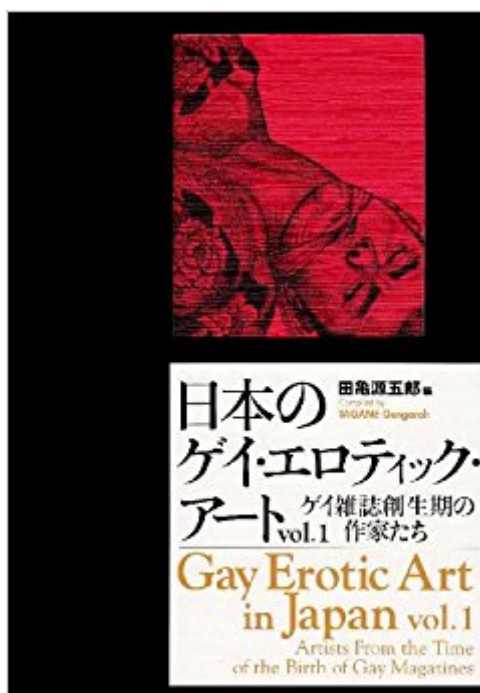


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Gay Erotic Art In Japan Vol. 1



Synopsis

The first in a three-volume series edited by TAGAME Gengoroh and dedicated to Japan's gay erotic art, this volume collects drawings by MISHIMA Go, OKAWA Tatsuji, FUNAYAMA Sanshi, HIRANO Go, ODA Toshimi and, with him, other artists who published in the 1960s Japanese erotic magazine, Fuzoku Kitan. (Artist names in this description are listed family name first, as is custom in Japan.)

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Customer Reviews

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Gengoroh Tagame is a manga god, and THE god of erotic manga (not to mention the greatest artistic advocate of burly/muscular/hairy/larger gay men and those who love them). This book, however, shows that a master artist and trailblazer of sexual representation is also a discerning, comprehensive, and extremely gifted historian. Both volumes of this study are excellent. Tagame is very careful to show in his commentary how subtle changes in the style and content of visual homoerotic art in Japan represent major changes in the history of gay men in Japanese society. Very aware that sexuality is extremely culturally relative--defined and limited by social structures while also continually pushing against repression and conventional "normalcy"--Tagame is

extremely focused, showing his readers that one's society can never be ignored when assessing what sexuality means. All the while bearing the relativism in mind, the artist/art historian explains the history of same-sex desire in Japan, boldly critiques cultural heteronormativity, shows that "taboo" desires have a much deeper history than one might be led to believe, and brings together an astonishingly large and diverse number of visual pieces with extensive commentary. It's truly amazing how Tagame provides so much insightful detail given the huge number of works he has selected for inquiry. Tagame is possibly one of the most sex-positive artists who has ever lived, and his magnificent historical narrative doesn't betray his focus: he has chosen some exceedingly sexy works. He elaborates on their importance, but doesn't feel the need to defend his selections because he is acutely aware that sex and the erotic do not need to be justified. That is his core mission, and he achieves it with the same masterful determination that makes his manga works so singularly mesmerizing.

yes and Yes

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