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## **Steuben Design: A Legacy of Light and Form**

**M. J. Madigan : Steuben Design: A Legacy of Light and Form** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Steuben Design: A Legacy of Light and Form:

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Steuben history and great photography.By pixels and bitsI bought this book to give to my father as a gift along with a nice piece of Steuben glass. If you are new to Steuben, this is a good place to start. It mostly deals with the glassware and other vessels, but there is a little in there of other types of work too. It's worth it for the background and the photographs.0 of 0 people found the following review helpful.

incompleteBy ZEDAn odd book with a weird arrangement. I wanted a guide to Steuben products when they were going out of business.This has quite a few very nice photos, some with dates; some text with history. But it only goes to several years before Steuben's end, and then it gets spotty and hard to figure out. Sounds dumb, but I have EAPGS books by the dozen. And EAPGS, with a much sketchier past (1825-1915), has books which are soooooo much easier to understand and use for research!0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Steuben Design best of American craftsmanBy WildmanThis book is an excellent of an example of American excellence in decorative glass and anyone that appreciates fine workmanship and the quality of the product will enjoy this book and all of the depictions within its pages. While the book does a good job on the business end it could display more pictures of the items that

demonstrate the artistry.

Dozens of striking images and an authoritative text chronicle the colorful history of Steuben glass, document the painstaking process of design and creation, and capture the sophisticated beauty of Steuben's glass and crystal masterworks, past and present.

From Publishers Weekly The current popular resurgence of mid-20th century design presents Steuben with an opportunity to draw in a younger, design-conscious audience, and everything about this book should appeal to those readers. The volume uses artful photographs, beautiful layout and a compelling, if brief, historical narrative to make a case for Steuben pieces as iconic design objects. Steuben craftsmen use methods of production such as catching a "gather" of molten glass in a metal cup, shaping it at the end of a blowpipe and polishing the cold piece that are similar to those used by glassmakers for centuries. But the use of "computer-fed melting tanks have refined the ancient process" so that Steuben glass attains an "extraordinary purity and brilliance." It is this prized clarity, as well as the craftsmen's skill at flowing shapes and detailed engraving, that have led every U.S. president since 1947 to choose a piece of Steuben crystal for an American gift of state. Photos show figures such as Martin Luther King, Queen Elizabeth and Jacqueline Kennedy receiving gifts of Steuben. While ceremonial objects such as these are, of course, inaccessible to most collectors, the book also offers examples of more modest pieces, and a short section, "Collecting Vintage Steuben," offers practical advice on acquiring Steuben glass. Running through the entire book is a beautiful photo study of Steuben form by photographer Jay Zukerkorn. 120 illustrations, 46 in full-color. Copyright Reed Business Information, a division of Reed Elsevier Inc. All rights reserved. About the Author Mary Jean Madigan served as editor-in-chief of several magazines including Art Antiques, Hospitality Design, and Interiors, and has edited or contributed to 19th Century American Furniture, Prints and Photographs, and American Folk and Decorative Art.