

Faberge and His Works

Christel Ludewig McCanless

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Peter Carl Fabergé (1846-1920), jeweler to the Czars of Russia and the courts of Europe, created objets de fantasie which continue to be admired by laymen and serious collectors. Scholars attribute the historical success and present-day fascination with Fabergé's work to his use of the traditional objets d'art combined with "modern" functionality. Design and craftsmanship were carried out in exquisite taste and to a high degree of perfection, reflecting the splendors of Imperial Russia. His work includes Imperial Easter Eggs made for Alexandra Feodorovna (wife of Nicholas II), and Marie Feodorovna (wife of Alexander III), hardstone carvings of animals and traditional Russian characters, realistic flower studies, boxes and cigarette cases, tableware, jewelry, vases, frames, clocks, and miniature Easter eggs. This book is the first attempt by any author to compile and annotate the voluminous literature published about the celebrated firm of Fabergé with its 500 employees and their prolific output. The chronological arrangement of 1,772 comprehensive citations are translated and annotated in English. Exhibition and auction dates, as well as prices realized at auctions, are included. The introduction is by an acknowledged Fabergé expert, A. Kenneth Snowman, Chairman of Wartski, Jewelers by Appointment to Her Majesty the Queen and other royalty. The book, with its detailed index of over 2,200 subject headings, is an invaluable reference tool for Fabergé enthusiasts and collectors, art historians, librarians, museum curators and registrars, art dealers, jewelers, auctioneers, and students of the Romanov era. The index along with a chronology of the House of Fabergé, an updated genealogy of the Fabergé family, and a glossary of proper names trace the history of the Fabergé phenomenon and many of the estimated 250,000 objects made by the firm.

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