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Sticks And Stones: The Designs Of Lew French



Synopsis

Lew French is a master stonemason who finds and gathers hundreds of individual stones to create a single fireplace or an outdoor stone wall that looks like it had been there for hundreds of years. Rather than use a chisel, his stones have to fit together naturally; he remembers and fits them together in his mind's eye. From a huge outdoor water feature at an office building near Boston, to a residential landscape on Chappaquiddick, to his own retreat home in the mountains of Brazil, each creation is breathtaking. New to this second book on Lew French's designs, are gallery-quality, framed art pieces, puzzled together from rock and driftwood, resulting in one-of-a-kind wall sculptures. Fans of natural building and all kinds of masonry will be more than impressed. Lew French is the designer, architect, and builder of his work. He has spent over 30 years working on Martha's Vineyard, Boston, in the Adirondacks, and other Northeastern locations. He has built his own home in Brazil. He was inducted into the New England Design Hall of Fame in 2015. Alison Shaw is a fine art and editorial photographer who works and teaches on Martha's Vineyard. Over 8,000 of her original fine art prints are in public and private collections. There are 19 books of her work so far, including a book she wrote about photographing Martha's Vineyard.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

While reading "Sticks and Stones," I found myself laughing at times from sheer disbelief at the liquid flow with which Lew French imbues his unmalleable medium. The fireplaces, panels, walls and landscapes vindicate the gestalt philosophers' assertion: that the synergistic interaction of each

piece of a scene create its ultimate perception. As he says so humbly in the book's wry, self-deprecating prose, Mr French does not seek to change the materials nature gives him; he does, however, combine them to unimaginable effect. You must see it to believe it. This is a beautiful compendium of masterworks which will challenge your understanding of the power of design.

In his second book Lew has created a perfect visual reference for his work. His style is as beautiful as the landscapes and homes which surround him. The passion for what he does is evident in each photo, and to attain such a level of craft with these tough materials is mesmerizing. As a designer I will get lost in this book over and over again as I use these pages as inspirational for years to come. BUY the book and add a Lew French to your collection.

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