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Reigning Men: Fashion In Menswear, 1715-2015





Synopsis

This fully illustrated book accompanies one of the most comprehensive exhibitions dedicated solely to three centuries of men's fashion. The fashionable male may be making a comeback, but early fashion trends centered around what men--not women--were wearing. This intriguing book traces the history of men's fashion since the 18th century, when young Englishmen imitated foreign dress and manners after touring the European continent. This phenomenon is only one of many explored in sections titled "Revolution/Evolution," "East/West," "Uniformity," "Body Consciousness," and "The Splendid Man." In addition to numerous illustrations of extant menswear, the book captures the 19th-century dandy, a more restrained brand of expensive elegance which became the hallmark of Savile Row; the post-WWII mod, who relished the colorful styles of Carnaby Street; and the 21st-century man--ultra-chic in a sleek suit by day, wearing a flowered tuxedo by night. Reigning Men illuminates connections between history and high fashion, traces cultural influences over the centuries, examines how uniforms have profoundly shaped fashionable dress, and reveals that women aren't the only ones who cinch and pad their bodies. Beautifully produced and lavishly illustrated, this eye-opening book will certainly appeal to men and women alike.

Book Information

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Average Customer Review: 4.9 out of 5 stars Â See all reviews (8 customer reviews)

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Customer Reviews

This is a FANTASTIC book!!! The pictures are bright and clear and the selection of photographs is awesome! They cover everything from 18th century frock coats to seventies disco wear, all in beautifully photographed detail! Fantastic!!!

What an interesting way to portray the history of menswear! Not in chronological order, but pairing old garments (from the 1700s, some of them), with very modern ones that have some similarities...color, cut, decor.... Makes you rethink some modern designs! Beautiful photos, nicely presented...a joy to page through.

This is the next best thing to seeing the Los Angeles Museum of Art's current exhibit of the same name. Includes full detailed color photos and short readable paragraphs about the fashions and their times.

Giant coffee table book divided into topics, each with large color pictures. The only downside is that it's too big to fit on any of my bookshelves.

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