

The Umayyads: The Rise of Islamic Art in the Mediterranean

The Umayyads were the first Muslim dynasty to establish a vast empire, stretching from Spain to India. Their rule marked a golden age of Islamic art, architecture and culture.



The Umayyads. The Rise of Islamic Art (Islamic Art in the Mediterranean) by Murray Stewart

★★★★★ 5 out of 5

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The Umayyads were originally from Mecca, but they quickly established their capital in Damascus, Syria. Damascus became a major center of learning and culture, and it was here that the Umayyads developed their own distinctive style of art.

Umayyad art was characterized by its use of geometric patterns, arabesques, and calligraphy. This style was used to decorate everything from mosques to palaces to everyday objects.

One of the most famous examples of Umayyad art is the Great Mosque of Cordoba in Spain. This mosque was built in the 8th century, and it is one of

the largest and most beautiful mosques in the world.

The Umayyads also built many other impressive buildings, including the Alhambra Palace in Granada, Spain. The Alhambra is a UNESCO World Heritage Site, and it is one of the most popular tourist destinations in Spain.

In addition to their architecture, the Umayyads were also known for their patronage of the arts. They commissioned many works of art from Christian and Jewish artisans, and they also established schools of art and music.

The Umayyad dynasty came to an end in the 8th century, but their legacy lived on. Their art and architecture continued to influence Islamic art for centuries to come.

Umayyad Art in the Mediterranean

The Umayyads' empire included a vast stretch of the Mediterranean coastline, from Spain to Egypt. This gave them access to a wide range of cultural influences, which they incorporated into their own art.

For example, Umayyad art was influenced by Byzantine, Sasanian and Coptic art. This can be seen in the use of mosaics, frescoes and sculptures in Umayyad buildings.

Umayyad art also had a significant impact on the development of Christian and Jewish art in the Mediterranean region. For example, the Umayyads' use of geometric patterns and arabesques was adopted by Christian and Jewish artists.

The Umayyads' legacy in the Mediterranean is still visible today. Their mosques, palaces and other buildings are some of the most iconic

landmarks in the region.

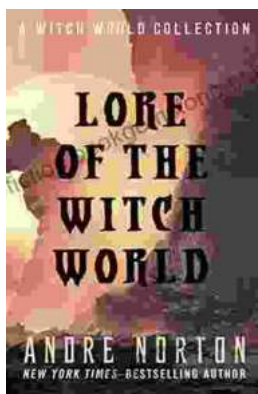
The Umayyads were a major force in the development of Islamic art and architecture. Their rule marked a golden age of Islamic culture, and their legacy can still be seen today.



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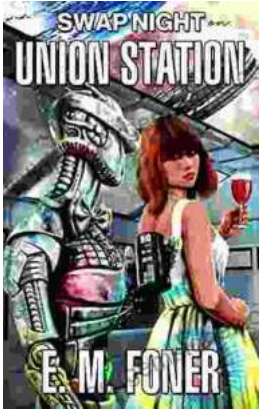
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