In the Greene & Greene Style: The Lost Art of American Arts & Crafts Furniture

In the early 20th century, two brothers from Pasadena, California, revolutionized American furniture design with their unique blend of Arts and Crafts ideals and Japanese aesthetics. Charles Sumner Greene (1868-1957) and Henry Mather Greene (1870-1954) created some of the most iconic and sought-after furniture and architecture in American history, leaving an enduring legacy that continues to inspire today.

In "In the Greene & Greene Style," renowned author and furniture historian Robert Winter introduces readers to the extraordinary world of Greene & Greene, exploring their lives, work, and the enduring influence they have had on American design. With stunning photographs and illustrations, Winter takes readers on a journey that reveals the Greene brothers' groundbreaking innovations, their shared passion for craftsmanship, and their unwavering commitment to beauty and functionality.

The Greene & Greene Philosophy



In the Greene & Greene Style: Projects and Details for the Woodworker by Darrell Peart ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ↓ 4.6 out of 5 Language : English File size : 19793 KB

Text-to-Speech: EnabledScreen Reader: SupportedEnhanced typesetting : EnabledPrint length: 121 pages



The Greene brothers were deeply influenced by the Arts and Crafts movement, which emphasized the value of handcrafted objects and the use of natural materials. They believed that furniture should be not only functional but also beautiful, with an emphasis on simple, elegant forms and exquisite joinery.

In addition to the Arts and Crafts movement, the Greene brothers were heavily influenced by Japanese art and architecture. They were particularly drawn to the Japanese concept of wabi-sabi, which celebrates the beauty of imperfection and the passage of time. This influence can be seen in their use of natural, often unfinished materials, such as oak, mahogany, and redwood, as well as their incorporation of Japanese motifs and joinery techniques.

Innovative Designs

The Greene brothers were known for their innovative furniture designs, which often featured bold, geometric forms and intricate carvings. Their signature piece, the **"parser's chair"**, is a perfect example of their unique style. With its clean lines, exposed joinery, and comfortable upholstered seat, the parser's chair has become a classic of American furniture design.

Other notable Greene & Greene designs include the **"millwork chair"**, which features a pierced back and built-in shelves, and the **"butterfly table"**, which is known for its graceful lines and sturdy construction. These and other Greene & Greene pieces are highly sought-after by collectors and have been featured in museums and galleries around the world.

The Greene & Greene Legacy

The Greene brothers' legacy extends far beyond their own work. Their innovative designs and unwavering commitment to craftsmanship have inspired generations of furniture makers, architects, and designers. Their influence can be seen not only in the work of their contemporaries but also in the work of modern designers who continue to draw inspiration from their unique style.

"In the Greene & Greene Style" is a comprehensive and beautifully illustrated guide to the Greene brothers' work and philosophy. It is a mustread for anyone who is interested in American furniture design, Arts and Crafts architecture, or the history of design. Robert Winter's engaging text and stunning photography provide a unique insight into the extraordinary world of Greene & Greene, ensuring that their legacy will continue to inspire and delight for generations to come.

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