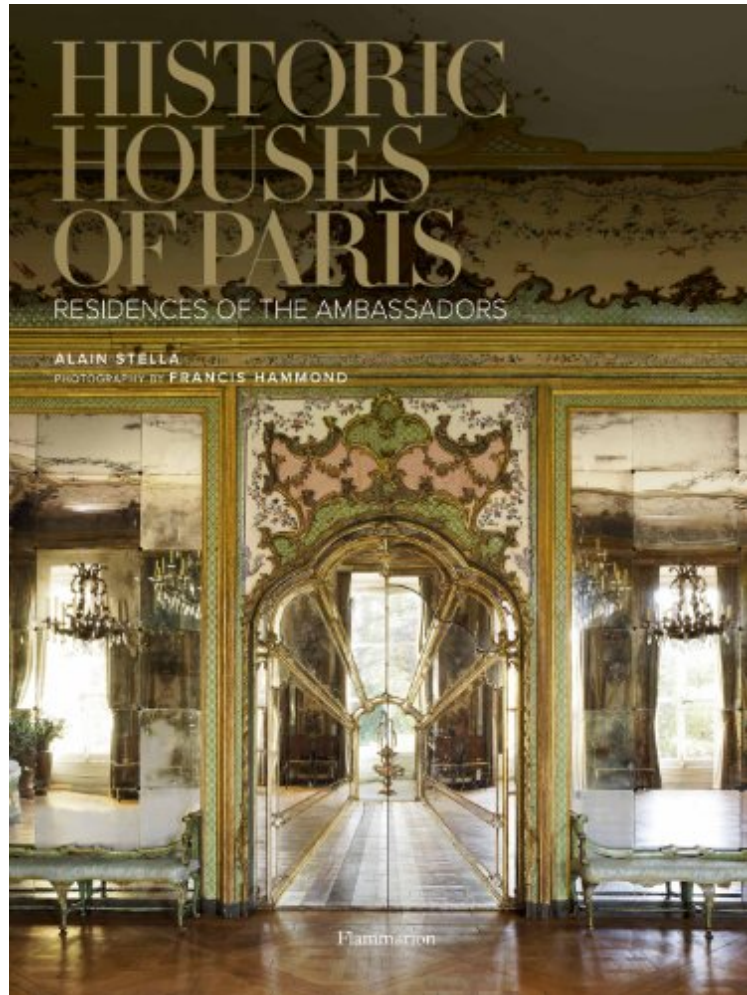


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## Historic Houses of Paris: Residences of the Ambassadors

*Alain Stella*

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**Alain Stella : Historic Houses of Paris: Residences of the Ambassadors** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Historic Houses of Paris: Residences of the Ambassadors:

42 of 44 people found the following review helpful. A Knockout of a Book for Serious French Art Lovers By James B. McKinney Perhaps one of the most lavish and beautiful books yet published on French architecture, interiors, gardens and history of truly some of the greatest hotels in Paris and all in color! Worth all of the asking price. It's a very heavy book and weights and fills one's lap for sure. It offers hours and hours of unlimited enjoyment as one returns over and over to peruse the beauty so magnificently photographed. The written portions regarding each residence are extremely well written and most informative giving the reader as much information as one would normally desire. It's a glorious book that will be a keeper for sure for all those interested in French architecture, interiors, gardens and furnishings. James McKinney in Wichita, Kansas 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Historic Houses of

Paris: Residences of the Ambassadors By David Chapman This is a beautiful book of the highest quality with the presentation, binding and photographs to the best standard possible. It shows a rare glimpse into the homes of the influential as well as the gardens. The decor is amazing and typifies the wonderful ability of the French to maintain such rare and magnificent properties as if we were back in time. One of the best books we have in our collection which we can highly recommend to anyone wanting a masterpiece of history. 2 of 3 people found the following review helpful. Magnifique! By Bookworm70 Historic Houses of Paris arrived today in a large box. It was well packaged and protected. The book itself is really oversized and heavy. That is already one star. The four stars come from the presentation and contents of the book. For the first time, the beautiful Htels (Stately Houses) of Paris occupied by the different Embassies are presented in colour. The rich interiors and the objet d'arts are captured in clear vivid photographs. However, I am disappointed that the hideous modern Embassy of Australia was included in this book. In my opinion, it has no place on this work because of contemporary designs. Several residences are worth including in Historic Houses but definitely not that of Commonwealth of Australia. It is not even historic built only in 1972. Hence I have to remove one star. Historic Houses of Paris is another jewel in my collection of Coffee Table Books. Prospective buyers would not regret they purchase it. Not to mention, the super service of P.S. During my first visit in the City of Lights, I saw an eyesore edifice amidst the serene beautiful buildings of Paris: I only realized when I read this book that it was the Australian Embassy. I wonder why the French Government allowed such hideous building to be built?

A unique glimpse inside a world of luxury, tradition, and splendor. Many historic homes in Paris serve as residences to foreign ambassadors; these historical sites are closed to the general public. From a seventeenth-century hotel particulier, to a Belle Epoque palace, to a distinctively contemporary setting, each residence rivals the next in its beauty, art collection, and period furniture set against a backdrop of accomplished refinement. Alain Stella invites us over the threshold inside the most prestigious chancelleries and ambassador residences in Paris from China and Peru to Egypt and Poland. Tapestries inspired by Goyas drawings grace the lavish salons at the Spanish residence. Jean Prouv and Charlotte Perriand created a minimalist interior at the Japanese residence that evokes the refined style of a traditional Japanese home. The palace of Eugne de Beauharnais home to the German ambassadors since 1818 retains its elaborate Empire style, intact since the time of Josephine. Superb photographs, specially commissioned for this book over the course of a year, divulge the secrets of these previously unpublished artistic and architectural treasures.

About the Author Alain Stella is a traveler and writer. He has published numerous books with Flammarion including The Book of Coffee (1997), The Book of Tea (1992/2005), The Little Book of Coffee (2001), French Tea: Mariage Frres Three Centuries of Savoir-Faire (2009), Distinctive Vintages (2008), and The Book of Spices (2000). Francis Hammonds photographs have been published in French Tea: Mariage Frres and Elegant Entertaining (2009). He regularly works in the fashion and advertising industries, contributes to international magazines, and divides his time between New York and Paris.