



The Arthur Rackham Treasury: 86 Full-Color Illustrations

Jeff A. Menges (Editor) , Arthur Rackham

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This stunning treasury features full-page plates of the finest works by the famed English artist, Arthur Rackham (1867–1939). A leading figure in the early twentieth century's Golden Age of Illustration, Rackham interpreted scenes from such diverse material as fairy tales, Wagnerian opera, and Shakespearean comedy. His memorable images, which combine whimsy, romance, and sophistication, continue to enchant children and adults alike.

Magnificently reprinted from more than 25 rare early editions, these 86 illustrations were selected from hundreds of possibilities and include many plates that have not been reproduced in decades. They span Rackham's career — from his landmark 1905 edition of *Rip Van Winkle* to masterworks such as *Undine* and *A Midsummer Night's Dream* and his final publication, *Wind in the Willows*, in 1939. Art lovers, book collectors, and anyone with an appreciation for imaginative visual storytelling will prize this marvelous treasury.

The Arthur Rackham Treasury: 86 Full-Color Illustrations Details

Date : Published August 15th 2005 by Dover Publications

ISBN : 9780486446851

Author : Jeff A. Menges (Editor) , Arthur Rackham

Format : Paperback 96 pages

Genre : Art, Fantasy, Classics

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From Reader Review The Arthur Rackham Treasury: 86 Full-Color Illustrations for online ebook

John of Canada says

The artwork was glorious, and as a result of a few of his drawings I will be reading The Vicar of Wakefield and Rip van Winkle.

Marquise says

The best selection of fairy tale artworks by Arthur Rackham I've seen published. None of his most famous and best works are missing like in some other collections of his illustrations that I've seen, and there were a few I'd never seen before because they were done for books that are hard to find now. It was very tempting to rip some of the illustrations out and frame them for hanging on the wall, they were so pretty!

Alex Sarll says

What I love in Rackham's art is that same feeling I get from the best Pre-Raphaelites - Burne-Jones' Arthur, for instance. That sense of somehow capturing the impossible level of detail with which our world enchants, but rendering with it a purer, truer realm where the beauties are clearer, the shadows darker and even the evils are grand instead of shabby. Most of these illustrations originally accompanied the sort of texts you'd expect - Poe, Goblin Market, some especially fine renderings of the Ring Cycle - but even the ones from The Vicar of Wakefield find an otherworldliness in this one.

Marsha says

Arthur Rackham is one of those master illustrators, an artist whose style is instantly recognizable by anyone who has ever seen his works. As the blurb on the back cover relates, he was a leading figure in the early twentieth century's Golden Age of Illustration and the title is well deserved. His particular style, which combined clean lines in his figures with rococo backgrounds lent itself brilliantly to the various subjects he tackled. He didn't really tend much toward the brighter colors but he made astonishing use of the somber, neutral palettes of beige, gray-greens and browns.

He is particularly well known for his illustrations of myths and fantasy and many are displayed here in full-length color pages. Here you will find his talents given to works by William Shakespeare, Christina Rossetti, Richard Wagner, the Grimm Brothers and Jonathan Swift, et al. Green-haired mermaids are just distinct from the wavy, shell-like rocks to which they cling; a furious Gulliver draws his sword against a swarm of attacking wasps; Titania reaches out imploringly to a transformed Bottom, whose asinine face bears a convincing expression of astonishment at the sight of her; Daphne's transformation into a tree shows less of bark and more of winding cloth and wind-tossed hair, reminding me of the aqueous deity who was her father and fae faces and limbs peep forth from a tree as an off-page Caliban describes the sweet noises that seem to come out of nowhere on the enchanted isle.

This book is indeed a treasure and those who adore Rackham will want it for their own. Those readers who have never seen his works (Really? Where have you been?) will be astonished at the range of his abilities. In any case, you may just want to run out and get the various books to which his pictures are attached just to get the full effect of seeing them in context. They're that superb.

Nedda says

Always impressive!

