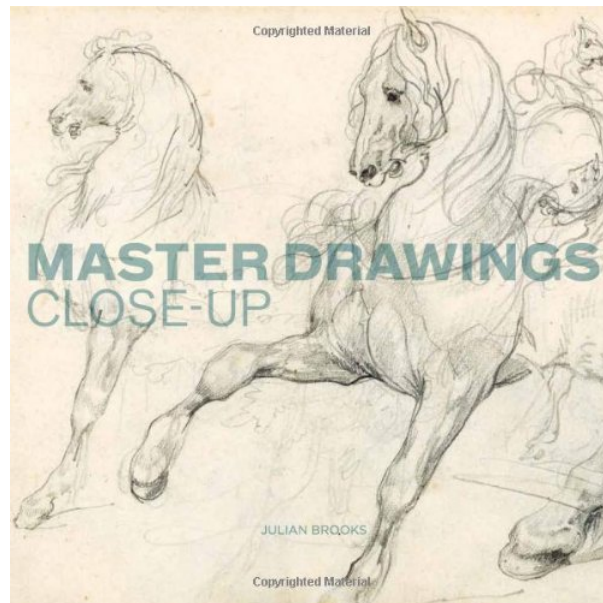
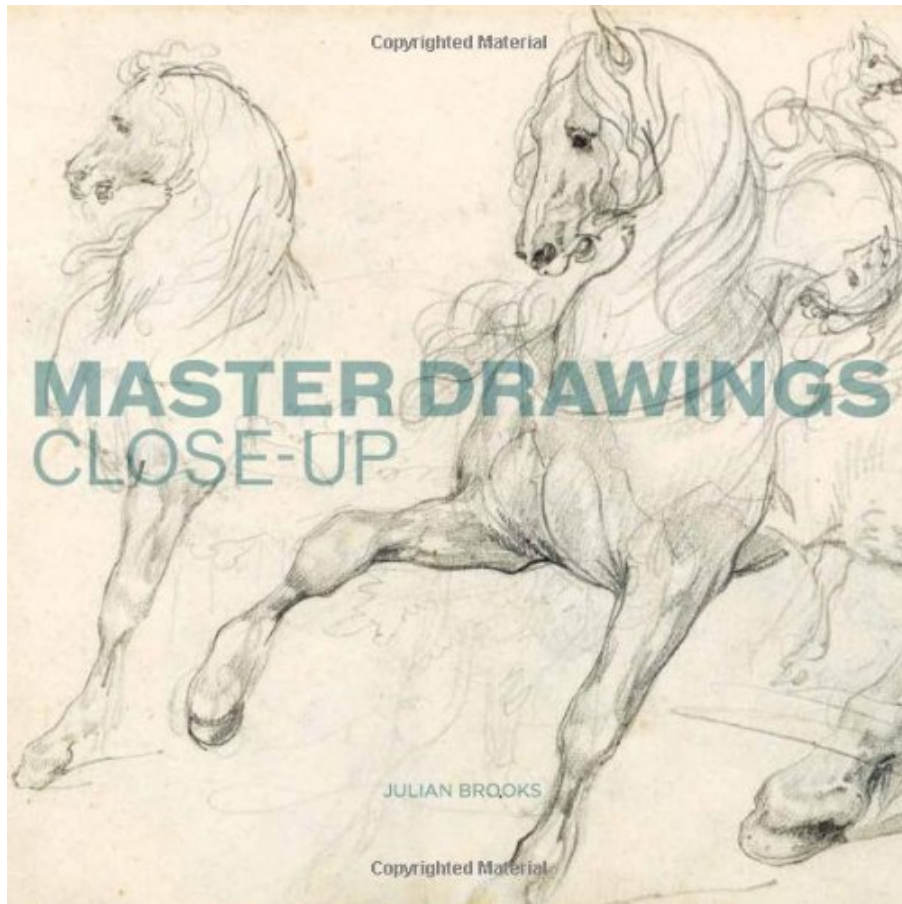


# MASTER DRAWINGS CLOSE-UP BY JULIAN BROOKS



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## Review

“All in all, this is a book worth having, especially for those who have not gotten excited about drawings before. The luscious details illustrated here may well get them hooked.”—Fine Art Connoisseur

“What makes the book worthy of a place in any library is the way it causes small gasps of pleasure as one experiences the genius of these artists and the excellence of the marks they made. Highly recommended.”—Choice

## About the Author

Julian Brooks is associate curator in the Department of Drawings at the J. Paul Getty Museum.

