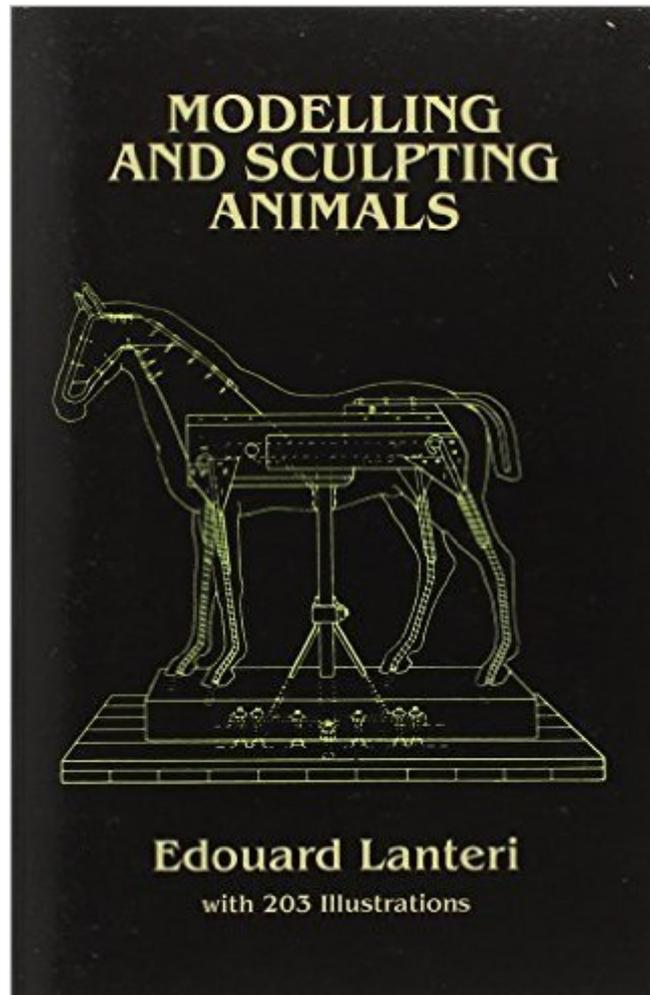


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Modelling And Sculpting Animals (Dover Art Instruction)



Synopsis

"A joy to read, as well as a constant reference library. Thoroughly inspiring." — Workbench
The republication of this highly valuable text by Edouard Lanteri, a renowned teacher, sculptor, and intimate friend of Rodin (Rodin called him "my dear master, my dear friend"), makes it possible for serious students to gain the requisite skills needed for figurative sculpture and to bridge the gap between artistic concept and figurative realization. *Modelling and Sculpting Animals*, together with its companion piece *Modelling and Sculpting the Human Figure*, is the classic treatise on the techniques of figurative sculpture. Representing at least three thousand years of studio lore, this readily understandable, authoritative guide is a goldmine of technical information, easily comprising a four-year sculpture curriculum unavailable elsewhere. In this reasonably priced volume, devoted almost entirely to the modelling of animals, Lanteri offers thorough step-by-step instruction for the figurative sculptor. Beginning with a description of the historical symbolism of animals in different cultures, the author then proceeds to give meticulous anatomy for the horse, lion, and bull. Rules of motion, measurements of construction, erecting the framework, tools, materials, and other pertinent aspects of animal sculpture are covered in detail. The final section presents a comprehensive exposition of the methods of casting in plaster, including how to mix the plaster, applying successive layers and irons, opening the mold, soaping and oiling, chipping off the mold, and special precautions. A profusion of illustrations — over 200 photographs, drawings, and diagrams — clearly demonstrate every principle and method the author describes. 64 full-page photographic plates, 139 drawings and diagrams.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

This book presents an interesting dichotomy: on the one hand it is a seminal publication on sculpting and animal anatomy, on the other it is hopelessly out of date rendering some of the information within of questionable value. Originally published in 1911 (!) Lanteri was a teacher to Rodin, amongst others, and there is a touching letter from him reproduced at the start. I think one should remember reading this the perspective of the writer - a sculptor of the French 19th century style, moreover a sculptor of monuments from this period - which almost by definition demand a fairly clinical approach. The resulting pieces are of undoubted skill, and I personally am a great admirer of this school of representation, but many will find them a bit sterile I suspect. The book is subdivided into 18 chapters, beginning with introductory remarks on the symbolism of sculptural representations of animals in disparate cultures. The second chapter is over eight pages of text discussing the horse, mentioning breeds, characteristics and other points with comment on form and movement. Chapter III is on the sculpting of a quarter-scale model of a horse, with supporting diagrams and sequential photos. The next chapter is short, concerning proportions and the next is even shorter, on refinement of the model. Chapter VI is titled "Some Special Points" and here we get to the meat (literally!) with over 30 pages of clear anatomical diagrams showing the muscles and skeleton of the horse in plan and side views. Chapter VII is on general principles with quotes from a number of "men of great artistic value" and includes four views of a sculpted anatomical study of the horse showing stunning mastery of form and detail.

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