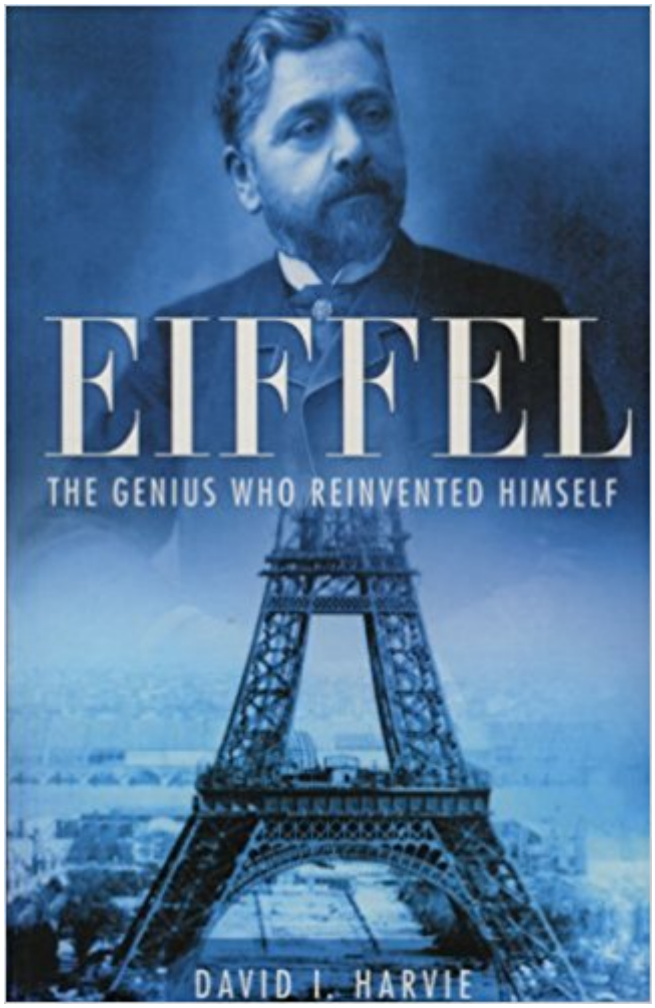
Ebook Directory
the best source of ebook

The book was found

Eiffel: The Genius Who Reinvented Himself



PDF
Adobe
DOWNLOAD EBOOK

Synopsis

The Eiffel Tower is perhaps the most famous tall building in the world, an icon of its own age and ours. It was the dream-child of French engineer Gustave Eiffel, along with Budapest railway station, the Douro Bridge in Portugal and the interior skeleton of the Statue of Liberty. In this new biography of Eiffel, the first for many years, David I. Harvie reveals the determination, struggle and drama which characterised the life of this talented man. The Eiffel Tower was proposed as the centrepiece for the World Exhibition of 1889, yet the moment the plans were unveiled they were greeted with a storm of protests. An influential Artists' Protest was vocal in its criticism; Eiffel became involved in an extended argument with Charles Garnier, architect of the Paris Opera; and satirists had a field day. Robust in his defence of the tower, Eiffel had the last laugh: when completed, the tower became an instant favourite and a moneyspinner. Yet, at the moment of his triumph, scandal beckoned. While the tower was being built Eiffel had signed contracts for the biggest and riskiest project of his life - the construction of the locks for the Panama Canal. In 1889 the canal company was plunged into liquidation due to mismanagement. Eiffel was charged with breach of trust and swindling and sentenced to two years' imprisonment. Although cleared on appeal, the engineer from Dijon never quite recovered from the personal indignity of the scandal. The man who had designed and built aqueducts and bridges throughout the world turned his back on engineering and embarked on an equally illustrious career in the study of aerodynamics.

Book Information

Paperback: 288 pages

Publisher: The History Press (August 1, 2006)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0750933097

ISBN-13: 978-0750933094

Product Dimensions: 5.2 x 0.8 x 7.8 inches

Shipping Weight: 7 ounces

Average Customer Review: 3.9 out of 5 stars 5 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #627,099 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #271 inÃ Â Books > Arts & Photography > Architecture > Regional #1099 inÃ Â Books > Biographies & Memoirs > Arts & Literature > Artists, Architects & Photographers #1160 inÃ Â Books > Arts & Photography > Architecture > History

Customer Reviews

DAVID I. HARVIE is a freelance film editor, and a regular contributor of features on history and social history to newspapers and magazines. His previous books include Limeys (Sutton 2002) and he lives in Dumbarton, Scotland.

