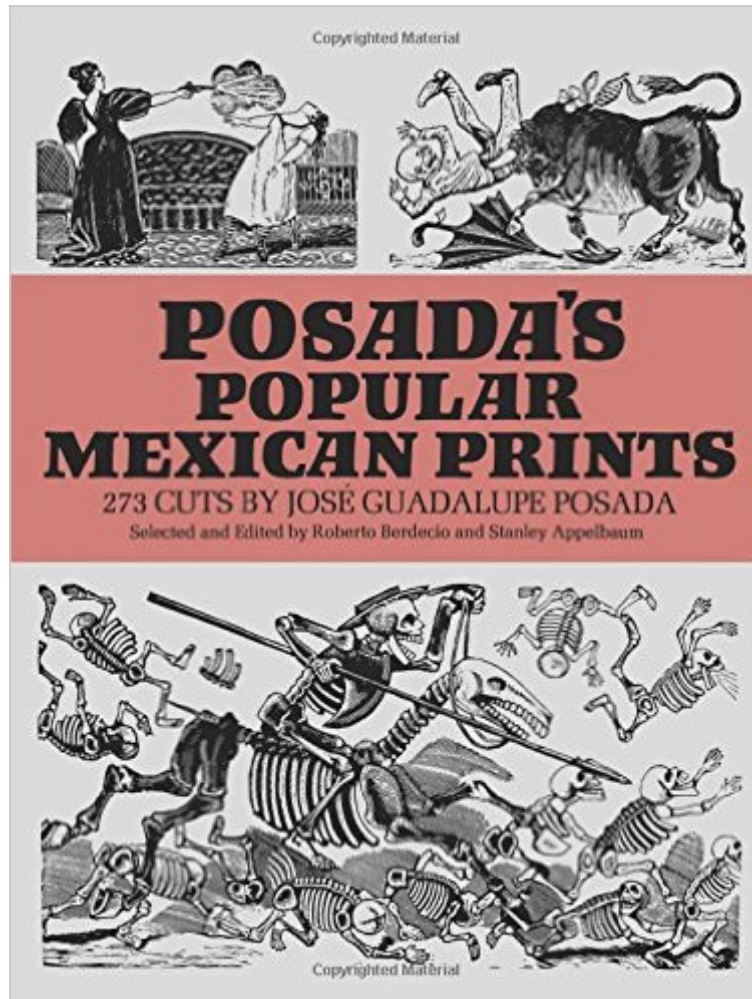


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# Posada's Popular Mexican Prints (Dover Fine Art, History Of Art)



## Synopsis

José Guadalupe Posada (1852–1913) was Mexico's most illustrious graphic artist. For over forty years he worked tirelessly as an incorruptible and truly popular artist, illustrating cookbooks and fortune-telling books, collections of songs and riddles, periodicals and newspapers, children's books and novels, and most of all famous broadsides that were distributed throughout the country. After his death he was venerated by the artists of the new generation – Rivera, Orozco, and many others, who realized that he had both saved and renewed the art of engraving in Mexico, and incorporated much of Posada's imagery into their own work. Here are close to 300 of Posada's best engravings, all done for the printer and publisher A. Vanegas Arroyo in Mexico City. Posada worked in two techniques – engraving on type metal with a many-pointed burin and, later, relief etching on zinc. The broadsides he illustrated commemorated all sorts of occasions – disasters, political events, crimes, and miracles – or they glorified great popular heroes like Zapata. Posada was known for his calaveras – skeletons that cavorted, ate and drank, rode bicycles and horses, wielded swords and daggers, or were revolutionaries, streetcleaners, dishwashers, and almost everything else. This was traditional art for All Souls' Day, the Mexican Day of the Dead, but in Posada's hands it became extremely versatile, sometimes an instrument of social and political satire, sometimes a sympathetic portrait of a revolutionary, sometimes a comic, cartoon-like memento mori. He did engravings of murders, suicides, catastrophes, robberies, and executions, as well as of snake-men, giant snails, and other grotesques and deformation. He pictured the daily pleasures and chagrins of the people from a proletarian point of view, and with overflowing imaginativeness. There is brutality and horror in his art, but there is also humor, political consciousness, and a sprawling, immediate vitality. This edition includes explanatory notes and commentary, often giving precise topical meaning to what otherwise appears vague or allegorical. It presents all of Posada's various themes, and all of the many forms in which he worked in his maturity. It is hoped that through it he will gain the wider audience, especially in America, that he deserves.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

I was familiar with the skeleton drawings long before I had even heard of Posada and after a trip to Mexico City a number of years ago I had to learn more. In the DF we saw a museum dedicated to cartoons and many of them were Posada's. The Dover book is a good introduction to his graphics. There is a lot of political humor in his work and even if you're not too interested in what the graphics subject matter you can still appreciate his skill. His artwork is probably known all over the world although his name may not be. Now I need to find a good biography of the man.

Posada is known mainly by its illustrations of the death, in this book appears all its work and the illustrations of the death are only a 10% of the book, the others are illustrations of the daily life, critical policy and customs of the Mexico Posada's time. The quality of the paper and the encuadernación are not very luxurious, but he is agreed with the price. In Spanish: Posada es conocido principalmente por sus ilustraciones de la muerte, en este libro aparece toda su obra y las ilustraciones de la muerte son solo un 10% del libro, las demás son ilustraciones de la vida cotidiana, crítica política y costumbres de el México de la época de posada. La calidad del papel y la encuadernación no son muy lujosas, pero es acorde con el precio.

I have been part of a family that celebrates Dia de Los Muertos for 23 years. Posada's art is an integral part of that celebration. And it tells the story of the Zapatista revolution. You cannot have Dia de Los Muertos without Posada's skeletons. This book is lasting treasure to remember that celebration each year and connect with it.

Exceptional from aesthetic, artistic and historical/cultural standpoint. Authoritatively presented, qualitatively and quantitatively impressive collection!

Love this book! Excellent reference material for future artwork. Highly recommend purchasing this book, well worth the couple bucks you paid!

This very inexpensive book is packed with Posada's most famous illustrations. A glorious artist capable of darkness and humor at a stroke.

This book is awesome! It has great history and plenty of work from Posada. For the price you can't bet that.

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