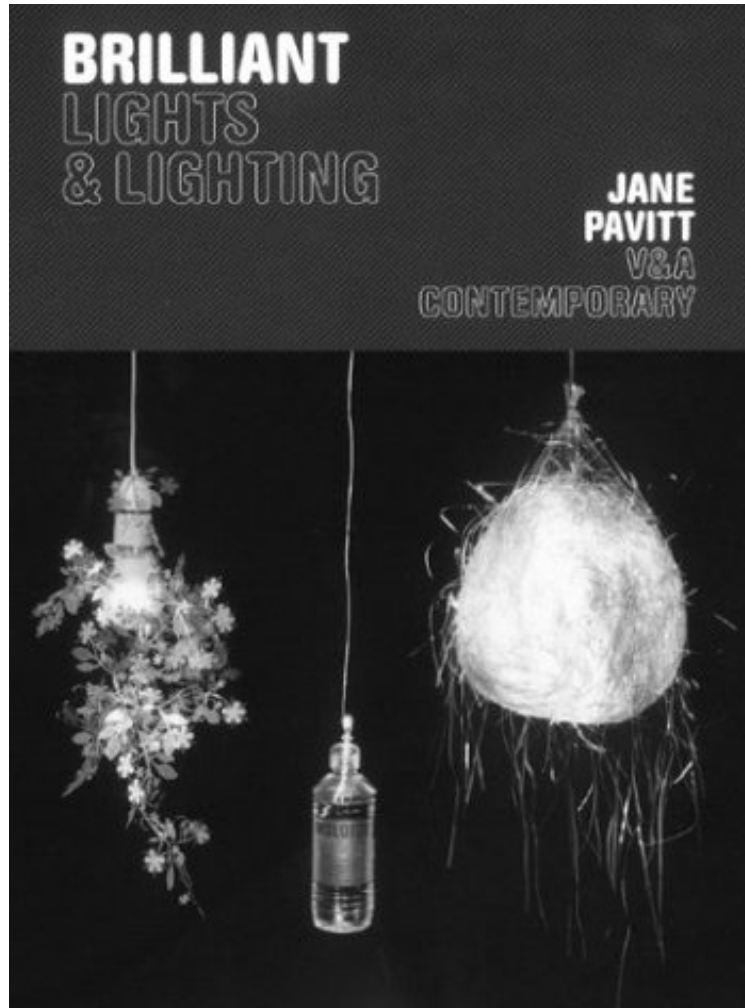


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Brilliant: Lights Lighting (V A Contemporary)

Jane Pavitt

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Jane Pavitt : Brilliant: Lights Lighting (V A Contemporary) before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Brilliant: Lights Lighting (V A Contemporary):

2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. Tour-de-forceBy Ping LimThe book has less than 130 pages and despite its tiny size, it packs a punch. I find it to be a cerebral book written by an intellect who has a passion for lighting. Complemented by lights and lighting system from the past present time (some of them iconoclastic), the author wrote an essay about what those things (lights and lighting system) represent to different people. No longer that light is simply there as an utility but it's an art on its own right. Then, there are lights that encompass fashion, textile, sculpture, theatre (Sharon Marston's). With advent of technology, it's foreseeable that light can be wearable in the future. Now, designers are endeavouring to design wearable light that is comfortable too (Ixilab from Japan, Karada Italia). There are lights that are done from sparse materials (from designers who are mindful about the plight of our

environment and who endeavours not to design lights for lights' sake) (Boym Design Studio, Ingo Maurer, etc). Some designers incorporate lights into items such as a chair or a table because they emphasise the importance significance of space but not highlighting the lights themselves (Horgen Glarus N2). There are lights that remind us of the past, lights that are designed by touching upon memory (Philippe Starck); lights that stir our emotions (perhaps, for all the wrong reasons) such as Gitta Gschwendtner's lights comprising of hugging lamp, double vision lamp, corner lamp, up-the-wall lamp (give people's impression that the light is a living being stalking the occupants of the house: sense of intimidation), Hector Serrano's A Lamp in the Swimming Pool (shade lamp but floating on water!: sense of humour), the list goes on. Then, the author also questioned lights that are defined as rude for some due to social strata difference, generation gap, etc. Some companies are trying to redefine the meaning of lights and they lead the charge by commissioning various designers to come up with conceptual plans which are mind-blowing such as Swaroski's chandellier's project. I can keep on writing about this book but this shall be a book that you should read yourself. A book filled with many brilliant ideas, a book that would broaden your horizon regarding lights and a book that you would cherish very much. Highly recommended.

Brilliant: Lights Lighting explores the exciting range of new lighting forms, fabrics and technologies from the archetypal domestic lamp to innovations in lighted clothing. Covering products from the one-off to the mass-produced, it also charts crossovers in design practice, incorporating textiles, fashion and ceramics as well as product design and new technological developments. With over 90 colour illustrations, and based on conversations with designers, this book is essential reading for anyone interested or involved in contemporary design.

About the Author Jane Pavitt is the University of Brighton Senior Research Fellow in Product Design at the VA Museum.