Mr. Eiffel leaves his visionary talent all over the world including the global treasure, The Eiffel Tower. Read this biography and be amazed!

I love Eiffel

We owe Eiffel a great debt just for his Paris tower, but who has heard of his stupendous viaduct at Garabit? His works should be more widely know and this new biography goes some way down that path. It is a well researched book, and exposes much about him as a methodical and systematic engineer who created structures of outstanding beauty and integrity. And he cared about the workers who actually built his designs, a rarity in Victorian times. The book can be criticised for being too brief about his achievements, especially the engineering principles which guided him through his career. And the illustrations are frustratingly sparse and unimaginative for his creations. Some of the early works, for example, are the dramatic viaducts on the Gannat railway, and surely deserve modern pictures (they are still standing and still carrying trains). The numerous viaducts on the railway were built in the 1860s using cast iron columns braced with wrought iron tie bars, with the joints carefully separated and reinforced, unlike those of the later Tay bridge. It fell in a storm carrying a train with it, and causing up to 75 deaths of the passengers and crew. The disaster was caused by premature failure of the joints, despite the known hazards of this form of construction, as described inÃ Â Beautiful Railway Bridge of the Silvery Tay: reinvestgating the Tay Bridge disaster of 1879. Eiffel also spread the bases of the piers very widely, so adding greater stability to his viaducts, unlike those of the Tay bridge. The book deserves a wide readership, but the definitive bio of Eiffel has yet to be written.

Eiffel: The Genius Who Reinvented Himself isn’t just for history buffs: it’s an excellent survey of an architect’s unique challenges producing a tower which combined the needs of art and industry alike, and as such will appeal beyond history audiences into the arts. Those who know little about Eiffel other than his associations with his famous tower will be fascinated to learn of his collaboration on the Statue of Liberty and the locks for the French Panama Canal, as well as other endeavors. It’s the perfect pick for a general-interest lending library collection.Diane C. DonovanCalifornia

Bookwatch

I have one piece of advice for this author: keep yourself to magazine articles. This book suffers from a severe lack of coherency, choppy flow and is a major pain to read. Assuming the facts stated in each sentence are accurate, one needs to take every sentence as a unit and not expect any kind of meaningful transition between different sentences, let alone different paragraphs. If you want to know how a badly written history book reads, here is one for you.

Download to continue reading...

Eiffel: The Genius Who Reinvented Himself Monet By Himself (Artist by Himself) Brunelleschi's Dome: How a Renaissance Genius Reinvented Architecture Carl Linnaeus: Genius of Classification (Genius Scientists and Their Genius Ideas) Misspelled Paradise: A Year in a Reinvented Colombia Super-Charged: How Outlaws, Hippies, and Scientists Reinvented Marijuana Dog Whistle Politics: How Coded Racial Appeals Have Reinvented Racism and Wrecked the Middle Class The Art of Healthy Eating - Sweets: grain free low carb reinvented The Vanilla Bean Baking Book: Recipes for Irresistible Everyday Favorites and Reinvented Classics Pie It Forward: Pies, Tarts, Tortes, Galettes, and Other Pastries Reinvented From Mom to Me Again: How I Survived My First Empty-Nest Year and Reinvented the Rest of My Life The Birth of the Pill: How Four Crusaders Reinvented Sex and Launched a Revolution Jake, Reinvented (repackage) Eiffel's Tower: The Thrilling Story Behind Paris's Beloved Monument and the Extraordinary World's Fair That Introduced It The Eiffel Tower The Eiffel Tower (Building on a Dream: Kids as Architects and Engineers) Where Is the Eiffel Tower? Where Is the Eiffel Tower? (Where Is?) Tricky Vic: The Impossibly True Story of the Man Who Sold the Eiffel Tower 2017-2018 Eiffel Tower 2 Year Pocket Calendar

Contact Us

DMCA

Privacy

FAQ & Help