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Home Sweet Home: Sumptuous And Bohemian Interiors



Synopsis

A visual feast on the extravagance of the bohemian™, the homes in this collection are a testament to personal style that readers will find inspiring and influential. Since the 1970s, Oberto Gili has been one of the most prolific lenses in the world of editorial photography, his lush images of fashion and interiors gracing the pages of House & Garden, Town & Country, and Vogue. This collection of his signature interior photography spans this significant career. Gili™s passion for the grand, bold, and quirky granted him access to the inner sanctums of both high society and the bohemian demimonde. The selection includes numerous homes of French and Italian nobility, lords of the European and American creative class, and the photographer™s own remarkable Piedmont farmhouse. This volume of Gili™s best work is a sumptuous and voyeuristic study of his most arresting interiors and emphasizes the adventurous nature of both the homes and their occupants. These homes exude in turns grandeur, whimsy, and tranquility, each interior imbued with the unique style of its occupants. The book features more than 40 homes throughout the world--from New York penthouses and artist lofts to seventeenth-century Italian villas and country homes in Morocco--each personally selected by Gili and shown in full. Each house is accompanied by a short descriptive text by Susanna Salk. Sprinkled throughout the book are 10 short texts by selected homeowners (Isabella Rossellini, Mary Randolph Carter, Muriel Brandolini, Marella Caracciolo, Paul Fortune, and Beatrice Monti, among others) describing a personal history of the individual spaces.

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Customer Reviews

You can easily lose yourself in this exceptionally beautiful book. In the preface photographer Oberto Gili writes, "Every image in this book is the memory of a great experience. The pictures are about seeing, learning, admiring, guessing, enjoying, and digesting. Their significance is not about décor as interior decoration. Nor are they about trendy or untrendy, modern or passé, rich or poor, famous or unknown. Instead, décor serves as an expression of personality, fantasy, personal taste, culture and history. Whether the photographs were taken in the Seventies or today is irrelevant. In my vision, they all belong to the present, and I expect them to be there forever". And indeed, what is most striking is how experiential and alive these images are. They aren't simply to be looked at - they're to be entered into, and they invite you in. As Susanna Salk writes in characterizing this living quality, "...his photographs looked as if the owner had just left a few seconds before the picture was taken". And so we see lounging pets, work in process projects, even intimate apparel or the contents of a pantry, all woven together in ways that are artful and unexpected. This is a collection of Gili's photography of more than forty homes from around the world - an apartment in Milan, a New York loft, a villa in Tangier, even a castle in Rome. Also in its pages is an intimate exploration of the author's own farmhouse and studio in Piedmont. While an enormous stylistic range is in evidence, all are linked in their vibrancy and in their expression of creative lives well lived. Enter and enjoy.

A lovely, oversize book of stunning photography. Mostly interiors, but it does show a few outdoor photos and artsy portraits as well. That was a little disappointing to me personally, because after all I paid \$50-something to drool over SUMPTUOUS BOHEMIAN INTERIORS, not strange tinted pictures of naked women. Oh well. A minor complaint, and the reason for my four-star vote instead of five. I have all three of the Michele Lalande books, so I never get tired of looking at really excellent examples of eclectic interior decor. This book does not disappoint on that front. So if you enjoy getting your eye full of other people's houses, or if you like the Lalande books and similar publications, such as Holly Moore's "Domestic Art: Curated Interiors", I think you will really enjoy this one. It's full of inspirational ideas and will help you to hone your own eye for what works. It includes a variety of styles, from the shabby-junky-well-worn that I adore on the cover, to more stark, modernist stuff that personally doesn't do anything for me, although the photos are still quite lovely. P.S. Contrary to the ignorant remarks of another reviewer, this book does NOT actually promote communism.

I love Bohemian style and couldn't wait to settle in and absorb all this book had to offer. However, I

came away a bit disappointed at the lack of any specific ideas I could apply or re-create in my own home....I don't live in a penthouse, italian villa, artist's loft or a foreign country (although I would love to). I will admit though that after re-reading the description I realized I should have known it was more about photography than decorating. The up side is that I immediately grabbed my camera and starting shooting vignettes of my bedroom so I guess I really was inspired after all. Just not the way I expected.

I love this book! It truly captures better than any other book the feeling of bohemian homes, from Minimalist Bohemian to Full Blown Bohemian. I plan to feature and recommend this book on my blog as a wonderful resource and inspiration for Bohemian home decor.

A marvelously luxurious and idiosyncratic look into the interior lives of both public and intensely private personalities, HSH is a joy to (be) hold! I only hope there will be sequel!

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