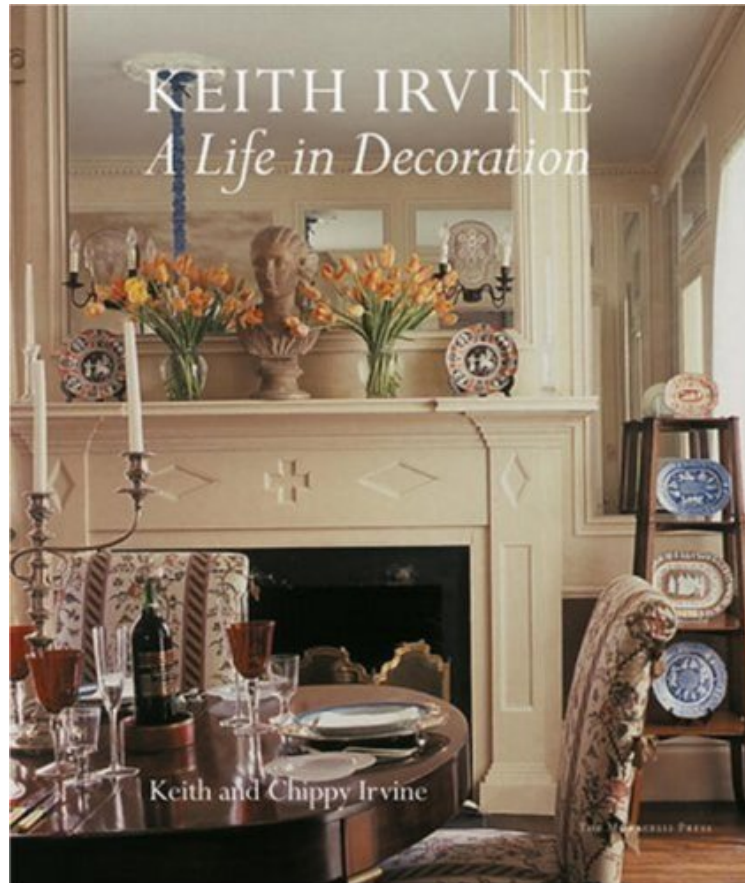


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Keith Irvine: A Life in Decoration

Keith Irvine, Chippy Irvine
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Keith Irvine, Chippy Irvine : Keith Irvine: A Life in Decoration before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Keith Irvine: A Life in Decoration:

1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. A well-done compendium of a life in designBy A Book CollectorThis is a must-have for any interior design professional or junkie. Over his lengthy career, Keith Irvine has done it all and has stories to tell. Given his experience, skill, and client list, he should be permitted a little ego-mania in his musings. More than a few of the projects presented have been published over the years (and there's no reason not to enjoy seeing them again), but there are also many that haven't been made public until this book. It's a fascinating snapshot of an enviable career, a great resource for design ideas, and an enjoyable read!0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. One of the best decorators ever to have worked in the UBy jayne l. kobliskaOne of the best decorators ever to have worked in the U.S. Sad that we are without him today as bad taste abounds. The shelter magazines are replete with it!2 of 4 people found the following review helpful. A Life in Name-Dropping!By Maximum ToileI have to agree with another reviewer: many of the photos are of poor quality and quite a few have been published before in HOUSE GARDEN. I must also take exception to the numerous self-aggrandizing remarks

Irvine sprinkles everywhere in the book -- Humble he is Not! As for the Irvine style of decoration, I find it a bit overwrought with an excess of pillow Brunswick print. Still, I would much rather look at Mr Irvine's baroque interiors than Kelly Wearstler's quite loony creations -- "Hey, what about this nice 3000 yr old bristlecone pine as a table centerpiece?" Eck.

Interior decorator Keith Irvine steamed into New York Harbor in 1957 and immediately embarked on designing the unique, inspired interiors that have ensured him a place at the pinnacle of his field. His designs are characterized by feelingwit, grandeur, comfort, dramaas well as by exquisite use of color, pattern, lighting, furniture, and accessories. Born in Scotland and trained in his profession in Londonnotably by the decorating legend John FowlerIrvine combines old-world wisdom and new-world enthusiasm in his mostly traditional rooms and houses. The first book on his work, Keith Irvine: A Life in Decorationwritten by Irvine and his wife, noted design writer Chippy Irvineis at once illustrated autobiography, collection of work, and elucidation of design philosophy.Irvin is known worldwide as an originator of the English country house looka look not inherited, the decorator points out, but invented in the twentieth century. His characteristic played-down grandeur includes signature touches such as authoritative use of antiques of all eras, exquisite painted effects, rare scenic wallpaper, faded old carpets (his favorites are those that "look as though they might be in their last week"), spirited English and French chintzes, and loads of busts and books ("one can never have too many!").Included in the book are more than twenty-five projectsincluding homes for Jacqueline Kennedy Onassis, Katherine Graham, Rex and Mercia Harrison, and Joan Kennedyillustrated with exceptional color photographs drawn from Irvine's own archive. Irvine also presents his most personal projectsthose designed for his own family.

About the AuthorKeith Irvine is a founder of Irvine Fleming, the interior design firm in New York.Chippy Irvine is the author of several books, including The English Room, Elegant Lines, and Private New York.