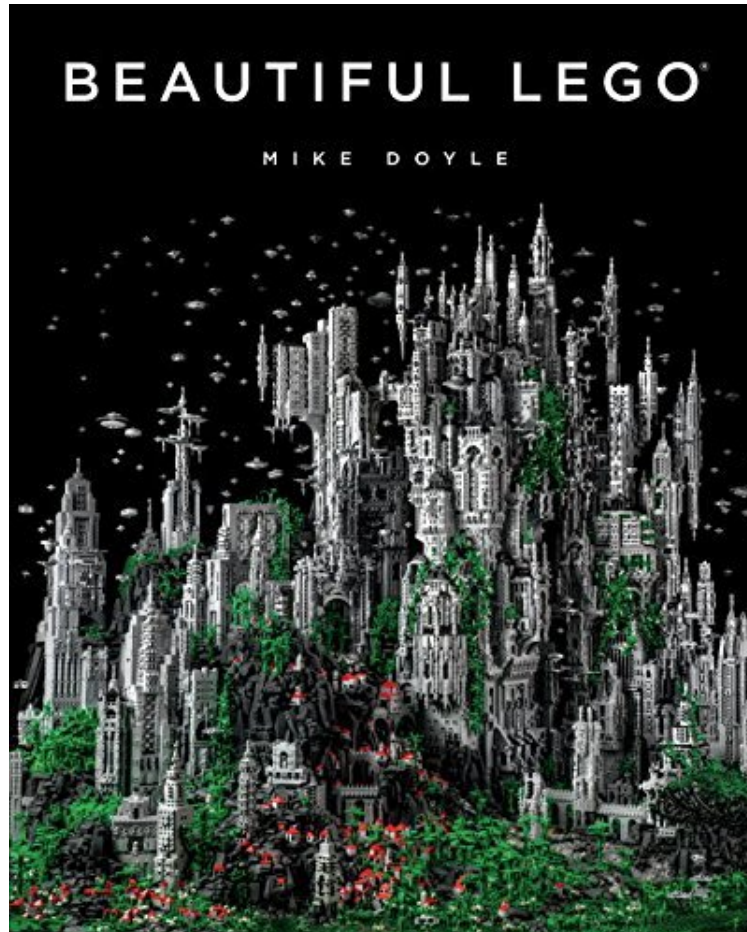


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## Beautiful LEGO

*Mike Doyle*

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**Mike Doyle : Beautiful LEGO** before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Beautiful LEGO:

1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. An amazing book for fans of both LEGO and sculpture! By Anthony Pantliano Beautiful LEGO is a book that fits its title to a tee. It is chock full of stunning and original art made completely from LEGO blocks. The book is done in full color on heavy paper stock and feels and looks high quality. It's an excellent coffee table book. When people see the cover they will immediately want to look inside. Inside they will find hundreds of wonderful photos of LEGO sculptures that range in size from just a few bricks and a few inches high to complex life-sized sculptures containing thousands of bricks. The sculptures are very diverse and cover all sorts of subjects - from wildlife, to pop-culture characters, to architecture. Each sculpture is fascinating to look at, and to appreciate not only the overall appearance, but also the artist's creative use of various LEGO bricks. As a child who would always follow the instructions, seeing the creative and wonderful things that people can do when they don't, is inspiring and fun. As if the wonderful images weren't enough there are also interviews with the artists scattered

throughout the book that are very informative and enjoyable. All in all its amazing what can be done with simple LEGO bricks. 1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. She Loved It! By creeper This was a Christmas gift for my granddaughter, the Lego-lover. Unfortunately, she opened it first. We almost couldn't get her to put it down and open the rest of her gifts. I wrapped it after just glancing at it, expecting to look at it further after she'd opened it, but could never find a time in the next four hours when she wasn't engrossed in it. Her mother says she falls asleep at night with the book. What a smashing success this one was. Since I only had the opportunity to look at a few pages I can't comment extensively on what's in the book. You'll have to take my granddaughter's word for it... "Awesome!" 1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. The gift of creativity was not wasted... fascinating images. By D. Newirth Lego in the mind of adults... fascinating. Bought this as a Christmas present for my young adult son. It was a tradition every Christmas from the time he was about 4 that he would receive one Lego kit to do on Christmas morning (a page at a time to slow down the "tearing through the presents" impulse). He still likes Legos, but as a graphic artist and cartoonist, I thought he might really enjoy seeing the creativity of others.

Mix hundreds of thousands of LEGO bricks with dozens of artists, and what do you get? Beautiful LEGO, a compendium of LEGO artwork that showcases a stunning array of pieces ranging from incredibly lifelike replicas of everyday objects and famous monuments to imaginative renderings of spaceships, mansions, and mythical creatures. You'll also meet the minds behind the art. Interviews with the artists take you inside the creative process that turns simple, plastic bricks into remarkable LEGO masterpieces.

From Publishers Weekly Legos have been a building block of childhoods around the world for decades (the Danish company, the Lego Group, was founded in 1949), but as graphic designer Doyle demonstrates in this impressive collection of 360 Lego models, they're far from child's play. The book showcases the work of 77 artists, who offer a wildly divergent results: from portraits of Freddie Mercury and the monsters from Alien to dissected frogs, space stations, and chromed-out hot rods. Though Doyle humbly waits until the middle of the book to showcase a few of his own sculptures, they are among the most striking. His stark black-and-white renderings of an elegant Victorian house damaged by an uprooted tree, as well as the book's cover (a massive futuristic city with countless spires) are nothing short of breathtaking. Brief bios of the creators accompany each entry, with the artists discussing what drew them to Lego bricks and their approach to design. One featured artist, Jordan Schwartz, may have achieved the ultimate goal: landing a job at Lego as a product designer due in part to his creations. Surprisingly, the book doesn't include specifications such as the dimensions of the pieces or the number of bricks used, nor are there images of works-in-progress. If readers can forgive that, they will be mesmerized by this astonishing collection. Full-color illus. (Nov.) "Far from child's play. An astonishing collection." Publishers Weekly "A stunning array." Today.com "One man's quest to prove LEGO can be art." The Los Angeles Times About the Author Mike Doyle is an internationally acclaimed LEGO artist and known for his stunningly realistic, grand-scale designs. His award-winning Abandoned House series has been showcased at Gallery 1988 in LA and Boston's Museum of Realist Art. His largest piece to date is Contact Ia 66-foot masterwork built from more than 200,000 LEGO elements. When not constructing LEGO art, Doyle works as a graphic designer. He lives with his wife and two children in New Jersey.