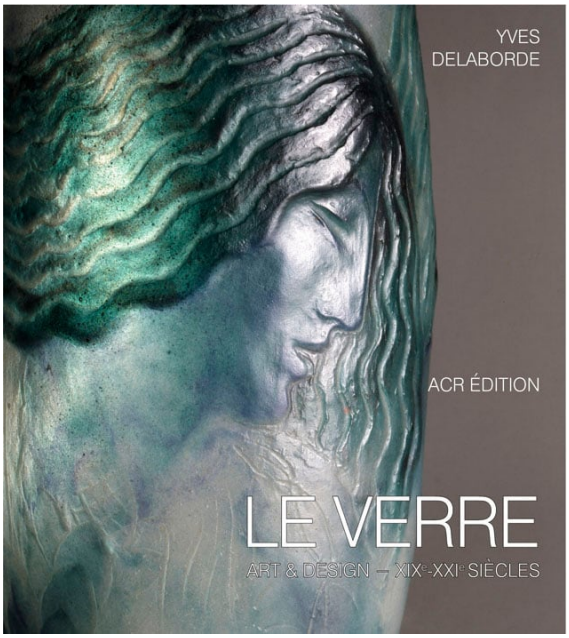
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Le Verre

Art & Design. Encyclopédie du Verre en France

Yves Delaborde

ISBN	9782867701900
Publisher	ACR Edition
Binding	Hardback
Territory	USA & Canada
Size	9.84 in x 10.83 in
Pages	731 Pages
Illustrations	1000 color, 1500 b&w
Price	$350.00

- Explores the value given to glassware throughout French history, focusing on the Ancient Régime from the 15th to 18th Centuries

This book provides a comprehensive overview of the history of French glass making. Glass makers can be compared to alchemists in the way that they transform sand and ashes into precious objects of great beauty. This book explores the value given to glassware throughout French history, focusing on the Ancient Régime from the 15th to 18th Centuries, when royally appointed glassmakers were considered more important than their artistic counterparts within the court; painters, musicians and actors. In the middle of the 19th Century, glassware was subjected to mass industrial production and as a result the benchmark of quality that had previously been set was no longer adhered to. However, it was out of frustration with this situation that Emile Gallé, a glassmaker who employed many experimental techniques, started his own workshop to produce incredibly high quality original glassware, a move that revolutionised glass making and placed it once again at the forefront of contemporary artistry. *Le Verre* argues that glass never left this pedestal, and that today, more than ever, 'the world is living in the age of glass.' Text in French.

Published 10th Jan 2012