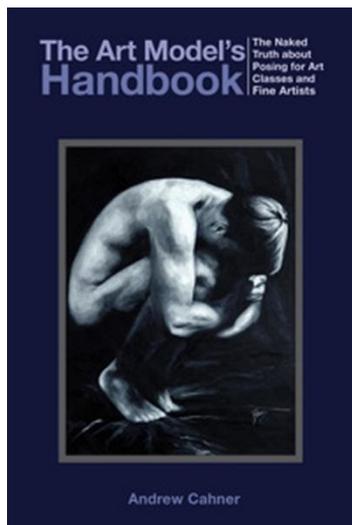


The Art Model's Handbook: The Naked Truth about Posing for Art Classes and Fine Arts / Andrew Cahner.—<http://www.artmodelbook.com>, May 2009.—141 p.: ill.—ISBN 9781442169692 (pa.): \$16.95.



Most books classified under the subject heading of “artists’ models” fall into the category of fiction, biography, studies of famous artists and their subjects, or photographic manuals of poses. The first three tend to feed the mythology of the modeling experience while the latter is an unsatisfactory substitute for working with a live model. *The Art Model's Handbook* is a welcome addition to the technical manuals in the visual arts library. Andrew Cahner has crafted a constructive handbook from his own experience and the observations of other models as well as those who interact with the nude subject. He begins by describing the artist's interest in figure drawing and the role of the model. In a straightforward manner he deals with the issues confronted by new models and the difference between naked and nude. Cahner describes how one should prepare to work, details what to expect in a classroom environment, and outlines professional conduct. Several valuable chapters are devoted to describing the mechanics of posing, what makes an interesting pose, and how to research positions. He gives suggestions on how to find work and tackles security issues head-on. The special circumstances necessitated by photography also have their own chapter.

Mr. Cahner enriches the handbook by his holistic approach, providing guidance not only to aspiring and professional models, but presents information necessary for artists and instructors to understand and respect the model's vulnerabilities and professionalism. Through interviews, he introduces the perspective and authority of other models, artists, model coordinators, and instructors.

Websites are listed in several places to help one learn more about modeling, to connect with the few guilds that exist, and to find work opportunities. The black and white illustrations of figures in a variety of mediums serve to highlight terms used in the studio environment. There are five appendices including a sample release, model's protocol, and an art model policy for faculty. A glossary, endnotes, and bibliography are also incorporated. This volume is an essential addition to any library that serves the studio arts.

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