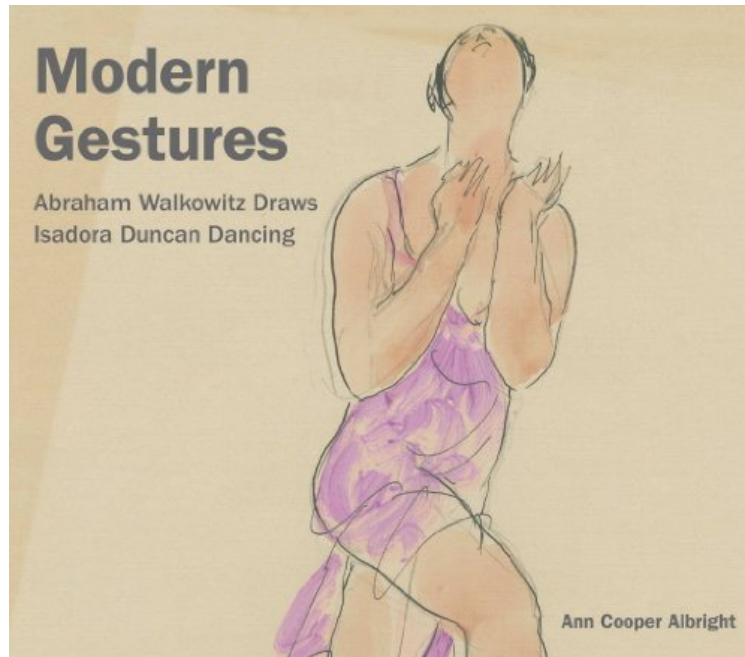


(Read free) Modern Gestures: Abraham Walkowitz Draws Isadora Duncan Dancing

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Ann Cooper Albright

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Ann Cooper Albright : Modern Gestures: Abraham Walkowitz Draws Isadora Duncan Dancing before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Modern Gestures: Abraham Walkowitz Draws Isadora Duncan Dancing:

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. So so disappointed. I'm thinking maybe the text will change ...By SaintRochThis book is much smaller than I thought (ok, I should have looked up the dimensions on the product description, my fault) but once you open it the pictures of the drawings are even smaller - 1/3 of the page for each! So so disappointed. I'm thinking maybe the text will change my mind and I'll love reading it but I bought it for the drawings and they are reproduced in a very small format which takes everything away from the art. Yes, I am very disappointed. this books looks like something you can pick up on the sale table for 5 bucks at the big box book store. Definitely not worth the price. I may yet return it..not sure.1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Welcome Addition to Art and Dance LibrariesBy drkhimxzThis slight book contains 60 excellent reproductions from among the Isadora Duncan drawings, numbering in the thousands, by Abe Walkowitz and some keen insights into the dance of Isadora Duncan by the author, a dancer, teacher and dance historian. Walkowitz, a leading American Modernist (born in Russia), became fascinated by the distinctive dance inventions of Duncan in the early years of the twentieth century and continued to draw her until his death. As the author points out, he was unique in his ability to capture the essence of her movement, to capture the source and nature of her dance through empathy with the process whereby these emerged from her innards to flow through her body. While there is a minimum of text, through artful use of the writings of Gertrude Stein and a number of others, the author provides insight into what these others, as well as she, herself, feel to be the impulsive force in Duncan's creation and implementation of her creative impulses.I cannot judge

the value of the book for students of the dance with which I am acquainted only as an enchanted onlooker, but I am delighted to find the American art world reminded of one of its superior pioneers and practitioners, The dozen or so, Isadora Duncan drawings I owned, as well as the representation of his once well-known figurative, abstract and urban paintings, which I also proudly displayed, persuade me that this small sample of his work will win him greater support from those who have known it existed. As a viewer of dance, the small volume did provide excellent guidance as to what makes her kind of dance tick.

This small and beautifully illustrated book showcases the work of two great American modernists, painter Abraham Walkowitz and dancer Isadora Duncan. Born in the same year (1878), both artists influenced the development of modern art in the early twentieth century by blending figurative gesture with abstraction. Duncan grew up in a free-spirited and artistic household in California and then moved to Europe. Walkowitz immigrated to the United States from Russia when he was a child and lived most of his life in New York City, where he studied at Cooper Union School and the National Academy of Design. Walkowitz and Duncan met in 1906 in Paris at the studio of the sculptor Auguste Rodin. Deeply impressed by Duncans musicality and expressivity, Walkowitz drew thousands of images of Duncan dancing throughout his life. Because Walkowitzs renderings of Duncan were produced quickly, they carry an element of improvisational vitality that matches the dynamic energy of her presence onstage. In her introductory essay, author Ann Cooper Albright weaves literary theory, art criticism, and dance history into a fluid narrative to explore how Walkowitzs drawings realize Duncans dancing on paper. *Modern Gestures* reproduces over fifty watercolors of this unique oeuvre, many of which have never before been published. A perfect gift, this sumptuous little volume will provide hours of enjoyment to anyone interested in dance or modern art.

This beautiful book showcases two great American modernists. *Dance Gazette*