

The American Dog at Home

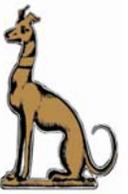
The Dog Portraits of Christine Merrill

William Secord

Antique Collectors' Club • 9781851496419

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Press Release

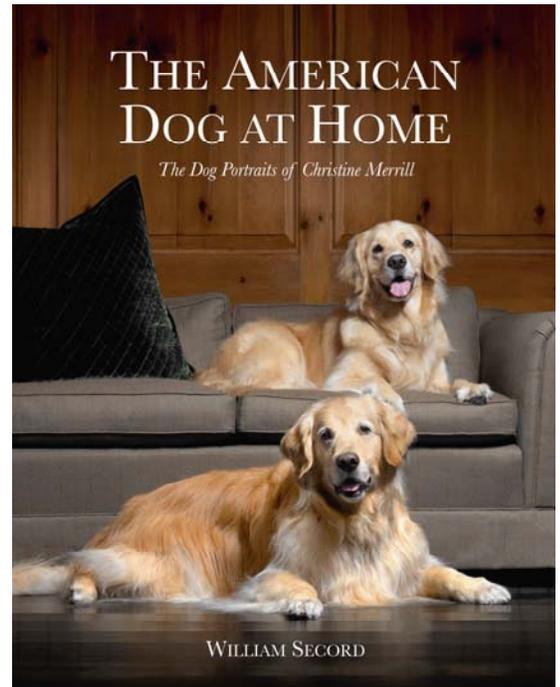


“She has caught my Gemmy exactly; the portrait is perfect in every way.” *Barbara Taylor Bradford*

While grounded in the traditions of 18th and 19th century England, the artist Christine Merrill has over the past 20 years created a body of work which depicts the American dog in its own especially American environment. Author William Secord spent twelve months travelling from coast to coast to visit thirty-three of Christine Merrill’s clients, interviewing them and photographing them, their collections and their dogs.

Collectors include conductor Leon Fleisher, interior designer Bruce Bierman and best-selling author Barbara Taylor Bradford. Each of the thirty-three essays in this book features an American dog owner who has commissioned Christine Merrill to capture their dogs in oils. Each answers the “who, what, where and why” of the collector’s story, and how they came to seek out Merrill to portray their dogs. A biographical essay on Christine Merrill as well as a visual overview of the artist’s paintings are included.

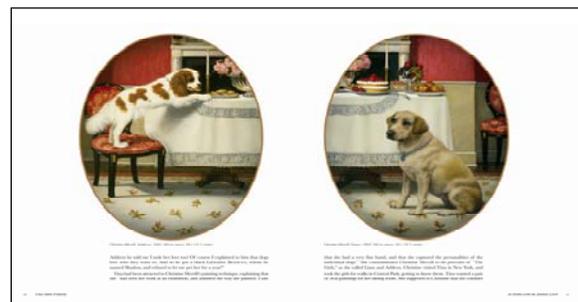
This book will appeal to a wide range of dog lovers, who increasingly view dogs as members of the family. Christine Merrill counts movie stars, authors, socialites and captains of industry among her clients, each with one thing in common: their love for their pets. This book opens a door onto these worlds. Over 30 different breeds are represented, from fifteen different states.



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Author

William Secord is the recognized expert on nineteenth and twentieth century dog paintings. The first director of what is now known as The American Kennel Club Museum of the Dog, he is the author of the best-selling *Dog Painting, 1840-1940, a Social History of The Dog in Art* (Antique Collectors' Club; 1992), as well as three other books on nineteenth century dog paintings. He is the owner of the William Secord Gallery in New York City, which specializes in nineteenth century dog paintings, as well as the work of selected contemporary artists.



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