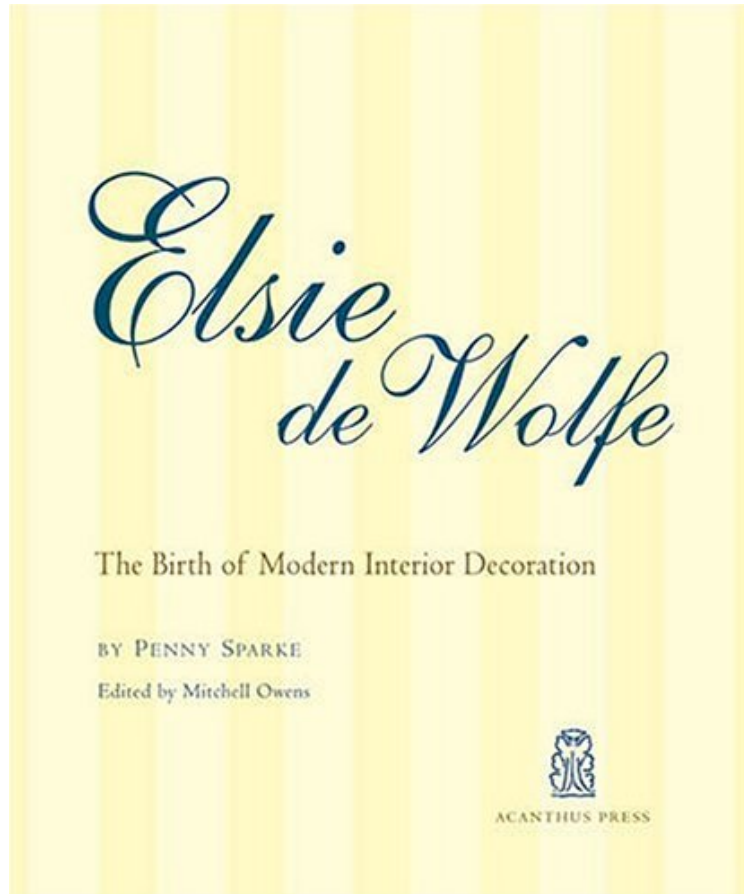


[Download ebook] Elsie De Wolfe: The Birth of Modern Interior Decoration

Elsie De Wolfe: The Birth of Modern Interior Decoration

Penny Sparke, Mitchell Owens
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Penny Sparke, Mitchell Owens : Elsie De Wolfe: The Birth of Modern Interior Decoration before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Elsie De Wolfe: The Birth of Modern Interior Decoration:

4 of 4 people found the following review helpful. Self-made tastemakerBy S. AnnettaAn exclusive self-made member of the design cognoscenti, Elsie de Wolfe was a social climber and a tastemaker. This is an unrivalled publication of a woman who pretty much defined style in the early part of the 20th century and is recognized as being the first paid interior designer in America. Full of photographs (although in black and white) of her projects and her own homes, this is a great addition to the library of anyone who is interested in classic decorating and the history of decorative arts.1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. ms de wolfeBy matenvgreat book for historical ideas of how interior design was really started and approached at the turn of the centuryms de wolfe really is a super a super star!!!!3 of 4 people found the following review helpful. HISTORICAL SENSATIONBy John WitherspoonTHIS BOOK IS AN HISTORICAL SENSATION....A WONDERFUL READ AND FULL OF STUNNING PICTURES; WELL WORTH HAVING; MAYBE TWO IN YOUR LIBRARY ONE TO KEEP AND ONE TO CONSTANTLY

REFER TO FOR INSPIRATION.....A MUST HAVE !!!!

Elsie de Wolfe is a 20th-century legend and is the mother of modern interior decoration. Her name is familiar to many who practice the art of interior design or who are linked to the fashionable world of tastemaking. She provided appropriate settings for the new rich in the first half of the 20th century and in the process helped to shape our understanding of what we have come to know as the modern domestic interior. I am going in now for interior decoration. By that I mean supplying objets d'art and giving advice regarding the decoration of their houses to wealthy persons who do not have the time, inclination, nor culture to do such work for themselves. It is nothing new. Women have done the same thing before. (Elsie de Wolfe) Through the measured re-examination of known materials as well as the review of history-clarifying documents that have been overlooked or underused by previous de Wolfe enthusiasts, *Elsie de Wolfe: The Birth of Modern Interior Decoration* provides the foundation of a renewed interest in her groundbreaking career, her philosophy of design, and her belief that an atmosphere of beauty could cure a world of ills. This large format, profusely illustrated book covers 29 projects (including Villa Trianon, The Colony Club, Anne Vanderbilt, Anne Morgan, the Duchess of Windsor, and J. Ogden Armour, to name a few) and concludes with a timeline of her works. Written by English decorative arts scholar Penny Sparke and edited by New York Times contributor Mitchell Owens, *Elsie de Wolfe: The Birth of Modern Interior Decoration* presents the most in-depth look ever into the design aesthetic of this early 20th-century master decorator.

From Publishers Weekly An actress and social climber with a love for the dramatic, Elsie de Wolfe defined interior decorating from the gilded age through two world wars, the jazz age and the onset of modernism. She began with the residence she shared with companion and theatrical manager Elisabeth Marbury and expanded her client list to include newly moneyed Americans looking for social respectability via graceful, 18th-century-inspired interiors: Anne Morgan, Cond Nast, Henry Clay Frick, J. Pierpont Morgan, Anne Vanderbilt and the Duchess of Windsor. In her later career, she traded in genteel American aristocracy for rising Hollywood stars such as Ethel Barrymore and Gary Cooper. Sparke proceeds through these chintz-draped residences of the "smart set" like any good docent: a touch of background followed by a detailed tour: "De Wolfe was extremely particular about the equipment of dressing rooms and boudoirs. Many drawers were needed to contain letter-writing equipment, among other things, to save having to go into another room to get them. A hollow table on casters was also thought to be an asset in a dressing room, as were a heated towel rack, a wall cabinet, lots of shelves and hooks, and a shallow bottle closet. The wall had to be lined with closets, painted with bright colors inside and 'fitted with perfumed pads.' Even the clothes hangers had to be covered with chintz." In a large format coffee-table book illustrated with 273 black-and-white and just 12 color archival photographs and illustrations, descriptions do as good a job as possible of providing the reader with a sense of the mauves and greens that were a hallmark of de Wolfe's work. Well-written-Sparke and Owens manage to keep what could have been repetitious accounts of Chinoiserie panels and rococo bibelots varied and interesting-it is the most thorough accounting of de Wolfe's work to date. Beautifully illustrated, definitive work. One of the top-five illustrated books of the 2005. --Sunday Times (London) Well written and interesting...The most thorough accounting of de Wolfe's work to date. --Publishers Weekly This book, lavishly illustrated with hundreds of photographs, will provide hours of pleasure for those who wandered where tented ceilings came from, or mirrored fireplace surrounds --Florida Inside Out From the Publisher Elsie de Wolfe is a 20th-century legend and is the mother of modern interior decoration. Her name is familiar to many who practice the art of interior design or who are linked to the fashionable world of tastemaking. She provided appropriate settings for the "new rich" and in the process helped to shape our understanding of what we have come to know as the modern domestic interior. "Elsie de Wolfe: the Birth of Modern Interior Decoration" covers 29 projects (including Villa Trianon, the Colony Club, Anne Vanderbilt, Anne Morgan, the Duchess of Windsor, and J. Ogden Armour, to name a few) and concludes with the timeline of her works. The book presents the most in-deph look ever into the design aesthetic of this early 20th-century master decorator.