Amy says

Arthur Rackham (1867-1939) made perfect story illustrations with intense detail and thin, bold lines, all with very natural, earthy colors. I like to plagiarize his work and tell people it was my own design.

Charity says

Love the art! They say a pictures worth a thousand word, but put the right words with a picture and magic happens.

Marquita says

I LOVE this artist!

Molly says

Beautiful. I just love those autumn colors in Rackham's art . The ones I like the most are his drawings of trees and tree spirits.

<https://www.google.hr/search?tbm=isch...>

Katie Suratt says

My favorite illustrator! That is all.

Raha says

Arthur Rackham is a master illustrator.

Seth says

Excellent pidery and a little creepy fairy tale art from World War I era English artist.

Jaimie says

86 colour illustrations doesn't seem like enough to cover the broad range of Arthur Rackham's artistic career, but Menges has chosen carefully so that Rackham's major works are represented. There are examples from his series of Norse myths, his work with Shakespeare, some from his books for younger children like Mother Goose, and some of his most popular publications like Peter Pan in Kensington Gardens. I really enjoyed that there was no dominant work among the selections, as each book was represented by only a few illustrations, so the reader is getting the most variety and the author isn't showing a bias towards any specific favourite work.

A selection of his magazine illustrations could also have been included to show his progression, but many of the Rackham biographies feature these, so they are not essential to this collection. On the contrary, I would have liked to see a selection of Rackham's silhouettes, as they are often overlooked as a significant part of his portfolio and there has not been a definitive republication of the pictures besides the books themselves yet. Some minor commentary would have also been nice so that first-time readers could get an idea why certain pictures were chosen rather than others, and to encourage them to go find the books that these illustrations come from to see the entire collection. Leaving out any commentary (besides signalling which publication each illustration is from) does focus the reader on the illustrations though, which is the whole point of a collection like this one.

Orsolya says

You may not know the name 'Arthur Rackham'; but I assure you that you have seen his work. Hailing from London; Rackham was one of the most prolific illustrators of the Victorian era. His prints and illustrations have littered our childhoods and now grace the walls of museums and art collectors' wish lists. Jeff A. Menges compiles 86 of my favorite illustrator's works in, "The Arthur Rackham Treasury".

"The Arthur Rackham Treasury" is a soft-covered, glossy-paged collection which makes for a light coffee table book or a supplement to an art exhibit. Each page features a print, illustration, or drawing showcasing Rackham's 30 year career from "Rip Van Winkle" to "The Wind in the Willows". The illustrations are accompanied by a quote from the story or image it is depicting and the title of the book it is from (if available).

Menges begins "The Arthur Rackham Treasury" with a brief, simple introduction explaining the highlights of Rackham's career before then detailing the reasoning behind the images chosen to grace the pages. Those seeking a detailed bio of Rackham will be sorely disappointed as "The Arthur Rackham Treasury" is literally

just a compiling of images.

Menges does well with choosing a strong ratio of famous works with that previously not in print thus satisfying both those new and unfamiliar with Rackham's pieces. The images chosen are a mastery of talent and are alive with breath and movement. Rackham's work is truly mesmerizing and Menges captures it well in "The Arthur Rackham Treasury".

Rackham's work is not always suitable for small children as they do include goblins, trolls, fairies, etc and sometimes can be 'scary'. In the same vein, "The Arthur Rackham Treasury" may not be ideal for children with fears of these images/subjects.

The major issue with "The Arthur Rackham Treasury" is the lack of detail on its pages. Menges merely provides a visual but there are no descriptions for art lovers such as date completed, materials used, etc. There is something left to be desired for hardcore Rackham lovers.

"The Arthur Rackham Treasury" is a super quick visual look at the images of Rackham's works. Although it isn't an insight into the man himself (see: Arthur Rackham: A Life with Illustration); it is an enjoyable coffee table book for those who love Rackham's illustrations.

Wetdryvac Wetdryvac says

Very quick read, and I definitely prefer Rackham's work in the context it was painted/drawn for. Still quite lovely.
