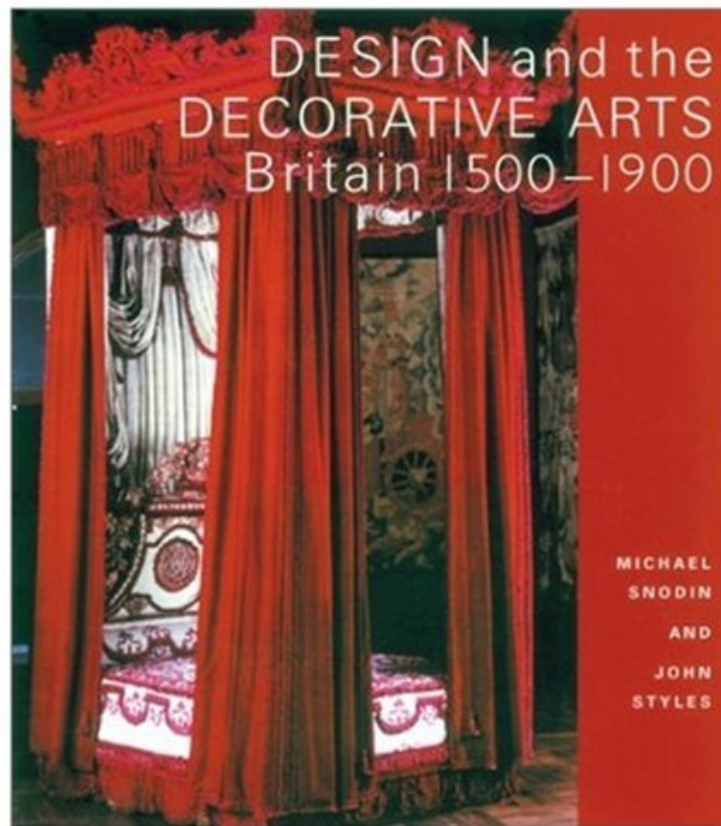


Design and the Decorative Arts: Britain 1500-1900 (Victoria and Albert Museum Studies)

Michael Snodin, John Styles

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Michael Snodin, John Styles : Design and the Decorative Arts: Britain 1500-1900 (Victoria and Albert Museum Studies) before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Design and the Decorative Arts: Britain 1500-1900 (Victoria and Albert Museum Studies):

1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Comparison With Similar BooksBy LDDesign and the Decorative Arts: Britain 1500-1900 covers a broader spectrum owned by the VA but only those items designed and produced in Britain. Additionally, historical houses are included. The book is broken down into eras and categories. I learned a lot from the commentary about why the British Decorative Arts differ from their European cousins.A Grand Design: The Art of the Victoria and Albert Museum features 200 items from ancient to modern in color and usually full page. The commentary reveals details to enhance the experience. The first part of the book is mostly BW photos from the past and some drawings.When I toured the Victoria and Albert Museum in London I was disappointed that the available books were limited to specific genres. These two books have given me at least some coverage of this vast museum.I also own Judith Miller's Decorative Arts which is spectacularly visual and covers just about everything found in

aristocratic homes and museums. It does not include architecture, clothing, or paintings. It provides multiple examples of specific styles from many countries. While the text gives a brief description, it is the photos of individual pieces that trumps every other book I have seen with the exception of those devoted to a single manufacturer. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Five Stars By CustomerLovely book, much more than I expected. 0 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Lavishly Illustrated and Fascinating Narrative of the Decorative Arts in Britain from the Tudors to the Victorians By L. M. Keefer This is a lavishly illustrated review of the decorative arts of Britain from 1500 to 1900. It begins with the Tudors and continues through to the Victorians. It is divided into three sections: Tudor-Stuart, Georgian and Victorian. It is written by Michael Snodin and John Styles of the Victoria and Albert Museum with other experts. There are 1000 illustrations. Each period is examined from multiple perspectives: historical, tastemakers, fashionable living, style and what was new. This book has many insights into each period. Approaching history through the decorative arts is a fascinating approach. This book is comprehensive and erudite without being stuffy. It is 5-star plus quality.

Complemented by more than one thousand full-color illustrations, a history of British design and decorative arts encompasses more than four centuries of accomplishment, from the era of Henry VII through the reign of Queen Victoria, capturing a rich variety of furniture, textiles, silver, metalwork, porcelain, painting, sculpture, prints, and drawings.

From Library Journal This abundantly illustrated book offers a fascinating history of the evolution of British design over four centuries. Efforts by the Victoria Albert Museum to clarify and substantiate the importance of decorative arts have culminated in the opening of its new British Galleries. Snodin (department of prints, drawings, and paintings, VA) and Styles (head of postgraduate studies, VA) have produced this accompanying catalog, the definitive work on the evolution of British design. Divided into three historical sections Tudor, Georgian, and Victorian the book deals with those objects that are both functional and aesthetically pleasing, reflecting the needs and tastes of the time, as well as the social and historical processes that took place in their creation. Covering every topic from the decorated halls of Hampton Court Palace to Wedgwood china to fashion magazines, this is, perhaps, the most complete resource in the field. Drawing upon the splendid design resources of the VA, the authors have done a great service to the study of artistry and innovation of design. They also offer the reader an elegant look at the role of changing tastes and technology in the objects of everyday life. Highly recommended. Paula Frosch, Metropolitan Museum of Art Lib., New York Copyright 2002 Cahners Business Information, Inc. About the Author Michael Snodin heads the designs section in the Department of Prints, Drawings, and Paintings at the Victoria and Albert Museum. John Styles is head of postgraduate studies at the VA.