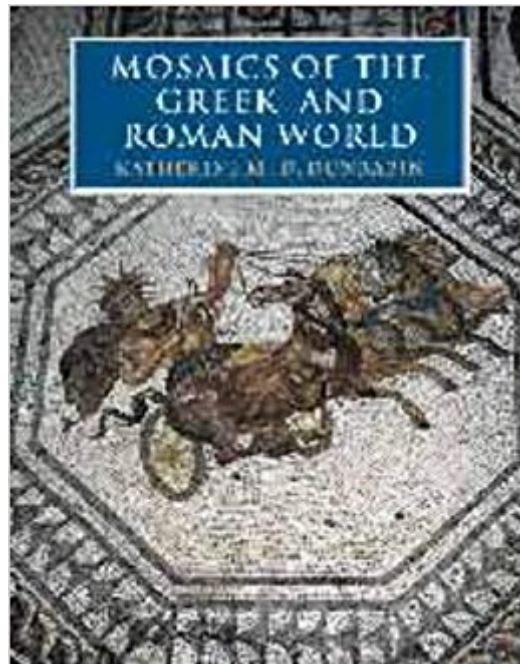




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Mosaics Of The Greek And Roman World



Synopsis

Mosaics reached their fullest development under the Romans who used them to decorate the floors of their houses and public buildings. This book gives a comprehensive and fully illustrated history of mosaics in the Greek and Roman world, and studies their development over a thousand years throughout the Roman Empire. Chapters are devoted to technique, to the role of mosaics in architecture, and to their social implications and the role of patrons. This book is the only complete study in depth of this rich material.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

'This book is a masterpiece of visual, historical, technical and social analysis.' Peter Jones, The Sunday Telegraph' ... this is an exceptionally thorough analysis that will surely establish itself as the starting point for the study of mosaics for scholar and general reader alike.' The Art Newspaper'There has been a need for a reliable, up-to-date general book on ancient mosaics ... The lack of proper synthesis has prevented mosaics from receiving the attention they deserve and it is to be hoped that this excellent book will succeed in making a neglected art form more accessible to a wider audience, whether of academics, students, or general readers.' Journal of Roman Studies' ... prints no less than 318 pictures of mosaics that make fascinating viewing and are worth the cost of the book.' Archaeological Diggings

This is the first major study of the art of mosaic in antiquity. Covering over a thousand years through an area from Britain to Syria and beautifully illustrated with over 350 photographs, it studies the

technical aspects and social implications of mosaics as domestic and public decoration.

I bought this book because I have always appreciated the beauty of mosaics and I want to install some in my house someday. This book provides a thorough (but not tedious) explanation of the history of, and original purposes for, mosaics. The pictures and explanations provide a good understanding of the art form (although many pictures in black and white may frustrate some readers). However, if you couldn't care less about the history of mosaic art, and you are only interested in making some cute mosaic items to give as gifts or to decorate small surfaces in your home yourself with your own original designs, you may be happier with one of the more basic mosaic design books available on . If you have an appreciation for art history, however, this book will not disappoint.

Excellent, and well illustrated.

The new book by Katherine Dunbabin is a welcome addition to the already excellent catalogue of Cambridge Press. Ms. Dunbabin once more proves her value as a historian by showing that the study of Art in ancient times goes beyond aesthetics and the sphere of nobles and palaces. Her work on Section II "Technique and Production" brings to life the craftsmen and workshops that made the mosaics, but also the social relationships involved in the creation of all forms of Art. Another strong point of the book is the quality of the images depicted in it, both the photo reproductions and the graphic drawings of the mosaics are astounding. The variety of subjects shown in the mosaics allow the modern reader to have a pretty good idea of the ambiance and way of life of the times. It is also interesting that at the end of each chapter Ms. Dunbabin indicates a list of related bibliography with recent works. I can only be sorry that her own classical work "The Mosaics of Roman North Africa" is out of print. This pioneer work should be reprinted.

All thru Italy I took pictures of the floors, I hope to make them into quilts. This book is an excellent reference, I could have bought it first and looked at the other sites while I was on vacation.

I purchased this book to gain color references for the mosaics.....unfortunately, the majority of this book contains black and white plates. If you are planning on using this book as a reference for color, forget it.

This is an interesting book and a massive synthesis. My only problem is the images. The color pictures are horrible. Cambridge should be ashamed of printing such images. The black and white pictures (the vast majority) are fine BUT they are black and white. The author keeps describing different marbles, color compositions, etc. but the reader cannot see what she describes. Some of the pictures give you no idea what the mosaic really looks like (as I found out after finding such images online). Writing a history of Greek and Roman mosaics using black and white pictures is like writing a history of impressionism with only black and white pictures. The colors are 80% of the image. I am sure this problem is not the author's fault. Getting permission from museums, especially non-European museums, to print images is an ordeal. So this book will be a starting point for anyone interested in finding the pictures online or in other books (less likely). One other thing: the very numerous and very high quality mosaics of Zeugma are not mentioned in this book, since they were discovered too recently. This discovery is of such a dimension that a second edition would need to incorporate it. The same goes for the mosaics of Edessa that are clearly related to the mosaics of Constantinople's palace and the Apamea triclinium.

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