

Oriental Carpets

Robert De Calatchi

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Robert De Calatchi : Oriental Carpets before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Oriental Carpets:

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Nice bookBy FredNice book5 of 6 people found the following review helpful. instructive and beautifulBy salieroAccording to the blurb, the author, Robert de Calatchi is one of the best known carpet dealers, repairers and historians in France. He says he set out to write a book that is an homage to the craft that has brought him the greatest pleasure in his life, without being didactic. I believe he has achieved his stated aim. The first part is an introduction to the Oriental carpet, including the ambiguity of its origins. Then follows a history of the rug, including Mexican influence, and then the Eastern influence, the confluence of Islam and rug craft, the importance of trade centred in Venice, and more. Then there is a survey of different approaches to carpets, from Persia, India, Turkey, the Caucasus, Central Asia and China. A large section includes different symbols found in carpets, and to conclude, the importance of carpets in western decoration. The book is lavishly illustrated with colour and black and white full-page plates, as well as diagrams showing different types of weaves, motifs and symbols.A handsome volume from someone who knows and loves such carpets, and truly appreciated by me who enjoys their beauty, even if I cannot afford them. The armchair aesthetic equivalent of climbing Everest through the words of

others!