

Dan Cruickshank

Writer / Presenter

As well as his writings on art and architecture, Dan is known for his television work.

Latest Publication:

SOHO: A STREET GUIDE TO SOHO'S HISTORY, ARCHITECTURE AND PEOPLE



Dan Cruickshank grants us an intimacy with centuries of rich and varied history as he guides us around the Soho of the last five hundred years.

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Publications

Non-Fiction

Publication Details Notes

SOHO: A STREET GUIDE TO SOHO'S HISTORY, ARCHITECTURE AND PEOPLE

2020 Orion Soho - illicit, glamorous, sordid, louche, poverty-stricken, squalid, exhilarating.

One of Britain's best-loved historians, Dan Cruickshank, grants us an intimacy with centuries of rich and varied history as he guides us around the Soho of the last five hundred years. We learn of its original aspirations towards respectability, how it became London's bohemian quarter and why it was once home to its criminal underworld. The bars, clubs, theatres and their frequenters are described with detail that evokes the heart of the district.

The history of Soho is written in its surviving architecture. Cruickshank points out the streets that were the stamping grounds of criminal dynasties and directs our attention towards the homes of renowned prostitutes, revealing Georgian sexual mores and surprising visitors - amongst them eighteenth-century painter Joshua Reynolds, whose peculiar 'caprice' was simply drawing the girls. Soho has been home to characters as diverse as Mrs Goadby's girls to the Maltese mafia, and Cruikshank draws these threads together with kaleidoscopic verve. Even as he mourns some of the changes, he pays testament to the district's resilience. He observes how the common denominator over the centuries is that it has always been a destination for immigrants: from French Huguenots to the East European Jewish community and recent Chinese diaspora - and that this is the foundation of its spirit and success.

CRUICKSHANK'S LONDON: A PORTRAIT OF A CITY IN 13 WALKS

2019

Random House

'The perfect guide to the hidden history of London's streets.' BBC History Magazine

In Cruickshank's London, Britain's favourite architectural historian describes thirteen walks through one of the greatest cities on earth. From the mysterious Anglo-Saxon origins of Hampstead Heath, via Christopher Wren's magisterial City churches, to the industrial bustle of Victorian Bermondsey, each walk explores a crucial moment in our history - and reveals how it helped forge the modern city. Along the way, Cruickshank peppers the book with vivid photographs, sketches and maps, so you can immediately follow in his footsteps. Every street in London contains a story. This book invites you to hear

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'An inspiringly illustrated guide to walks across London . . . It proves how much we can miss if we don't pay close attention to our surroundings.' Country Life

'All power to Cruickshank and his intrepid and knowledgeable kind. We need them.' Times Literary Supplement

SKYSCRAPER

2018

Head of Zeus

Chicago's beautiful Reliance Building, fourteen stories tall, was designed in 1890 by John Root. In its construction it pioneers all the key elements of twentieth-century high-rise architecture, and many of the tenets of Modernism. Cruickshank reflects on the extraordinary architectural, artistic and engineering world of the 1890s and its great figures such as Louis Sullivan, Charles Rennie Mackintosh and Otto Wagner.

SPITALFIELDS: A HISTORY OF A NATION IN A HANDFUL OF STREETS 2016 Random House	Religious strife, civil conflict, waves of immigration, the rise and fall of industry, great prosperity and grinding poverty – the handful of streets that constitute modern Spitalfields have witnessed all this and much more. This is a fascinating evocation of one of London's most distinctive districts. At the same time, it is a history of England in miniature.
A HISTORY OF ARCHITECTURE IN 100 BUILDINGS 2015 Harper Collins	Featuring over 200 photographs, this stunning tells the history of architecture through the stories of 100 iconic buildings
BRICK 2015 31/12/2015	Brick is a fresh, insightful and surprising look at one of the world's most familiar and popular building materials. From the strange remains of the Ziggurat of Ur dating from 2100 BC, to formidable mills of the industrial revolution, the humble brick has been an architectural staple for centuries.
THE COUNTRY HOUSE REVEALED: A SECRET HISTORY OF THE BRITISH ANCESTRAL HOME 2011 BBC Books	Tie-in publication to the BBC Television Series
BRIDGES: HEROIC DESIGNS THAT CHANGED THE WORLD 2010 HarperCollins	A personal journey into the world of bridges, from the Roman Empire's Pont du Gard to the incredible Millan Viaduct.
THE SECRET HISTORY OF GEORGIAN LONDON 2009 Random House	An insight into Georgian London's profitable and ubiquitous sex industry
ADVENTURES IN ARCHITECTURE 2008 Orion	The story of architecture in all its diversity, looking at 48 buildings that have impressed, astonished or delighted us or changed our perception of the world.
BRUNEL: THE MAN WHO BUILT THE WORLD 2005 Orion	An illustrated celebration of the life and engineering achievements of Isambard Kingdom Brunel. Text by Steven Brindle.

AROUND THE WORLD IN 80 TREASURES 2005 Orion	A tie-in to a 10-part TV series presented by the author. " Cruickshank has the air of a schoolboy explorer, fizzing with energy, curiosity and indefatigable enthusiasm but beneath the jocular surface lies an entirely serious expertise. The breadth of Cruickshank's knowledge and the very speed of his journeying enables him to make striking connections for anyone schooled in a Eurocentric view of history, the scope of his investigations will be shamefully illuminating. For anyone nervous of travel, his fearlessness ("If I fell, what a place to die!") could prove inspirational." (The Guardian)
UNDER FIRE 1993 BBC WORLDWIDE	A powerful and timely account of Dan Cruickshank and David Vincent's search for lost treasures in some of the world's most dangerous and contested hotspots. The quest begins in Afghanistan in March 2003, a few months after the fall of the Taliban, and progresses through Iraq, Israel and the Occupied territories. This riveting story provides a unique insight into countries in extremis and helps us to develop a deeper understanding of the role history and culture play in defining a people's sense of identity.

Other

Publication Details	Notes
TREASURE	An exploration and celebration of the cultural, engineering and natural wonders
ISLAND	of England, Scotland and Wales. It will discover and discuss the treasures that
ORION	make this land special and that give it a distinct character