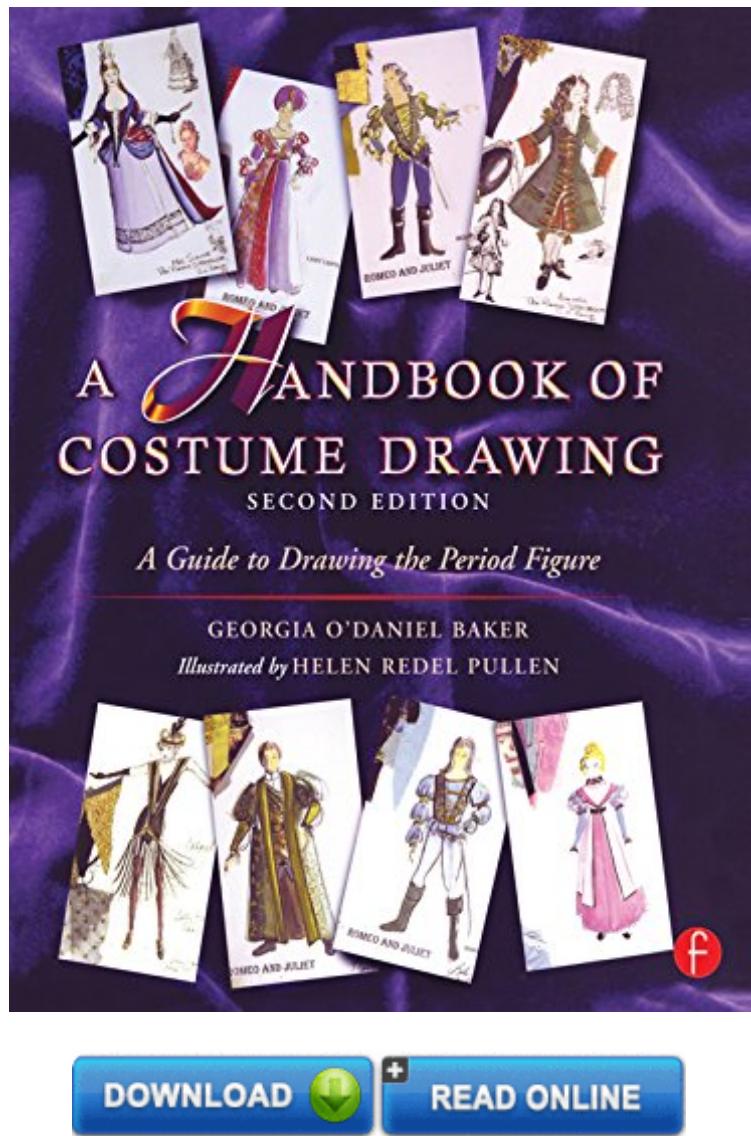


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## A Handbook of Costume Drawing: A Guide to Drawing the Period Figure for Costume Design Students

Georgia Baker

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**Georgia Baker : A Handbook of Costume Drawing: A Guide to Drawing the Period Figure for Costume Design Students** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised A Handbook of Costume Drawing: A Guide to Drawing the Period Figure for Costume Design Students:

0 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Great bookBy M. GagnerVery useful book, but I waited several weeks to get it. The book is a nice combination of fashion history and drawing tips.0 of 1 people found the following review helpful. great bookBy Irina ChristelThis was my "bargain buy"! I will use this book for the rest of my life. It is useful for my career.6 of 7 people found the following review helpful. The worst costume rendering handbook I have ever seenBy ZannyAs a student of costume design, a book that has "for students" in its title is marketed right at me. It's

too bad no one told the publisher or the author that students do not have \$50 to spend on a book that would be better used as toilet paper. First off, there is no excuse for a professional costume designer having to bring in an illustrator to illustrate the book for them. Costume design is inherently about your ability to create art that helps you communicate your ideas to others. If you can't do that, why are you writing a book telling OTHERS how to manage it? The author's costume renderings are shown in color only as small thumbnails on the front cover of the book and only in black-and-white internally. Given her style of rendering, this is one step down from useless. The illustrator has made a nice effort, and the silhouettes from the time periods might be useful in a pinch, but there are plenty of costume history handbooks out there which illustrate far more of the range of silhouettes - and cover more than just white-washed portions of European history. I find it both disappointing and hilarious that this book devotes more pages to Ancient Greece than Ancient Rome. How many plays survive from Ancient Greece as opposed to Ancient Rome? (hint: less than 10) This book is an extreme disappointment from start to finish. The instructions seem highly hypocritical when viewed in context with the illustrations and the costume renderings on the cover. Instructions to use realistic style and to avoid "wide, cartoon-like" eyes and figures which appear to float on nothing seem wholly inappropriate given the style of the renderings on the cover. I can't help but wonder how the author would react if she saw the work of students who rendered in a style more in accordance with her instructions. One must hope she would at least be gracious about it. I don't know how much input the author and illustrator were able to give their publisher with regard to these problems, but honestly, far more can be accomplished by going to a search engine and finding free, online tutorials. Perhaps in the future, a blog would be a better venture than a book? At least those only waste the money of the people who pay for the hosting, and not for those unfortunate enough to stumble across them.

Perfect for students of costume design and history, *A Handbook of Costume Drawing* illustrates and describes the dominant male and female costume silhouettes for major historical periods ranging from Egyptian dynasties through the 1960s. Important details, including head and footwear, hair styles, fashion accessories, shoulders, waist, hem, and neckline are provided to maximize the historical accuracy of each design and to help you fully recreate the look and feel of each period.

**From the Publisher** This book presents visuals that will help the designer produce images reflective of a specific time period. Students of costume design and costume history will learn how to "see accurately". Important information, including head and footwear, hair styles, shoulders, and waist, hem and necklines, are detailed to maximize the historical accuracy of each design and fully recreate the look and feel of a period. This new edition incorporates several important chapters covering topics such as: \* Drawing from the Source: Period Garments as a Three Dimensional Form. Students' skills are polished by drawing from mannequins in period garments, including both fitted and draped garments \* Understanding Color- including the color wheel and the understanding of value, saturation and the relativity of color \* The Use of Computer Technology in Costume Drawing- The use of Freehand, Photoshop, and the scanner to add versatility to costume drawing skills. *A Handbook of Costume Drawing* is the perfect first book for any student of historical costume design.

**About the Author** Georgia O'Daniel Baker is Professor of Theatre Arts at Towson University and Director of the Costume Design program. She is also Resident Costume Designer and Artistic Associate for the Maryland Arts Festival. As a professional designer, Ms. Baker has designed costumes off-Broadway, for regional theatres, summer stock, dance, and television. Her designs were included in the world premiere of Ionesco's *Journeys from the Dead* and the American premiere of Ionesco's *Man with Bags*. Helen Redel Pullen is an Assistant Professor of Art at Towson University and a freelance designer and illustrator. Her figure illustrations have appeared in publications such as *Glamour*, *Mademoiselle*, and *The New Yorker*.