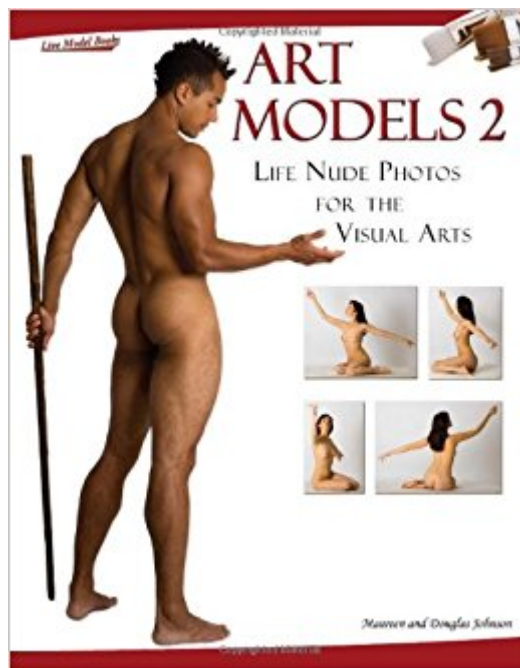




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# Art Models 2: Life Nude Photos For The Visual Arts (Book & CD-ROM) (No. 2)



## Synopsis

Artists looking to supplement a live model class or hone their skills from the comfort of home are provided with a solid pictorial guide to the human form in this detailed reference. Nearly 200 crisp photographs portray a diverse group of male and female models from a variety of angles in 52 classically inspired poses. Precise lighting reveals otherwise hidden areas of the models and illustrates rich shadowing and tone, while an anatomical study, inspired by da Vinci's Vitruvian Man, presents detailed proportional references for each model. The accompanying CD-ROM contains nearly 1,500 high-resolution, full-color images, allowing artists to zoom in on challenging areas such as the hands, feet, and face, or project the photos to life-size proportions. Nine poses with overhead views are also exclusively available on the CD-ROM.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

"A great visual aid with large accessible photographs from which to work when a live model is not available."  
—Rhiannon Mercer, MFA, artist and teacher, Albuquerque, New Mexico  
"Larger images, full natural color and the greater range of models make this very close to the drawing lab experience."  
—Robert Rhoades, professor of fine arts, College of the Redwoods  
"Will be extremely useful to a wide range of artists: painters, sculptors and digital animators."  
—Virginia Maksymowicz, associate professor of art, Franklin & Marshall College  
"An artist wishing to paint the human body in its entirety would be well served by [this] book."  
—Jeriah Hildwine, painter, MFA, Hoffberger School of Painting, Maryland Institute College of

## Art

Maureen Johnson is an art director and marketing analyst. Å Douglas Johnson is a photographer and engineer. Å They are the coauthors of Art Models and live in Å Derry, New Hampshire.

Having worked with live models (both nude and clothed) for over thirty years, the Art Model series 2, 3, and 4 (along with its DVDs), which are the ones I recently own, are the best I have seen of its kind. The authors have bent over backwards to create a reference book on models for artists and I was pleased to find the following: In Art Models 2, the authors focus on classically inspired poses and cite their reference (i.e., "The Implorer" Rodin, 1900, On Disk: mandy017; and "Torso with a Twist," A Red Ink study by Michelangelo, circa 1510 Metropolitan Museum of Art, New York, On Disk: jim013. Etc.). In Art Models 3 and 4, the authors: include props (invaluable when an artist has to be sensitive to and understand the dynamics of the slightest muscle shift and its effect on the fulcrum; one grid page and one non-grid page with the same pose (an important aid when something about the image just doesn't look right); 24 angles of the same pose for 360 degree views; and two-model poses which aids in spatial relationships. The series serves exactly what the authors intended; that is, a reference to work from, independently creating (drawing, painting, sculpting) from the suggested poses in the books/CDs. My first choice will always be to work from a live model because cameras lie and distort by reinterpreting what our eyes see. Photographers reinterpret what the camera sees. And the inks necessary for printed publications, again, reinterpret the image tones. As an example, in terms of inches, our feet are larger than our heads. The camera doesn't see this and the feet look suspiciously too small; all the figures are imbued with a luscious warm body tone which in reality our shadow areas, at the turning point, shifts into a slightly cool range. To have everything in a warm tone tends to flatten the image. These are camera and printer's ink issues; but, this knowledge is important when planning to please a client.

Some of the poses and models in this book are bland, old, uninteresting, and the women's bodies are not shapely enough and not robust, just flat and pasty. This book is the least of my favorite art books, although there are other volumes you can check out.

This is good because the models stand still. The problem is the lighting is too even. You have to guess a bit on shadows. Its better than some books like this because it isn't all "models" that you would see in fashion magazines. These are more like real people with shapes, forms, musculature,

etc.

Although this is the best of the Art Model series books because the models' bodies are not obscured by the annoying, puzzling, questionable lighting and "artful photography" of other books in the series, it is still sorely lacking in natural poses, natural action, and varied body types. The CD that allows for 360 degree views of every pose would be a lot more useful if those poses were not so static, "classical", and stiff. This is not the fault of the models but of the publishers and photographers who produce the series.

Bought this book at the suggestion of one of my drawing teachers. This book has come in handy so many times and really helped me throughout then entire quarter of school with assignments and has proved to be helpful even after the class with personal drawing. The book is very well made with interesting, unique positions and all different body types, races and ages. Excellent book all around, got here very fast and the packaging was great. I like this book so much, I'm thinking of buying some of the others in the Art Models series. :)

Without doubt it's the best visual reference available for those of us who can't afford to pay models. There's a good selection of body types, male and female, and they can be rotated and enlarged with excellent resolution. There is a good selection of poses with excellent lighting too . I've been doing artwork since I was a child and this has proved to be a valuable tool for the artistic study of human anatomy. Buy it, you can't go wrong on this one.

This second volume in the series is even better than the first, better models(with better muscle definition) and the concept of posing them as classical art pieces is a great touch. I got this version, the hardcover with the cd-rom and is and innvaluable tool for the classical trained artist and art student. No machine is better designed and refined than the human body and this book is good evidence of it.

Photography is well done. I like have 4 views of each model at 90 degree angles. I wish they would include a thumbnail menu which would make it easier to preview and choose a picture each time I start a new drawing.

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