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Sotheby's Concise Encyclopedia of Porcelain

From Little Brown Co (T) : Sotheby's Concise Encyclopedia of Porcelain before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Sotheby's Concise Encyclopedia of Porcelain:

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Three Stars By William Erika Received as advertised and satisfied3 of 3 people found the following review helpful. A good, balanced look at porcelain By LD This book discusses the variety of ways porcelain is made. It looks at the influence of Chinese porcelain on the European market and the evolution of techniques in Europe to mimic the results. Throughout there are good color photos to illustrate the text. Not only are the eras discussed but specific areas that became noted for their products. This is a nice book. I already have "The Art of Ceramics- European Ceramic Design 1500-1830" which covers the same thing and has more examples of highly decorated objects. Other competitive books that you might consider would be: The Dresden Porcelain Collection: China, Japan, Meissen (Masterpieces), The Ewers-Tyne Collection of Worcester Porcelain, and Chinese Export Porcelain in the Reeves Center Collection at Washington and Lee University. Sotheby's book gives an example or two of what the text discusses. Since all manufacturers produced a variety of designs you will have to decide if the general discussion satisfies you or you would like to view a cross section of designs- in which case one of these other books would be better. 26 of 26 people found the following review helpful. Not an encyclopedia! By A Customer This is a narrative history of porcelain, lavishly illustrated. It covers only porcelain, not other forms of ceramics. It focuses on wares that I would consider exclusively museum quality. The illustrations are gorgeous. The text is gracefully written and thoroughly informative. Although it is not arranged topically as a real encyclopedia would be, it does have a marvelous glossary at the end that is an education in itself. With the caveat that this is a narrative not a topical reference, I highly recommend this book.

Sotheby's ceramics department have identified, valued and sold some of the world's finest pieces of porcelain. This guide informs the reader of the many centuries of porcelain and advises on important fakes and discoveries.

From Library Journal Beautiful illustrations and a detailed yet concise historical text by Sotheby's director David Battie and a team of notable experts chronicle the evolution of porcelain from circa 600 A.D. to the present. Chapters focus on the decorative innovations and commercial efforts of the primary fine porcelain producers, from the Orient to Europe and America, helping the reader distinguish among hard and soft paste porcelain, wucai, encre de Chine, and Imari. The book also highlights the Oriental influence on such European earthenware as delftware, faience, and maiolica porcelain. A particularly delightful chapter by Battie treats fakes and forgeries. Support material includes a glossary of terms and a list of key factories and important names in the development of porcelain. This invaluable guide will be appreciated by collectors of all kinds.- Stephen Allan Patrick, East Tennessee State Univ. Lib., Johnson City Copyright 1990 Reed Business Information, Inc.