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Caribbean Elegance



Synopsis

This will be a gorgeous, heavily illustrated book on the uniquely refined and aristocratic style of living that has flourished on the islands of the Caribbean from the late 18th century to the early 20th century. The book will be organized by related island groups: the French Islands (Martinique and Guadeloupe); the Dutch Islands (Aruba, Bonaire, and Curacao); the Spanish islands (Cuba, Santo Domingo); the English islands (Jamaica, St. Kitts, St. Lucia); and the Danish islands (St. Thomas, St. John, Ste. Croix). The text will explore not only the beauty of the landscape, the houses, and the works of art and furniture, but also something of the historical background and the manner of life in the islands.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Connors, a West Indian decorative arts scholar, presents a comprehensive guide to the development of West Indian furniture and its makers during the colonial era. Detailing the historical and sociological influences at play, he shows how each island's furniture began by reflecting the styles of the various ruling countries (England, Holland, Spain, Denmark, or France) and later evolved into a uniquely Caribbean style as the islands' furniture makers, who were primarily African slaves, began to develop their skills and incorporate African decorative motifs into their designs. Use of the islands' hardwoods, such as mahogany, and the prevalence of items best suited to the climate, such as caned rockers, four-poster beds, and armoires, further defined the style. Numerous color photographs show the furniture in historic buildings. Connors's book is highly recommended

for academic, professional, and large interior design collections. Copyright 2002 Reed Business Information, Inc.

Great book, well researched and great photos. You should know that the book is entirely devoted to historic style, i.e., pre 1900. So if you are looking for a book about modern Caribbean style, this is not for you.

I love the Caribbean style of decor so I found the book filled with inspirational pictures of beautiful homes. I wish I could find (and afford) some of the beautiful pieces pictured in the graphics!

A book that will do any coffee table proud. Bruce Buck's photographs are stunning and show interiors of some of the older, larger houses of the Caribbean.

It will be so nice to have this book translate in French

This book had some interesting facts, but as an interior designer who was looking for inspirational pictures for room designs I thought it had moderate value.

love it

It will be so nice to have this book translate in French

Caribbean Elegance, how the title is only the tip of what lies between the cover as it is such a wonderful book to always have at hands reach for small mind vacations after a long day of work! The author has done a fantastic job of educating one about the Caribbean islands' history as well as the furniture. It is the only book that lives on my coffee table, and every person that visits is sure to pick it up and become so mesmerized by the writing and captivated by the photographs! It is impossible to not fall madly in love with this amazing find of a book! It is so easy to read be it that the author is obviously passionate about his work, as he leaves the reader feeling the island warmth from his detailed writings of Caribbean history. The photographs are so well placed, and beautiful! What a tasteful, well written, and charming book! Well done!! One must be careful though, as you will be sure to want your house filled with Caribbean antiques as I am now doing!

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