



## Frank Lloyd Wright: Graphic Artist

By Penny Fowler

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Frank Lloyd Wright's mammoth contribution to architecture is universally acknowledged, but his graphic work has been largely overlooked in the existing literature about this seminal architect. His designs for typography, books, posters, murals, and magazines have remained relatively obscure, even though they are key components of his oeuvre.

Penny Fowler has thoroughly investigated the artist's innovative graphic work and placed it within the context of various aesthetic movements, from Arts and Crafts to Bauhaus and De Stijl. Wright's publications - including *The House Beautiful* and *An Autobiography* - his delineations for the *Wasmuth Portfolio*, and his mural designs for *Midway Gardens* and the *Imperial Hotel* are explored, and one chapter is devoted to the festive covers Wright created for *Liberty* magazine. (Wright's designs were considered far too radical from the current trends, so *Liberty* turned them down.)

Now this important part of the artist's work has been succinctly reviewed and amply illustrated. The ten chapters - carefully annotated with endnotes - explore Wright's foray into the world of graphic design, including book design; his influence by international sources; and his visits to Japan and Europe. Exhibitions and publications are included in the last chapter. *Frank Lloyd Wright: Graphic Artist* suggests that the man's genius simply knew no bounds.

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