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Comic & Fantasy Artist's Photo Reference: Colossal Collection Of Action Poses



Synopsis

Created specifically for comic book and fantasy artists, the Colossal Collection of Action Poses features page after page of energetic, high quality, artfully composed reference photos. This isn't your average visual aid full of boring, lifeless models in the same staid poses. In this book, you get WHAM! (Karate chop to the head!) WHOOSH! (Leaping out of danger!) ARGH! (I've been shot!). Running, flying, kicking, wielding weapons, it's all here, along with a great selection of casual activities (talking on the phone, getting dressed, drinking) for carrying your storyline forward. 1,200 dynamic facial expressions and poses, with an emphasis on action. Extreme angles, perspective and special lighting poses for maximizing drama. Male and female models represent a range of ages and ethnicities. 16 step-by-step demonstrations show how professional comic artists from DC, Marvel and other top publishers use photo references to create cutting-edge art. The "Colossal Collection of Action Poses" is a book that features a best-of style group of anatomy poses from Scalera's first three photo books, which include: Comic Artist's Photo Reference: People & Poses (2006), Comic Artist's Photo Reference: Women & Girls (2008), and Comic Artist's Photo Reference: Men & Boys (2008). The pose file book boasts an all-new cover by fan favorite artist Amanda Conner (Power Girl, Black Cat, Vampirella) and Paul Mounts (Fantastic Four, Spider-Man, Ultimates). If you are looking for photo reference for artists, this is the original and best resource for figure drawing and cartooning. Scalera also includes never-before-seen photographs that were shot for the original books, but were not included due to space. And, the book features brand new art lessons from Michael Avon Oeming (Powers) and Thom Zahler (Love & Capes). Also included are classic educational lessons from Mitchell Breitweiser (Captain America), Sean Chen (Wolverine), Paul Chadwick (Concrete), David Hahn (Spider-Man), Matt Haley (Wonder Woman), Jamal Igle (Superman), Josh Howard (Dead@17), JG Jones (Wanted), Rafael Kayanan (Conan), Mike Lilly (Batman), Greg Land (X-Men), Terry Moore (Strangers in Paradise), Fernando Ruiz (Archie), William Tucci (Shi), and Mark Smylie (Archaia).

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

On the whole, as a an artist's reference, this serves it's purpose. Either I've got an approximation of a pose in my mind, I'm looking for inspiration, or I just pick a pose out to practice with, I can usually find something in this book. There is a good variety of action poses here, which is divided by gender, and further by pose category. These categories include different fighting poses, divided by weapon type, hand-to-hand poses, flying, running, jumping, landing etc. as well as more mundane activities like lighting a cigarette or putting on clothes. In addition there is a section for poses involving more than one person, that includes grappling and couples poses, but this section leaves more to be desired. The lighting is static, diffused light, but any competent artist can gather the contours by looking at the pictures. The models are clothed, the guys usually wear just pants, and the amount of clothing on the women varies, from just underwear, to underwear and a tank top, to capris and tank tops. Your mileage may vary on how you'll feel about this, as some people are purists about this, but I like the modesty for the most part, makes it less awkward I guess. My only real complaint is in regards to the running poses. From what I've found, poses references usually take a static running photograph, and it's usually pretty obvious they just took a picture of a guy standing on one foot, the picture just lacks a certain dynamism. I can see they tried to counteract this problem by taking one of the models out into a park and taking pictures of her running around, climbing on slides and what have you. However, while I admire and appreciate the effort, many of these photographs are blurry and just look unprofessional.

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