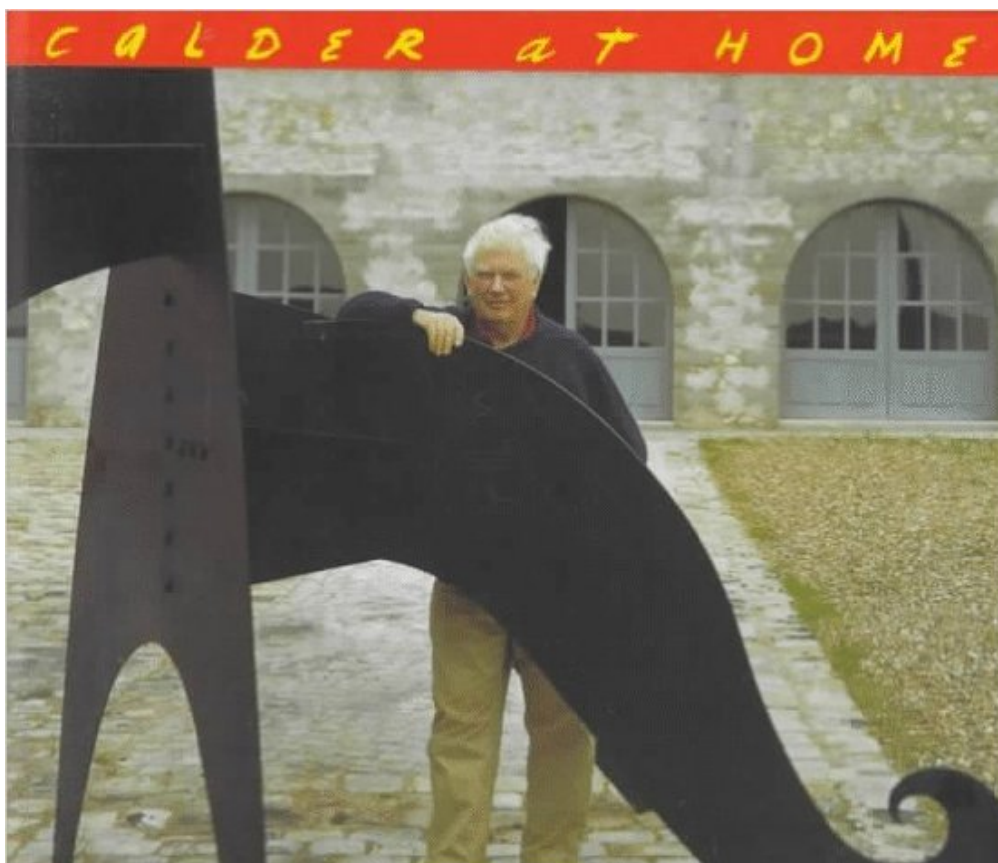


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# Calder At Home: The Joyous Environment Of Alexander Calder



## Synopsis

Known the world over for his creation of the mobile, Calder (1898-1976) was the son and grandson of sculptors - Alexander Stirling Calder and Alexander Milne Calder; his mother, Nanette, was a portrait painter. Living in the avant-garde atmosphere of Paris in the mid-1920s helped transform Calder's early genius in making objects from bent wire into a lifelong interest in sculpture that moved. From his famous Circus of 1926-30, to his mobiles and stabiles, to colorful gouaches, textiles, toys, forks and spoons, and even a fleet of airplanes, everything Calder created was imbued with fun and intelligence. An album of a joyous, creative household, *Calder at Home* shows how Calder extended his unbounded creativity and enthusiasm to every corner of his existence, from living room hearth to dining table, from kitchen to bathroom, from studio ceiling to studio floor. And things that would not fit indoors tumbled outside to enliven nature with his lasting vision. Guerrero's photographs capture the Calder's exotic surroundings - created with the same imagination and playfulness of the sculptor's work - while the entertaining story of his close relationship with Calder adds new dimensions to this internationally renowned artist.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

I had a copy of this, autographed by the author, but it went missing when I moved. I liked it so much, though, that I'm going to replace it. The author's intimacy with Calder's household gives wonderful photographs, and it's great fun to see Calder's genius and sense of joy in the way he made every-day household items, as well as the famous stabiles and mobiles. The book is unusual, and a

real pleasure to own.

In combination, the photography and text tell an intimate story about Calder, his wife, their life together and what mattered most to them, which you readers find anywhere else. One comes away with the sense that both of them would have enjoyed and appreciated this book as much as I do. I think this is one of the best "art books" published in years.

Sandy Calder was every child's dream of a grandfather. With a bit fuzz and a piece of wire, he could make a toy lion that fit your hand and moved. His homes were filled with his creativity--which for some reason is seldom seen. For instance, Sandy made Calderesque andirons that don't appear to be in any museum or any gallery. This book has a couple pictures of them. It also has Calder's kitchen utensils that aren't all that practical, but they are fanciful.

I bought this book after my visit to the Calder exhibition in the National Gallery of Art in Washington in May '98. It is really a very nice book. You will discover in the book that some of the masterpieces (Spring or Romulus and Remus) seen in the exhibition were found left in Calder's studio and rearranged by the artist. You will love and enjoy this book !

What an interesting book with its intimate look into the life and lifestyle of Alexander Calder. The book has 13 years of photos of Calder's "joyous environment", taken as Guerrero repeatedly visited the places where the sculptor lived and created. To someone who loves order the way I do, this was a rare glimpse into a world of total disorder and creativity, where every item in his crowded studios and homes had some significance. It was just fascinating. I have been a fan of Calder's for 30 years and this book just added to my appreciation.

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