



# Furnishing the Eighteenth Century: What Furniture Can Tell Us about the European and American Past

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Furnishing the Eighteenth Century provides an illuminating, interdisciplinary look into European and American furniture during the century that connoisseurs and collectors consider its golden age. Lavishly illustrated, this lively collection of essays by historians, art historians, and literary scholars examines the ways furniture of this period reflects the global contacts and social rituals developed in eighteenth-century Europe and America. Drawing on literature, painting, account books and death inventories, this diverse compilation explores how and why eighteenth-century men and women on both sides of the Atlantic purchased and used furniture. Ultimately, these essays make the past come alive, showing us what made desks, tables and chairs deeply meaningful in their own time and historically informative today.

Contributors: Donna Bohanan, Natacha Coquery, Madeleine Dobie, Dena Goodman, Mimi Hellman, David Jaffee, Ann Smart Martin, Kathryn Norberg, Chaela Pastore, David Porter, Mary Salzman, Carolyn Sargentson



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