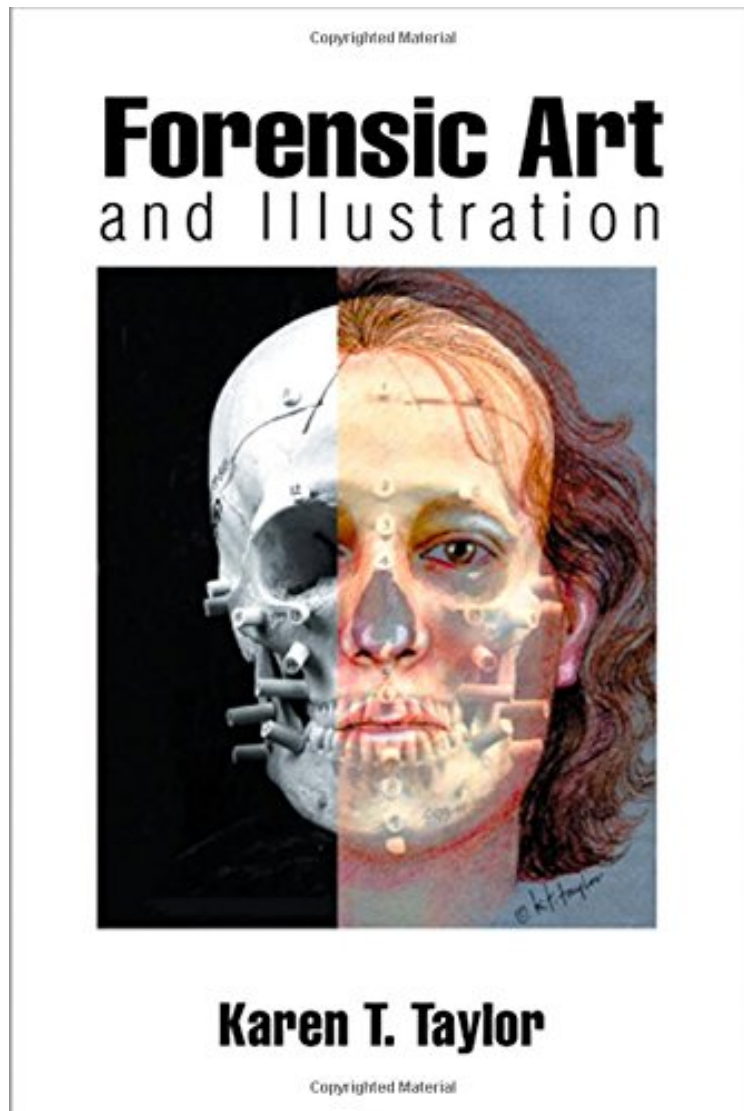


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## Forensic Art and Illustration

*Karen T. Taylor*

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**Karen T. Taylor : Forensic Art and Illustration** before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Forensic Art and Illustration:

3 of 3 people found the following review helpful. The Nexus of Science and Art By Karrie I am not a forensic artist, and I do not work in law enforcement, but I am a writer with an interest in various forensic science disciplines and the nexus between art science. In particular, I am always interested in what makes someone "identifiable" -- how you \*know\* who someone is, how you recognize a person, what it means to identify or recognize someone all the attendant cognitive issues. If you are at all interested in those kinds of questions, this book will knock your socks off

