

ECLECTIC INTERIORS

Cesare Cunaccia

The Book

Writer and art critic Cesare Cunaccia leads readers on a fascinating tour of unforgettable houses furnished in the eclectic style, some of them the homes of renowned creative personalities. With everything from the Baroque style rich with ethnic accents in the Los Angeles home of choreographer Tony Duquette to the ancient Chinese traditions that combine with a wholly contemporary minimalist style in Chinese artist and chef JinR's Beijing teahouse, this volume demonstrates that eclecticism is truly the signature style of today. In a world where globalization is growing, it's natural for the most disparate and diverse aesthetic movements and cultural suggestions to mix freely, thus giving rise to new forms of experimentation and new ways of interpreting reality. A house is certainly a key structure susceptible to a vast series of types of creation, mimicry and crossover. In prior centuries, especially when the 18th-century Rocaille and 19th-century Revival styles were in vogue, eclecticism was most likely to refer to the exoticism of *Retour d'Egypte*, sophisticated and original *Chinoiserie* and Turkish-inspired looks. There was interplay between lost and reinvented eras with a kind of poetic license. For examples, see Walpole's "Gothic" villa in Strawberry Hill and Pugin's deliriously picturesque ogival architecture. The latest idea about this peculiar style is that it can take so many different forms that it would be impossible to catalogue all of them. Diverse time periods, geographic provenances and decorative spheres, games of reflection and fantasy, minimal coolness interrupted here and there by opulent Baroque touches — all are the order of the day. They surround us and characterize contemporary life and esthetics.

The Author

Cesare Cunaccia is a journalist, critic and curator. Formerly a university lecturer, he contributes to several newspapers and magazines in Italy and elsewhere, including *Connaissance des Arts*, *L'Oeil*, *Giornale dell'Arte*, *Vogue Italia*, *Uomo Vogue*, *Style del Corriere della Sera*, *Milano Finanza*, *AD Italia* and *AD Germania*. His works include *Versace. Vivere con Arte* (Leonardo International, 2008), *Hidden Naples and the Amalfi Coast* (Rizzoli, 2002), *Terre de Toscane* (Hazan, 2003) and *Hidden Tuscany: Unusual Destinations and Secret Places* (Scriptum Editions, 2000).

Size: cm 24 x 28

Pages: 304

Photos: approx. 280

Text: approx. 100,000 signs

Printing: 4/4 on 170 gra paper

Binding: hard cover with jacket

First edition: 2011

