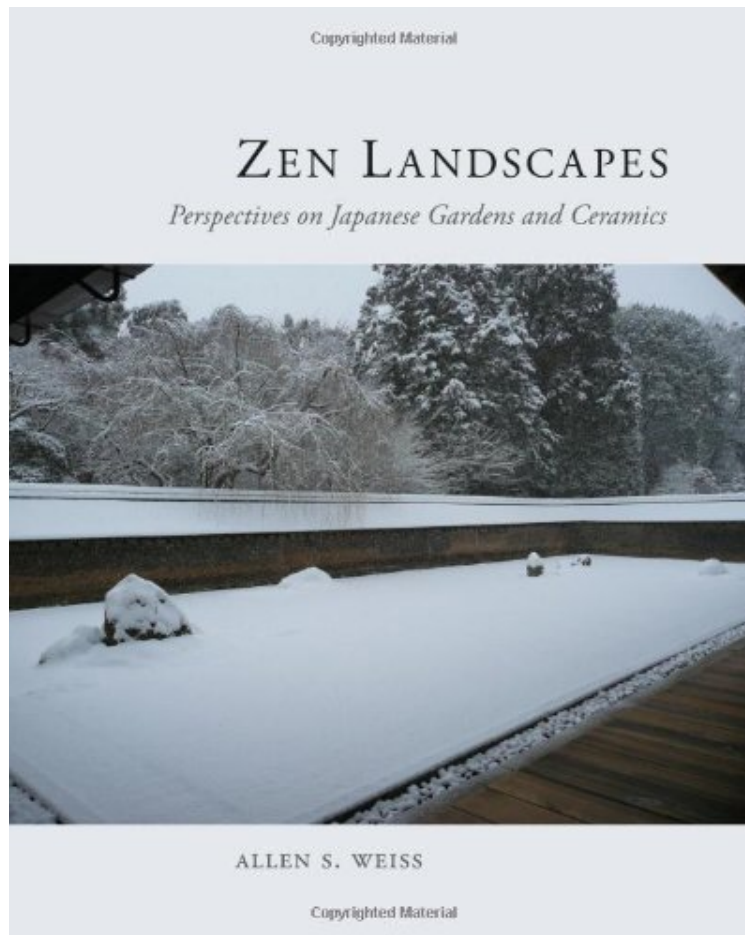


Zen Landscapes: Perspectives on Japanese Gardens and Ceramics

Allen S. Weiss

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The essential elements of a dry Japanese garden are few: rocks, gravel, moss. Simultaneously a sensual matrix, a symbolic form, and a memory theater, these gardens exhibit beautiful miniaturization and precise craftsmanship. But

their apparent minimalism belies a true complexity. In *Zen Landscapes*, Allen S. Weiss takes readers on an exciting journey through these exquisite sites, explaining how Japanese gardens must be approached according to the play of scale, surroundings, and seasons, as well as in relation to other arts revealing them as living landscapes rather than abstract designs.

His text, illustrated with images so subtle you can scarcely tell if they are in colour or black and white, helps us move our understanding on a step. Rich in imagery and reference, it explores the interface between Japans gardens and the ceramics made both there and, in modern times, elsewhere. . . . A book to read time and again.