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Eames: Beautiful Details



Synopsis

"Eames: Beautiful Details" • celebrates the seamlessness and fluidity in which Charles and Ray Eames operated as both a husband and wife team and as designers unrestricted by traditionally professional boundaries. Select details of their life and work, from their refined designs to their innovative experiments, and even including images depicting the everyday poetic moments of their lives, and are shared here in this exhibit within a book. Inspired by Charles's immersive and original slideshows, in which he expertly selected and grouped images together that communicated information in an aesthetic, direct, and accessible way, this book strives to visually create the Eameses' life and work by taking the viewer through a delightful journey, focusing on their "beautiful details."

The packaging design of the "Eames: Beautiful Details" slipcase is a pattern inspired by the triangles and colors of one of their most inventive, if lesser known, designs for children, simply called, "the toy." It also pays homage to the patterns they used on their well loved House of Cards. The Eameses brought a sense of humor and joy to everything they created, and the design and layout of the book aims to convey that spirit in a visual feast for the eyes. It is a testament to the Eameses and the lasting value of good design that their Eames lounge chair, created in 1956, endures today as perhaps the most recognizable and coveted piece of mid century furniture design. Their experiments in technological innovations, like molded plywood and fiberglass, resulted in such classic pieces as the bent plywood LCW and DCM Chairs, the Molded Plastic Chairs, and the Aluminum Group; all of which are still in production by Herman Miller. Likewise, Charles and Ray designed and built their own home in 1949 in Pacific Palisades, and it is still revered as a landmark of modern architecture. Built as part of the Case Study program in California, sponsored by Arts & Architecture magazine, it was one of the earliest experiments in pre fab construction, using off the shelf industrial parts. But unlike the austerity of much of modern architectural design, their factory like shell was lovingly lived in along with their personal collections of folk art, treasures from their travels, and everyday objects refreshingly displayed with affection and without pretense. In exhibition design as well, "Mathematica: A World of Numbers ... and Beyond, 1961," for IBM is considered groundbreaking as an interactive, educational, and experiential way to communicate the wonder and magic of math. Similarly, their seminal film, Powers of Ten, 1977, expresses the mathematical concept of multiplying to the tenth power, in a very direct, simple, and powerful way. Unlike any other book previously published on Charles and Ray Eames, this unique monograph is a visual celebration of their work and life, and was created in true collaboration with Charles's grandson, Eames Demetrios, and other members of the Eames family.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Bought this book as an early Christmas present for myself, and I absolutely love it. Not only is the box it comes in gorgeous, but the entire book is amazing. I love flipping through to learn more about Charles and Ray Eames. This would make a great gift for anyone who loves design, architecture, etc!

What an awesome book on Charles and Ray Eames! First of all, it is HUGE in size and has a really awesome colored slipcase and high quality construction. Inside, the book offers a really comprehensive look at the life of Charles and Ray with many pictures I have never seen. The writing is all by Charles and Ray - or various members of the Eames family - so it is also the first "official" book by the Eames Office and family. Quite a lovely tribute and now has a great spot on my coffee table! I would highly recommend it as the ultimate EAMES book!

This was our second attempt at getting a Great book on Eames design and it's a fantastic one that feels definitive. The images are gorgeous and the writing is insightful and balanced well within the book. The slipcase is an object of beauty itself: vibrant and glossy beautifying whatever space you place it in. The best book I've found on Eames' history and works.

Accidentally bought it thinking it was the larger coffee table version. Great book, but make sure you

know which size you want.

We ordered a dozen Eames chairs for our office. They are classic designs and clients always ask about them, so I bought a couple coffee table books so our clients could browse through them while sitting in the conference room.

Big solid book of all the work, such a great history which is supported by beautiful imagery throughout. must have coffee table book

This is a beautifully done book. I received it for Christmas and I absolutely love it! We live in a 1957 mid century style house and this book provides lots of inspiration and facts. I also love that it looks so nice sitting out on the coffee table.

I purchased this as a gift for a friend who owns several pieces of mid-century modern furniture. It's absolutely beautiful from cover to cover. Really interesting insight into how the Eames' creative process worked. The colorful box that it comes in makes a fantastic display piece.

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