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Colefax Fowler : The Best in English Interior Decoration

Chester Jones

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Chester Jones : Colefax Fowler : The Best in English Interior Decoration before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Colefax Fowler : The Best in English Interior Decoration:

1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Charming English StyleBy L. M. KeeferAficionados of English Country design (as seen in the popular Downton Abbey) can go right to its source in this book on Colefax Fowler, the design firm which popularized it. John Fowler is probably the designer who most impacted English country style as we know it today. He would go to the stately English homes and find old fabrics or traces of wallpaper and have them reprinted for us to enjoy years later. One pattern he found in the interior of a carriage!Colefax Fowler's heritage author-architect-designer Chester Jones describes as: "a blending of style, colour and pattern, lightly handled and painterly in approach. Floral chintzes are balanced by plain cottons, silks and the occasional stamped velvet. Table lamps with shades of pleated silk and card diffuse the light; English furniture, four-square and sensible, is relieved by the delicacy of a French piece. Whether painted or veneered, the furniture is kept mostly light in tone. Often an ugly colour is introduced, such as a faded black or drab, to give counterpoint to colours that are sweet and clean. The occasional highlight of distressed giltwood and the warm patina of ancient paint are all part of the grammar. The mood is then personalized by the addition of prettily painted creamware, tole, pictures and prints; the fragrance and colour of flowers complete the decoration."This fabulous book is divided into three parts. Part 1 ~ The Origins of Colefax Fowler which details the formative years with John Fowler, Nancy Lancaster's influence and the mature style of Fowler. Part 2 ~ Hallmarks of Colefax Fowler's Style which covers the conception of a room, application of paint, colour, pattern, print, upholstery and soft furnishings, and floors and floorcoverings. Part 3 ~ Colefax Fowler Today

which discusses the changing role of the interior decorator, sitting-rooms, dining rooms, bedrooms, contemporary rooms and the influence of Colefax Fowler. There are 260 color photographs, some of which are full page. You will wish they were all full page. These are classic, iconic English rooms which don't look dated. This book is a joy to read as much as to look at. It's a great balance of text and images. This is a book that any designer, or student of design history, who enjoys the prettiness and comfort of English style would enjoy having in their library. It's a delightful collection of images and information on the English design firm who is the source of English Country style as we know it today. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. How do you review Colefax Fowler? By Uintah Springs This is a lovely book giving in text and pictures the history of Colefax and Fowler, who EPITOMIZED the English cottage style of decorating. I most appreciate the design of their own homes, which were more modest and to my mind tasteful than their elaborate, expensive decorations of great historical houses. Strange, but many of the BW photographs were done without lighting, so that details are difficult to ascertain -- without the captions, would be impossible. I'd like to see this book redone properly. However, most of the rooms/design schemes probably no longer exist. So it's a wonderful and probably irreplaceable historical record. The book itself was used and listed as "good" condition. It arrived with the corners of most pages glommed together by water, which I would label "fair" condition at best. But the pages were entirely readable and viewable. 1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. This is a beautiful book with wonderful examples. By Janet Rae Montgomery I chose this book because it was listed in a "favorite book" column in Real Simple. I love it, and keep it by my bedside, just to lull myself to sleep with beautiful pictures. Quite lovely rooms.

I will wrap in newspaper and ship in a cardboard mailer.