Hirschfeld's Harlem
AL HIRSCHFELD
With Introductory Essays by WILLIAM SAROYAN & GAIL LUMET BUCKLEY
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Harlem in the twenties, The Harlem Renaissance, The Cotton Club, Lenox Avenue, Cab Calloway, Duke Ellington, Louis Armstrong, Gladys Bentley, and Lena Horne... these and so many more are the names we associate with the birthplace of the greatest African American cultural explosion. As a boy, Al Hirschfeld lived in Washington Heights, the neighborhood just above Harlem. When he attended high school, he went to the Vocational School for Boys in Harlem. When he finally became rich enough to buy his own house, he bought just below Harlem. Harlem was a daily fascination for Hirschfeld, part of everyday life. When, in the mid-thirties, a patrol officer stopped him while he was blissfully strolling down the street to warn him about his safety, he began to look a little more closely at the soul of Harlem. Though things had changed, his love and awe for those who carried on in the neighborhood only grew stronger.

In 1941, Hyperion Press published a portfolio of 24 Hirschfeld lithographs commemorating the rhythms, types, and doggedness of those determined Harlemites. This new edition is more than a reprint of the very rare and pricey original portfolio; it contains the original introduction by William Saroyan and 19 of the original lithographs, and it has been expanded to include 49 more drawings, ranging from 1939 through 1993, of African American personalities from the theater and music scenes accompanied by Hirschfeld’s own commentary. His exuberant crayon line swings and sweeps through the shapes of dance hall groups, lonely women, families, and jazz musicians. Always exact at the most crucial instant—a hand, an expression, a gesture, small or grand—Hirschfeld works with the whole body and soul of the moment.

In the new edition, the lithographs are now paired with cogent observations from the likes of Cicely Tyson, Savion Glover, and Ruby Dee and Ossie Davis. Also included is the rare Zora Neale Hurston short story “Story in Harlem Slang” reprinted with the original Hirschfeld drawings from The American Mercury magazine of 1942. A second introduction, by Gail Lumet Buckley (granddaughter of Ted Horne, Lena Horne’s father), “Brave New Black World: A Century of Harlem Renaissance,” gives us a marvelously informative review of the names and events that made Harlem such a captivating presence for blacks and whites alike. Beneath the celebration, of course, is the tale of a people struggling to carry on and rise above an atmosphere of repression, hatred, and injustice. These drawings offer a glimpse of the spirit behind that struggle and of the wings that bore it up.

REVIEWER: Phil Normand is a designer and writer who lives in Denver, CO.
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 Recommended. Harald von Hirschfeld (10 July 1912 - 18 January 1945) was a war criminal and general in the Wehrmacht of Nazi Germany who commanded the 78. Volksgrenadier-Division during World War II. He was a recipient of the Knight's Cross of the Iron Cross with Oak Leaves. Hirschfeld, the son of a Mecklenburg merchant, was largely educated and trained abroad, in South America, Spain, London, and Paris and was fluent in Italian and Spanish. He joined the Wehrmacht in 1935 and did a great part of his career in the AL HIRSCHFELD'S Portrait of RAQUEL WELCH in "WOMAN OF THE YEAR." AL HIRSCHFELD is the MARGO FEIDEN GALLERIES LTD., NEW YORK Hirschfeld. Arte Art Deco Moda Art Deco Estilo Art Deco 1920s Art Deco Posters Decor Art Deco Posters Poster Prints Art Deco Artwork Art Deco Paintings. Art Deco Dog Print Dalmatian Animal Quote Poster A3 A2 A1 | Etsy. Hirschfeld's Harlem (Appl has been added to your Cart. Add gift options. Other Sellers on Amazon. Å Hirschfeld's Harlem (Applause Books) Paperback å€ Illustrated, November 1, 2005. by Al Hirschfeld (Author). Visit Amazon's Al Hirschfeld Page. Find all the books, read about the author, and more. See search results for this author. Are you an author? Learn about Author Central. Al Hirschfeld (Author). 5.0 out of 5 stars 13 ratings. See all formats and editions Hide other formats and editions.