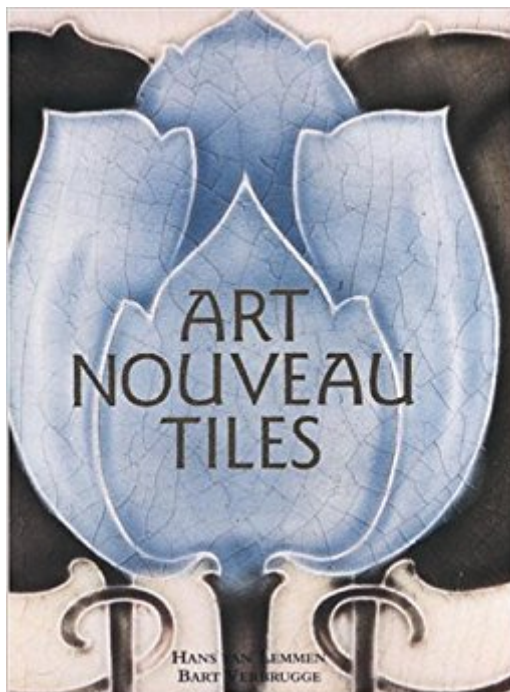


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Art Nouveau Tiles



Synopsis

At the turn of the century, Art Nouveau-- characterized by richly ornamental, curvilinear design-- held sway as the international style in art, architecture, and decorative arts, including the production of tiles. This is the first book to examine Art Nouveau tiles from all over Europe as well as the United States, and an essential volume for the collector and interior designer, featuring 200 stunning color photographs of these ceramic treasures. The authors explore various techniques and processes used in the creation of Art Nouveau tiles, from hand-painting and mosaic work to terracotta and faience, as well as the history of tile production and the architectural application of tiles in Europe, Russia, and America from the mid-nineteenth century to the present day. The book traces the roots of Art Nouveau to the British Arts and Crafts movement, which produced tile work by such artists as William Morris, William De Morgan, and Christopher Dresser. Following this, the wide variety of Art Nouveau tiles across northern and Central Europe is surveyed in detail: in Belgium, France, Germany, Holland, Austria, the Czech Republic, and Hungary. Separate chapters are also devoted to Spain and Portugal, and the unique tradition of American tile-making-- highlighting the work of important designers, artists, architects, and manufacturers. To conclude their survey, the authors look at how elements of Art Nouveau were absorbed into Art Deco after World War I, and the revival of Art Nouveau styles of tile-making in the 1980s and 1990s. A special section for collectors discusses the significance of tile motifs, and offers information about marks on tile backs and advice on acquisition, display, restoration, and repair.

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Customer Reviews

Hans van Lemmen is an Associate Lecturer in the History and Theory of Art and Design at Leeds Metropolitan University, and Editor for the British Tiles and Architectural Ceramics Society. He has written numerous articles and books on the history and use of tiles-- including Tiles: Collector's Guide and Fired Earth: 1000 Years of Tiles in Europe-- and has organized several exhibitions of tiles in Britain and Europe. Bart Verbrugge is an expert on Belgian and Dutch tiles and is the author of Belgian Art Nouveau and Art Deco Tiles.

I purchased this book to get inspired to produce my own tiles for my house. There are many pictures of tiles in this little book. It was definately worth the money spent on it, and I will be inspired to make my own tiles from it for years to come.

This book is very slim, but it has excellent photographs and is very succinct. It's a good tool for learning more about art nouveau tiles and the background history for them.

This book has good information about tiles of the period and beautiful examples throughout the book.

The book is both informative and beautifully illustrated. Must have for any ceramic artist with interest in the Art Nouveau aesthetic.

Ad advertised

For those who know very little about the art nouveau tiles this simple guide is a must read.

A nice companion book to the Art Deco release. Certainly worth the price.

The book description does a good job: This is, indeed, an examination of Art Nouveau tiles from all over Europe as well as the United States. The authors promise that it is "an essential volume for the collector and interior designer, featuring 200 stunning color photographs of these ceramic treasures." But I think it's a bit more than that. The book is organized primarily by region. After a few chapters on "Arts & Crafts Inspirations" and "The Rise of Art Nouveau," chapters are dedicated to tiles from northern Europe, central Europe, southern extravaganza (e.g. Spain and Italy), new world

experiments, then "Art Nouveau and Beyond." Finally there's a chapter full of advice about collecting Art Nouveau tiles. First off: This is enjoyable on more than one level. If you're seriously into tiles and interior design, then obviously you'll be interested in the book for the history it imparts, as well as collecting info (such as the difficulty of dating tiles, and how to display a collection). I comfortably admit that I merely skimmed the text, though, because for me this is a book full of OH PRETTY PICTURES. I've done quilting, as well as some stained glass and embroidery, so I could pretend that I'm getting design inspiration for these, but really it's just lovely to see lots of gorgeously photographed tiles from all over the world. (Gosh could I get quilting fabric inspired by the tiles by the Boulenger firm?) Plus, since the book starts with a great examination of the influences of the A&C movement, among the OH PRETTYs are tiles from William Morris, Burnes-Jones, de Morgan, and other artists who usually get attention for their other creations. I think of A&C as kissing-cousins with Art Nouveau anyway, so some of the tiles in the other chapters could just as easily -- to my untrained eye -- fit into my design scheme. If you care about this subject... don't resist. This is a lovely book.

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