and challenge you in ways you never imagined. It is also an incredible gift to witness Karen T. Taylor's methodical, exacting process step-by-step. Fifteen years ago, when I was writing an essay about a missing person case, I stumbled upon forensic facial reconstruction and thought, "This is what I am doing, too." Just as forensic artists sculpt from the architectural structure and anatomy of a skull, I was "sculpting" essays from the basic architecture of facts gleaned from research to bring this missing person to life. I had to be highly ethical and aware of where science/fact ended and creativity began. So when I found Karen T. Taylor's book, it became a sort of writing process bible for me, a way to imagine the nexus between science and art -- and it continues to apply to my work today, even if I am writing straight-up memoir. While teaching composition, I have even referenced this book to demonstrate to students how a methodical process works and why it unfolds in the order it does. In fact, ever since the first time I cracked open that spine, Karen T. Taylor has been a hero of mine. Not only does she know how to teach, but she is also extremely generous in sharing the secrets she has learned in her many years as a top forensic artist. She genuinely wants others to succeed in the field and help identify victims and criminals. There is absolutely no ego, which if you have spent much time in the arts, is a rare and amazing trait. The book gives you a solid foundation in the history of forensic art, the scientific basis for why forensic artists work as they do, facial anatomy, changes to the face after death, interviewing techniques for composite drawings, practical considerations such as tools and materials, and how to apply all of it to your work. Bonus: Karen T. Taylor happens to be a talented writer, too. The text is easy to read, even for non-forensic professionals, and it is loaded with illustrations. I have even purchased additional copies to give to friends in the visual arts, and they unanimously love it for how it has pushed them to greater understanding of faces. (I wasn't being generous. I simply can't bear to loan out my copy!) Finally, having taken her Forensic Facial Reconstruction-Sculpture course at the Forensic Anthropology Center at Texas State, I can assure you that Karen T. Taylor doesn't do anything halfway. She is not content to stick to techniques simply because she has always done them. She constantly strives to learn more about anatomy, more about tissue depth studies, and more about her art--a quality that shines through in this book as well, as she reveals how she learned from mistakes. During class, she was generous with her time and insight, and she is every bit as amazing as I had imagined, so if you love her book and feel like it has helped you hone your craft, take the workshop, too. 1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. I cannot recommend it highly enough. By Lauren This is the most comprehensive book in its field and whether you are a professional in forensics or forensic art or are simply interested in the topic, *Forensic Art and Illustration* by Karen T. Taylor is a must read. Ms. Taylor gives a thorough and fascinating history of forensic art and helps the reader develop a meaningful understanding of forensic art's evolution and many uses. The author covers several types of forensic art including sculpture, composite, and postmortem. She includes case examples and clear instructions and often shows right and wrong examples of forensic art so that the reader can learn from successes as well as mistakes. If the reader is interested in becoming a forensic artist then this book is the foundation that is needed. I cannot recommend it highly enough. 1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Taylor is an amazing pioneer in the forensic world. By Joyce Conlon Karen T. Taylor is an amazing pioneer in the forensic world, both in composites and sculpting. I bought her book to take with me to her Forensic Facial Sculpting class. I just finished the course and am even more excited to see the items in Karen's book that weren't covered in class. Plus, this is such a great reference tool, with valuable resources, including diagrams, charts, sketching education and so much more. Knowing I can learn from such an acclaimed forensic artist, and then have her book to reference for just about everything! Such a treasure for my job as a forensic artist!!

As the number of stranger-on-stranger crimes increases, solving these crimes becomes more challenging. Forensic illustration has become increasingly important as a tool in identifying both perpetrators and victims. Now a leading forensic artist, who has taught this subject at law enforcement academies, schools, and universities internationally, offers readers the benefit of her extensive knowledge and experience. *Forensic Art and Illustration* is the first book to provide complete coverage of all aspects of the field, and includes much previously unavailable information. Beginning with the first-ever in-depth documentation of the history of forensic art, this book proceeds logically through explanations of facial anatomy, practical methodologies and techniques, case examples, and a glossary of terms. More than 700 illustrations and photographs depict art methods used in identifying and locating crime victims and criminal offenders. Numerous successful examples, taken from actual solved cases, demonstrate applications of the methods and techniques presented. Ideal for both forensic artists who want to improve their skills and those who work with them in law enforcement, *Forensic Art and Illustration* is a practical guide as well as a complete look at the state of the art of forensic illustration today.

"For anyone interested in forensic related art, facial reconstruction and identification, this book is a wealth of knowledge. Certainly, it is a major work that merits serious attention and consideration. Importantly, the language and style of writing is most conducive to a quick grasp of the intended meaning. Finally, noting that the author gave named recognition to other contributors, it speaks well that the book was written for the right reasons." - RICHARD D. WALTER "This book is quite literally a vade mecum on the subjects it canvasses. It is a manual, more than merely a

