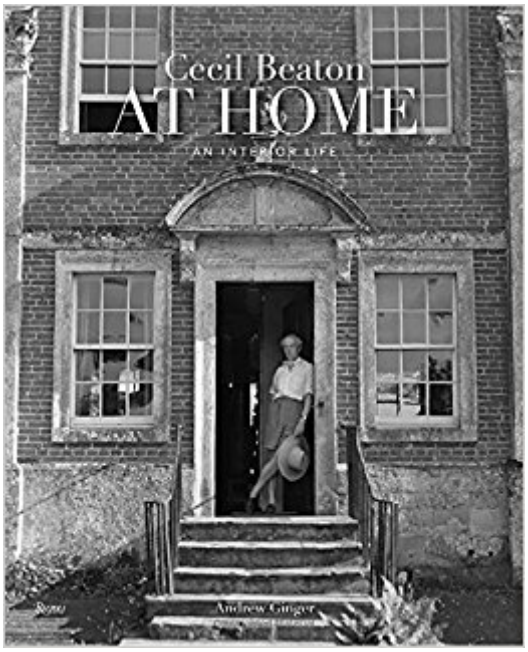
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Cecil Beaton At Home: An Interior Life



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Synopsis

A private view of the genius of Cecil Beaton, reflected through the lens of his town and country idylls, and his passion for interior design, gardening, and entertaining a circle of Bright Young Things. Cecil Beaton (1904Ã¢â ¬â œ1980) was one of twentieth-century BritainÃ¢â ¬â„¢s Renaissance men: photographer, costume designer, set designer, playwright, creator of fashion fabrics, and writer on raffinÃƒÂ© interiors and the personalities who inhabited them. He also happened to be a fine interior decorator. Cecil Beaton at Home focuses on two homes dear to BeatonÃ¢â ¬â„¢s heartÃ¢â ¬â •Ashcombe House, near the Wiltshire village of Tollard Royal, and Reddish House, located in Broad Chalke, another village in the same countyÃ¢â ¬â •as well as London's Pelham Place and BeatonÃ¢â ¬â„¢s New York hotel suites. Simultaneously a retreat, an inspiration, a photographerÃ¢â ¬â„¢s studio, and a stage for impressive entertaining, BeatonÃ¢â ¬â„¢s country homes also fueled his passion for art, gardening, and delight in village life. Against his often-extravagant interiors, BeatonÃ¢â ¬â„¢s private life unfoldsÃ¢â ¬â •his unique talent for self-promotion, desire for theatricality, and uncertain pursuit of love. This lavishly illustrated visual biography brings together original photographs, artworks, and possessions from his interiors to present an intimate picture of BeatonÃ¢â ¬â„¢s extraordinary life.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

"...although Beaton is most famous for his fashion and portrait photography, his life in and involved with homes was just as integral to his identity.'"Ã Â Ã¢â ¬â •Vogue"A private tour of Cecil

