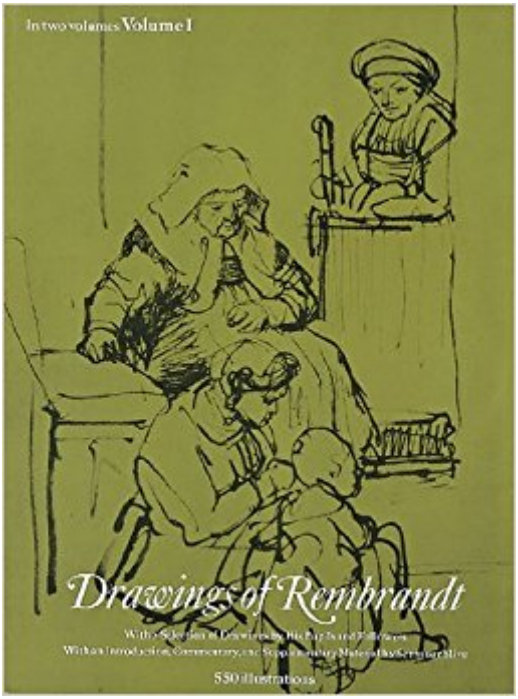
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Drawings Of Rembrandt; With A Selection Of Drawings By His Pupils And Followers, Vol. 1



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Synopsis

Volume 1 of 2-volume set. Updated Lippmann, Hofstede de Groot edition, with definitive scholarly apparatus. All portraits, biblical sketches, landscapes, nudes, Oriental figures, classical studies, together with selection of work by followers. Total in set: 550 illustrations. "The 550 reproductions are just plain magnificent." Ã¢â ¬â • The New Orleans Picayune.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

The drawings are very good. I wish the reproductions of his drawings were better. The pictures are blurry. I kept it any way, but if I had known the quality of the reproductions was this poor I would have skipped it.

great!!

Important NoteBenesch was a very important Rembrandt scholar in his day -late 1940's till his deathHe wrote a number of books on Rembrandt and at least two on Rembrandt''s drawingsMy review is about the SIX VOLUME workIf you are going to buy this work ,make ABSOLUTELY SURE you are getting the SIX volume workFor a brief introduction to Otto Benesch see his entry in the online Dictionary of Art Historians--Google it. It is a great site for details on art historiansReviewThe first book to buy on Rembrandt's Drawings isseymour SliveRembrandt DrawingsPublisher Getty. I have tried to link you to the book but the link just doesn't work so will need to do it manuallySee my review In Slive's brief up to date introduction to Rembrandt .Drawings, the drawings are organised

topically-Self Portraits, Portraits, Family Portraits .Model and Study Sheet etcOn page vi Acknowledgements he writes "MY FIRST DEBT Of GRATITUTE. Is to Otto Benesch for his illustrated six volume corpus of Rembrandt Drawings, which appeared in 1954-57 and was enlarged in 1973" Bold case type by author- Thames and Hudson editionSlive's succinctly sums up the current situation (page vii)"Although those (Benesch) volumes remain the foundation for the study of Rembrandt's Drawings, subsequent specialists have rightly questioned a. Huge number of his attributions, first in scholarly reviews and then in a small avalanche of catalogues of the holdings of the world's principal drawing collections (Among them Amsterdam, Berlin,Chatsworth, Dresden, Harlem, London, Munich ,New York, Paris, Rotterdam Stockholm and Vienna) Their are also temporary exhibitions oats loges and studies devoted to Rembrandt ,his pupils and followers". I have slightly altered the quote from the author as it was a very long sentence)Otto Benesch was the Director of the Albertina in Vienna and one of the leading Rembrandt scholars of his dayBenesch felt there were some 1400 Rembrandt drawingsSlive's notes that the current number of drawings Drawings by Rembrandt is about 800 page viiIs there any point in Getting BeneschWell it depends on your needs and purseThe best place to start is buy Slive - he is a good introductionIt is wise to snap up the catalogues he mentioned above (in alphabetic order) some are relatively inexpensive ,others are very expensive. Some are only available in foreign language editionsSlive's bibliography will give you the details- I have listed some in my Listamania Books on Rembrandt DrawingBenesch is a big 6 volume catalogue. I have one of the deluxe copies (1 of 100 copies that is numbered and bound in leather. - in pre internet days you took what you could track down) the 1973 revised editionBenesch is still the only recent complete catalogue of Rembrandt's drawings in English and when a "Rembrandt" drawing is being discussed the Benesch number is often given- it is a quick way for scholars to tell everyone else that this is the particular drawing I am talking about. They may then go onto compare it with several other "Rembrandt" drawingsIe quoting a Benesch number today doesn't mean that the drawing is or isn't by Rembrandt. (Sounds confusing I know)It gives you access to Provenance data- I have been interested in the great collectors of Rembrandt's drawings. With Benesch you can get an idea of what there collection looked like. With the massive changes in attribution going on you cannot say which of the drawings are still by Rembrandt- for that you need to track them to their current home and some competent Rembrandt scholar has to have published a opinion on itThere are a lot of other things that you can do with a set of BeneschThe text is a good academic discussion for its day but as Slive said the basic approach is wrongThe reproductions ore reasonable for the periodThe revised edition used fine screen offset lithography (calotype in first edition) Many new photos were used but some poor photos continue as better

photos were unobtainableI suspect the paper used in the Deluxe edition was of a higher standardTo buy or not.Go for the important modern catalogue while you can still get them- when the supply has dried up they will get costlyMany will find a lot of good browsing in Benesch- just don't use it as a guide to which drawings are genuine Rembrandt's. If you read a lot of Rembrandt drawing catalogues it quickly orientates you to the drawing the person has mentioned (by quoting the Bensch number)

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