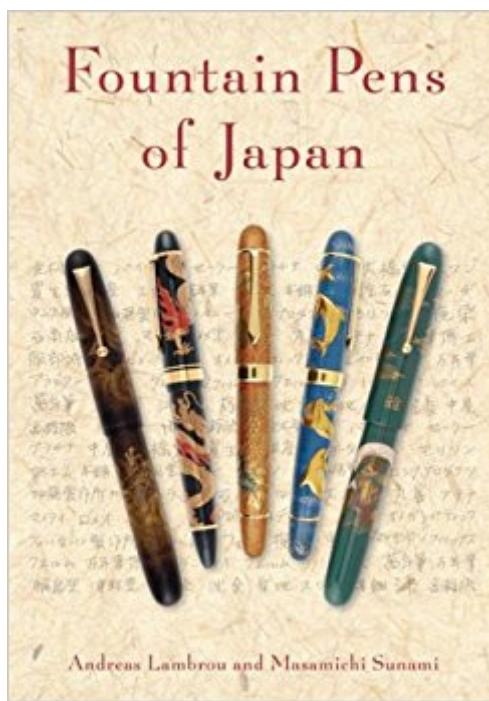


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# Fountain Pens Of Japan



## Synopsis

Sequel to Fountain Pens of the World. Provides a comprehensive history of the fountain pen and its Manufacturers in Japan. Includes 1700 pictures. Emphasis is given to the art of Lacquering and the art of Maki-e. This book is an indispensable sourcebook for collectors, and devotees of Fountain Pens in general

## Book Information

Hardcover: 448 pages

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Average Customer Review: 5.0 out of 5 stars [See all reviews](#) (13 customer reviews)

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## Customer Reviews

Andreas Lambrou has brought out another major work to complement his growing library of pen books. His landmark book, Fountain Pens of the World, was released in December 1995, and had two reprints, in 1998 and 2005. A true coffee table book, in hard cover large format, measuring 12 x 9 inches with 448 pages, it was notable for its superb life size photography and narrative historic writing style and is treasured by many pen collectors. Fountain Pens of Japan is the fourth major pen book by Andreas Lambrou, and is a collaborative effort co-authored with Japanese pen collector Masamichi Sunami. The two have worked together since 1980 and have long collaborated on Japanese pen projects. The book has been ten years in the making and is now being released. I saw the first copy at the Washington, DC pen show on August 11, 2012 and am very impressed with the presentation and content. This book will deliver hours of interesting reading to any pen collector, but particularly those who are interested in Japanese and limited edition pens. The specifications of the book will give some view of the size and scope (from the publisher's website):- Large format, hardbound cloth with dust jacket, 12 x 9 inches , 448 pages.- History of the fountain pen and its industry in Japan from around 1880 to the present. Major and minor manufacturers are covered.

Pens, inks, ephemera and equipment used for hand pen manufacture in earlier eras are detailed.- Materials and techniques to embellish pens, are extensively discussed.- Customized pens for the Japanese Trade and pens made or embellished in Japan, for other makers are included.- Professional photography throughout the book depicts the pens life size for easy identification.

I have had my copy of Fountain pens of Japan for a week now and have read it for the first time. This is the most authoritative source for collectors and admirers of Japanese fountain pens and the finest book on fountain pens I have seen. It is clearly also a labour of love for the authors, who have contributed not just their knowledge but also their love for the art of Japanese pens and pens from their own collections. Reading it for the first time has not only increased my knowledge but also made me look at my Japanese pens afresh. But as a collector of limited means the book is the next best thing to owning the pens because owning the book I have a collection of hundreds of full colour, life size pen pictures. The book starts with a beautifully illustrated introduction to the history of pens in Japan, as they began to replace the traditional brushes. The beauty of Japanese calligraphy required nibs with capabilities far beyond the nibs used in Europe and America. The next chapter takes us through the different techniques of Japanese lacquer work and of the artists who produce the unique marriage of the fountain pen with these traditional techniques. The illustrations in this chapter are stunning, as they show the way the work is built up. Reading this chapter a second time, I am still amazed by the way the artists can work on a design or picture when the "canvas" is not flat but a small tube. Then the authors take us on a tour of the pen makers, first of the smaller manufacturers and then the four majors, Pilot-Namiki, Platinum, Nakaya and Sailor, illustrated with hundreds of life-size pictures alongside the text. The book closes with a chapter on "Custom Pens", expensive pens produced in small numbers for collectors, using Japanese artists and craftsmen.

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