
Books Received

M. F. Ashby; Kara Johnson. *Materials and Design: The Art and Science of Material Selection in Product Design.* Oxford; Boston: Butterworth-Heinemann, 2002. ISBN: 0750655542; 336 p.; colored illustrations, charts, bibliography, index.

First half of the book is elegant charts and graphics that illuminate many ways to analyze a product's features and needs. Case studies demonstrate material selection methods. Second half is a reference source of materials, shaping, joining, and surface profiles. (Editor's choice)

Conny Bakker. *Huibert Groenendijk: Down to Design.* Rotterdam : 010 Publishers, 2004. ISBN: 906450458X (hb); 175 p.; chiefly colored illustrations including sketches.

Review of Dutch industrial designer's work of the last 20 years featuring new windmills, Rotterdam water-taxi, ergonomic fishing rod, and child safety seat.

J David Bolter; Diane Gromala. *Windows and Mirrors: Interaction Design, Digital Art, and the Myth of Transparency.* Cambridge, Mass.: MIT Press, 2003. ISBN: 0262025450 (hc); 182 p.; b/w illustrations, index.

Very accessible discussion of the competing ideas of "transparency" and "experience." Historical examples of previous interpretations of the ideas compared to new visions seen in digital art and interactive experiences.

David Consuegra. *American Type Design and Designers.* New York: Allworth Press, 2003. ISBN 1581153201 (pbk); 317 p.; b/w illustrations; bibliography; glossary; type foundries.

Includes up-to-the-minute biographies of young working designers in addition to early 20th century masters. Useful reference work by a professor emeritus of typography. Distributed by Watson-Guptill.

Design and Nature II: Comparing Design in Nature With Science and Engineering. C A Brebbia; M W Collins, editors. Southampton: WIT, 2004. ISBN: 1853127213; 624 p.; b/w photos, graphs, charts.

This book compiles the 59 papers presented at the Second International Conference on Design & Nature held in Rhodes 2004. Sections include complexity and sustainability studies, biomimetics, bioengineering, design philosophy and methods, materials and nature and architectural design.

Sander L Gilman; Xun Zhou. *Smoke: A Global History of Smoking.* London : Reaktion Books, 2005. ISBN: 1861892004 (hbk.); 408 p.; 100 color illustrations. It really does cover the topic globally. (Ed.: Wow!)

Steven Heller. *Design Literacy: Understanding Graphic Design.* 2nd ed. New York: Allworth Press, 2004. ISBN 1581153562; 433 p.; b/w illustrations.

Second edition, augmented, of history of graphic design in a collection of 75 essays, many by the leaders of the 20th century, grouped by themes of persuasion, mass media, iconography, type, language, identity, information, style and commerce.

Steven Heller; Mirko Ilić. *Handwritten: Expressive Lettering in the Digital Age.* London: Thames & Hudson, 2004. ISBN: 0500511713; 192 p.; 500 colored illustrations.

Celebrates how hand-drawn graphics express craft and creativity. Chiefly illustrations.

Alan Liu. *The Laws of Cool: Knowledge Work and the Culture of Information.* Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 2004. ISBN: 0226486982 (clothp; 0226486990 (pbk); 573 p.; bibliography, index.

Intro: (p. 1) "This book is a study of the cultural life of information or, more broadly, of contemporary "knowledge work." An English professor, very technologically savvy, gives an overview of literary studies in the milieu/maelstrom of information and cool.

John Maeda; Red Burns. *Creative Code.* New York: Thames & Hudson, 2004. ISBN 0500285179 (pbk); 239 p.; 600 illustrations.

Presents work produced by the Aesthetics + Computation Group (ACG) at the MIT Media Lab by the themes of visualization, digital typography, abstraction, education and interaction design.

Jack A Sobel; Craig P Dalgren. *Marine Reserves: A Guide to Science, Design, and Use.* Washington, D.C.: Island Press, 2004. ISBN 1559638419; 383 p.; illustrations, maps.

A book for designers interested in systems (oceans being a mega-system) and the impact of man-made systems of fishing and conservation reserves, by two expert marine conservationists.