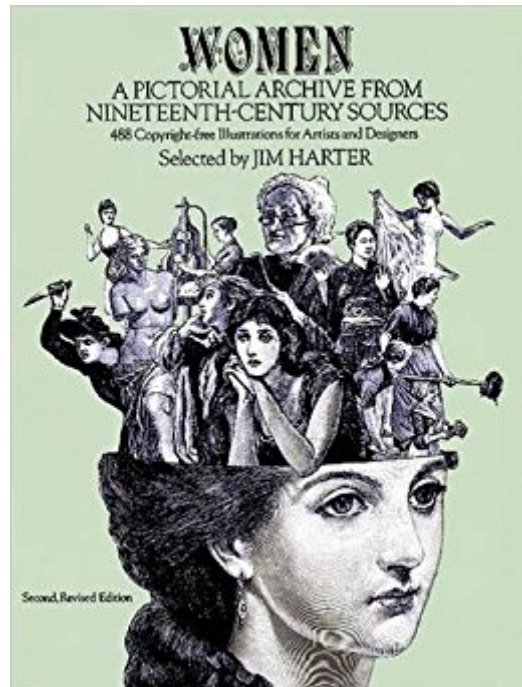


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# Women: A Pictorial Archive From Nineteenth-Century Sources (Dover Pictorial Archive)



## Synopsis

Lush allegorical ladies, Grecian maids and Victorian maidens, Indians, Japanese, dancers, housewives, courtesans; women dancing, smiling, working, weeping, flirting – an unusually rich sourcebook of feminine poses and activities, costumes, clothing, everyday life, and much more. Images selected from rare issues of Leslie's Weekly, The London Illustrated News, The Graphic, and more. 488 illustrations.

## Book Information

Series: Dover Pictorial Archive

Paperback: 128 pages

Publisher: Dover Publications; 2 Revised edition (November 1, 1978)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0486237036

ISBN-13: 978-0486237039

Product Dimensions: 0.5 x 9 x 9.5 inches

Shipping Weight: 15.5 ounces

Average Customer Review: 4.5 out of 5 stars – See all reviews (37 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #243,945 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #61 in Books > Arts & Photography > Graphic Design > Clip Art #81 in Books > Arts & Photography > Graphic Design > Printmaking #209 in Books > Arts & Photography > Graphic Design > Commercial > Illustration

## Customer Reviews

I liked this book very much - it was a good mix of vintage images showing women in a very wide range of settings. i plan to use it for altered books and art journals and I foresee it being very useful because of the variety. I liked this better than several of the other clip art books of the same publisher; this is one of the most useful.

I use the pictures in this book for collages. I love the vintage look of the pictures and find that there is a good variety of sizes and subject matter.

Wonderful selection. Clear illustrations, easily reproduced for pixels, a little more complicated for vectors because the paper is ever so slightly porous, but it is nicely opaque. And the paper does not change!! My copy dates back and the paper is still white. Great job.

the other Dover Pictorial Archive came with discs, which made it easy to import into my computer for design projects. due to the outstanding price i can understand why a disc was not included, so i was ready to scan the images i liked, but the paper they used for the book is low quality, the printing inks bleed and the true lines were lost, the images are some what blotchy. The book are great if your ready to rebuild the images in vector, but the images as is will not match up with the crisp edges of the fonts you use while designing. over all i'm happy because they were priced so low and i always re-build Dover work in illustrator, but if your looking to cut and past scanned images into photoshop, the Dover are will look soft.

'Women' is an image archive assembled by ace collage artist Jim Harter from Victorian and Edwardian source material. As such, they lend themselves particularly well to collages - most of the figures have been divorced from their original surroundings - and for inclusion in advertisements, posters, and such. In fact, I've seen a few of these images repurposed in the 'fearless flyers' of one of my favorite supermarket chains. As I mentioned in my review of another Dover image archive, it's amazing how bizarre and sometimes creepy these images are divorced from their original context. The focus in this volume is, as you might expect, women of all ages. I detected no overlap in images contained in other Harter-edited books, but a sizable minority of images here are also included in the "Steampunk Sourcebook." I strongly recommend this book if you're into making collages from vintage materials, and want to point out a few details to you. 1) Although drawn from Victorian/Edwardian source material, the images do not exclusively reflect the fashions of that era. There are several images in Biblical or classical garb, and many non-Western examples of dress and makeup, too. 2) Some of the images are line drawings of other works of art (such as the Mona Lisa, and some of Lord Leighton's androgynous nudes) 3) The grain of the images varies, possibly due to reproducing them on different scales 4) Lastly, unlike other Dover archives there is no CD-ROM included. If you don't want to cut this book up, you'd better resign yourself to a few hour scanning in the pictures yourself. Given the heft of the volume this could take the better part of a 7-hour day to scan and clean the images up a bit.

This is a great resource of images. It's very diverse in the type/age/ethnicity of the images of women. I would recommend it to any crafter/mixed media artist.

This is a lovely collection of old images of women in various poses and styles of dress. I am excited that these images are copyright free and I hope to be able to use them for my own creative

projects.Thanks, Mom and Dad!

When we think of women of the Victorian era, we probably tend to think first of repressed prudes in ridiculous clothes who spent most of their time fainting, keeping house, dressing, or working for "causes" such as "temperance" (meaning prohibition). While many of the women portrayed in this collection come from times or societies when females had more latitude--and some of them (angels, Viking goddesses) aren't even human--the illustrations provide a surprising variety of females. Some are faintly homoerotic (or just plain erotic, like the bare-breasted African woman on page 4); some are clearly engaged in useful work (a Colonial lady blacksmith, a Victorian photographer); some are passionate (two half-dressed dance-hall girls having a knock-down-drag-out on page 18, a lady in street garb taking after a man with a knife and a ferocious look on page 15); some are active (female gymnasts on page 22-3, a golfer on page 35); some defy convention (several stylishly-clad ladies apparently sharing an amicable glass of wine with a "fallen woman" on page 26); some are romantic (in the modern love-story meaning of that word);, some melodramatic, some homely or inspiring; many are exotic (one can only imagine how much more so they seemed to the generally little-travelled readers of the illustrated papers from which the pictures are taken). Some are plain, some beautiful; some are white, others black or Asiatic. Some of the illustrations reproduce fashion plates, some statuary, some advertisements (often surprisingly subtle). There are nearly 500 altogether, every one crisply and clearly reproduced. Fans of Victorian illustration aren't the only ones who might find the book fascinating to leaf through.

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