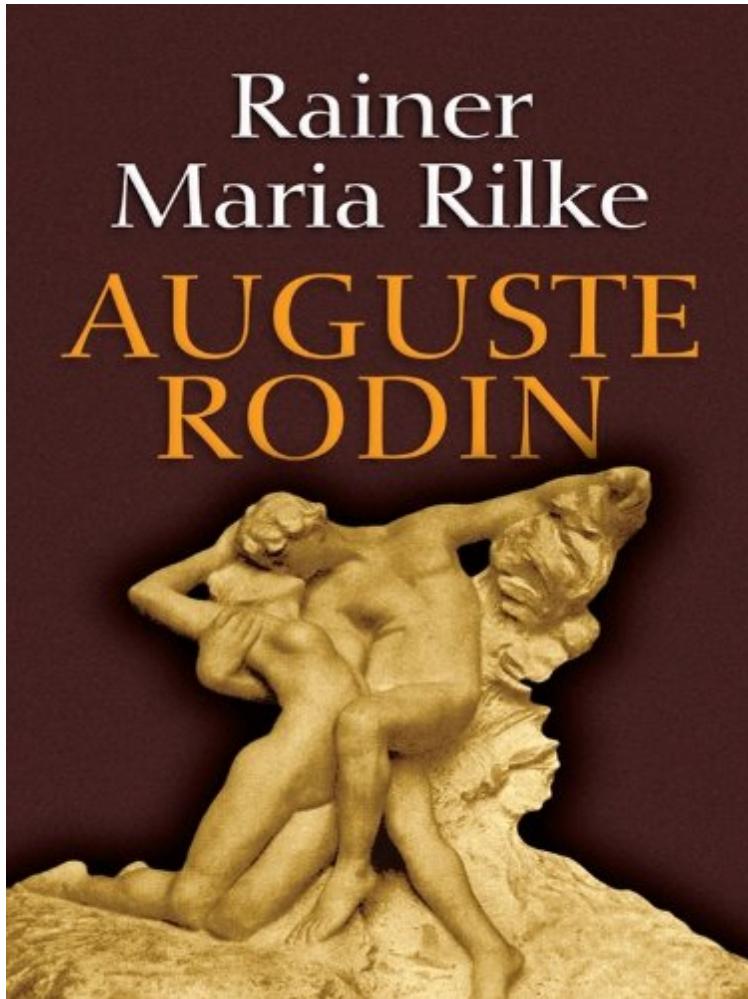


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## Auguste Rodin (Dover Fine Art, History of Art)

*Rainer Maria Rilke*  
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**Rainer Maria Rilke : Auguste Rodin (Dover Fine Art, History of Art)** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Auguste Rodin (Dover Fine Art, History of Art):

6 of 9 people found the following review helpful. Never too muchBy wiredweird "I have been accused of thinking about women too much ... But what could be more beautiful than thinking about women?" - Auguste Rodin Rodin is a striking example of an artist who achieved recognition in his own lifetime. That included financial independence, which gave him the freedom to explore directions for which patronage would have been hard to find. In fact, the display of some images in this series is said to have cost the director of the Grand-Ducal Museum his job. It's easy to think of Rodin's masterworks in statuary as complete command of form. Whatever Rodin thought of them, it wasn't enough. His later life produced "one-minute drawings" like these by the thousands. He was looking for something, possibly within himself, that he never found words to articulate wholly. One proposal holds that he wanted to capture the dimension of time, the frozen moment, that eluded stone and bronze. Perhaps he succeeded. Beyond that, he also

succeeded in collecting a wonderful catalog of female figure - not just figure, but dynamic and exciting figure. The excitement is more than just intellectual. It goes well towards the carnal but stops short of vulgarity, at least to a modern eye. These models presented not just their forms but their arousal, of themselves and of their same-sex partners. Rodin's genius captured their passion and his own, stripped of any critical sentiment. This book will work well to complement a library that already represents Rodin's better-known works. These watercolor drawings tend toward a sameness of color, contrast, and style that might wear on some viewers' patience. I guess it's not for everyone. If you've already befriended Rodin's work, though, this is an enjoyable way to deepen your relationship.--wiredweird1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Beautifully written. Lacking in factual informationBy Myra KentBeautifully written. Lacking in factual information.1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Five StarsBy epiklesisElegant and insightful.

