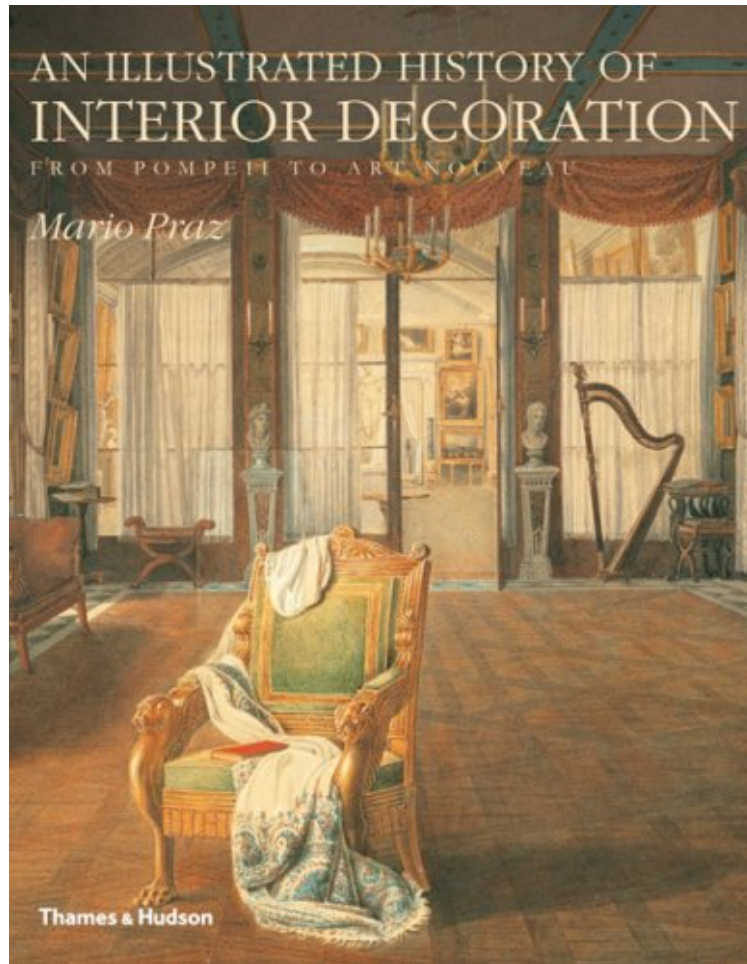


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# An Illustrated History of Interior Decoration: From Pompeii to Art Nouveau

Mario Praz

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**Mario Praz : An Illustrated History of Interior Decoration: From Pompeii to Art Nouveau** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised An Illustrated History of Interior Decoration: From Pompeii to Art Nouveau:

0 of 2 people found the following review helpful. disappointingBy MarieVery centered on Victorian, English interior decoration, so disappointing as content not as implied by title11 of 11 people found the following review helpful. GREAT BOOK, BUT MOSTLY BLACK WHITEBy Blue RidgeOf the 400 illustrations in this excellent book, only 64 are in color, most of those are less than a page in size. At least that's true of my 1981 Thames Hudson used hardback . I was quite disappointed by that when the book arrived, so want to warn other enthusiasts in advance. I've been looking but so far haven't found a possible later edition with more color. Still, I'm glad I own this mostly black and white copy!1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. what an amazing volume!By reviewer from Los

Angeles This book covered everything I was curious about relating to design as a lay person. Through redecorating my own home, I became very curious about furniture, molding, fabric and other details and kept wondering what the differences were really about between all the styles and their history. Most of us laypeople just get a sense when a room "works" or "does not work" but lack the historical perspective. Beautifully illustrated, the book itself is visibly the work of a master and passionate soul - I read on Wikipedia that Mario Praz started collecting chairs when he was 13 years old or so!

This prize book on the subject of domestic decoration . . . enchantingly informs us about the evolution of taste and comfort. Art Auction The appeal of this extraordinary book lies in its rapt obsession with the details of the domestic interior, borne out in a wonderfully rich collection of pictures. These charming paintings and watercolors, mostly dating from 1770 to 1860 and coming from all over Europe, Russia, and America, record with faithful accuracy the shape of a room, the pattern of a carpet, the furniture, pictures, fabrics, and wall coverings, the hang of the curtains and the fall of the light they admit. The pictures find their place in a complete survey of domestic and some more palatial interiors portrayed in art from the ancient world to the late nineteenth century, and including works by Vermeer, Hogarth, Durer, Degas, and Vuillard. The text goes beyond scholarly commentary to present an evolving picture of men and women in relation to domestic surroundings, full of human interest, wit, and wide-ranging cultural references. Mario Praz (1896-1982) was Professor of English Language and Literature at the University of Rome. The most celebrated of his many other books is *The Romantic Agony*. 400, 64 in color

From Library Journal Illustrated is an understatement; Praz uses 400 pieces of art to present his 1982 history of furniture and decorations from olden days to modern times. An unusual but interesting history of the subject. Copyright 1995 Reed Business Information, Inc. A lush, captivating book, overflowing with sumptuous illustrations. - Chicago Tribune A most wondrous treasure trove.... The entertaining and scholarly... its interest is almost inexhaustible. - House Garden Illustrated is an understatement; Praz uses 400 pieces of art to present his 1982 history of furniture and decorations from olden days to modern times. An unusual but interesting history of the subject. - Library Journal The true subject is not interior decoration but ruminations and memories, the visions and fancies, prompted by paintings of interiors. - New York of Books A legend... a richness of literary and cultural detail. - Vogue Delightful yet erudite... perhaps the most charming lesson on interiors ever written. - Washington Post The sweep and quality of [Praz's] mind raises this book far above the level of most others on this well-explored topic. - New York Post Language Notes Text: English, Italian (translation)