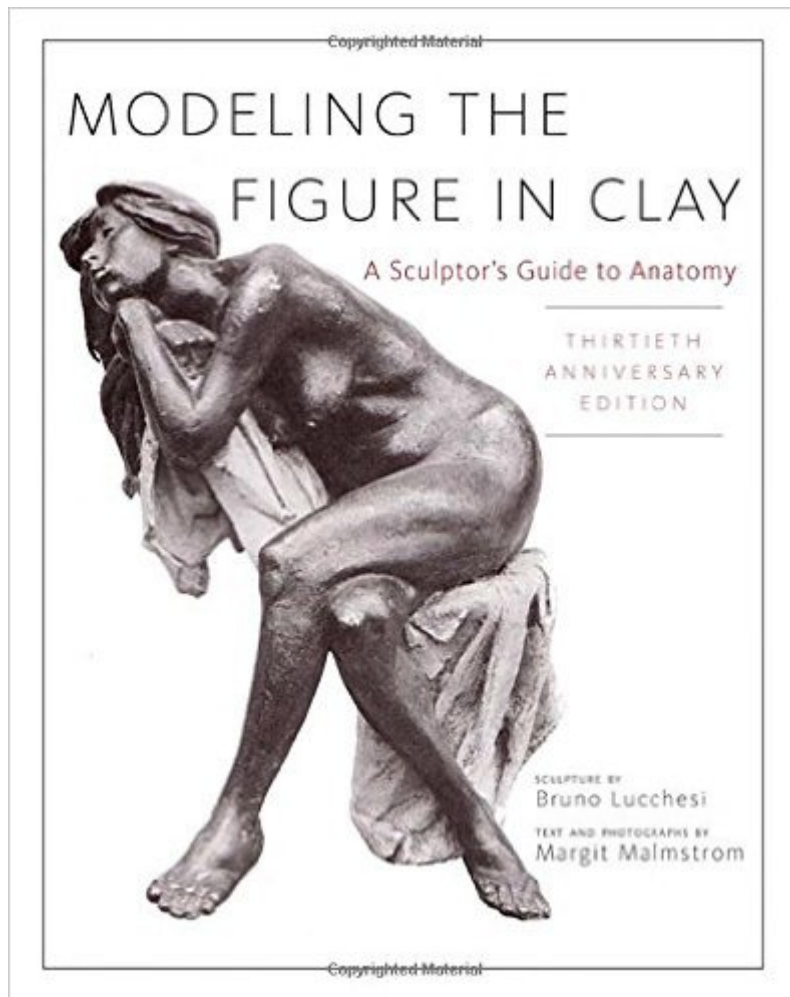


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Modeling The Figure In Clay, 30th Anniversary Edition: A Sculptor's Guide To Anatomy



Synopsis

For thirty years, *Modeling the Figure in Clay* has been an indispensable anatomical resource for people who think, see, and understand form best in the round: sculptors. In the thirtieth anniversary edition of this classic work, master sculptor Bruno Lucchesi invites you on a guided tour of the human form. Follow him as he creates a figure in clay—literally from the inside out—starting with the skeleton, laying on the muscles to show male and female anatomy, and finishing with a complete figure sculpture with every detail of face and hair carefully modeled. BRUNO LUCCHESI's work has been added to the collections of the Whitney Museum of American Art, the Brooklyn Museum, and the Dallas Museum, among many others. Lucchesi has received awards from the National Academy, the National Arts Club, and the Architectural League. He was a Guggenheim Fellow in 1962-1963, he won a Gold Medal award from the National Academy of Design in 1990, and was awarded the Polich Tallix Foundry Prize from the National Sculpture Society in 2009.

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Customer Reviews

Wow, what a book. I have been searching for the right book to help me build a human body that looked believable in sculpture and this is the one. Lucchesi creates the form by first creating an armature, then building a skeleton onto it (ribcage, pelvic girdle, etc.), then adding the muscles, then adding the skin. A must for anyone who would love to sculpt anatomy like Rodin and Michelangelo. Lucchesi's head book is just as good.

If this book was actually what I had been looking for, I would have given it 5 stars. However, it wasn't exactly what I had thought. It is not so much a "how-to" book as it is an illustrated diary of the artist's amazing process. This particular sculptor sculpts the entire skeleton, muscular system out to the finished sculpture you see on the front of the book. It's amazing but a little more detailed than I believe a beginner such as myself needs - I was a little daunted by the entire process but also quite in awe. The photographs are tremendous. This book would probably be better suited to students in advanced sculpture.

This book, along with the other titles in the series: "Modeling the Head in Clay" and "Terracotta," is an excellent resource for beginning sculptors. In fact, if I could buy only one book on sculpting, it would be one of these three (and most probably this one). The book is a walk-through of a single sculpture, which is instructive, but it is also a great reference. Mr. Lucchesi's style is realistic with natural poses, and quite pleasing -- it exudes peace and repose. Ms. Malmstrom has a gift for photographing and describing exactly those parts of the process most interesting to students. The medium is clay, and I'm working in wax, but I have not found this to be a problem. Be advised that it concentrates on the female figure, so an additional anatomy book may be helpful for proportioning male figures.

If you are a representational figurative sculptor, and want to learn how to build the human body from the inside out, you cannot have a clearer how-to with pictures treasure book. 360 degree and close-up views are included with each step. Step by step, the master shows how to build the figure starting with the skeleton, and laying on each muscle, then fatty tissue and skin layer. Serious artists will benefit by getting a medical poseable skeleton, along with the 19th century classic "Artistic Anatomy" by Dr Paul Richer. Study hard, and do the exercise like you were in class with the teacher. There are no shortcuts, however, the dedicated few will advance exponentially, but only by having the patience and discipline to follow through. It pays to know more rather than less.

I actually didn't think this was really a book about the artist's method, despite what he might say - I think he was trying to show that to accurately portray the OUTSIDE of the human body, or ANY living thing, we've got to know what's going on INSIDE, and this was his way of learning the human body from the inside out. I'm more inclined to think that he uses fills like many of us do, because if he tries to fire that sucker, it's going to blow up in the kiln. If he's going to do a mold, he's got the undercut issue to deal with. What he probably does with THESE clay sculptures is what artists do so

often that the rest of the world can't imagine - he puts it back in the slip bucket and recycles it!

The book arrived in good time and in excellent condition as promised. It is a very informative and helpful text for a student (like my daughter) who has no experience with clay sculpting. I appreciate the very low price which is many dollars less than those at the school's bookstore. I wish we had known long before now that we could get her textbooks through ; but then, why am I surprised? has just about anything you could want at a really good price!! Way to go, !

This book is more helpful than Lucchesi's other guides. There is a lot of practice info here which will help you get familiar with figure sculpting. I would say that this book is actually about as helpful as taking a beginning figure sculpture class, and the techniques are very solid. I am actually a pretty tough critic, and a 4 star review for an art instruction book coming from me is pretty rare (check out my other reviews for art books if you don't believe me).

When I was twenty, my sculpture professor recommended this book for figure study. I thought it was outstanding then. Sixteen years later, having lost my copy along the way, my eight-year-old son started to show an interest in drawing and sculpting the human figure. I remembered this book, picked up a copy for him and fell in love with it all over again. From the skeleton through the musculature to the skin, Bruno Lucchesi is amazing.

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