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An Eames Anthology: Articles, Film Scripts, Interviews, Letters, Notes, And Speeches



Synopsis

An inspiring collection of the writings of two of the 20th century's most brilliant and influential designers. An Eames Anthology collects for the first time the writings of the esteemed American architects and designers Charles and Ray Eames, illuminating their marriage and professional partnership of fifty years. More than 120 primary-source documents and 200 illustrations highlight iconic projects such as the Case Study Houses and the molded plywood chair, as well as their work for major corporations as both designers (Herman Miller, Vitra) and consultants (IBM, Polaroid). Previously unpublished materials appear alongside published writings by and about the Eameses and their work, lending new insight into their creative process. Correspondence with such luminaries as Richard Neutra and Eero Saarinen provides a personal glimpse into the advance of modernity in mid-century America.

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Customer Reviews

To fully know and understand the Eames history it is critical to read their writings. In AN EAMES ANTHOLOGY Daniel Ostroff has provided the reader with a rich collection of key documents which illuminate and illustrate their illustrious career. Ostroff, as an acknowledged Eames scholar, is the perfect person to collect and select these Eames writings. This book is a must for all serious students and scholars of design history!

I have a whole bookshelf of Eames and furniture design books. However, this one is a different beast altogether. Carefully curated by Eames historian Daniel Ostroff, An Eames Anthology takes

you deeper into the minds of designers Charles and Ray Eames. I could look at pictures of Eames chairs all day with captions listing information I already know (and I love doing this) but this book is unlike anything else out there. As compared to the others where you are looking at a single photo of the finished product, this book sheds light on the process and parameters. Ostroff's introduction is stellar and he seems the perfect person to have assembled this Anthology. Two thumbs way up!

This is a wonderful book - full of the words of the Eames themselves. It is probably not the best introduction to their work, but if you're looking for insights into how they became one of the most dynamic design teams of the 20th century, this is a great resource.

An Eames Anthology was a delight to read. I worked at the Eames house and the office in Venice from 1958-61. Reading the stories, talks, reports and proposals in this book was like going home again, climbing up to the attic, and going through boxes of memorabilia. I especially loved the late interview with Charles about his childhood and youth in St. Louis. I had heard some of those stories from Charles over the years that I knew him (1956-78) about getting pushed off of a train, designing churches in the south (vestments and all), etc. but had never heard the details. Charles and Ray were great educators in the Montessori sense. They created environments within which a whole lot of learning took place. This was true of their multi-media presentations, exhibits, and the Eames office itself. Daniel Ostroff has done a masterful job of collecting and presenting this rich material: Charles and Ray in their own words. This book is a MUST for serious students of the Eames process. Thank you, Mr. Ostroff.

I was very fortunate to have the opportunity to attend one of Daniel Ostroff's book introductions and signing events in San Diego. Within several minutes of listening to the editor of the anthology, it was apparent that Mr. Ostroff's knowledge of the life and works of Charles and Ray Eames is extensive and broad in scope. I felt he had invited me into the living room of Charles and Ray to get acquainted. And upon beginning the book, it is evident that my first impression was accurate. The arrangement and thorough nature of each text not to exclude the photographs he chose to include gives one a sense of the Eames as they worked, played, and taught. Amazing collection!

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