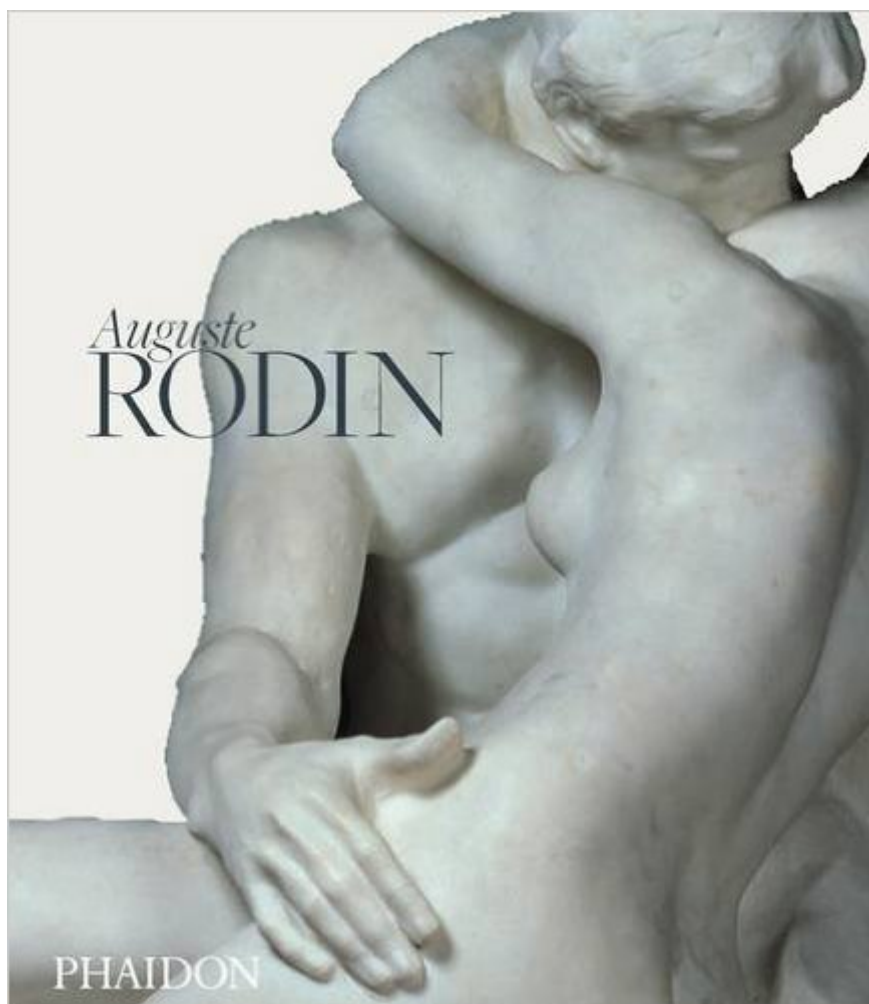


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Auguste Rodin



Synopsis

This monograph examines the life & works of Auguste Rodin, whose compelling career & legacy continue to captivate audiences, artists & critics alike. As one of the greatest & most prolific sculptors of the 19th & 20th centuries, Rodin transformed sculpture-making & reinvigorated what was considered to be a dying art form.

Book Information

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Average Customer Review: 4.0 out of 5 starsÂ Â See all reviewsÂ (5 customer reviews)

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Customer Reviews

The images of Rodin's life works are quite beautifully presented in this glorious look at both the life and work of a great sculptor, but it is the careful and precise scholarship presented in the text which makes this book an outstanding addition to any library on art history. Dr Roos has given us a definitive look at this most interesting of sculptors. Bravo!

I'm not going to comment on the text, just the plates. Phaidon has elected to show Rodin's sculptures on completely flat, static grounds of either white or black, white for the bronzes and black for works in marble or plaster, and the effect thus produced is one of hastily scissored magazine clippings for a scrap book or collage. Serrated edges cut a stark relief against the page and the sculpture itself is reduced to a flat silhouette. Not good. In contrast, the few vintage photographs included breathe with a wonderful atmosphere and depth; here the sculptures are shown in their proper context and their subtle forms are far more readable and evocative. These old photos are also vastly superior in composition, as the newer photos offer little more than a succession of clinically sterile frontal shots. Its a shame to be outdone by carbon prints from over a century ago

but there you have it - art reproduction in the age of photoshop. I hope that publishers of books on sculpture will take a lesson from this disaster and refrain from further desecrations of art at the hands of ignorami that are presumably more comfortable taking snapshots of watches and handbags than great sculpture.

A previously-written review commented only on the plates. That's unfortunate, and I think he misses the whole point. My comment will be brief, and a positive one. The text enhances and compliments the photos, plates. Photoshop or not. It still worked for me. The book, as a whole, reading the text, and referencing the plates, images of the works of Rodin, "together" make this book an excellent one. The narratives, descriptions of Rodin's life, works, influences, development make the book, as a whole, a good read, and, if you will, a good "look", as well. I have a better understanding of Rodin's art, and life, and the period in which he lived.

I Bought this Book directly from Phaidon, and as a whole, I mean, text and images in context, it is a very good purchase. The plates may be are sillouetted, but it does not spoil at all the good content.

Excellent!

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