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Appearances : Fashion Photography Since 1945

Martin Harrison

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Martin Harrison : Appearances : Fashion Photography Since 1945 before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Appearances : Fashion Photography Since 1945:

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Wonderful CollectionBy Light NovelistAfter checking this volume out at from my local library numerous times, I finally decided to buy it for myself. I find the images presented to be very inspiring; it's a great resource for any photographer looking to delve into this branch of photography.1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Captures the BestBy PicassoBeautiful and an excellent cross-section of fashion photography. Well selected examples that characterize what was best in the period covered, 1945-present.0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Five StarsBy JacekExcellent treatise on fashion photography.

A study of fashion photography since 1945 which places it in the mainstream of popular culture. It links fashion to such influential figures as Walker Evans and Robert Frank, and its implications transcend purely photographic history. Martin Harrison explores the role of magazine culture and the influences of art directors and editors, who have both created and reflected the mood and tones of the post-war decades. With the participation of the greatest figures in the field, from Richard Avedon and Irving Penn to Bruce Weber, he presents some of the most famous fashion photographs of all time, as well as many rare images. The involvement of artists such as Cindy Sherman and Robert Mapplethorpe is also examined, whose work is peripheral to the fashion industry, yet whose influence pervades the look and climate of the times. The conclusion is that fashion photography is no longer distinct from the lineage of art photography and has now become central to an understanding of modern culture and visual media.

From Library Journal Photography as a fine art is often shaped by work done in the field of fashion. As well as peddling clothes in the pages of women's magazines, fashion photographers also influence and reflect society's attitudes and obsessions. Thus, the elegant, chic, and sophisticated fashion images of the postwar period gradually evolved into the decadent, soft-porn statements typical of the 1980s and 1990s. Art historian Harrison discusses the sociological issues behind these photographic trends by examining not only the impact made by fashion photographers but also the influence of certain powerful and creative art directors. In addition, he covers the often overlooked area of male fashion, attempting to explain why this subject has received such little serious attention. The author does well in identifying the models used in each fashion shot. (Most of us have forgotten that Anjelica Huston also worked as a model.) Unfortunately, there is little new material in this book--little that was not covered in the same author's *Shots of Style* (Faber Faber, 1986), written as an exhibition catalog for the Victoria and Albert Museum in 1985. Although neither book is indexed (which makes anthologies of this size difficult to use), the earlier work lists the photographers alphabetically in the table of contents, while the present work does not, merely offering such vague chapter headings as "Inside" and "White Heat." Chicago readers will be disappointed that Victor Skrebneski's work is not included. Superfluous if your library has *Shots of Style*. - Margarete Gross, Chicago P.L. Copyright 1991 Reed Business Information, Inc.