A survey of the conceptual themes and practical concerns—display, lighting, color, sound, and graphics—of exhibition design. Today exhibitions have to compete in an increasingly sophisticated leisure market. Consequently, the way in which the contemporary exhibition is designed is changing fast; previously aloof cultural institutions are making use of technologies and techniques more commonly associated with film and retail. Exhibition-making is now synonymous with image-making, communication, and the creation of a powerful experience. Exhibition Design features examples of a wide variety of exhibitions from around the world, from major trade and commerce fairs to well-known fine-art institutions and small-scale artist-designed displays. The introduction gives an historical perspective on the development of exhibitions and museums, with particular focus on the developments of the twentieth century. The book is divided into two parts: Approaches and Techniques. Approaches is devoted to the conceptual themes of narrative space, performative space, and simulated experience. Techniques covers the practical concerns of display, lighting, color, sound, and graphics. To illustrate these themes the book features photographs, drawings, and diagrams of exhibitions from around the world, including the work of such internationally renowned architects and designers as Ralph Appelbaum Associates, Atelier Brückner, Casson Mann, Frank Gehry, Zaha Hadid, Imagination, METStudio, and Jean Nouvel.

My Personal Review:
Modern exhibitions have to compete in a fast-changing leisure market and must make use of technology and techniques that in the past have been associated with film and retail worlds. It's all about the experience - and here to address these changing needs is EXHIBITION DESIGN, packed with examples of successful exhibitions from around the world from both trade fairs to fine-art holdings and smaller artist-designed displays. Both history and technique blend in a title which teaches by example and by conceptual review, making it a top pick for college-level art libraries serious about teaching the finer art of successful exhibition processes for artists or museum curators.

Diane C. Donovan  
California Bookwatch

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