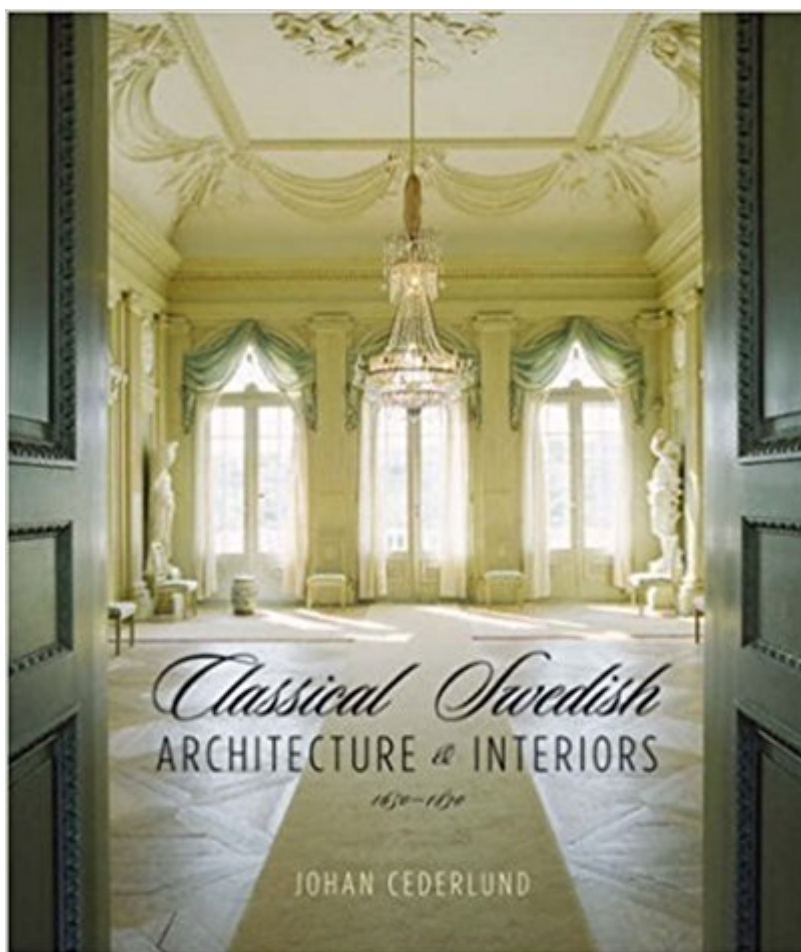


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Classical Swedish Architecture And Interiors: 1650-1840



Synopsis

The beautiful, often breathtakingly lavish architecture and interiors of Sweden between the 1600s and early 1800s have been among the art world's best-kept secrets. Overshadowed by the high-profile splendors of Italy and France, and studied and chronicled almost entirely in Swedish, Sweden's majestic palaces, stately manor houses, and tapestry-like gardens have seemed as remote as the Nordic country itself. On the pages of *Classical Swedish Architecture and Interiors 1650–1840*, meet such pathbreakers as Nicodemus Tessin the Younger and Carl Harleman and the ambitious, discerning monarchs and aristocrats who commissioned their work. Learn how Sweden's architects and designers mined antique and contemporary southern Europe for styles, techniques, and even artisans; how such marvels as the Royal Palace in Stockholm, Drottningholm, and King Gustav III's beloved Haga took shape and acquired their uniquely Swedish stamp. Step into the rich interiors where Sweden's kings and their consorts received state visitors, stored and displayed treasures, wrote letters and studied science, and laid their heads to sleep. The path of visitors to Sweden's scholars and laymen, travelers and armchair explorers alike will be forever changed and expanded by this book. Stops at the more familiar sites will be informed with knowledge of the who, when, why, and how of each antechamber and pavilion, while the lucid text and abundance of brilliant photographs, complementing such historical documents as engravings and architectural renderings, will open roads to rural corners and coastal retreats where Swedish royals, nobles, and privileged commoners basked in the calm of their country mansions and warmed themselves before their handsome Swedish tile stoves. 236 color

Book Information

Hardcover: 272 pages

Publisher: W. W. Norton & Company (February 12, 2007)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0393731723

ISBN-13: 978-0393731729

Product Dimensions: 9 x 1.1 x 10.3 inches

Shipping Weight: 2.8 pounds (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.6 out of 5 stars 5 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #1,417,809 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #88 in [Books > History > Europe > Scandinavia > Sweden](#) #750 in [Books > Arts & Photography > Architecture >](#)

Customer Reviews

Difficult to imagine...not wanting to put Sweden at the top of a visits wish-list after reading through this admirable book. (Historic House Reader, Roger White)Difficult to imagine...not wanting to put Sweden at the top of a visits wish-list after reading through this admirable book.

Difficult to imagine...not wanting to put Sweden at the top of a visits wish-list after reading through this admirable book.

A beautiful book to own, with lively text and superb photographs. What was enlightening for me was the introduction with 17th and 18th century Swedish history explained in sections such as the 'Age of Liberty' etc. and a succinct explanation of the 'Caps and Hats'. Most of the photographs were of Royal residences ; I should have liked to see the interiors of lesser known country houses such as Horningsholm and Sonstorp , and other buildings by Harleman and Rehn. All books on Swedish architecture show the bath room at Eric'sberg but there were no other interiors of that great barock mansion, the 'Versailles of Sweden'. Sovdeborg , with its fantastic ceiling of the Red Drawing Room was also omitted as well other country houses of the Barock era. So these were some of my expectations which were not met but still the book is a pleasure to read, particularly because of its scholarly and readable text. The section on churches and mausolea added to my knowledge of Swedish architecture about which I'm eager to learn more. The author, Johan Cederlund, would please a great many readers if he were to give us a book on Swedish country houses which must rank only below those of Britain in their variety and richness of interiors almost unknown to the general public, in particular, great houses like Eric'sberg.

This is a beautifully photographed and illustrated history of the architecture and interiors of some of Sweden's grandest houses and most important manors. Along with the houses there is quite a bit of history -- kings and queens, wars and abdications, grand careers brought low by a change of ruler -- that add a lot of human interest to the stones and fabrics on display.

I have bought several books on Swedish architecture and design. This book truly is an important addition to any fan of neoclassical design, although the segments on the baroque, rococo and empire periods are also outstanding. The sketches, floorplans, photographs and engravings are of

an extremely high quality, and the sheer breadth of buildings covered is astounding. Highly, highly, highly recommended. A beautiful book that is a necessity for anyone with an interest in architecture or interior design.

Any college-level holding specializing in world architectural history should have Classical Swedish Architecture & Interiors as part of its collection: art historian John Cederlund covers the foundations of Swedish architecture and interiors and covers the major sites and representations of Swedish style, from stoves to architecture for the monarchy. An excellent acquisition any library serious about world architectural styles will want.

This is an excellent survey of Swedish architecture and interiors of the most influential historical period and the photographs are splendid.

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