



Leseprobe

Susie Hodge

Alphonse Mucha

The Genius of Art Nouveau

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Zum Buch

At once elegant, authoritative and accessible, this definitive book includes Mucha's oeuvre in its entirety, and traces how Mucha's mastery of line, symbolism, and integrated design shaped Art Nouveau's visual language.

With 250 superb reproductions, art historian and author Susie Hodge presents a sweeping visual account of Alphonse Mucha's impact on the language of Art Nouveau. His luminous posters, decorative panels, and designs for jewelry, typography, and interiors exemplify a movement that sought to integrate beauty into every aspect of life. Through flowing contours, symbolic female figures, and meticulously orchestrated ornament, Mucha created an aesthetic that became instantly recognizable across Europe. Rather than focusing narrowly on biography, Hodge places Mucha's work within the cultural and technological forces of the fin de siècle — the rise of mass printing, the expansion of consumer culture, the revival of craft ideals, and the period's fascination with nature, mysticism, and symbolic expression. Her explanations of chromolithography, poster production, decorative design, and Mucha's evolving motifs clarify how his imagery achieved such remarkable reach and influence. Later chapters examine the ambition of *The Slav Epic*, as well as his stained glass windows and national commissions. A final section traces Art Nouveau's decline, modernism's ascent, and the later rediscovery of Mucha's art. Elegant in design and rigorous in research, Hodge's treatment offers both an accessible entry point and a substantive contribution to the literature on Art Nouveau and its most distinctive visual innovator.

With colored edges, spot varnish and metallic foil stamping on the cover

Autor

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