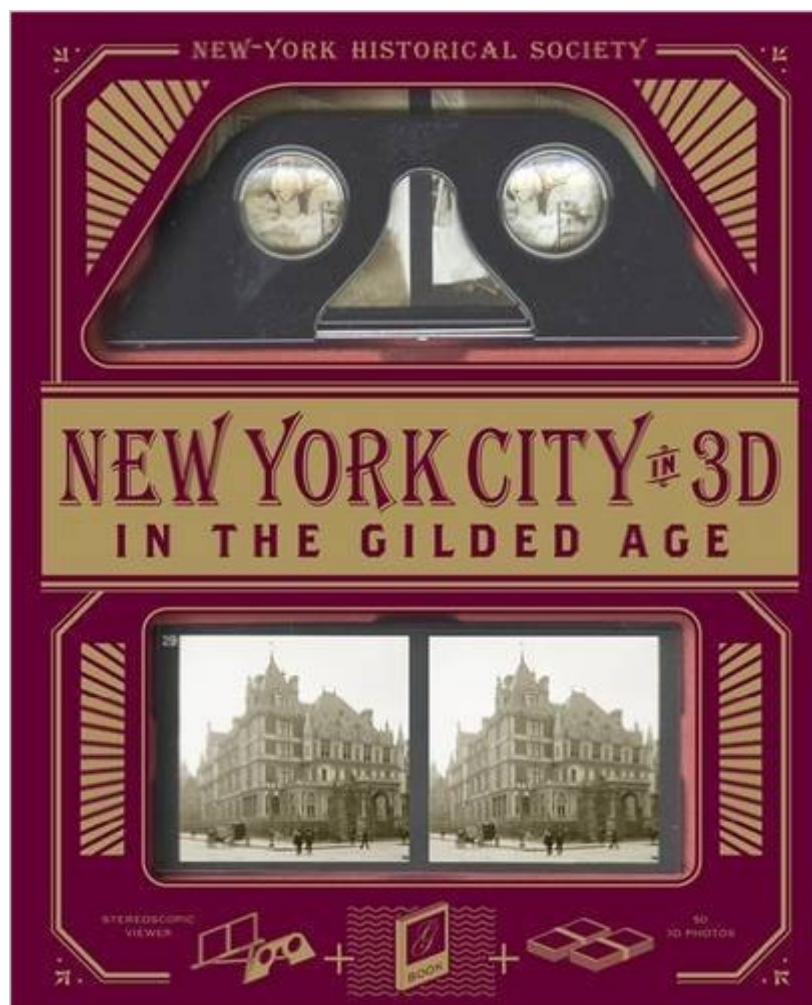


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# New-York Historical Society New York City In 3D In The Gilded Age: A Book Plus Stereoscopic Viewer And 50 3D Photos From The Turn Of The Century



## Synopsis

Be transported to New York during the Gilded Age and experience daily life in one of the world's most vibrant cities through mesmerizing, contemporary 3D photography and exciting tales of the time. Black Dog & Leventhal has partnered with the New-York Historical Society to present New York in the Gilded Age as it's never been viewed before. This innovative package includes a sturdy metal stereoscopic viewer and 50 stereoscopic photographs of turn-of-the-century New York. The package also includes a 128-page paperback that provides a brief history of the stereograph craze and an overview of the city's evolution during that time. Mark Twain coined the term the "Gilded Age" for this period of extravagance, experienced most dramatically in New York City from the late 1860s to 1910. More than half of the millionaires in the United States lived in the city. Previously unimaginable sums of money were made and spent, while poor immigrants were packed in tenements. The gap between the rich and the poor was wide, yet wealth was flaunted at every opportunity, from showy parties to lavish clothing and richly furnished mansions. The period also saw great innovations for all, including the New York City subway system, electric lighting, and the first urban ambulance service. New York City in 3D in the Gilded Age encapsulates a city determinedly positioned at the forefront of culture, politics, and innovation and includes vivid firsthand accounts from writers, politicians, and residents during this period. Detailed descriptions of the scenes depicted in each stereographic photograph are included on the back of the photo.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

A great idea. The book is laid out well, the viewer itself is excellent for the price BUT: the slides are terrible and the reason we buy this book over others is for the slides. I cannot believe the poor quality. They are smaller than the originals and yet extremely grainy. So bad, that they become annoying to look at. I have seen many of the original slides that have been produced over the past 100 years ago and they are many times better. Many of us could have done a better job of scanning in the old slides at home. Its unfortunate that the author did not chose a more professional person/company to digitize and reprint the original slides.

