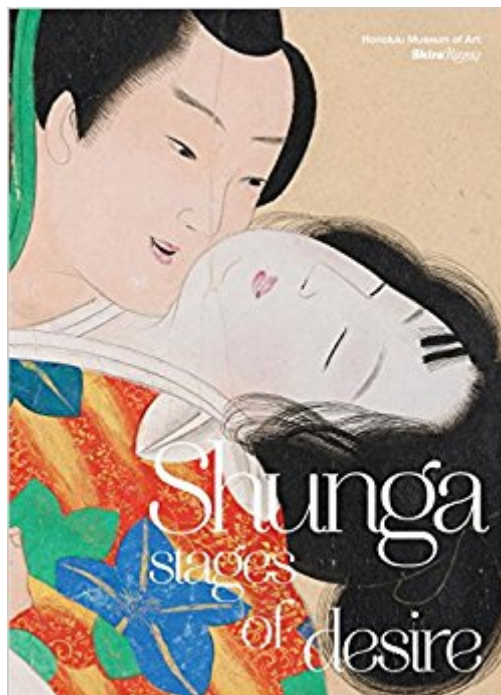


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Shunga: Stages Of Desire



Synopsis

A gorgeous presentation devoted to the art of Japanese eroticism, drawn from the Honolulu Museum of Art's rare and distinguished collection. The Japanese paintings and prints called shunga (literally "spring pictures") reflected the thriving sexual culture of early modern Japan and depicted with sensitivity and nuance the private lives of various social types, from courtesans and Kabuki actors to ordinary townspeople. Organized around a series of exhibitions at the Honolulu Museum of Art, this sumptuous volume presents art from the museum's vast holdings of ukiyo-e prints, woodblock-printed books, and paintings, particularly those originating from the collections of scholar Richard D. Lane and famed author James A. Michener. These fascinating works, dating from the seventeenth through the twentieth centuries, explore Japan's sexual culture (including issues of gender and the country's ever-evolving sex industry) with humor as well as a surprisingly sophisticated literary and art-historical approach. Sure to become a collector's item, this gorgeously designed publication offers stunning color plates showcasing numerous and unusual examples of exquisite Japanese erotica. Texts by leading scholars of shunga and ukiyo-e complete this treasure album of a book.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Stephan Jost is the director, Shawn Eichman is curator of Asian art, and Stephen Salel is the Robert F. Lange Foundation Assistant Curator of Japanese Art at the Honolulu Museum of Art.

A very interesting book by the Honolulu Museum of Art on a topic rarely covered in the U.S., and almost never covered in Japan. It is a beautiful coffee table size book, which you probably will NOT want to leave out on your coffee table, at least not if children are ever around. (Not unless you want to be answering a lot of unusual questions from curious kids. . . .) Or, for that matter, if your mom or dad are around. Or the neighbors. On reflection, this is a coffee table book to either keep in the privacy of your boudoir, or keep hidden in the back of your bookcase. But it is a wonderful, high quality book for those interested in one of the more intriguing aspects of Japanese art.

Fun and erotic book in classic Japanese style.

Beautiful quality images with interesting explanations

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