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Arts & Crafts Collector's Guide, The



Synopsis

Focusing on the three main areas of Arts & Crafts-art pottery, wrought metal, and period lighting-this field-guide-style book is strikingly illustrated with vibrant photos that show the key concepts every antique collector, dealer, or hobbyist needs to know. Packed with savvy advice, this insider's guide offers the tools to discern worthwhile, precious, beautiful antique pieces from a mass of imperfect or damaged ones. Rago's newest book helps the novice and the experienced collector discern what is worth buying and what will hold or increase in value, plus how to get the most enjoyment out of every piece. Filled with Rago's expert opinions about American Arts & Crafts objects and furniture, a list of the ten books that should be in any serious library on the subject, and helpful tips on collecting, the Arts & Crafts Collector's Guide is a must-have for any connoisseur of the period.

David Rago oversees three auction companies and two quarterly magazines, each specializing in a particular area of twentieth-century decorative arts and furnishings. He lectures nationally and is an expert decorative ceramics and porcelain appraiser for the hit PBS series *The Antiques RoadShow*. He is the coauthor of Miller's *American Art Pottery: Treasure or Not?* and *Collecting Modern*. He lives in Lambertville, New Jersey. Suzanne Sliker has worked at the Mission Oak Shop and Aurora Studios in Putnam, Connecticut, for nearly ten years. She specializes in furniture, lighting, and textiles of the Arts and Crafts period. David Rudd has been a decorative arts dealer and has operated Dalton's American Decorative Arts for over twenty-one years. He specializes in decorative arts of the twentieth century with an emphasis on Stickley mission oak furniture. Rudd is currently an independent appraiser in New Jersey, contributing writer to the *American Bungalow*, and president of the board of directors of the Central New York Arts & Crafts Society.

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Customer Reviews

Excellent, brief, blunt, and right over the plate commentary and perspective on American decorative art pottery and A&C furniture, lighting, and metal work. Rago sets the stage right up front (and maintains the context throughout) that this is an analytical guide to the very cream of the crop of these American artifacts. Although it's about the best it is invaluable to folks way down the food chain like me that can only hope to find and acquire third level goodies at best, especially in an area of the country that has very little of the stuff to choose from. He explains what to look for and what to stay away from, how the best was made and why they are the best, the nuances that make all the difference. Although he is talking directly to the top collectors, if you pay attention and use his method you can pick your way through the whole spectrum of lesser but worthy material. Most importantly, when you do stumble onto a real jewel, covered in paint, you will absolutely know it.

This is a terrific little gem that gives collectors the inside scoop on what to look for in arts & crafts collecting today. David Rago's open, conversational writing makes it sound as if he is talking directly to you. I loved reading this book!

This pocket guide to the Arts & Crafts movement for serious collectors is a winner. No surprise since it is from one of the premier dealer/auctioneers in the field. Rago is well known from his stint on Antiques Roadshow, but those of us who have been collecting A&C for decades know him as one of the field's go-to dealers and experts. While the book admirably fills the role as a handy pocket guide, buy it for the comments Rago sprinkles here and there on the up-and-down history of the mission collecting craze since it started in the 70's and an insider's view of the "big names" from Stickley to Rookwood. He was there from the start and his point of view is always interesting and insightful. A pocket gold mine!

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Adults The Crafts and Culture of the Vikings (Crafts of the Ancient World) Collector's Ency of Barbie Doll Collector's Editions (Collector's Encyclopedia of Barbie Doll) A Guide to Navajo Weavings (Native American Arts & Crafts) The Everything Guide to Selling Arts & Crafts Online: How to sell on Etsy, eBay, your storefront, and everywhere else online (Everything®) The Everything Guide to Selling Arts & Crafts Online: How to sell on Etsy, eBay, your storefront, and everywhere else online Arts & Crafts Furniture: From Classic to Contemporary Tiles & Styles, Jugendstil & Secession: Art Nouveau and Arts & Crafts Design in German and Central European Decorative Tiles, 1895-1935 Arts and Crafts Stained Glass Pattern Book (Dover Stained Glass Instruction) The Arts and Crafts Garden (Shire Library 771) Popular Woodworking's Arts & Crafts Furniture: 25 Designs For Every Room In Your Home Arts & Crafts Furniture Projects Manualidades y artesanias/ Arts and Crafts: Asi de Faciles/ That Easy (Spanish Edition) The Winterthur Guide to Recognizing Styles: American Decorative Arts from the 17th through the 19th Centuries (Winterthur Decorative Arts Series) Crochet, Knitting, and Sewing: The Ultimate Box Set on the Needle Arts and Fiber Arts: Learn Sewing, Embroidery, Crochet, Knitting, Granny Squares and Afghans 2nd Grade Language Arts Success: Activities, Exercises, and Tips to Help Catch Up, Keep Up, and Get Ahead (Sylvan Language Arts Super Workbooks)

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