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AUGUST 2020
UK £50 / EUR €59 / USA \$75

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Colour Directions SS 2022
Custodian: protect & preserve
Goddess: hedonic pleasure

ColourHive

Colour Now SS 2021
Focus on colour theory
Brave new talent

We personally... best books on colour

During lockdown, the Colour Hive team has been brushing up on some essential reading. Here, we have selected our favourite books on colour, from history and theory to nomenclature.

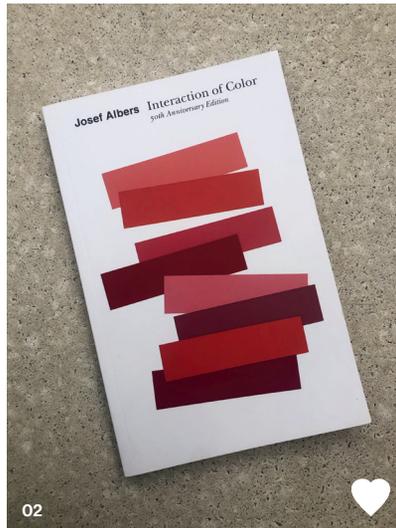
132 WE PERSONALLY..



01 COULEUR: UNE HISTOIRE VISUELLE, ALEXANDRA LOSKE

This is the perfect book on colour for those who like to dip in and out. It tells the history of colour as seen by colour theorists, but also looks at scientists, painters, poets and writers, from the 18th century to modern times. As well as delivering information in digestible bites, it contains a lot of visuals and documents. A particular highlight was discovering Mary Gartside's abstract watercolours exploring light, shade, colour and composition. Published by éditions Pyramyd.

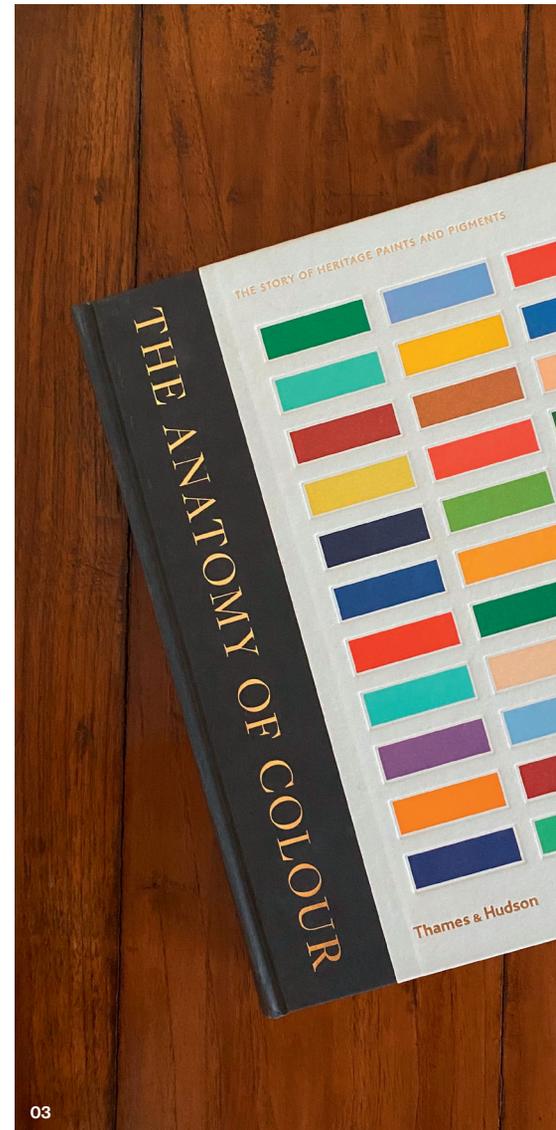
pyramyd-editions.com



02 INTERACTION OF COLOUR, JOSEF ALBERS

A classic design school resource, this is the book we return to for the language and practice of colour interaction. The book works through a series of colour experiments that involve the reader, demonstrating the visual and often-illusionary effects different combinations and placements that colour can have. Each exercise is illustrated and explained, not to give a specific answer, but to suggest a way of studying, deftly guiding towards deeper understanding of the ways people see and experience colour beyond simple theory. Highly recommended. 50th Anniversary Edition. Published by Yale University Press.

