False Colors: Art, Design and Modern Camouflage

Roy R. Behrens, University of Northern Iowa

Description
An engaging and often amusing account of the little known use of artists, designers, and architects as army, navy, and civilian camouflage experts (called “camoufleurs”) during World Wars I and II. Described and illustrated are documented attempts--some ingenious, others bizarre--at “fooling the eye” by such prominent artists (from France, England, the US, and Germany) as Abbott H. Thayer, Jean-Louis Forain, Andre Dunoyer de Segonzac, Jacques Villon, Grant Wood, Blair Hughes-Stanton, Charles Burchfield, Oskar Schlemmer, Franz Marc, Edward Wadsworth, William Stanley Hayter, Roland Penrose, Julian Trevelyan, Eric Sloane, Laszlo Moholy-Nagy, Gyorgy Kepes, Jon Gnagy, Arshile Gorky, Victor Papenek, and Ellsworth Kelly. Illustrated by 120 vintage photographs, diagrams, and artworks, the text explains how the strategies used to conceal objects in nature and warfare are based on the very same “unit-forming factors” that artists, designers, and architects use every day in the creation of paintings, prints, fonts, logos, page layouts, web sites, furniture, buildings, and so on. Throughout the book, the author makes shrewd observations about the connections of art, design, and camouflage to such seemingly wide-ranging topics as Gestalt psychology, esthetics, Cubism, Dada, Surrealism, psychoanalysis, kindergarten, creativity, the Bauhaus, Frank Lloyd Wright, humor, dream analysis, Rockwell Kent, poetry, pickpockets, and sleight of hand. Of additional interest are a camouflage timeline, an account of the etymology of the word camouflage, and a 10-page bibliography, the largest ever compiled on the subject of art and camouflage. -- Provided by publisher

Keywords
Stein, Gertrude, -- 1874-1946; Le Corbusier, -- 1887-1965

Document Type
Book

ISBN
9780971324404

Publication Date
2002

Publisher
Bobolink Books

City
Dysart, IA

Department
Department of Art

Comments
1st edition

Object Description
223 p.; 23 cm
toilet paper camo, image via uberreviewwe don't know how much cover camouflage toilet paper will provide, but if your bathroom has a hunter design theme, this toilet paper will fit right in. the US navy gave dazzle plans to each shipping board district image courtesy of the fleet library at RISD. currently there is an exhibition on camouflage history at the fleet library at RISD, rhode island school of design, providence, USA. ‘bedazzled' http://www.risd.edu it runs through march 29, 2009. leeji choi I designboom. feb 23, 2009. Camouflage is a visual disguise. Without it, an animal would be recognised easily. If the natural colour of an animal makes it look like its surroundings, that is camouflage. A tiger's stripes in the long grass, and the battledress of a modern soldier are examples. Camouflage is a form of deception. The word camouflage comes from the French word camouflier, which means “to disguise".