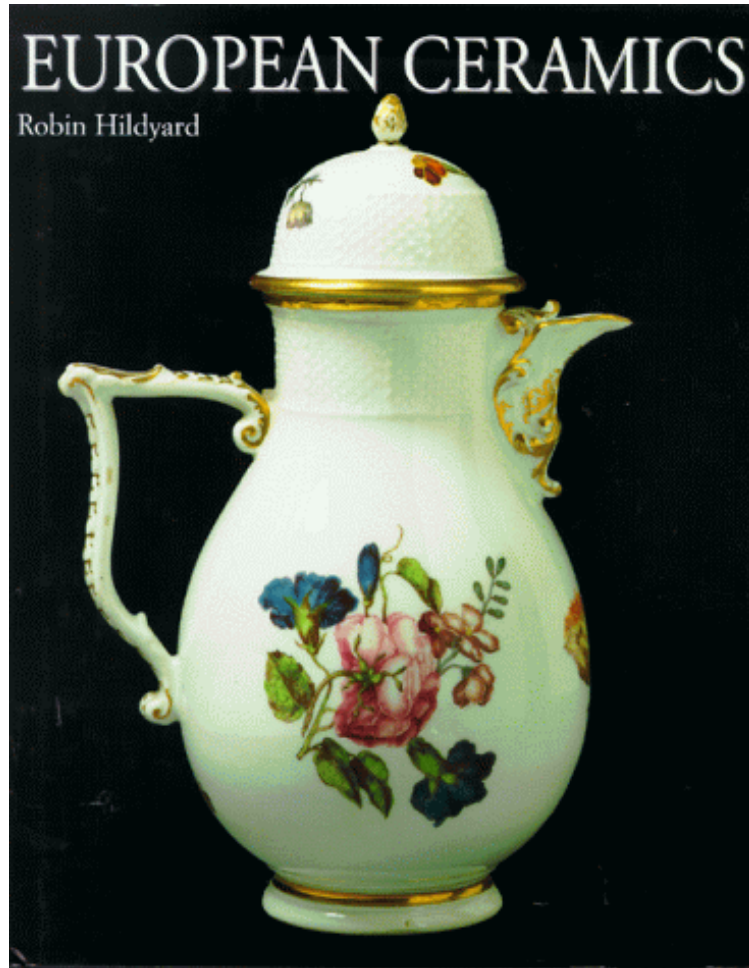


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European Ceramics

Robin Hildyard

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Robin Hildyard : European Ceramics before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised European Ceramics:

2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. A Wonderful OverviewBy Emily SWThis is one of my favorite ceramics books. It has such nice photos and even some historical prints (of the ceramics in use) to give context to certain types of work. If you are looking for a specific type of European style (say Saltglaze ware or Majolica), this might not be the best book since it doesn't really go too in depth in any particular style, but it a fabulous overview hitting on many different styles of ceramics that have emanated from Europe since about the 13th century (I think that is about when it starts). This is definitely a "must have" for anyone interested in researching historical ceramics from a visual standpoint. I keep it on the table in my studio for non-stop inspiration.2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. I have mixed feelings about this bookBy LDI had hoped that this book would have a lot of color pictures of high end porcelain. It does and is reasonably priced. I checked it out of the library as one of the books I was

considering buying to have examples of fine European china. For someone looking for detailed text covering the period with a few photo examples the same author has another book focusing on English Pottery 1620-1840. But look at a copy first as it seems overpriced. Personally I ended up buying *The Art of Ceramics-European Ceramic Design 1500-1830* because it covers English and European porcelain with history and a lot of pictures. Many of the pieces in the book are also shown in the more expensive books. *European Ceramics* and *The Art of Ceramics* have a lot in common and you won't be disappointed with either.

Selected by *Choice* magazine as an Outstanding Academic Book for 2000
The history of ceramics is extraordinarily diverse, ranging from crude clay utensils to highly decorative pieces of immense beauty and craftsmanship. Robin Hildyard draws on the Victoria Albert Museum's extensive collection to trace the story of European ceramics, in its rich diversity from the end of the Middle Ages to the present day. Highlighting key developments, techniques, discoveries, and styles—from earthenware, stoneware, and tin glaze to the invention of porcelain and the impact of industrialization—the narrative is interspersed with thematic spreads that explore the techniques and astonishing capabilities of this most universal of materials. Events such as the Great Exhibition and its successors sought to resolve the conflict between mass production and good design, illustrated here by a wide range of pieces. Looking at the complicated twentieth-century relationship among designer, manufacturer, and artist, the book also explores the modernism of the Bauhaus style, the opposing influence of Art Deco, and the explosion of new design following the Second World War. Including works made as recently as 1998, and featuring specially commissioned photography supported by related engravings and pattern-books, *European Ceramics* is not only an authoritative and indispensable reference work for students and collectors but a wide-ranging and richly illustrated volume—over two hundred illustrations, the majority in color—for all decorative art lovers to treasure.

From Booklist
It's difficult to ignore a basic text on ceramics authored by a Victoria and Albert Museum curator—or any scholar with subject-specific content and a reasonable way of communicating. And Hildyard does a very credible job, by way of occasionally soporific prose, of examining the 500 years of pottery development from 1500 to the present. The best part is when he pulls out the most intriguing facts and figures into two or three well-illustrated sidebars. A survey that does justice to the data, but could have been formatted with more visuals and less text. Barbara Jacobs "A delight! —*Choice*"
This elegant, remarkable, and sumptuous book is both aesthetically rich (filled with more than 200 quality color illustrations) and an excellent scholarly narrative. Hildyard's erudite insights in the six chapters describe essentially the story and history of European ceramics from the end of the medieval period to the most recent present. . . . For anyone who is curious or inquisitive about the changing iconographic meanings of ceramic objects and/or searches for the simple and perfect match between form, material, and function, this extraordinary book will be a delight!:"—*Choice*"
An authoritative and comprehensive reference work for . . . all who enjoy the art and craft of this remarkable medium."—*er's Bookwatch*
About the Author
Robin Hildyard joined the V&A's Ceramics and Glass Department in 1968, and has specialized in English pottery, German stoneware, and early English glass. His publications include the V&A exhibition catalogue *Browne Mugs, English Brown Stoneware, 1670-1900* (with Adrian Ostwald and R.G. Hughes), and contributions to David Gaimster's *German Stoneware and Glass*, edited by Reino Liefkes. He is currently working on a catalogue of Staffordshire pottery.