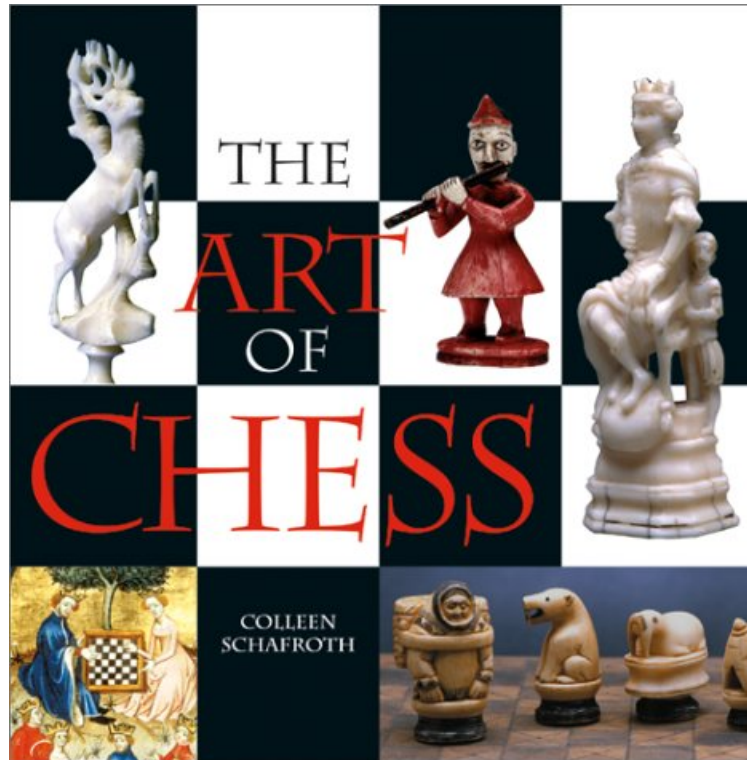


The Art of Chess

Colleen Schafroth

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#479497 in Books Harry N. Abrams 2002-03-01Ingredients: Example IngredientsOriginal language:EnglishPDF # 1 9.50 x 1.00 x 9.38l, 2.45 #File Name: 0810910012176 pages | File size: 56.Mb

Colleen Schafroth : The Art of Chess before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Art of Chess:

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Five StarsBy gus hubbard senior citizenFantastic0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Excellent.By The Yokell absolutely love this as a table book. I bought it just to add to my chess book collection, but it has stayed in the living room for almost 6 months now. I love just flipping through and looking at/reading little bits.0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Highly recommended!By moviewatcherA beautifully produced book, full of color pictures of chess sets through the ages and around the world.

Perfect for chess aficionados and collectors of chess art, this gorgeous volume, drawn from international collections, brings to life the history of chess-playing cultures around the world through vibrant illustrations, from a painting in the tomb of Queen Nefertari showing her playing senet, a forerunner of chess, to a French illuminated manuscript depicting Tristan and Isolde taking a love potion while playing chess.

From Publishers WeeklyStunningly intricate chess pieces from as early as the 10th century are on display in The Art of Chess, Maryhill Museum of Art director Colleen Schafroth's beautifully illustrated homage to one of the world's oldest and most popular pastimes. Schafroth traces the evolution of the game from its origins in India, to its first golden age under the Arab caliphate, to the birth of the (much faster) modern version in 15th-century Europe. Photos

of chessmen from around the world include an ivory Inuit set featuring igloos and seals, and a Soviet version that pits capitalists (and their enchained pawns) against the vigorous country lads who represent the Soviets. Copyright 2002 Cahners Business Information, Inc. From Booklist Historian Schafroth offers an engaging history of the game of chess. She traces its migration from India and/or China to Persia and Europe via the Islamic world, noting how the design of the pieces was influenced by each culture. Polytheistic India created floridly representational figures, while Islamic disapproval of the human image resulted in the sculpting of more abstract pieces. In this contextual vein, Schafroth's pictured sets include a Soviet porcelain ensemble pitting capitalists against proletarians, and many modeled on medieval society's knights, bishops, and pawns. The craftsmanship of these sets is another focus of the album: carved from bone, ivory, and crystal, chess sets were menageries of statuary for the kings who ordered them. As the game gained in popularity, the design of its pieces became more functional: the Staunton design, with its iconic horse head for the knight, dates from the mid-1800s. The handsome photographs in Schafroth's showcase will hold chess lovers rapt. Gilbert Taylor Copyright © American Library Association. All rights reserved