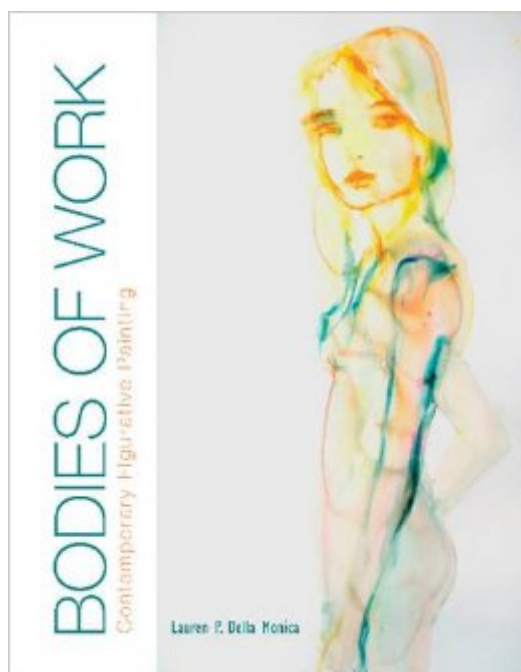


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# Bodies Of Work: Contemporary Figurative Painting



## Synopsis

Human forms can be intensely intimate or broadly universal. Here, figurative artists use the human form as a tool to express varied content and contemporary issues. These paintings depict our feelings and sentiments, our sense of belonging to a larger community in the contemporary world, while capturing the impulses behind the range of figuration presented by today's contemporary international artists. Portraitist Marlene Dumas presents figures in a gritty, unsentimental manner, evoking the essence of the human condition, while Kerry James Marshall paints the life of African-Americans in the twentieth-century, employing recent historical review to document the social challenges. British artist Jenny Saville paints the figure in massive scale, combined with an overt, never-ending interest in the pure rendering of human flesh. Hope Gangloff paints her figures as characters, intimate friends, and acquaintances, narrating a drama from their canvases. An important resource for those interested in contemporary figurative painting.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

I am in love with this book. Contemporary figurative art - specifically painting - has always been a favorite genre of mine. And Lauren's book tackles this topic with an astute eye and awesome energy. When I first got the book, I absorbed it only visually. My next dip into the book was focused on artists who really caught my eye. Artists like Chantal Joffe, Kerry James Marshall, Hope Gangloff, and Jenny Saville. My next read was cover to cover. I was hooked. Lauren does a beautiful job both informing and educating the reader. Whether you have deep knowledge of contemporary figurative art or the topic is brand new to you, this wonderful book will keep you engaged. And looking forward to another one by this talented writer and art expert.

FANTASTIC! Provocative, Evocative, Emotive and so DIVERSE!! I love this book. Not only is it a wonderful "coffee table" book to be taken in as eye candy, but it is wonderfully well written. I love the intro with its nod to twentieth century genius, and the way the chapters are divided thematically. I don't usually take the time to write reviews, but this book really touched me. There is sophistication in the selection and subject matter that I found both exciting and inspiring. What a great choice of modern day artists by Ms. Della Monica. I highly recommend this gorgeous book!

Della Monica is one of the best, most informed Art Historians around. This is an insightful look into the way contemporary artists see the Body. It includes all media.. many surprising! What impresses me most is her EYE.. everyone in the book adds to the total in a unique way. The book is NOT predictable, it is inclusive.... Gender, Race, Ethnicity. I learned from it as Im sure any reader will. It is an important addition to research in the field yet the images/text are accessible to the general public. BRAVA!

So proud and excited that Ms. Della Monica has created another fascinating masterpiece. The depth of work is insightful and unpredictable which makes its truly hard to put down. Not only is it an excellent addition to your living room coffee table, its contents make it a truly worth adding to a book lovers library.

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