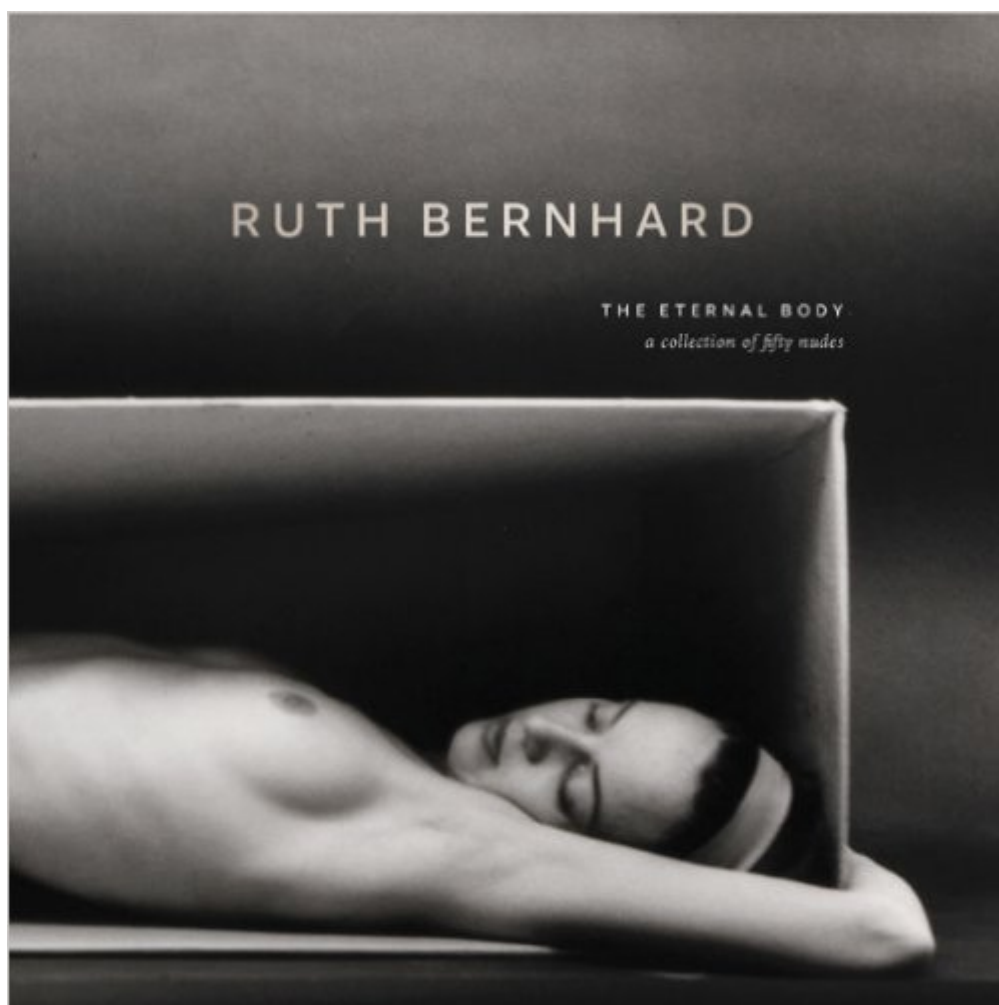


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Ruth Bernhard: The Eternal Body: A Collection Of Fifty Nudes



Synopsis

Described by Ansel Adams as the greatest photographer of the nude, Ruth Bernhard created a collection of images that ranks among the most profound photographs of the female form. Her intense, studied camerawork transcended the boundaries between the spirit and the flesh. Ruth Bernhard: The Eternal Body is the first monograph of Bernhard's nudes, in print for 25 years, and now in a newly designed hardcover. Featuring a new foreword by Karen Sinsheimer, and an illuminating biography by Margaretta Mitchell, this new edition of a landmark book honors one of our most celebrated artist photographers.

Book Information

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Average Customer Review: 4.5 out of 5 starsÂ Â See all reviewsÂ (22 customer reviews)

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Customer Reviews

For those who are interested in inspiring portrayal of the human body, this book is a must! It is one of the finest collections of female nudes ever done. The images, reproduction, and paper are all superb. The book clearly deserves more than five stars!The images in this book would garner an R rating if the book were a motion picture.Ms. Bernhard takes a different approach to nude photography, partly in reaction to the exploitive work that some men do. She says, "I photograph a woman as part of the universe." She feels that "a minute insect, a mountain range, a human body -- all share equal significance." As a result she notes that "much of my work shares a similar intention [to a Japanese Haiku]." She wants to "illuminate the innate life force and spirit as well as the underlying remarkable bone structure." She looks on these photographs as being similar to the problem of composing a still life. She wants to create a "heightened emotional response" and is

"deeply aware of my spiritual connection with it." She is responding to a "great yearning for balance and harmony beyond the realm of human experience, reaching for the essence of oneness with the Universe."Margaretta Mitchell (no relation) points out that the work stands primarily for going "beyond cultural stereotypes of women." In doing so, Ms. Bernhard has created "focused meditations." She "directs her forms with studio lighting where the model is transfigured by light into sculpture." As a result, you see an "ideal radiant form." She is one of the "masters of the subtleties of lighting." The work evokes much of the majesty of Michaelangelo, Rodin, and Henry Moore.Finally, from Ms.

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