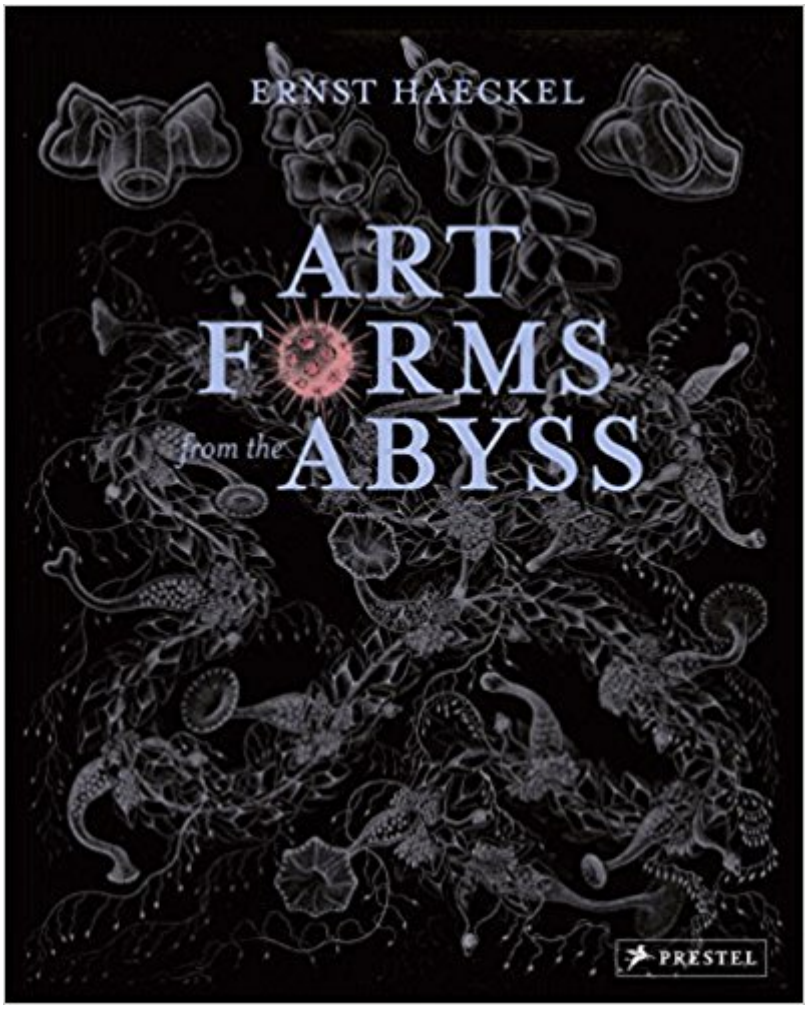
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Art Forms From The Abyss: Ernst Haeckel's Images From The HMS Challenger Expedition



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Synopsis

These radiant images from the renowned 19th-century biologist and illustrator Ernst Haeckel, featuring marine microorganisms, will enthrall fans of his previous collections and garner renewed attention for HaeckelÃ¢ ¬â„¢s unparalleled artistry. From jewelry designers to scientists, graphic artists to naturalists, the range of people inspired by Ernst HaeckelÃ¢ ¬â„¢s illustrations continues to grow. Following up on PrestelÃ¢ ¬â„¢s books Art Forms in Nature and Art Forms from the Ocean, this new collection features startlingly beautiful images created by Haeckel for the report of the HMS Challenger expedition, which circumnavigated the world from 1872Ã¢ ¬â œ76, discoveringand cataloging nearly 5,000 new species from the depths ofEarthÃ¢ ¬â„¢s oceans. Full-page reproductions bring these organismscolorfully to life, drawing readers into a world at oncehypnotic and highly ordered. Divided into three sectionsÃ¢ ¬â •Siphonophores, Medusae, and RadiolariansÃ¢ ¬â •these illustrationsdisplay HaeckelÃ¢ ¬â„¢s remarkable artistic skill and understanding ofthe architecture of organic matter. The authors provide a briefhistory of the Challenger expedition, background on HaeckelÃ¢ ¬â„¢sscientific and artistic accomplishments, as well as informativetexts on each group of organisms. A guide to the natural worldand an inspiration to artists of every stripe, this collection ofHaeckelÃ¢ ¬â„¢s work is a fitting tribute to a 19th-century genius.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

"The bookÃ¢ ¬â„¢s introduction provides important context to help the reader appreciate the

images on a level beyond the purely aesthetic. It covers the changing scientific climate that led to such an ambitious expedition, the understanding of ocean life at the time, HaeckelÃ¢â ¬â„¢s career, and the role of his lithographers in coloring and completing his works. . . While the introduction focuses on history and science, the book is primarily a celebration of the visual, and highlights both the intriguing forms of the creatures and the delicate rendering of the illustrations. . . HaeckelÃ¢â ¬â„¢s plates offer a perspective that modern imaging cannot. With their ability to guide our attention to specific details, the illustrations add an air of the fantastical, and encourage the viewer to consider both the science and the art of life in the ocean." —Hakai Magazine

Peter Williams is Emeritus Professor at the School of Ocean Sciences, Bangor University, Wales. David Roberts is Scientific and Technical Photographer and David Thomas is Professor of Marine Biology. Dylan Evans is an environmental and fisheries consultant.

If you like natural history illustrations, here are some wonderful images nicely reproduced. The radiolarians are my favorite and Haeckel did a supurb job delineating them as well as jellyfish and siphonophores . These images are slightly different in form and function compared to Haeckels masterpiece Art Forms in Nature. Here the plates are earlier works and more purely representational while in Art Forms...where the images are arranged in a more sophisticated way and a little more styalized.If you like Haeckel you will have fun with this book.

Fantastic

Best book I have ever bought as an artist. The forms provide limitless inspiration. You need to also buy Art forms in Nature.

Excellent book! Swift delivery!

An exquisite book that should find audience with those interested in both the arts and sciences. The prints of Ernst Henkel’s artwork are beautifully reproduced here along with a fascinating introduction to one of the great 19th century biologists.

gorgeous art and science!! Excellent book!!!

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