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Yves Saint Laurent: Style



Synopsis

In collaboration with Fondation Pierre Bergé-Yves Saint Laurent, Yves Saint Laurent's signature style intertwines references from the art world with those of popular culture and social revolution. Since its establishment in the 1960s by the designer and Pierre Bergé, the Yves Saint Laurent haute couture house has redefined femininity, creating arguably the most famous (and sexiest) suit for women, the Le Smoking tuxedo, and innovative collections with names such as Pop Art, Ballet Russes, and Picasso. This retrospective book is the first to cover the forty years of Yves Saint Laurent and highlights the inventive character of the designer's work. Over 160 of his finest designs and accessories, all taken from the Fondation Pierre Bergé-Yves Saint Laurent collection, are presented. The book is the companion volume to an exhibition that will travel to The Montreal Museum of Fine Art and the de Young Museum in San Francisco.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

It's been years since I've written a review on , but the reviews I've seen for this book have compelled me to write again. The strengths - and weaknesses - of YSL Style become more apparent when compared to the other recent YSL book from the same publisher (Yves Saint Laurent), which has received more positive reviews. From this point on, I will refer to the two books as "YSL Style" (pink book) and "YSL" (black book). The quality of the printing and paper for YSL Style is good but not as luxurious as YSL. If your sole criterion for deciding whether to purchase a book is based on its status as an object and collectible, then YSL is the clear choice over YSL Style. If you are more interested in the content, then read on, because the two books serve different purposes. YSL Style

contains a generous number of the designer's drawings, far more than I've seen in any other fashion book. It provides great insight into the creative process and the evolution of ideas not just of Saint Laurent himself but also more generally in the arts and design. In this regard, YSL Style is distinct from most fashion retrospectives, more introverted; the reader peeks into Saint Laurent's sketchbook. The view is of Saint Laurent as an artist, like a painter in working in a studio rather than a figure in the glamorous world of celebrity and commerce. In many other ways, YSL Style likely falls short of YSL. The latter book shows much more final work, more photographs than drawings.

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