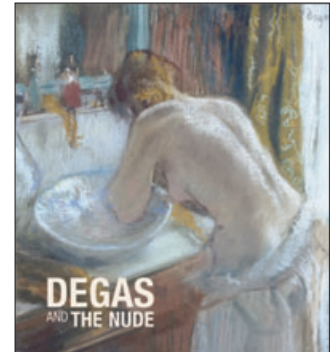


## Degas and the Nude

George T. M. Shackelford and Xavier Rey  
With contributions by Lucian Freud, Martin Gayford  
and Anne Roquebert

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Edgar Degas produced many nude figures throughout his life and *Degas and the Nude* is the first book in a generation to explore the artist's treatment of the nude from his early years in the 1850s and 1860s, through his triumphs in the 1880s and 1890s, all the way to his last decades, when the theme dominated his work in all media.

The essays by leading art critics aim to provide a new interpretation of Degas's ever-changing conception of the nude. They reveal how he exploited all of the body's expressive possibilities, how his vision of the nude informed his notion of modernity, and how he abandoned the classical form in favour of a figure seen in her own time and setting - whether engaged in shockingly carnal acts, or just stepping out of a bath.

Among the scores of reproductions is one of the most important of Degas's early paintings, *Scene of War in the Middle Ages*, which exerted a lifelong influence on the artist's treatment of the female nude and includes poses repeated throughout his career.

There are nearly 230 images in pastels, paintings, drawings, prints and sculptures which not only illustrate his achievements, but demonstrate his evolution as a master artist.

### Author

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