"Rilke's observations are wonderfully astute. For readers interested in either [sculpture or poetry], this volume is a treat." — The Christian Science Monitor During the early 1900s, the great German poet lived and worked in Paris with Auguste Rodin. In a work as revealing of its author as it is of his famous subject, Rainer Maria Rilke examines Rodin's life and work, and explains the often elusive connection between the creative forces that drive timeless literature and great art. Rilke served for several years as Rodin's secretary — living in the sculptor's workshops, watching the shaping of his creations, and discussing his views and ideas. Written in 1903 and 1907, these essays about the master's work and development as an artist mark Rilke's entry into the world of letters. Rodin himself paid the poet the ultimate tribute, declaring these meditations the supreme interpretation of his work. This excellent translation, complemented by 33 illustrations, will fascinate students of literature, philosophy, and art history.

Combining Daniel Slager's elegant translation from the German of Rilke's writings on Rodin with Michael Eastman's photographs of Rodin's sculptures, *Auguste Rodin* offers a fresh look at an unlikely mentorship. — The New York Times Book Review Brilliant and subtle but richly colored new photographs of Rodin's sculptures by Michael Eastman make this new translation of Rilke's classic meditation on Auguste Rodin a feast for the eye and mind. National Book Critics Circle Award winner William Gass examines the text and the setting to provide insight and context. Fine writing, beautiful images, and exciting ideas make this edition of Rilke's *Auguste Rodin* a real treat. — R.K. Dickson Poets and the visual arts — it is a vast subject; and all through the twentieth century artists and writers collaborated almost constantly, sometimes with such intensity that it seemed as if they were passing back and forth a single flask labeled 'Inspiration.' Few poets have written more eloquently about the visual arts than Rilke, and one of the most beautiful books of the year is his *Auguste Rodin* (Archipelago Books, \$30), translated by Daniel Slager, with photographs by Michael Eastman, which bring us close to the charged surfaces of Rodin's bronzes, and catch their storm-tossed intensity. Rodin was at times a disturbingly bombastic artist — while his *Gates of Hell* may be the work of a genius, it is also pure kitsch — but in the years just after 1900, when Rilke got to know him, the avant-garde was still inclined to embrace Rodin as a rough-hewn visionary, a man in whose studio, as Rilke wrote, 'everything was becoming, but nothing was in a hurry.' For Rilke, both Rodin and Cézanne suggested, through the very physicality of their labors, a route beyond fin-de-siècle preciosity. Rilke discovered in Rodin a man who was utterly committed to the materiality of the artistic vocation. Rodin taught Rilke to make his feelings concrete. — Ruth Franklin From the Publisher — Over 100 drawings and cutouts — Rodin shows the female nude form in its beauty and simplicity — Wonderful collection of Rodin's late work — About the Author — Auguste Rodin (1840-1917) is one of France's most revered artists. His works are distinguished by their stunning strength and realism. He was strongly influenced by the works of Michelangelo, and his pursuit of realism resulted in accusations that he had used a live model as a cast for his sculpture, *The Age of Bronze*. Among his most famous works are his monuments *The Burghers of Calais*, his statues *St. John the Baptist Preaching*, *Eve*, *The Thinker*, and *The Kiss*, and *The Gates of Hell*. In 1916 Rodin donated his entire estate to the French government stipulating that they establish a permanent museum dedicated to his work. The Musée Rodin is located in the Rodin's Paris home, and the works still displayed in their original settings.