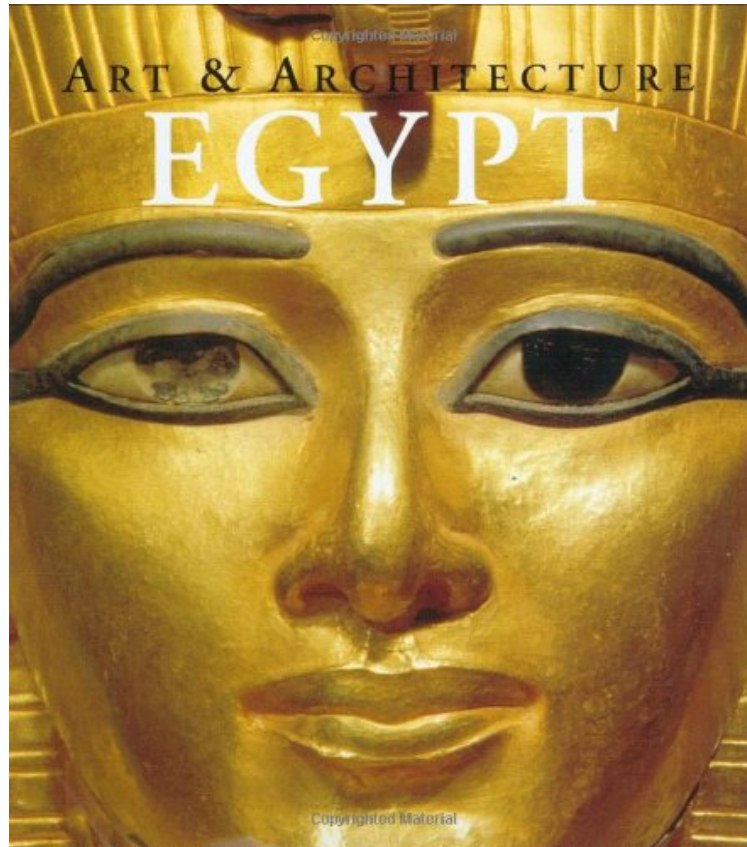


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## Egypt (Art Architecture)

*Matthias Seidel*

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**Matthias Seidel : Egypt (Art Architecture)** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Egypt (Art Architecture):

1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. No smells of decay hereBy Herbert L CalhounSince the turmoil in the Middle East has continued virtually uninterrupted throughout our lives, and does not seem that it will abate anytime soon, our hopes of ever visiting the Middle East seem slim to non-existent. As a result, my wife and I invested in this book, which is a cross between a "travel guide" and an "art and architecture book," and while it is lightest on the travel part, it makes up for it on the Art and architecture side.It is a small, smart but un-intimidating book that is packed with substance and full of glossy photos of every Egyptian monument and architectural marvel worth seeing -- ready-made for copying into iPhoto. Then it walks you through Egyptian history with its monuments and buildings as your tour guides. The writings are all professionally done with a flair for ease of understanding, but never pedantic or stilted. The bonuses are a foldout time chart, and amazingly, an appendix that contains charts that decode the hieroglyphs.Both the front and back inside covers contain a spread-out map of Egypt that is keyed to the substance in the book. It, and the city layouts inside the book, are invaluable for those taking a "hand trip" across the country, through the museums and into a substantive study of what it all means.With all the turmoil going on today in Egypt, it is easy to forget that it was cracking the codes of the Egyptian hieroglyphics that unlocked the secrets of perhaps still

the greatest civilization that ever lived, ancient Egypt. Even today, the pyramids of Giza, treasures of Tutankamun, the great Sphinx, and the Temple of Karmak, are not just well-known icons, but are a part of our collective post-modern consciousness. A book like this makes me recall marveling at the great history of the Roman Empire while in Venice, trying to square it in my mind with the mildewed, decaying structures, smells of pigeon droppings (which one cannot avoid stepping in) and the rancid and polluted waters in Venice's canals? In retrospect, and in a way, I wish there too I had found a book like this one and had taken a "hand trip" instead of the real one, where I now have to endure recalling all the rancid smells of decay bombarding my consciousness whenever I think of the understated beauty of Venice. Here we get all of the scenery, maps, art, architecture, pictures of Egyptian life then and now without the smells or the reality of a culture decaying all around, political or otherwise. Clearly a five-star book of 5 people found the following review helpful. A Wonderful Book on Ancient Egypt!!! By Customer This is a wonderful, well-written book on ancient Egypt. It covers just about every aspect of ancient Egypt that one can think of, with chapters on all the famous temples; pyramids and burial sites; the rulers, including Cleopatra and all the famous pharaohs; Alexandria with its awesome lighthouse at Pharos; and of course the Egyptian gods. But what is most striking about the book is the absolutely stunning pictures of statues, monuments, temples, etc. and carefully drawn and reproduced maps and illustrations. It is this that make the book a pure joy to behold! The book's convenient size fits neatly into your hands so you can leisurely spend hours thumbing from subject to subject in this marvelous little book! Even jaded Egyptologists will glean surprising new information about the always fascinating ancient Egyptians! In short, this book is sure to please, entertain, and inform. Who could want more?

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