

Vertical Art: The Enduring Beauty of Antique Canes and Walking Sticks

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From Vertical Art Llc (Acc) : Vertical Art: The Enduring Beauty of Antique Canes and Walking Sticks before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Vertical Art: The Enduring Beauty of Antique Canes and Walking Sticks:

4 of 4 people found the following review helpful. Spectacular photos, printing and subject matterBy Mark B.Vertical Art: The Enduring Beauty of Antique Canes and Walking Sticks is the most beautiful book in our collection. The photographs of the canes are innovative, technically superior, beautifully lit and are only surpassed by the beauty of the canes themselves as well as the compilation of this fabulous collection. The printing and bindery of the book are also exquisite and a collector piece unto itself. We had no idea of the range of canes and their historical significance until reading through the book. The descriptions are well written and provide a good understanding of the materials that are used to make the canes. We would recommend this book to anyone who wants to add a touch of beauty to their home or office.

Presents over 400 canes from the 17th century through the mid twentieth century fashioned from everything from tortoise shell and gemstones to ivory.

MONDO CANE Walking sticks seem stripped of all their connotations of lame legs in "Vertical Art: The Enduring Beauty of Antique Canes and Walking Sticks" (Hudson Hills Press, \$350). This 400-page slipcased photo essay by the Italian photographer Umberto Barone shows 377 canes that all belong to one California collector who remains anonymous in the book; the captions are by Roberta Maneker. The canes, mostly made in Europe during the 18th and 19th centuries, range from folk art wooden poles carved with animal faces to Fabergé snakewood shafts topped in spheres of semiprecious stones inlaid with diamonds. Mr. Barone's photos only show the knobs, enlarged to saucer size and arranged in eerie tableaux amid smoke tendrils, water sprays, sand dunes and rose petals. "Most books about

canes out there have been meat-and-potatoes histories of canes through the ages," said Ronald Varney, a fine-art agent who orchestrated the book's publication for the collector. "This is meant to raise the profile of these fantastic, extraordinary objects, and not just be useful for the small niche of cane collectors." The owner will match proceeds from sales of this extravagant volume with a donation to a charity in San Francisco, the Bonnie J. Addario Lung Cancer Foundation. --The New York Times, December 25, 2008

About the Author
Roberta Maneker is a freelance writer specialising in art and antiques, formerly Senior Vice President of Marketing and Corporate Communications at Christie's. Simon Teakle of Betteridge Jewelers is the former head of the Jewellery Department at Christie's in New York. Wendell Garrett is the former Editor of the Magazine Antiques, a consultant to Sotheby's New York, and the foremost authority on American Decorative Arts. A grant from the proceeds will be made to the Bonnie J. Addario Lung Cancer Foundation.