primer, for the investigative uses of the subjects of forensic art and illustration. would I stock my library with this book? I have two, one for my home study and one for my professional office. Need more be said in praise of this book?"-PROFESSOR JAMES E. STARRS, LL.M., Professor of Law and Forensic Sciences, George Washington University, Law School, Washington, D.C., in Scientific Sleuthing " a comprehensive text that examines forensic art and its role in criminal investigation essential not only to law enforcement and criminal justice personnel but also to forensic and social anthropologists, police artists, and mental health care professionals who assist crime victims."-MICHAEL TAISTER, Forensic Artist, Forensic Science Communications, Federal Bureau of Investigation, Washington, D.C., in Forensic Science Communications"[a] multidisciplinary approach to many forensic art applications an excellent publication this is one of those books that defines a discipline and will be read and referred to for many years "-ROY PASCHAL, Forensic Artist, South Carolina Law Enforcement Division, in Journal of Forensic Identification "Our viewers know we've worked with Karen on many cases. She's one of the best."-JOHN WALSH, Host of "America's Most Wanted," FOX Television" a class act by a class author a wonderful contribution to the area "-DR. RONALD P. FISHER, Department of Psychology, Florida International University, Miami"As Vernon Geberth's Practical Homicide Investigation is the bible for homicide investigators, Karen Taylor's Forensic Art and Illustration will become the bible for forensic artists."-DETECTIVE CASEY JOHNSON, King County Sheriff's Office, Seattle, Washington" superb. It provides an easy-to-read and practical guide to the esoteric science of forensic art."-DR. CLYDE SNOW, Forensic Anthropologist "Great for Television Writers The book succeeds as both a useful research tool for the experienced analyst as well as being a fascinating, entertaining, easy to follow text for anyone who is new to the field of forensic art We cannot say enough good things about this book."-JOSH BERMAN (Co-producer) and DAVID BERMAN (Researcher), "C.S.I.: Crime Scene Investigation", CBS Television "Karen Taylor, a renowned forensic artist, has created the definitive guide to the art and science of forensic illustration. In her lucidly written and gorgeously illustrated book, Forensic Art and Illustration, she provides an authoritative account of the history and practice of forensic illustration and offers her readers a fascinating glimpse into the world of crime victims and criminal offenders. Her book should become a classic reference text for those interested in forensic science and criminal justice, and an invaluable resource for those of us interested in the faces as researchers, artists, physicians, anthropologists, or simply as human beings."-NANCY ETCOFF, Ph.D., Psychologist and Neuropsychologist, Harvard Medical SchoolAuthor of "Survival of the Prettiest""This book should be in the library of every forensic artist and forensic anthropologist. Taylor has managed to produce a comprehensive reference text that is encyclopedic in scope, yet is as interesting as a mystery novel. The book is filled with well-illustrated case reports and step-by-step instructions on the use of techniques Taylor's artistic talents, which have resulted in successful identification of countless suspects as well as victims, are now matched only by her talents as an author."-EMILY CRAIG, Ph.D, Forensic Anthropologist, Kentucky State Medical Examiner's Office" more than worth the price it covers simply everything, and even manages to do it in an interesting, extremely well-written manner. I actually found myself sitting down and reading it just for pleasure. A perfectly superb piece of work."-AARON ELKINS, Anthropologist and Edgar-award winning mystery writer, Washington"Karen Taylor's much anticipated text on forensic art happily lives up to the highest expectations. Karen is preeminent in the field and one of the few people practicing today who has professional experience in ALL aspects of forensic art Chapters [which are] co-authored with Betty Pat. Gatliff (the 'Grand Dame' of forensic facial reconstruction) will be especially appreciated by the students of these two distinguished international teachers."-ROBERT GEORGE, Ph.D., Professor of Anatomy and Biology, Florida International University, Miami"Karen Taylor has done a thorough and painstaking job to make this technical arena both fascinating and accessible. no one will come away without having learned an immense amount about how art aids in criminal investigation."-DR. KATHERINE RAMSLAND, Court TV/Crime Library"In addition to being a wonderful 'how to do it', the book is enjoyable and interesting to read even for the lay reader. I suspect that the very simple and straightforward approach conveyed in Forensic Art and Illustration only comes from those who feel the masters (or mistresses) of their field of expertise. I consider this book an essential part of every forensic anthropologist's and odontologist's library."-DR. JOHN G. CLEMENT, Professor of Oral Pathology and Forensic Odontology, University of Melbourne, Australia"Taylor has made a wonderful contribution for all future Forensic Investigation a must read."-SUSAN KLINGER, D.O., Pathologist, Anchorage, Alaska" the quintessential forensic art book that sets the standard for the discipline and for all future textbooks to come. Taylor's book has well over 500 pages of illustrations and information meticulously researched, organized, referenced and indexed great aid for criminal lawyers, police departments, colleges with criminal justice courses and research psychologists."-DETECTIVE FRANK DOMINGO, Forensic Artist, New York City Police Department, Retired"Impressive thorough coverage of all the diverse aspects of facial reconstruction every work step and work background is described extensively, and detailed descriptions of specific cases are given this book is a new standard!"-PROF. DR. FREIDRICH W. ROSING, Anthropologist, Institute for Human Genetics and Anthropology, Ulm, Germany " an amazing contribution for portrait artists and teachers of art at high school and adult levels "-DR. JUDY KULA, Professor of Art, Phoenix College, Arizona, USA" an extraordinarily concise and helpful guide in my efforts to understand this field of research. Taylor finds the exact balance of effective teaching she is able to demystify the

