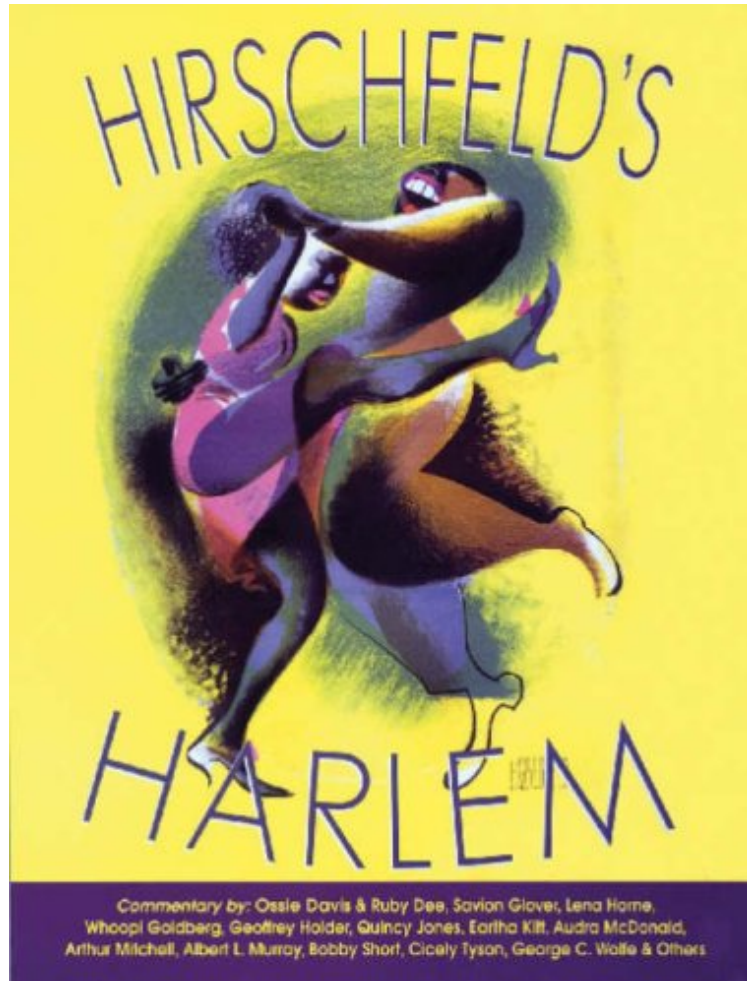


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Hirschfeld's Harlem

Al Hirschfeld

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#1999050 in Books Glenn Young Books/Applause 2005-11-01 2005-11-01 Original language: English PDF # 1 12.00 x .32 x 9.00l, 1.81 #File Name: 1557836752128 pages Hirschfeld's Harlem Applause Books Series Softcover Written by Al Hirschfeld Now in paperback! Decades before the PBS documentaries, before Bill Clinton, Al Hirschfeld went to Harlem No artist ever captured Harlem's dangerous highs and bluesy lows like this Master of the Performing Curve Hirschfeld began his artistic Harlem odyssey six decades ago, charting that legendary New York neighborhood's special rhythms and moods in splashy feverish hues Hirschfeld's Harlem opens onto a special portfolio of these full-color works, a pictorial essay of the Swing Era | File size: 45.Mb

Al Hirschfeld : Hirschfeld's Harlem before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Hirschfeld's Harlem:

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Hirschfeld's Harlem By PTime This beautiful book more than met my expectations. Colorful and In excellent condition. It arrived just as described! Thank you... 0 of 0 people found the

following review helpful. Hirschfeld's Harlem By Doc I've been following Hirschfeld's art for about 40 years. This book was a true and entertaining example of his works. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Treasure of a book! By Customer I am blessed to own one of the original numbered copies of this treasure. Each framable print is separated professionally and maintains the original vibrant hues. The book is approximately 16x24". Procured for \$5 at a garage sale in the North Bay Area of CA, the week after the Hirschfeld Theater dedication in Oakland, just across the bay. And THIS is why I feel blessed to have it. This is an amazing compilation of art that should be in the library of every American history and art history aficionado. The culture of Harlem is richly and lovingly portrayed in a manner that respects the depth and beauty of the place and the people. Otherwise, what would we know of Harlem besides the media's reports of violence and degradation? One of my most treasured possessions.

