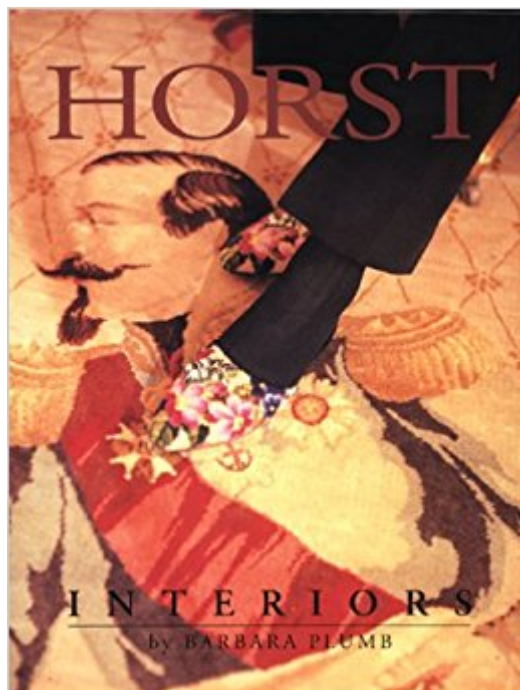


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Horst: Interiors



Synopsis

The interior-design photographer Horst P. Horst is in the fifth decade of his career. Since the 1950s, after his apprenticeship to the pioneering modernist architect, Le Corbusier, Horst's photos have captured many of the classic interiors of the beau monde. Organized by decades, this book provides an overview of his accomplishments and a record of domestic taste over the last half-century. With text and interviews by Barbara Plumb, the book reflects the look of each different era, recording the flowering and the fading of trends. Among the rooms shown are those of Katharine Graham, Baroness Philippe de Rothschild, Gloria Vanderbilt, Valentino, Cy Twombly and Tatiana Franchetti, and the Duke and Duchess of Windsor. The author's other books include "The 'New York Times' Guide to Home Furnishings" and "Houses Architects Live In".

Book Information

Hardcover: 240 pages

Publisher: Bulfinch Pr; 1st edition (November 1993)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0821220462

ISBN-13: 978-0821220467

Product Dimensions: 1.2 x 9.2 x 12.5 inches

Shipping Weight: 4 pounds

Average Customer Review: 3.8 out of 5 stars 4 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #201,201 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #6 in [Books > Arts & Photography > Decorative Arts & Design > Interior & Home Design > Style](#) #22 in [Books > Arts & Photography > Architecture > Decoration & Ornament](#) #24 in [Books > Arts & Photography > Decorative Arts & Design > Interior & Home Design > Decoration & Ornament](#)

Customer Reviews

Many of the images here are of well known and formerly well known people in their homes. Definitely some marvelous interiors from the 1960s, 70s, and 80s, albeit in mostly dated styles. Horst's photographs, while excellent, are not particularly distinctive. There are only a few photographs of each residence, which is of course not a limitation in a magazine, where these photographs first appeared, but in a book such breeziness is unfortunate. (One wonders if there were more images from each shot that might have been included; or if the editor had to choose the least aesthetically offensive rooms to make the selection less mundane.) Photographer Horst and his shots of celebrities in their splendid surroundings is the organizing principal, but it makes this

book more of a collection of photographs of celebrity interiors than a book about interior photography, or about the interiors photographed.

I had hoped for a bit more the early images

Some of the most stylish interiors of the 1960s, 70s, and 80s are shown in color photos by the noted photographer Horst P. Horst, usually with their equally stylish owners. While all the decoration is top drawer, some of the photos are surprisingly fuzzy and/or dark, and not in an artistic way; they appear to this critic to be substandard photos. The text is minimal and the reader is generally left on his own to depend on his own eyes, knowledge of social history and design, and perhaps some detective work. Fifty two residences are shown, often with a few interesting shots. However, the only insight into Jacqueline Onassis' Manhattan apartment is left to the reader to determine from a close shot of the coffee table displaying a basket of tulips, another basket with fruit, a stand of worry beads, a dried mushroom on a twig, a branch of black coral, and two bronze Egyptian cats! Chic interiors by Renzo Mongiardino, Billy Baldwin, Denning & Fourcade, Mac II, Jacques Grange, Francois Catroux, and Parish-Hadley are among the decorators whose work appears here.

A classic. Buy it if you can find it. It'll be a bargain at twice the price. Really stylish people living stylishly. Stylemaven

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