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# 101 Great Samurai Prints (Dover Fine Art, History Of Art)



## Synopsis

One of the last great names in the Japanese ukiyo-e style, Utagawa Kuniyoshi was an undisputed master of the warrior woodblock print. Born in Tokyo in 1797, his talent became evident by the tender age of 12, when he became an apprentice to a famous print master. Starting out with vivid illustrations of cultural icons including Kabuki actors and Japanese heroes he moved on to a unique treatment of warrior prints, incorporating elements of dreams, omens, and daring feats that characterized his distinctive style. These dramatic eighteenth-century illustrations represent the pinnacle of his craft. One hundred and one full-color portraits of legendary samurai pulse with movement, passion, and remarkably fine detail. A must for collectors of Japanese art and a perfect first work for those who want to start their own collection, it includes brief captions and a new introduction.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

Utagawa Kuniyoshi (1797-1861) developed his artistic talents by the age of 12. He created vivid illustrations of Japanese cultural icons, including magnificent prints of Kabuki actors and what he is best known for; great samurai warriors.

I have been an enthusiastic fan most of my life of anything to do with the martial arts and the warrior arts. The Japanese Samurai "Code of Bushido" (Way of the warrior) has always been part of my lifestyle having trained in numerous martial arts (Judo, Jujitsu,

Karate-do, Kenjutsu, Wakizashi-Jutsu etc.) systems over the years. I have also been interested in Japanese poetry (Haiku) and art forms like the Japanese style of woodblock prints. I recently purchased this wonderful volume (101 Great samurai Prints by Utagawa Kuniyoshi) of Samurai prints for a reasonable price on . Even though I have seen many of these Japanese wood block prints in the past, what makes this book unique is that on each page they not only have a full color print of a Samurai, but it also has a short explanation on the bottom of the page of who the drawing is supposed to be and what it means. Some of the prints include the following Samurai: Oda Nobunaga, who was a famous war lord, the Samurai commander Imagawa Yoshimoto, Takenaka Hanbee Shigeharu, who was the intellectual advisor to a military commander, The Samurai Skai Ukon Masanao with his Katana (Long sword) drawn, Yamanaka Shikanosuke Yukimori, a Samurai in full armor and numerous other beautiful prints. If you are into the Japanese martial arts and artistic arts, you will love this fantastic set of beautiful Samurai Prints. Rating: 5 Stars. Joseph J. Truncale (Author: The Samurai Soul: An old warrior's poetic tribute).

This is a pretty good book with beautiful examples of Kuniyoshi's prints. Unfortunately, the front note and the captions in the Seichu gishi den series incorrectly indicate the main antagonist to be "Kono Moronao". It should be Kira Kozukenosuke. Considering the popularity the 47 Ronin story, it's amazing to me that someone who took the time to research the captions of the prints could not get the name of the antagonist right. Kono Moronao was indeed a real person but from an entirely different era, figuring prominently as a leading general for the Ashikaga clan at the beginning of the Muromachi Era. If Grafton's main role was to write the captions and was unsuccessful in accurately doing so, I do not feel this rates more than 3 stars.

Very nicely done. I wouldn't mind a complete series on the artist's work--since most of us will never be able to afford the original or even full size prints. I would have liked a little more description and analysis, too, but that's too much to expect for something this affordable. While it's a paperback, it's solidly constructed of high quality paper. A delightful book to browse for inspiration.

All of the prints are printed very clearly and there's a really nice variety. Each one comes with a description at the bottom and the beginning of the book offers an explanation of the layout of each print. Definitely worth the buy if you're into samurai, Japan, or Japanese art. My ONLY wish would be making the descriptions longer and providing more to read on each picture, but the paragraph provided does the trick well enough.

Great pictures very detailed! They have brief captions at bottom allowing picture to have the main focus on the page. All around good coffee table book or good for collections a must have for fans of Japanese art.

great pictures for tattoo ideas

great

muy buena recopilaci3n de ilustraciones

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