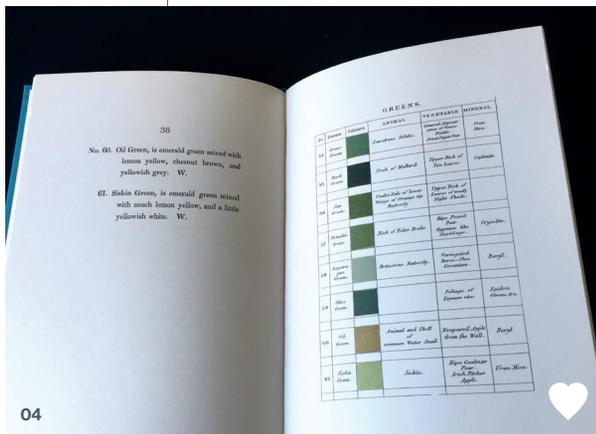
yalebooks.co.uk



03 THE ANATOMY OF COLOUR, PATRICK BATY

This comprehensive story of heritage paints and pigments is ideal if you're a lover of the evolution of colour in interiors. It's the perfect book to cherry pick chapters as everything is fascinating. Spanning 300 years, from the development of traditional pigments to post-war colour standards, and featuring hundreds of archive images, this is a book to return to for pleasure time and again. Published by Thames & Hudson.

thamesandhudson.com



04

04 WERNER'S NOMENCLATURE OF COLOURS

This charming little book, first published in 1814 and now faithfully reproduced by Natural History Museum Publishing, is essentially a taxonomic guide that identifies colours and then finds matches to that colour in animals, vegetables and minerals. So, Berlin Blue's entry includes the wing feathers of a jay, hepatica and blue sapphire. The original scheme was adapted by Edinburgh flower painter Patrick Syme who traced the minerals and created the colour charts found in this book. To add further to the appeal of this book, Charles Darwin brought a copy on his voyage on HMS Beagle.

nhm.ac.uk/publishing

05 THE SECRET LIVES OF COLOUR, KASSIA ST CLAIR

Full to the brim with highly detailed and informative essays on an array of colours, Clair's charismatic and



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06

beautifully descriptive style of writing tells the story of each individual colour and its origin. For anyone who is curious about colour, clear a space on your bookshelf if you haven't already. Published by John Murray.

johnmurray.co.uk

06 I DON'T HAVE A FAVOURITE COLOUR, HELLA JONGERIUS

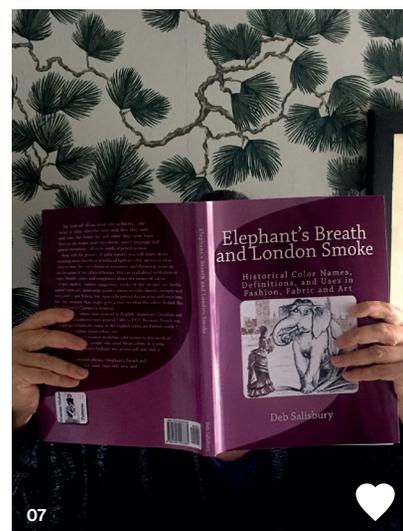
Jongerius' unique approach to colour, light and materials is beautifully and graphically presented in this now rare publication which offers fascinating insight into the scientific and experimental process behind the development of Vitra's Colour and Material Library. Commissioned by Vitra in 2016, and produced by Gestalten Verlag, Berlin.

vitra.com gestalten.com

07 ELEPHANT'S BREATH AND LONDON SMOKE, DEB SALISBURY

Effectively charting historical colour names in fashion, fabric and art, this book is a fascinating insight into just how long people have been obsessed with naming colour. The names themselves are often poetic or outright funny; fustic, gorge de pigeon, mignonette, rotten olive, dragon's blood and Dubarry rose to name but a few. Charting colours as they float in and out of fashion over the centuries with an almost clockwork continuity is also somehow reassuring; we are all working in constant cycles.

mantua-maker.com



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