

Bru

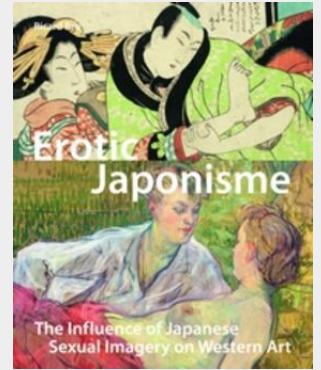
## Erotic Japonisme

The Influence of Japanese Sexual Imagery on Western Art

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Japonisme or, in other words, the presence, the attraction and the impact of Japanese art, was one of the most fruitful artistic phenomena which resulted from the relationships between the East and West. In this book, Ricard Bru approaches the fascinating cultural phenomenon of Japonisme from an innovative standpoint: The arrival of Japanese erotic prints to the Western world and their impact on Western artists from mid-nineteenth century onwards. By focusing on a less-known aspect of Japonisme, which up until now was not investigated seriously, Bru documents and presents how the erotic shunga prints seduced a great number of people, converting thus into a fertile and original source of inspiration in Europe during the end of the nineteenth century, through the work of critics and writers, such as Goncourt, Huysmans or Zola, and of artists, such as Degas, Rodin, Toulouse-Lautrec, Rops, Klimt or Picasso.

At its height in the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries, Japonisme had a tremendous impact on Western art. In this publication, author Ricard Bru approaches the cultural phenomenon of Japonisme from an innovative standpoint. He presents an in-depth discussion of the influence of Japanese printed erotic imagery by ukiyo-e masters such as Kitagawa Utamaro, Katsushika Hokusai, and Utagawa Hiroshige on European artists, including Edgar Degas, Auguste Rodin, Henri de Toulouse-Lautrec, Gustav Klimt and Pablo Picasso, as well as writers, critics, and collectors, such as Edmond de Goncourt, Joris-Karl Huysmans, and Émile Zola. With over 160 color illustrations sourced from public and private collections, Erotic Japonisme demonstrates the rich artistic dialogue that existed between Europe and Japan.



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