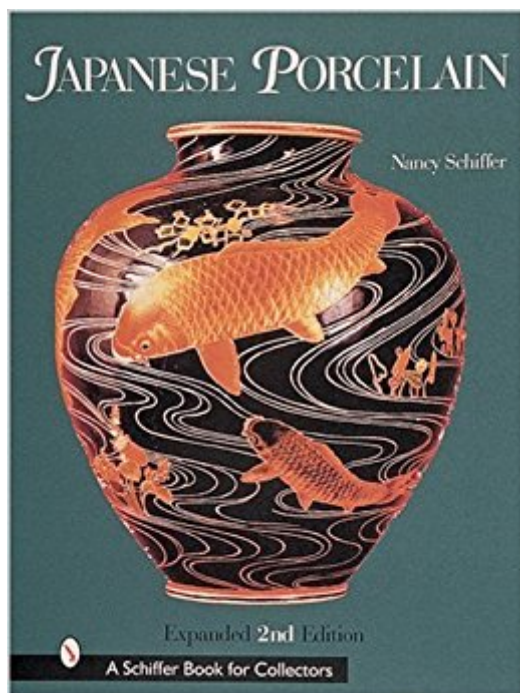


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Japanese Porcelain, 1800-1950 (Schiffer Book For Collectors)



Synopsis

Hundreds of beautiful color pictures and recently-discovered, important information give this new study of 19th and 20th century Japanese porcelain a most refreshing approach. Visual comparisons of the major styles can be made even by the beginning student because there are so many fine color pictures of the examples. Kakiemon, Nabeshima, Arita, Hirado and Fukagawa styles of Imari; Kutani; Satsuma; and known craftsmen's works are shown in profusion. The European-influenced styles of the mid-20th century such as Nippon, Noritake, and those pieces marked Occupied Japan are presented as trade items necessary for the changing Japanese economy. Fascinating historical and technical background aids in the recognition of each style. Since research continues to add evidence to changing attributions of origins and artists, the author explains both old and new theories and encourages further research. In what is seen as a quickly growing field of collecting, this book stands at the crossroads of scholarship and popularity. Both groups will find information of keen interest and delight in the gorgeous products of the Japanese artistic and commercial communities.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Nancy N. Schiffer is an art historian whose interest in jewelry has evolved from studies of porcelain and decorative arts. She has written other books on jewelry and various fields of popular culture. She lives in Pennsylvania.

First the positive side - a lot of information about Japanese porcelain, not detailed enough to become science-dry, but interestingly written and well balanced with the illustrations. From the informational side I would give the book 5 stars. The negative - photography. Who, in 21 century, publishes black-and-white photos of art, especially as colorful as Japanese porcelain?! There should be 'punishment' for that...It's like publishing now a book about de Kooning or Mark Rothko with b&w photos - a crime. They are boasting about over 500 color photos - the same number or higher are b&w! The big sections about Imari or Kyoto-Satsuma have most of the illustrations b&w - and this porcelain is so beautifully colorful! And the quality... I was hoping for modern day color photography, but majority are photos from the first edition in 1986 and some are even older - they have a tinge of 60-70 photos. I believe that the most of the b&w photos are from the 50-60 - very good then, unacceptable now. The book is supposedly expanded - very little in my opinion. And yes - the photos there are of the modern quality. But there are very few of them. One of the reviewers claims that the photography is outstanding - I strongly disagree. These photographs were very good in 86, by now they are as ancient as the porcelain itself... The only reason I haven't returned the book is the amount of information, but even there I would like to see more marks - crucial in identification of individual pieces. I have some examples of Japanese porcelain which look similar to several photos in the book - would there be a picture of the mark (and the mark is mentioned in the text) it would help a lot. Without the mark it is a frustrating experience. Perhaps I'm spoiled by recently published (Yale Univ.) books on Chinese porcelain - there is outstanding photography! But as usual for Yale-published books: they are too wordy... I would not recommend Japanese Porcelain 1800-1950 to anybody who looks for a picture book. If you look for an informative resource, that's possibly the best compendium of the popular and mid-level collector information on Japanese porcelain available. Marek K

As other reviewers have noted, the majority of the photos are in black and white and almost no pieces are shown with their marks. There is plenty of good information here, but there are better books [e.g., for a deeper historical perspective Jahn's Meiji Ceramics is outstanding]. Still for the price I paid, I'm glad to have it in my library.

Lots of beautiful pictures. Especially loved the newly released Fukagawa design sketches. Would have liked to see more pictures of trademarks/kiln stamps on bottoms of pieces. Also would like more information on smaller and lesser known kilns.

"Japanese Porcelain 1800-1950" includes information on a number of porcelain makers not commonly available making it an excellent reference book for collectors and dealers, or even as a coffee table book. The superb photography and detailed history of Japanese companies and artists make this a valuable addition any library of Asian art.

As Described.

Excellent

This is an outstanding book that would be very hard to find in a book store here in Australia. Well worth the money spent, good condition of product.

Lovely coffee table book, and had information I needed, however due to the fault of the printer the first paragraph was missing from the book, as well as another further along. But the book was so inexpensive, can't complain.

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