was found

The Male Nude (English, German And French Edition)



Synopsis

The boys are back in town: A short history of male nude photography While the female nude has long played a conspicuous role in western iconography, the male nude has not always enjoyed such attention, or acceptance. This ode to the male physique celebrates the evolving, at one time illicit, art form from anonymous 19th century erotica through to contemporary work from David Hockney and Duane Michaels. Through the classic, the playful, and the provocative, it explores the compositions, postures, and role-playing of this often under-explored genre. Esteemed masters such as Herbert List, George Platt Lynes or Robert Mapplethorpe are all there, alongside Baron Wilhelm von Gloeden, famed for his homoerotic images of nude youths in classical postures in Sicily. Further highlights include illustrations from Physique Pictorial, the leading organ of the mid-50s gay scene and a pioneer in gay publishing.

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Book Information

Hardcover: 576 pages

Publisher: Taschen; Mul edition (October 6, 2015)

Language: English, German, French

ISBN-10: 3836558017

ISBN-13: 978-3836558013

Product Dimensions: 7.9 x 5.8 x 1.7 inches

Shipping Weight: 1.6 pounds (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 5.0 out of 5 stars 2 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #772,674 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #161 in Books > Arts &

Photography > Photography & Video > Nude Photography #846 in Books > Arts &

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Customer Reviews

David Leddick has been an officer in the US army, a dancer with the Metropolitan Opera in New York and creative director of leading cosmetics brands. He has written and edited photographic books and has also been an advertising consultant. He divides his time between Paris, Miami Beach and Montevideo.

When David Leddick first published *NAKED MEN: PIONEERING MALE NUDES 1935 - 1955* in the year 1997, many readers voiced the opinion that other photographers' books admiring the beauty of the masculine physique were far superior, more provocative, more erotic, and so forth. What is becoming more evident now is just how sensitive Leddick's writing is and how insightful this study remains. His premise - to address artists who either photographed, painted or drew the male nude in a period of time when the male nude as subject was verboten - reveals a brave period of history in gender studies. Leddick shares many images of young men and pairs those images with current (at the time of his writing) views of those pictured models. This could be a gimmick if it stopped there, but Leddick has the sensitivity to focus on truly significant artists, allowing us insights not available elsewhere in the literature. A long portion is devoted, naturally, to George Platt Lynes who more than most photographers devoted his camera to capturing the 'complete' persona of artists such as Jared French, Christopher Isherwood, Yul Brynner and well established studio models. What he shows us are the photographs taken from 1935 - 1955 and then shares photographs of those models today. He also visits Lincoln Kirsten, Paul Cadmus, Lew Christensen, and Tennessee Williams and has many interesting anecdotes which he shares in well written prose. This is not a book of homoeroticism (though the models both young and old are beautifully captured). This is a vital volume of history that makes as interesting a treat for the mind as it does for the eye. Especially recommended for the collector who has Leddick's later books - this precludes the spectrum of what is to come. Grady Harp, October 15

I like this book because it takes you through the story was and how it evolved as Beauty and the male physique, I really liked the photos of Jim French, Herb Ritts, Steven Meisel and Bruce Weber. It is of a manageable size and its cover is sexy, great price.

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