BeatonÃ¢â ¬â„¢s passion for interior design, gardening, and fashion. Peek into the British renaissance manÃ¢â ¬â„¢s own beloved residences." Ã¢â ¬â •The Society Diaries"Cecil Beaton at Home: An Interior Life . . .Ã Â explores the private quarters of the original multihyphenate, showcasing his beloved country homesÃ¢â ¬â •Ashcombe House and Reddish HouseÃ¢â ¬â •as well as his stylish suites in London and New York. With his theatrical homes as a backdrop, an intimate picture of BeatonÃ¢â ¬â„¢s private life unfolds through this fascinating visual biography."Ã Â Ã¢â ¬â •Modern Luxury Interiors (Atlanta)Ã¢â ¬Å“Cecil Beaton at Home:Ã Â An Interior Life, due this year, was conceived by Andrew Ginger as an 'interiorography'Ã Â examining BeatonÃ¢â ¬â„¢s decorative enthusiasms."Ã Â Ã¢â ¬â •New York Times"Concentrating on the favorite of his country homes as well as his hotel residences, this visual biography shows how his interior life informed his talents as a designer, writer, photographer and playwright (there are more, but you get it-he was a pretty big deal). Ã Â AÃ Â multihypenateÃ Â bon vivant, Interior Designer was one of his favorite callings and pasttimes. Ã Â Each page will allow you to escape back into a life of beauty and refinement that houses a genius mind."Ã Â Ã¢â ¬â •Pretty Page TurnerÃ Â "Designer Andrew Ginger pulls back the curtain on two of the tastemaker's most beloved country homes -- Ashcombe House and Reddish House -- in this richly illustrated "visual biography" featuring original photographs, artworks, and possessions from Beaton's interiors."Ã¢â ¬â •Neiman Marcus, The Book"A visual and literary portrait written and curated by Andrew Ginger, Cecil Beaton at Home: An Interior Life reveals the artist's passions, tastes, and personal lifestyle through the extravagance of his private country residences. For Beaton devotees and lovers of all things design, it's a unique and illuminative glimpse at the artistic inspirations and everyday realities of the CBE."Ã¢â ¬â •Interview.com"[Beaton's] prodigious talents reached beyond the photo studio; Beaton was a renowned Oscar- and Tony-award-winningÃ Â costume designer and art director for My Fair Lady, as well as painter and much-admired interior designer.Ã Â Author Andrew Ginger recently spoke to us about his new book, Cecil Beaton at Home: An Interior Life (Rizzoli) which looks at a lesser-chronicled aspect of BeatonÃ¢â ¬â„¢s renowned artistic life."Ã¢â ¬â •Gotham Magazine"Within the pages of this recently released hardcover book, Cecil Beaton at Home: An Interior Life, is an intimate reveal of the extraordinary scope of work and life of undoubtedly the quintessential Renaissance man."Ã¢â ¬â •duchessFare.com (Atlanta)"He is relevant today for the beauty of his art, his insights into contemporary life and figures from all walks of art and society in his period but also as a self-created personality. Beaton understood the power of the media long before it was popular."Ã¢â ¬â •Architects + Artisans"If you purchase one design book from the large selection out this fall it must be Cecil Beaton at Home by Andrew Ginger with forward by Beaton

expert Hugo Vickers."Ã¢â ¬â •Architect Design BlogÃ Â "The houses of a legend are given proper due in Cecil Beaton at Home."Ã¢â ¬â •Veranda"Extravagant dÃƒÂ©cor, extravagant entertaining, and his flair of theatrically come together beautifully in this 368-page celebration of all that was Beaton."Ã¢â ¬â •Flower MagazineÃ Â "In Cecil Beaton at Home: An Interior Life (Rizzoli, out October 25), author Andrew Ginger examines BeatonÃ¢â ¬â„¢s life through the spaces he furnished and inhabited, from a vulgar yet sophisticated Ã¢â ¬Å“Circus BedroomÃ¢â ¬Â• to a red-white-and-gold drawing room."Ã¢â ¬â •Allure.comÃ Â "Ã¢â ¬ËœCecil Beaton at HomeÃ¢â ¬â„¢ is a book that will have a long life with most readers. Once read, it will frequently be dipped into Ã¢â ¬â • and his phenomenal eye and memory mean that whatever he wrote, if not whatever he said, is there for good from the horse's mouth, from which any tyro designer can learn a lot, including that often forgotten fact that for creators liker Beaton the plums do not fall from the tree into the lap. They have to be worked for, and if I were asked to sum up Cecil Beaton in one word, it would be "worker" Ã¢â ¬â • and that, in my opinion, goes a long way towards excusing some of the candy-coloured frivolity, the bitchery and the snobbery for which Beaton is usually remembered"Ã¢â ¬â •Colin, McDowell,Ã Â Business of Fashion

Andrew Ginger is the managing director of Beaudesert Limited. Combining twenty years of experience in interiors at the highest level with a Cambridge art historical background, Ginger has also acted as designer for the growing house collection of archive document handprints for the last ten years. Hugo Vickers is an English writer and broadcaster who has written biographies of many twentieth-century figures, including the Queen Mother, Cecil Beaton, and Vivien Leigh, and a study of Greta Garbo.

