Cave, Roderick

A history of the book in 100 books

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Working with the BBC, Neil MacGregor, the Director of the British Museum, has launched a downright smart project. A History of the World in 100 Objects uses important pieces from the museum's collections to recount the long history of humanity. Throughout the year, the serialized radio program will air 100 episodes, each averaging 15 minutes, and they will cover two million years of human innovation and artistic creation. Below, I've included a recent episode that revisits the Olduvai hand axe, a tool invented some 1.2 million years ago that proved vital to human evolution and our mi
A History of the World in 100 Objects was a joint project of BBC Radio 4 and the British Museum, comprising a 100-part radio series written and presented by British Museum director Neil MacGregor. In 15-minute presentations broadcast on weekdays on Radio 4, MacGregor used objects of ancient art, industry, technology and arms, all of which are in the British Museum's collections, as an introduction to parts of human history. The series, four years in planning, began on 18 January 2010 and was broadcast The book is ordered chronologically and divided thematically. Each of the 100 sections focuses on one book that represents a particular development in the evolution of books and in turn, world history and society. Abundant photographs inform and embellish. Here are some of the themes discussed: In the Beginning -- first human scratches on cave walls, cuneiform tablets, papyrus books, the oldest table of prime numbers. Again this is a great book that studies in-depth the history of the book and also gives many reasonable worries a face as we face them now in the modern literary world. A must-read for any diehard bibliophile. ...more. flag 1 like • Like • see review.