

Versailles and the American Revolution



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• Published to accompany an outstanding exhibition at the Palace of Versailles, July 5 - October 17, 2016

This catalog is a collective work bringing together contributions from French, American, and British specialists in this field, to shed light on the importance of the relationship between France and America in the closing years of the Ancien Régime.

During the reign of Louis XVI, the Palace of Versailles - the seat of power and government in France - played a crucial role in the history of America, in its struggle for independence, and in the recognition of the United States by the great European powers. In tracing this remarkable story, the catalog demonstrates the constant interest displayed in the fledgling United States by the French monarchy.

Richly illustrated throughout, it documents the events of the War of Independence, before exploring the consequences of the entry of France into the war, the siege of Yorktown, and the peace treaty signed at Versailles in 1783. Finally, it analyzes the origins and development of the mythology of the 'American Revolution' in both France and the United States, a source of enduring inspiration for artists and history painters.

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