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By Chris Brooks



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At the height of the Victorian period, a craze for Gothic style swept England and spread far beyond. Gothic architecture, associated with the social and cultural ideals of the Middle Ages, was seen as a means of remaking the modern world.



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Gothic Revival A&I (Art and Ideas) By Chris Brooks Bibliography

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Editorial Review

Review

"Chris Brooks fulfills every expectation, indeed exceeds it. This breathtaking and stimulating survey offers, in one grand, sweeping narrative, an entirely new interpretation, at a stroke advancing a field which has been stagnant for too long."-Burlington Magazine "This book is animated by so rich an appreciation of the difference between a stylistic fashion and a major cultural strain as to be something of a miracle. Chris Brooks' text is a skillful descriptive and analytical synthesis. It ranges convincingly between matters as far apart, chronologically and otherwise, as the rebuilding of Orleans Cathedral and the absurdities of Gothic Punk."-World of Interiors "This is the most complete study available, and Brooks is a confident and reliable guide."-Independent On the Art & Ideas series "Art & Ideas has broken new ground in making accessible authoritative views on periods, movements and concepts in art. As a series it represents a real advance in publishing."-Sir Nicholas Serota, Director, Tate London "The format is wonderful and offers what had long been missing in academic studies: usable manuals for specific themes or periods... I am definitely not alone in welcoming Art & Ideas as a precious set of teaching tools."-Joachim Pissarro, Yale University "Phaidon's series may prove to be the pick of the crop. It boasts expert but undogmatic texts and a wealth of illustrations."-The Sunday Telegraph

From the Publisher

At the height of the Victorian period, a craze for Gothic style swept England and spread far beyond. Gothic architecture, associated with the social and cultural ideals of the Middle Ages, was seen as a means of remaking the modern world. In this exposition, Chris Brooks unravels the layers of meaning that Gothic held for its many reinventors: from the political uses of Gothic history in the 17th century to Barry and Pugin's Houses of Parliament in the mid-19th century. Yet Gothic is not just buildings: continually recreated, it has taken the form of poetry and fiction, of painting and sculpture, of movies and video games, of Gothic music and Gothic punk. Gothic became a dominant cultural and architectural force not only in 19th-century Britain, but across Europe, in the United States and in the countries of the British Empire. It is still pervasive. This book deals comprehensively with the whole scope of the Gothic Revival.

About the Author

Brooks is a Reader in Victorian Culture in Exeter University's school of English.

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