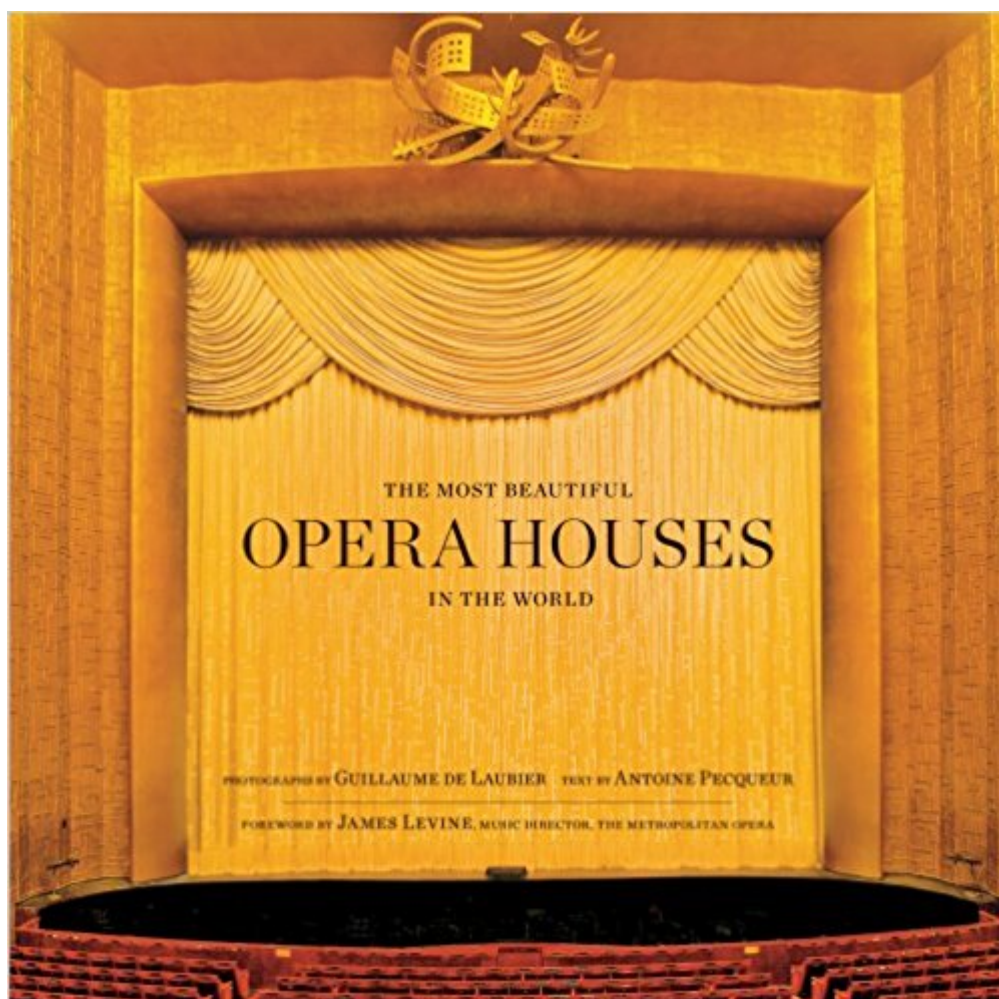


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# The Most Beautiful Opera Houses In The World



## Synopsis

Opera houses—temples to the art of Mozart, Verdi, Tchaikovsky, and more—have been created by some of the most talented architects and designers of their generations, inspiring centuries of veneration from audiences, filled with royalty and commoners alike. In this sumptuous book, photographer Guillaume de Laubier and journalist Antoine Pecqueur explore more than 25 of the world's most beautiful opera houses, from Tokyo to Covent Garden, from Oslo to Chicago, from Milan to New York. The buildings are described in their historical contexts, while stunning photography reveals the theaters' most captivating spaces. In addition to offering sweeping views of ornate auditoriums and facades, the book opens doors normally closed to the public, entering the artists' dressing rooms, rehearsal halls, scenery workshops, and more, presenting a wide-ranging and compelling look into a spectacular world. Praise for *The Most Beautiful Opera Houses in the World*: "Performance spaces take the spotlight in *The Most Beautiful Opera Houses in the World* and you don't need to be a music buff to appreciate their range. The photographs by Guillaume de Laubier capture 32 theaters across the globe in rich detail . . . Who knew empty stages made for such good theater?" —*Wall Street Journal* "With the growing popularity of massive arenas, it is often difficult to think back to a time when going out for a night of music was synonymous with elegance. But a new book has rediscovered the high art of these exquisite theater spaces. *The Most Beautiful Opera Houses in the World* contains hundreds of photographs showing the exteriors and auditoriums of these cultural treasures; and is a reminder why these architectural wonders are worth a visit." —*FOXNews.com*

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

Guillaume de Laubier, a photographer who has regularly contributed to *Elle*, *D*ecor, *Vogue*, and *Maison Française*, is the author of several books, including *Abrams* – *The Most Beautiful Libraries in the World*. Antoine Pecqueur is a journalist for *Le Monde*, the French television channel Mezzo, and the classical music periodical *La Lettre du Musicien*.

My first quibble is that I bought the book for \$60 and days later noticed it was now \$40. A hint, , people don't like that. As far as the book goes, it is beautifully produced and photographed and very nostalgic if you have been to a house in question, exciting if you haven't (yet). Never having realised my life ambition of visiting Bayreuth and Salzburg, those were keenly interesting. There were some odd omissions, the Colon in Buenos Aires, Mexico City, the San Carlos in Lisbon etc. Others were given very short shrift even though gorgeous and famous. There are some arty angles and views which are pretty but then one sacrifices any real view of what it looks like. My main complaint, and the reason for 3 stars instead of 4, is the endless procession of modern, boring opera houses which most resemble parking garages. I remember being in Oslo a few years ago and passing the opera house. One of my companions said 'well you'll never see THAT in a coffee table book!' We all laughed, but here it is and more than one photo. Still, if you love opera and, like me, have some dream houses you will probably now never visit, get this book.

Extraordinary! Drop-dead beautiful photos of magnificent opera houses in an elegant format --  
weighty, but wonderful  
Len Lamensdorf  
Westlake Village, CA

For those of us caught by the "red and gold disease" of opera houses, this and David Levant's book are superb. I felt that I could fall through the pages onto the stage.

We used it for my friend's funeral as a guest signing book. My friend was a volunteer for and a lover of opera so it was fitting for her friends to honor her in this way.

I am thoroughly enjoying this book. The background on the houses is great and the pictures are stunning. This will always be on my table for visitors to see.

This is a must have if you love beautiful books about your favorite things. Opera houses are a interest of mine. You will not be disappointed with this purchase. This book would make an excellent gift for someone who is interested in opera or architecture.

I bought this book as a gift. I will be giving it next month for a birthday celebration. I'm sure it will be appreciated.

i wish it had a photo or 2 of the Sydney opera, which is included int he book but lacking photos

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