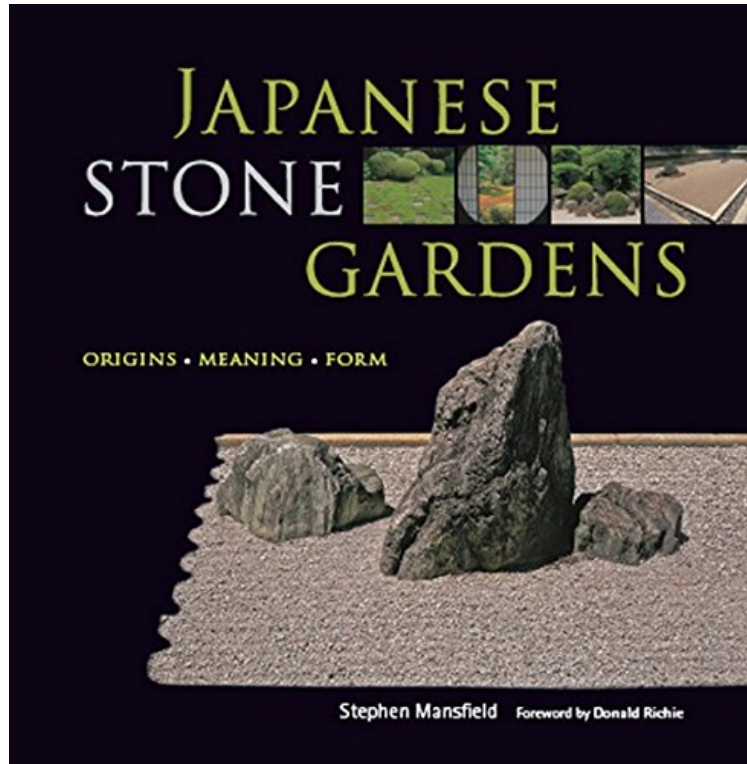


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Japanese Stone Gardens: Origins, Meaning, Form

Stephen Mansfield

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#1137143 in Books Mansfield, Stephen/ Richie, Donald (FRW) 2009-10-10 2009-10-10Original language:EnglishPDF # 1 8.25 x .50 x 8.25l, 1.58 #File Name: 4805310561160 pages | File size: 28.Mb

Stephen Mansfield : Japanese Stone Gardens: Origins, Meaning, Form before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Japanese Stone Gardens: Origins, Meaning, Form:

0 of 2 people found the following review helpful. Four StarsBy KevinAs advertised, and fast shipping!5 of 8 people found the following review helpful. PhotosBy M. Suri SurendraThe book has some photos of Stone GardensIt does not explain the origins, Meaning and Form - that is mentioned in the advertisement for the BookBook is not useful in someone trying to build a new Stone Garden and to practice meditation etc.2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. A very well done book... with information ...By NicholasA very well done book...with information about such things as rocks, rock formations, and the meanings thereof that I had been unable to find in other publications over the years. I also recently purchased two other books published by Tuttle on Japanese gardens, one at the Cleveland Museum of Art and one through .com, about which I could say the same thing.

The Japanese stone garden is an art form recognized around the globe. These gardens provide tranquil settings where visitors can shed the burdens and stresses of modern existence, satisfy an age-old yearning for solitude and repose, and experience the restorative power of art and nature. For this reason the value of the Japanese stone garden today is arguably even greater than when many of them were created.Japanese Stone Gardens provides a comprehensive introduction to the powerful mystique and dynamism of the Japanese stone gardenfrom their earliest use as props in animistic rituals, to their appropriation by Zen monks and priests to create settings conducive to contemplation and

finally to their contemporary uses and meaning. With insightful text and abundant imagery, this book reveals the hidden order of stone gardens and in the process heightens the enthusiast's appreciation of them.

From Booklist The term stone garden may sound like an oxymoron, but in Japan, for time out of mind, people have sensed that stones are charged with life. Considered seats of the gods, stones were placed in purified clearings that became the prototypes for Japan's elegant dry-landscape gardens with their astonishing raked sand patterns. British-born, Japan-residing Mansfield, a versatile writer and photographer and Japanese garden expert, presents an illuminating history of this living art form in sharply focused text and image. He traces the influences of Shintoism, Taoism, and, most significantly, Zen Buddhism, and artfully delineates the aesthetics of stone, sand, and gravel arranged to embrace and transcend nature, embody impermanence and stillness, and inspire contemplation and serenity. By creating a vivid social context for the evolution of stone gardens over the centuries and portraying seminal master gardeners, Mansfield vitalizes this seemingly austere tradition. An in-depth tour of 15 masterpiece stone gardens ancient and contemporary throughout Japan further deepens our appreciation for these landscapes of aesthetic precision and meditative repose in a book as lovely and restorative as its subject. --Donna Seaman "This survey of the best of Japan's stone gardens may send you into the sort of fugue state in which you wake up to find yourself floating through the airport, boarding pass in hand." New York Times "A book that will benefit both the Japanese garden enthusiast and the Zen aficionado alike. One to be dipped into time and time again and absorbed over time." *Diverse Japan* About the Author Writer and photojournalist Stephen Mansfield's work has appeared in over 60 magazines, newspapers and journals worldwide, including *South China Morning Post* and *The Japan Journal*. He resides in Japan, where he is a regular book reviewer for *The Japan Times*.