THE ART OF THE EROTIC

PHAIĐON
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Artists have created erotica from ancient times to the present day. *The Art of the Erotic* documents this timeless aspect of art history, through 170 carefully curated chronological works, ranging from drawings by Turner, prints by Hokusai, Indian temple carvings, Persian miniatures, to paintings by Botticelli, Picasso and Cecily Brown, and sculptures by Michelangelo, Rodin and Louise Bourgeois.

The range of creative output is astounding, and, in addition to paintings, drawings and prints, the book includes photographs, videos, installations and performances by such artists as Araki, Robert Mapplethorpe, Bruce Nauman and Pipilotti Rist. The selection illustrates erotic art produced in places as far flung as Gupta India, medieval France and Peru. Featuring iconic images, such as Courbet’s *Origin of the World*, alongside little-known works, *The Art of the Erotic* reveals the universal attraction of the erotic in the visual arts and may also offer surprises from the artists included.

**INTRODUCTORY ESSAY**

**PLATES**

**CAPTIONS**
Anonymous, Ōkuninushi figures, Kandariya Temple, Khajuraho, c.900–1300

Limbourg brothers, Saint Paul the Hermit Sees a Christian Tempted, from The Belles Heures of Jean de France, Duc de Berry, 1405–8/9
Giulio Romano, *Love Scene*, 1524–5
Caravaggio, Amor Victorious, 1601–2

Guido Reni, Saint Sebastian, c. 1635
Katsushika Hokusai, *Diving Girl Ravished by Octopuses from Pining for Love (Kissor no Komatsu)*, 1814.
Jean Dubuffet, *Erotic Drawing*, 1949

Francis Bacon, *Two Figures*, 1953
Sarah Lucas, Bunny Gets Smothered #5, 1997

Lisa Yuskavage, Day, 1999-2000
John Currin, *The Conservatory*, 2010
