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Duane Hanson: More Than Reality



Synopsis

Wrinkles, facial hair, varicose veins, and fingernail dirt are hardly the bodily stuff of your average figurative sculpture, be it a Praxiteles or a Rodin. But Duane Hanson was never after the ideal figure, merely the familiar one, one so recognizable it is often mistaken for the flesh-and-blood waitress, house painter or cop it so vividly, eerily depicts in polyester resin. Clothed in the most exacting of detail, down to their hidden underpants, Hanson's sculptures compell an endless, prying looking into the folds and moods of his subjects. *More Than Reality*, the first catalogue raisonne of his sculptures, reveals that Hanson's objective was never blatant voyeurism but the opening of a view onto those things we prefer to overlook: the drabness of everyday life, the dullness of common states of mind, the inevitability of mortality.

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Customer Reviews

i'm thrilled with this book. Perhaps it might puzzle a person who's never seen a Duane Hanson sculpture in real life, but the quality of the photos makes easy to imagine you're there "in the flesh" with these profound meditations on modern life. Hanson is easily on a very short list of the greatest American artists. I don't think he can be surpassed. What sensitivity, then to be able to show the wheels turning in the people's - i mean the "sculptures"'s - heads. i don't care for any other "life casters", but Hanson was way more than just a life caster. Thank you, Duane Hanson and crew!

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