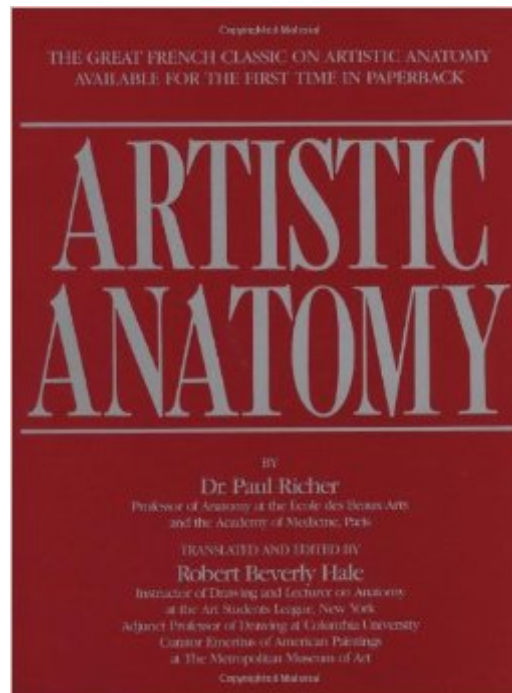


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Artistic Anatomy: The Great French Classic On Artistic Anatomy



Synopsis

Artistic Anatomy is widely acknowledged to be the greatest book of its kind since the Renaissance. The original French edition, now a rare collector's item, was published in 1889 and was probably used as a resource by Renoir, Braque, Degas, Bazille, and many others. The English-language edition, first published 35 years ago, brings together the nineteenth century's greatest teacher of artistic anatomy, Paul Richer, and the twentieth century's most renowned teacher of anatomy and figure drawing, Robert Beverly Hale, who translated and edited the book for the modern reader. Now Watson-Guption is proud to reissue this dynamic classic with an anniversary sticker, sure to inspire drawing students well into our century.

Book Information

Paperback: 256 pages

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Average Customer Review: 4.5 out of 5 stars 81 customer reviews

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Customer Reviews

Dr. Paul Richer (1849-1933), a distinguished artist and scientist, was a professor of creative anatomy at the Ecole des Beaux-Arts in Paris and a member of the city's Institute of Medicine. Robert Beverly Hale (1901-1985), who ended his career as curator emeritus of American painting and sculpture at the Metropolitan Museum of Art in New York City, was an instructor of anatomy at the Art Students League for 40 years. His famous lectures, illustrated with life-size drawings that he created on the spot, have been compiled and edited by Terence Coyle and published in Master Class in Figure Drawing. Hale's other books include Drawing Lessons from the Great Masters and Anatomy Lessons from the Great Masters.

I'm glad I bought this book. In art school we used the Andrew Loomis proportions for drawing the

figure, and they're nothing wrong with it. After some time though, you'll notice that as you try to get more stylization out of your work that Loomis just isn't good enough. The Richer book of Anatomy gives a realistic portrayal of the human body, using a 1: 7.5 head to body ratio instead of the 1: 8 ratio that Loomis uses. By using a more realistic standard. I wouldn't say that this is my go to anatomy book because anyone that does figure drawing and doesn't draw the same proportions over and over again would know that you need different references for different projects. I will say that this a very valuable addition to my art book library.

Book supplements and complements if you're taking Life Drawing. Remember this is built more of a textbook so expect a lot of writing and note taking. The bone structure study is towards the end if you don't like wordy books this one is half and half. Around 80% text in rough estimate. If you're not taking life drawing skip this book, this one is for learning structure, proper proportion in class study/home study class assignment. I hate to say but if you're not getting actual course help you this book will cause a headache. Pros: Very helpful close bone structure to learn anatomy, very high details of frontal and back, even individual parts. Great for art students in life drawing. Con: Not for beginners, or someone not in life drawing. It will confuse many because it will appear as a medical skeletal/muscle/ musculoskeletal form study book. If you want a good start Try Gary Simmons- The Technical Pen for intermediate and advanced. The Cross hatching pen bible. Andrew Loomis Art books especially How to draw hands and heads & anatomy, great for starters and intermediate alike. Has great exercises. Look up Sycra and Proko art studies on Youtube, extremely helpful to advanced and beginners and alike. Overall free art lessons ranging from concept, focus study, skeletal, poses, gesture, and color theory.

This is just what I was looking for. I've seen people complain about the layout of the book, but it works just perfectly for me. It is especially helpful to have the model posed in different positions to show muscle flexion. Five stars.

Good book on anatomy. Very detailed drawings, I like that.

Absolutely wonderful reference book. Lots of information and explanation of the anatomy, along with excellent illustrations. A must have for sculptors and artists of all types. This should be in your collection, I use it extensively.

This book has been a tremendously helpful reference in my arsenal of anatomy books. Very detailed illustrations and descriptions that help if you're looking to expand into serious understanding of the communication between different areas of the human body. It is also a larger format book which makes it visually easier. I wish I would have had this back in school.

This book was used as one of two texts in my art school figure study class included in our school portfolio of supplies. It is also a text used in an ecorche course at another art school. My highest recommendation, is to study this book, along with Frank Netter's medical anatomy book focusing on the osteology and myology sections that apply to artists, leaving behind the details that do not apply to artists. The illustrations in that book are second to none. Also, as many other good artistic anatomy books you can find, as the more you understand, the better. Lastly, get a good poseable medical skeleton. Yes, save up for it, like I did. It is absolutely essential. A realistic sculptor of the human figure must know the body from the inside out. Pictures alone in books are not enough. You must see the structure of the body in the round. Then I recommend getting Bruno Lucchesi's "Modelling the Figure in Clay, A Sculptors Guide to Anatomy". Do the exercises using this book, your skeleton as a model, putting on the bones and muscles, one by one. This is a spectacular learning experience to build your own ecorche (flayed) figure.

Proko uses the same book for his studies on anatomy and figure drawing. There are great technical diagrams of muscles and bones I have here for when you need to reference what's beneath the skin.

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