This is absolutely an overwhelming book, in the very best way! Some oversized books can be disappointing: the content doesn't always quite justify the size. Not so in this case. This big book is absolutely bursting with content, both visual and textual. After reading Ashcombe and some of Beaton's diaries, I was longing for a more extensive treatment of his personal life, homes, and style, and now we have it. Beaton's was certainly a well documented life; he painted or photographed everything, every room, every party, every costume, every picnic. He was passionate about beautiful old houses, antiques, and gardens. He had an artist's compulsion to unite fantasy with reality, creating endless occasions for dressing up and becoming whatever you wished to be at the moment. Many of his friends, also artists, shared this vision. The pictures in this book are incredibly varied, and beautifully reproduced, in both color and black/white. The text is extensive too, so it is by

no means just a picture book. I only received it a couple of days ago, so I can't say I have begun to digest it all, but anyone with an interest in Beaton, or English eccentrics, or the lost world that existed just before we were born, will find this book fascinating and satisfying, I feel sure.

As an enthusiastic amateur photographer and frustrated interior decorator I've followed Cecil Beaton's work for years and collected all his books. When I heard that there was to be an exhibit "Cecil Beaton at Home" at the museum in Salisbury, England, I was frustrated that I couldn't go--I even asked a friend who lives there to get me the catalogue of the exhibit. Now comes this book, which greatly expands all of the material available on Beaton--every aspect of his life, including his personal life. Wonderful photographs, particularly of his houses--at Pelham Place in London, and his two country homes, the last of which Reddish House, can never be too much documented as far as I am concerned. As a lover of England, English gardens and interior dÃƒÂ©cor, or someone interested in the history of photography, this is an essential volume to own. I should add that some years ago I was in London and went to an exhibit of Beaton's photographs for the defense ministry of England during World War II; some of them are reproduced here, and shows how, in addition to being a photographer of glamour, he could focus on grittier subjects.

I felt like I was invited to tea, and then given a walking tour of his homes and his life. A fascinatingly thorough look into the talents of Cecil Beaton. He combined the classical with the whimsical to please his most important client, himself. This book is an exceptionally well-done work of art in itself.

Any fan of Beaton will know of his insightful photographs, period costume, set, and stage designs, and his tell all diaries and scrapbooks but none have ever delved into the interiors that formed and influenced his life. ItÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã â„¢s only fitting that the man who showed style to the world would live in interiors to match. This book, almost an illustrated biography, details BeatonÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã â„¢s interiors while also giving you the background of how these interiors were formed and the people who lived and played in them. Chapters go to great lengths to describe his country houses (Ashcombe and Reddish), his London residences, and the New York hotel rooms he decorated and lived(Plaza, Sherry-Netherland, St Regis, etc.). While none of these interiors survive we are given beautiful, crisp images of the interiors. There are countless books about Cecil Beaton but none have matched the quality and scope of this book. You wonÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã â„¢t be disappointed, itÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã â„¢s the best design book of 2016.

THIS is the book I have been waiting for! It is everything I wanted it to be and much, much more. Its large format gives plenty of room for the amazingly reproduced images. You feel like you are actually in BeatonÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã â„¢s homes. For me this is the book of the year!Meticulously and lovingly researched, it lists every address Beaton ever had. But it focuses on his two country houses in England, his London apartment and various apartments in New York City - when the famous had permanent suites in hotels.The book is filled with drawings, paintings, photos, sketches, newspaper clippings, letters and other documents. His sometimes fantastical and ever-changing decor and art collection are not to be topped. Neither is his guest list: David Hockney, Greta Garbo, members of the royal family, Mick Jaeger, the artists Gilbert and George, Marilyn Monroe and Audrey Hepburn.It is also the first book to honestly look at his private love life - which brings to life some new characters in the "Beaton Story". These sections are also richly illustrated and this gives it much more meaning!There is so much never been seen material. I could not have dreamed there was so much new, undiscovered stuff - especially with the number of Beaton publications during his lifetime and since his death in 1980. This is a must-have for anyone interested in Beaton, the arts, or the glamorous life of the 1930s - 1960s.

Production values are what you'd expect from Rizzoli including the scarlet silk-over-boards under the somewhat drab dustjacket...the ribbon bookmark is a nice touch...well-written and heavily illustrated. My copy was inadequately packaged (only a thin padded envelope when it should have been packed in a proper, sturdy cardboard box with interior bumpers) and the book corners suffered noticeably . This was acceptable, although it was avoidable, and prevents me from giving this 5 starts.

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