I like the book - it is informative and full of interesting photographs. The stereographs and viewer are another matter, however. The stereo cards are smaller than the actual size and are reproduced in what appears to me to be very poor quality, low resolution. The stereo viewer is flimsily made and unpleasant to handle due to its sharp-edged metal parts. The New York Historical Society should be embarassed to distribute such an inferior product.

I also purchased "The Great War in 3D" set. The stereo views in both sets are pretty good lithographs. The presentation boxes are quite nice. The viewers are copies of the old Raumbild viewers, and are made of metal with glass lenses. The first set contained a viewer that worked pretty well, but came apart and I had to repair it. The viewer that came with this New York City set will not focus and the lenses have circles visible in the middle, which is a feature I do not understand. Viewing these pictures with an actual old Raumbild viewer is a vast improvement. Still, the price is very reasonable and I think these sets would make nice gifts.

I was a bit disappointed with this. I thought it was a book with the stereoscopes reproduced inside. But instead it is a bunch of cards. That would be fine, and perhaps better even, if they were printed high quality, but they're just not. They are printed poorly. I don't know if it's the type of printer used, or paper, or that they printed from really low-res scans (I'm guessing 150 ppi or so), or maybe a combination of factors, but as a result you can see the dots prominently. None of them look sharp or detailed, even though the original stereoscope cards were (I know because I've seen, and own, some of them). If you have no experience with real stereoscope cards, you might enjoy this set more. But if you're a 3D enthusiast, stay away from this, unless you can get a cheap used one, and just like to have everything.

This is truly a wonderful book. And its not just for history buffs. Anyone with a curious nature will

absolutely love it. It was given to me as a gift. I really had no idea how wild and colorful this era was. The text itself is very well paced and satisfying. Chapters are easy to read, shortish but extremely vivid. The author has obviously done her homework and weaves intriguing details throughout with a confident breeziness. The photos are splendid and pull you deep into the world. The stereoscopic element is no gimmick. Not only does it work very well - not cheap - but it gives you a chance to experience a cool piece of bygone technology. Its a fun book that will appeal to the whole family.

viewer is a piece of junk If your a collector you probably have another viewer you can use. information is ok and pictures are ok. pictures should of had more information on them or be correlated to the book some how. the book seems to be the main purchases and the pictures and viewer seem to be just a bonus. le; Buy my book and I'll give you some stuff to go with it.

Other commenters are right about the stereoscopic images. The quality is poor, undoubtedly poorer than the originals. Kind of ironic given that a hundred years later we can't produce these images in a resolution at least as good as the originals. The book, however, is enlightening in relating the history of the city and talking about the trials and tribulations of living in a growing city with all the corruption, pollution, crime, etc. I found the book hard to put down. The slides were interesting even though they were of pretty poor quality. Had me looking up some of the long-gone buildings on the Internet to see what more I could learn about them.

Everything in this kit is of at least decent if not better quality, so I heartily disagree with other reviewers. The stereoscope takes a bit of fiddling with to get your eyes to work with it. This is because it fools your brain into producing a 3d image. Read up on it. My suggestions: fully extend it and hold the scope away from your face a bit then bring it closer, then bring the back piece in until sharp. It really is amazing technology for so long ago. The book is high quality, color and glossy and quite informative while being succinct, which SO many books of this kind are not. The presentation case is first class, and this provided many hours of enjoyment. It makes you long for the olden days, and of course to be a Vanderbilt!

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