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Nota di contenuto	Intro -- Contents -- A Brief Glance at History -- Architecture -- Triumph of Islam -- The art of decoration -- Predominance of religious art -- The golden age of the builders -- Tradition and modernity -- Sculpture -- Statuary -- Hellenistic contributions -- Buddhist influence -- Khwarezm sculptures -- Sogdian sculptures -- Bactrian sculptures -- The early Middle Ages -- Buddhist art -- Mythological art -- Megalithic art -- Figurines -- Ossuaries -- The revival of independant art -- Monumental Painting and Illumination -- Monumental painting -- Palace frescos -- Illumination -- Styles -- The schools -- The modern miniaturists and their successors -- The Decorative Arts -- Ceramics -- Antiquity -- The Middle Ages -- Modern times -- Metals -- The Middle Ages -- The art of engraving of Tokharistan -- The art of engraving of Kharezm -- The art of engraving of Sogdian -- The art of engraving of the north-east -- Post-Mongolian times -- The contemporary period -- The Goldsmith's trade -- Antiquity and the Middle Ages -- Modern times -- Schools of the goldsmith's trade -- Women's jewellery -- The Craft industry -- Glass -- Ivory work -- Woodcarving and painted wood -- Felt-working -- Carpet weaving -- Printed cloth -- Embroidery -- Leatherwork -- A general picture of popular crafts -- Three Pearls on the Silk Road -- Samarkand -- The Blue City -- Bukhara -- The Citadel of the Arch -- Khiva -- Cultural Capital of Kharezm -- Index -- Decorative Art -- Architecture --

Sommario/riassunto

The strict prohibition on the representation of the human form has channeled artistic creation into architecture and architectural decoration. This book is a magical tour through Central Asia - Khirgizia, Tadjikistan, Turkmenia, and Uzbekistan - a cradle of Ancient civilisations and arepository of the Oriental arts inspired by Buddhism and Islam. There are magnificent, full-colour photographs of the abandoned cities of Mervand Urgench, Khiva, the capital of the Kharezm, with its mausoleum of Sheikh Seid Allahuddin, and, the Golden Road to Samarkand, the Blue City, a center of civilisation for 2,500 years.