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# MASTER DRAWINGS CLOSE-UP BY JULIAN BROOKS PDF

The purpose of this volume is to introduce the reader to the pleasure of looking at master drawings. Through forty-five spectacular works of art, each shown in full and with an enlarged detail, the book simulates the experience of looking at a drawing through a magnifying glass: we can see the techniques and materials used and get close to the artist's creativity. They are roughly ordered by date and were chosen for inclusion because, in addition to yielding beautiful details, they encompass a wide variety of media and techniques. Accompanying short texts highlight particular aspects of each work; italicized technical terms are explained in an accessible and informative glossary at the back. Works by some of the greatest masters of the craft--Leonardo da Vinci, Dürer, Raphael, Rembrandt, Ingres, Goya, Seurat, and Van Gogh--are included.

The reader will gain insights into why artists made drawings, how they used the media available to them--including red chalk, watercolor, pen and ink, and pastel--and their techniques, such as hatching, stumping, squaring, and heightening. This beautiful and unpretentious book will have a wide appeal and will be especially invaluable for art students, practicing artists, and those who study art and art history.

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## Most helpful customer reviews

14 of 17 people found the following review helpful.

Half too small... half too large...

By Phil Padwe

Let me just cut to the chase... the format of the book is interesting. They show a drawing on the left... and then a 'detail' of the drawing on the right. They say it's meant to recall looking at an image through a magnifying glass. The problem for me was... it didn't. The "entire" drawing, on the left... in every instance... was SO reduced in size from the original as to be un-readable. The details... on the other hand... were by and large quite interesting. But this would have worked better as a web site.

I'm a bit hard to please when it comes to this sort of book. I collect Old Master Drawing books... back-issues of Master Drawing (the periodical)... auction catalogs of Old Master offerings... museum and gallery catalogs... you name it. Therefore, I've got a fairly extensive collection and admit to high expectations...

The choices were great... the LARGE "details" were very clear and sharp... but ultimately, I found myself frustrated every time I turned the page, by the diminutive size of the reproductions. If there was something I wanted to see... I simply couldn't. Unless the detail they chose, was the same one I wanted to see (which it often wasn't). Would have given this 3.5 stars, if possible...

3 of 3 people found the following review helpful.

Great Introduction to Drawings

By Cadfael

I am so happy to have a book on drawings that is written for people like me who are art enthusiasts but not serious collectors or in academe. The book is written in such a way that anyone can understand the technical vocabulary. I found the illustrations in this edition to be of the highest quality. The brief description of each drawing gave insight into the artist's background as well as explaining what in particular to look for in each drawing such as whether it was drawn in red chalk, watercolor, pen, brown ink, etc. As the title implies, Master Drawings Close-Up, the author chose to give the reader a picture of the drawings close-up, hence the emphasis on the large scale detail as opposed to the emphasis on the drawing in its entirety. I was given this as a gift and I am so grateful. My daughter and I now have a guide to understanding some most precious and fragile works of art.

2 of 2 people found the following review helpful.

Finally a book on drawings for the rest of us

By Soup to nuts

I am a regular museum goer. I have admired old master drawings for many years but never really could get a handle on them since all of the books and exhibitions seem as if they were written by specialists for specialists. I came across this book and can't say enough good about it. Finally an expert has written something for the rest of us so that drawings are no longer something for just collectors and museums. Some things that I really like about the book are:

- I was able to read it in a couple of sittings. The author doesn't go on and on endlessly about the history of everything to do about drawings.
- the illustrations are great and the way that they include "zooms" or close-ups of what the author is talking about makes understanding details easy.
- all the technical terms are included with definitions at the back of the book as a reference

The author says that when he wrote the book, he tried to think of all of the reasons why he decided to spend the rest of his life studying drawings. This really shows in the book. He loves what he studies and wants everyone else too as well. If you want to get to know more about drawings, this is the place to start!

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