



Altered and Adorned: Using Renaissance Prints in Daily Life (Art Institute of Chicago)

Suzanne Karr Schmidt, Kimberly Nichols

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Today Renaissance-era prints are typically preserved behind glass or in solander boxes in museums, but these decorative objects were once a central part of everyday life. *Altered and Adorned* is a delightful, surprising look at how prints were used: affixed on walls; glued into albums, books, and boxes; annotated; hand-colored; or cut apart.

This handsome volume introduces readers to the experimental world of printmaking in the mid-15th and 16th centuries and the array of objects it inspired, from illustrated books, sewing patterns, and wearable ornaments to printed sundials and anatomical charts. It features many never-before-published treasures from the Art Institute of Chicago's rich permanent collection, along with essays on the ways prints functioned—in some cases as three-dimensional and interactive works—and how their condition communicates their use.

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