## The Female Nude by Phillip W. Weiss

Proud. Vivacious. Provocative. Alluring. The female nude is nature's gift to humanity and represents those enigmatic qualities which make her so special. The female nude is also a source of artistic inspiration through which the creative spirit finds expression. The male nude may also serve the same purpose, but it is the female nude that invariably gains the attention and for good reason: the female nude suggests a softness and passion that is pleasing. When a woman displays her body, she is not merely posing, she is making a statement about herself and society. That statement says in effect, "Here I am in all of my glory!" The male's glory lies in strength; the female's in warmth and protection. For is it not more than coincidental that nature is associated with femininity? Mother Nature - nurturing, caring, life-giving and life sustaining. Sometimes she shows us her wrath but afterwards follows up with warmth and healing. The fluids of life are essentially feminine. Just like the milk that flows from the breasts so do the streams and rivers flow from the hills to quench our thirst. Who can doubt the innate beauty of the female breast? They are a symbol of abundance and succor. And far from reducing the woman to the level of an object, the celebration of her body raises her up onto a pedestal from which she, like a queen, can survey her realm, that of hordes of admirers who crave the time when they can finally touch and explore what has been forbidden to them and thereby satiate their most intimate and intense passions.