(Applause Books). Now in paperback! Decades before the PBS documentaries, before Bill Clinton, Al Hirschfeld went to Harlem. No artist ever captured Harlem's dangerous highs and bluesy lows like this Master of the Performing Curve. Hirschfeld began his artistic Harlem odyssey six decades ago, charting that legendary New York neighborhood's special rhythms and moods in splashy feverish hues. Hirschfeld's Harlem opens onto a special portfolio of these full-color works, a pictorial essay of the Swing Era. Wynton Marsalis, Quincy Jones, Lena Horne and Harry Belafonte, among a dozen other Harlem artists and critics, supply accompanying commentary, reminiscences and analysis each voice focusing on one portrait. Then it's back to Hirschfeld in his signature black and white takes on forty Harlem artists and public figures: Gregory Hines, Duke Ellington, James Earl Jones, Ethel Waters and dozens more all have been caught in the creative act by one of our greatest artists. Each drawing is accompanied by a thumbnail narrative by Hirschfeld about the most famous inhabitants and transients of these fabled streets. Hirschfeld's Harlem opens a picture window into nearly a century of Black American artistry and life.

From Publishers Weekly It's a thin line between essence-capturing caricature and insulting cartoon, particularly when it comes to race, so it takes as practiced and bighearted an artist as Hirschfeld (1903-2003), whose caricatures of various cultural figures graced the pages of the New York Times for decades, to take on the challenge of depicting historical Harlem. Parts of this extensive 9"12" collection, featuring 30 full-color plates and 90 black-and-white drawings printed on art stock, were originally published, as Hirschfeld says, "in a book the size of a swinging door" the day before Pearl Harbor, with the publisher going bankrupt a few months later. This edition is roughly divided between this original "Harlem Portfolio" of color lithographs and selections from more recent black-and-white line drawings of leading African-American figures, with new commentary by such stars as Eartha Kitt, Bobby Short, Lena Horne, and Ruby Dee and Ossie Davis. Each commentator focuses on a single piece, which allows drawings that might appear disturbingly dated to be interpreted into a common past. Hirschfeld's own commentary on his sketches, in the last third of the book, leaves no doubt as to his admiration for the talents of actors, musicians and dancers like Paul Robeson, Sidney Poitier, Marian Anderson, Duke Ellington and scores of others, as well as of his anger at the way promising talents, such as Canada Lee's, were squandered. Perhaps most fun are the drawings, such as "Stompin' at the Savoy," in which Hirschfeld loses himself in the infectious energy of nighttime Harlem, where stern-faced, impeccably dressed residents blur into crackling lines of movement, individuals becoming manifestations of a neighborhood amazingly rich in history, culture and expression. Copyright Reed Business Information, a division of Reed Elsevier Inc. All rights reserved. "Al Hirschfeld's drawings are to caricature what Fred Astaire was to dance." "From the Author" "I have been so continuously enchanted with the Harlem I had grown up near and visited my whole life. . . Harlem people just keep on rising above whatever met them at eye level; regardless of the rugged terrain or the economic weather, Harlem residents had their own means of levitation. They performed an art form beyond the Arts, beyond the stage, beyond the Cotton Club. Very real people meeting reality head on and then stubbornly transcending it. Some commentators have made much of the fact that these aren't Hirschfeld's typical performers. Well, they're not on the stretch of Broadway I had covered before or since. But these Harlemites are performers all right. They are in rehearsal for the performance of their lives. It's that grand profound ritual I hope to have captured here." -Al Hirschfeld, January 2003, from his preface, Drawing on Harlem