



# FURNITURE IN THE AIR

## The crystal chandelier in Europe

PETER RATH, JOSEF HOLEY

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with 804 illustrations, 47 sketches, maps and lists

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This is the first publication of the lifework of Josef Holey (1899–1986) edited and written by chandelier maker and master Peter Rath (born 1939) part-owner of the 200 year old Vienna family company of J.&L. LOBMEYR. The foreword is written by Prof. Arch. Gregor Eichinger and by Alexandra Ruggiero, curator for modern glass at the Corning Museum of Glass (USA). A very special book giving rare information, with special weight on the practically unknown cultural development of the chandelier in the former Habsburg regions. The story stretches from early periods right into the future.

It has been the intention of the authors to bring the crystal chandelier, as the most valuable art object in an interior of high standing, to be seen as full part within the history of glass, but also to encourage scientific research giving many a practical advice of how to plan cultivated lighting in a room by planning first of all the zones in shadow.

The book, with all its comparing illustrations is a readable tool for the designer architect, for the antique dealer, the Museums and the schools, so as to bring this seldomly published material into the historian's fields vision, of work and research. After an introduction into the historic development, the work continues past the *Modern* into suggestions of how to fill the otherwise empty space of a room technically with the attraction of a mobile work of art, with *Furniture in the Air*. This is to be effectuated by an intense discussion and collaboration between the artist designer, architect, the chandelier maker and the commissioning customer.

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