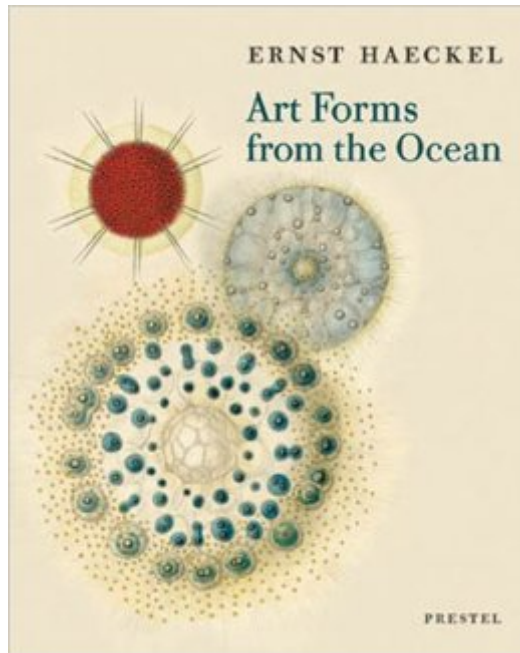


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# Art Forms From The Ocean: The Radiolarian Prints Of Ernst Haeckel



## Synopsis

At the nexus of art and science, this dazzling new edition of Ernst Haeckel's first work reintroduces the genius of an enigmatic scientist and passionate observer of the natural world. Although original editions of this book are extremely rare, it is now available for the first time in a paperback edition, beautifully reproducing his drawings and watercolours. While the variety and detail of Haeckel's drawings display an impressive understanding of biological structure, the skill with which Haeckel drew these tiny, aquatic protozoa renders them genuine works of art. This volume features commentary and descriptions of each of the radiolarians from Haeckel's work.

## Book Information

Paperback: 96 pages

Publisher: Prestel; 1st edition (May 28, 2005)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 3791333275

ISBN-13: 978-3791333274

Product Dimensions: 0.8 x 9.8 x 12.5 inches

Shipping Weight: 1.4 pounds (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.6 out of 5 starsÂ Â See all reviewsÂ (24 customer reviews)

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## Customer Reviews

Radiolarians are a total blank to the majority of people, yet these remarkable builders of glass houses (microscopic to be sure) abound in the world's oceans. Ernst Haeckel, the Nineteenth Century German biologist and supporter of Darwin, wrote the most comprehensive monograph on the group in his Radiolarian Atlas of 1862, which is still in use today. The illustrations have never been surpassed and so it is certainly a boon for microscopists that the plates have now been republished in all their glory as "Art Forms from the Ocean: The Radiolarian Atlas of 1862". In many ways I wish that the text would have included descriptions of the radiolarians illustrated and their distributions, but that probably would have been of little interest to the general public. Instead there is a discussion of Haeckel's life and work, especially of his involvement with radiolarians and other microscopic marine life. Still, for the price this is a real bargain, and I thus recommend this book just for the plates to any amateur or professional biologist who is interested in the micro planktonic

organisms of the ocean.

As an artist I am always trying to enlarge my "visual vocabulary." The symmetry and unlimited variation in sea forms are exquisite in their perfection. This volume has beautiful illustrations.

The publisher has two Haeckel art books available, the other being ART FORMS IN NATURE, which is the better of the two. It is better because it contains a lot more of Haeckel's wonderful drawings than the OCEAN book. Many of the images from the NATURE book are duplicated in the OCEAN book, although there are some that are not in the NATURE book and some that are different in part. I love the artwork and find it hard to believe Haeckel produced all this and so much more fantastic work during his lifetime. The disappointing thing about both of these books is that, after an intro discussing Haeckel's life and work, there is no info about the specimens in the artwork apart from their scientific names. Many pages appear to be views of the same organism, but do the various images represent it at various stages of development or movement shown from different angles? Are the species shown on the same page related? There's just nothing but a name in Latin. So I highly recommend this book for the artwork (90% of more of which is not in color). If you enjoy incredibly detailed, expertly drawn images of mostly microscopic life in its magnificent intricacy, you'll like this and/or the NATURE book a lot. If you are looking for more information on the images, forget it as it isn't here.

This is the second book I have purchased by Ernst and I am not disappointed. Being a sculptural artist, this is being used as a reference book for me. Only nature could create such stunning objects and only a very talented artist, could recreate this for us all to enjoy. A valued book in my art collection.

This contains 35 full page hand coloured plates with a 23 page illustrated introduction. In the plates section, the right hand page contains the illustration, and the left hand page is mostly blank except for the short plate description. It differs from Prestel's "Art Forms in Nature" which has around 100 hand coloured plates, with plates on both sides of the page. Google for Kunstformen der Natur (1900) to see the images in Art Forms in nature, and search for Ernst Haeckel: Die Radiolarien to see the images from Art forms from the Ocean

This book is very lovely. I bought it for my boyfriend's birthday and he loved it. The book features

colored illustrations, that are so soft and detailed. There is first an introduction about the author, and the rest of the book is filled with beautiful drawings, identified by scientific names. I would highly recommend this book to aspiring biologists, and those intrigued by marine life.

The quality of the drawings are outstanding. Anyone who likes nature must have this book. Another complementary book is "Art forms in nature", from the same author (Ernst Haeckel). Buy this two books. You will not regret it. :)

this book had strange drawings of ocean forms that were somewhat interesting but not in color and had none of the more colorful and interesting ocean forms/life i was expecting and as the cover shows.

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