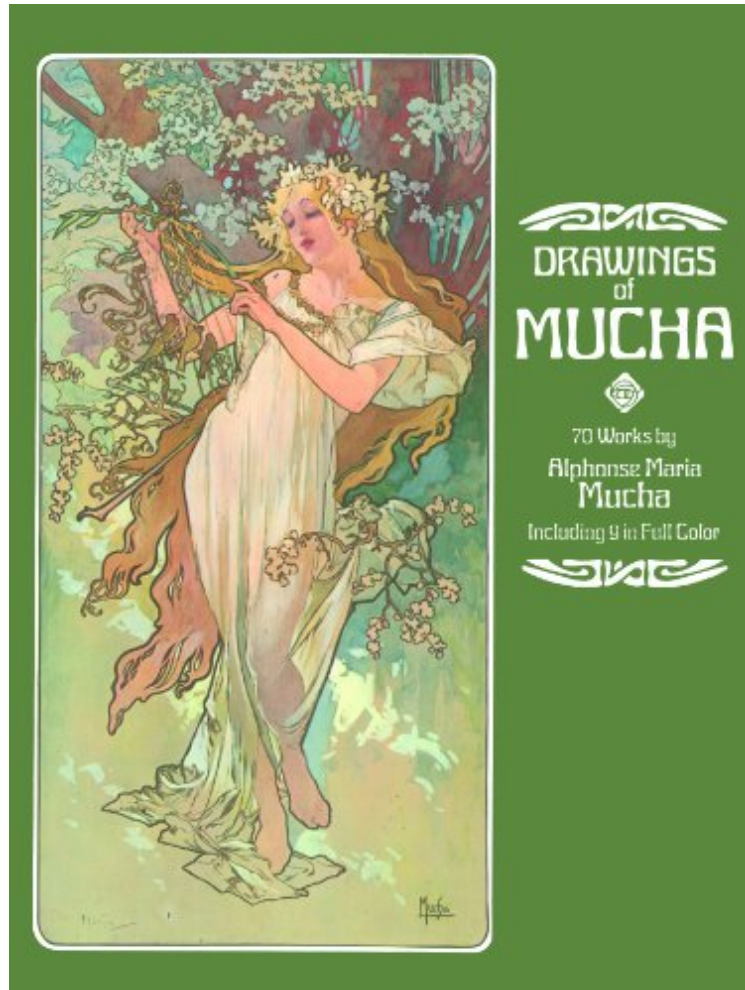


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Alphonse Mucha

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Alphonse Mucha : Drawings of Mucha (Dover Fine Art, History of Art) before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Drawings of Mucha (Dover Fine Art, History of Art):

2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. Good Find!By ChrisLove this book, its a great breakdown of the artists drawings and ideas to creating some of his most well know pieces. The rough sketches in this book really let me observe some his techniques and processes that I've always been curious about. Good find!0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Very InterestingBy Benny BarnesNice to see some of Mucha's preliminary drawings, which are softer and simpler by nature, often (in my opinion) more beautiful than the finished pieces. Not all his best work, and the black-and-whites are a bit greyish, but highly recommended nonetheless.0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Five StarsBy INHIGHGEARGREAT

The artistic legacy of Alphonse Maria Mucha (1860ndash;1939), one of the founders of the Art Nouveau style, is both brilliant and bewilderingly diverse. Mucha is most famous for his Sarah Bernhardt posters and his magnificent

decorative panels such as "The Seasons," works that continue to grow in popularity, despite the indifferent quality of most modern reproductions. To graphic artists and commercial designers, Mucha is praised for the innovative stylebooks that pioneered the use of Art Nouveau in commercial packaging, design, and ornament. But the primary element in all of Mucha's artistic endeavors — his evocative, highly original draftsmanship — has never been adequately surveyed. This collection of 70 high-quality illustrations — six in black-and-white and nine in full color — offers the first and only comprehensive survey of Mucha's drawings, and as such, provides a unique insight into the aesthetic qualities that were fundamental to all of the artist's work. Reproduced directly from his original drawings, these works span Mucha's entire career and include sketches for his famous book and magazine illustrations, preliminary sketches for paintings, advertising and packaging art, studies for stylebooks, etc. Famous examples include "The Seasons," full-color drawings for the complete set, plus a preliminary charcoal sketch for "Autumn"; St. Louis World's Fair poster, full-color lithograph and preliminary pencil sketch; Sarah Bernhardt, four works in India ink, pencil, etc.; and "Documents deatifs" and "Figures deatives," studies from Mucha's two innovative stylebooks. Naturally, many of these drawings are interesting because they reveal the initial thoughts for famous works but most basically these drawings show that Mucha's draftsmanship — highly admired, even by the cantankerous Whistler — was the brilliant underpinning of his entire craft.