complexities of such work by a step by step approach based in common sense I consider this book to be a prize possession and it no doubt will, as Ms. Taylor hoped, be dog-eared and worn from frequent use."-DONNA CLINE, M.A., Cline Medical Illustration, Sierra Madre, California"Finally, one of the most accomplished Sketch Artists of our time has brought the discipline of Forensic Art into focus "-GIL ZAMORA, Forensic Artist and Instructor, San Jose, California" this book reads as though you are sitting next to Ms. Taylor and she has decided to reveal the secrets of the forensic art universe over a cup of tea no artist will be able to claim he or she is properly trained without having studied with Karen or from her book."-KAREN HARE, Crime Scene Investigator, Midland, Texas" an invaluable aid for any practitioner in this field."-JANET RICHARDSON, Forensic Artist, United Kingdom" a gift to all who toil in the trenches of police investigations."-KAREN WISNIEWSKI, Police Officer, Fingerprint Examiner, Composite Artist, Dearborn, Michigan" Karen has handed down to us a career's worth of precious and priceless knowledge "-LT. LISA SHEPPARD, Texas Department of Public Safety, Corpus Christi" the most comprehensive, detailed, methodical, insightful and visual presentation of the profession "-DETECTIVE KEVIN RICHLIN, San Jose, California" the definitive book on artists who use their talents to help law enforcement catch criminals "-LOIS GIBSON, Forensic Artist, Houston Police Department, Texas" This is a classic portrait drawing book. Karen Taylor's book deserves 5 stars There is nothing like it fascinating reading."-JAMES L. FERRY, Art Instructor, Sacramento, California" THE ONLY complete source on the subject of forensic illustration available today. It is a must for every potential police sketch artist and every law enforcement agency!"-DOROTHY NALLS, Forensic Artist, Carpinteria, California" will no doubt be the bible of forensic artists for many, many years to come."-CHARLES T. JACKSON, Forensic Artist, Haddon Township, New Jersey" I'm certain that the excellent presentation of material, coupled with the easy-to-follow information will keep the novice reader and professional artist involved from cover to cover. And it should hold a proud spot on everyone's shelf as a learning resource for years to come."-LORI FRANZ, Continuing Education Staff, University of Texas, Austin" Her book has been a tremendous guide for me in understanding the interview process of victims/witnesses, and her examples of her own drawings have been an aide to me that is unsurpassed."-CORPORAL WALTER SIEGEL, Police Officer, Shaker Heights, Ohio" a must for all forensic artists."-ROBER T. EXTER, Forensic Artist, Reddind, California" The clearly described detail makes this book a must as a reference/resource for all professional personnel involved in forensic identification."- RONN TAYLOR, Forensic Sculptor, Victorian Institute of Medicine and School of Dental Science, The University of Melbourne, Australia" a MUST tool for any forensic artist! "-STEVEN L. JOHNSON, Forensic Artist, Davenport, Iowa" an excellent resource manual for us to keep nearby when consulting and working on active cases"-MICHAEL STREED, Detective, Orange County, California" For any artist who desires to understand the human head, this book is a must."- DETECTIVE BOB POWERS, Chief Forensic Artist, Maricopa County, Arizona Sheriff's Office, USA" Forensic Art and Illustration is the perfect synthesis of art and science applied to forensics... An outstanding landmark in the field, Forensic Art and Illustration is the one book for anyone interested in the application of art and illustration to forensic investigations."- Science Justice 2001; vol. 41;4 (November) "...In a highly interesting and fascinating presentation, leading forensic artist Karen T. Taylor explains how we can use art for administration of law and justice...." Anil Aggrawal's Internet Journal of Forensic Medicine and Toxicology, Volume 3, Number 1, January - June 2002 For established forensic artists, it would prove to be an excellent text for recapitulation or even for familiarization of new facts. People in other sub disciplines of forensic science (e.g. forensic pathologists like this reviewer) would find this book immensely interesting, if only to know what this new and exciting branch is all about. Anil Aggrawal's Internet Journal of Forensic Medicine and Toxicology