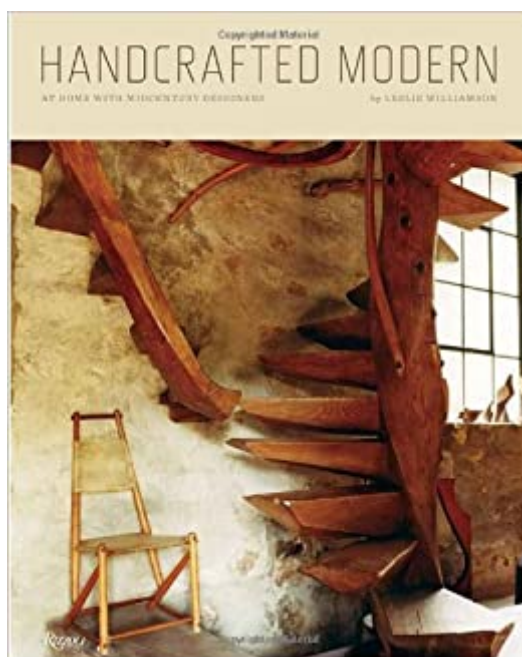


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# Handcrafted Modern: At Home With Mid-century Designers



## Synopsis

An intimate and revealing collection of photographs of astonishingly beautiful, iconic, and undiscovered mid-century interiors. Among significant mid-century interiors, none are more celebrated yet underpublished as the homes created by architects and interior designers for themselves. This collection of newly commissioned photographs presents the most compelling homes by influential mid-century designers, such as Russel Wright, George Nakashima, Harry Bertoia, Charles and Ray Eames, and Eva Zeisel, among others. Intimate as well as revelatory, Williamson's photographs show these creative homes as they were lived in by their designers: Walter Gropius's historic Bauhaus home in Massachusetts; Albert Frey's floating modernist aerie on a Palm Springs rock outcropping; Wharton Esherick's completely handmade Pennsylvania house, from the organic handcarved staircase to the iconic furniture. Personal and breathtaking by turn—these homes are exemplary studies of domestic modernism at its warmest and most creative.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

"Handcrafted Modern gives a fascinating glimpse into the homes that significant architects and designers - Harry Bertoia, Eva Zeisel, and Charles and Ray Eames, to name a few - built for themselves" ~C  
"A revealing photo essay" ~Elle Decor  
"Every now and then, a book arrives which is not just a handsome presentation of information, but also a completely satisfying aesthetic object. This is the case with Handcrafted Modern by Leslie Williamson. Her photographs inside designers'

(mostly) midcentury modernist homes capture something of the inhabitant and his or her pattern of living. But they reveal something more--something of the life of the designer of the space."

~Architects Newspaper"Bottom line--This book is simply superb! ...this is a must have for any design enthusiast, especially anyone who appreciates the handcrafted... this publication will not disappoint" ~Design Therapy blog

Leslie Williamson is a photographer based in San Francisco. Her work has appeared in Dwell, Surface, and Travel + Leisure magazines.

I must say I disagree with the previous reviewer. Out of focus? The photographs I'm looking at have an artistry to them that goes beyond the clinical maximization of detail. I'd say she does a great job of capturing the mood of these personal spaces. Some of these homes and the rooms in them have been lived in and lovingly looked after for 40 years and more by their owners. They aren't showrooms. They have worn edges and faded colors in places, which makes them just that much more appealing to my mind. The diffuse natural lighting she's using I find to be a perfect fit to this subject. Some of the shots are just gorgeous and the book has page after page of them, many in full-page format. I'm just glad someone has taken the time to create a record of these spaces at this phase of their existence. They very well may be gone (at least in non-museum form) in not too many more years. Definitely one of the better books of this type I've come across, and one I'm extremely happy to have added to my library.

This book is a wonderful review of the creative spirit. Not too in depth but enough to enjoy the gifts of these creative and talented individuals. The sameness of 99.99% of houses of the present are enough to drive us into oblivion. These talented people show us how to express great ideas to rise above the norm. We had a family home next to Wharton Esherick's in Pennsylvania and though the outside was just a cut above normal, the inside was filled with creative work everywhere you rested your eyes....sublime.

The first few homes are beautiful, but as the book progresses, the homes resemble Apartment Therapy. Disappointing, so it was returned.

I have poured over each and every photo in this book! Leslie Williamson is one lucky woman to have had the opportunity to photograph mid-century designers homes and private spaces! Leslie, I

would carry your cameras for you free to be included in such a fabulous project. I just ordered her Modern Originals book and will be waiting on the doorstep for it to arrive. Absolutely fabulous photos!

This is a beautiful book with a fascinating premise; a look at the inside of artists' homes and work spaces. My experience is limited to seeing and enjoying photography in museum exhibits, usually by well known artists, but this new book has opened my eyes to the possibilities of modern photography and the interesting stories which lie behind the pictures. Leslie Williamson has a bright future ahead of her and we can take "Handcrafted Modern: At Home with Mid-century Designers" in hand to peruse at our leisure and for much personal pleasure.

Inspirational. Beautifully and interestingly photographed. Love it.

I thoroughly enjoyed this book. It's a very intimate revealing of these artists' home settings. The lighting is natural and shows how a visitor might see the scenes in the homes if visiting for an afternoon. I believe it will be an excellent addition to anyone's library who enjoys interior design as I do.

We really love this book. Williamson has a great attention to detail in her prose and her photography. So much so, in fact, that there aren't enough wide-angle shots of the rooms. The close-up shots are amazing, but it's hard to put them in context sometimes.

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