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Valentino: Themes And Variations



Synopsis

The name Valentino has been synonymous with high fashion for almost fifty years. Based in Rome, Valentino is only one of two couture houses recognized by the French government outside of Paris. His exquisite designs are coveted and worn by young Hollywood and high society the world over. On the occasion of his last couture collection, presented in Paris in the spring of 2008, this landmark book celebrates forty-five years of Valentino's remarkable career. Published in association with a prestigious exhibition at the Musée des Arts Decoratifs's famed costume department in Paris, this volume focuses on Valentino's haute couture creations, highlighting the most important and iconic creations of his half-century in fashion through recurring themes in Valentino's work: variations on the ideas of volume, line, and texture as well as motifs such as geometry, pleats, and flowers through new photography, sketches, fabric samples, and commentary on the dresses by Valentino himself. In addition, unprecedented photography by François Halard of Valentino's last fittings and backstage of his runway show reveals Valentino's private world for the first time. "Valentino On Valentino," a chapter of first-person accounts of the designs of these iconic dresses, along with Valentino's commentary on his fashion, will make this publication unique in the study of Valentino as a cultural and artistic icon.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

The photographs in this book are just spectacular, as much as they can do the clothing pieces justice. The cover photo is an example of the gorgeous detail you get in all the photos. Sumptuous feast for the eyes and a tribute to the true genius of Valentino. All 5 decades are covered from the

1960's to the millenium and beyond. Most of the pieces are featured on manequins and some by actual models. There are also some pictures of Valentino over the years, including my favorite - one with Jackie Kennedy Onassis. I will enjoy this book for years to come.

"Valentino: Themes and Variations" is a stylish,sleek introduction to one of the world's foremost haute couture designers. His couture projects a world of elegance and savoir faire. This book takes the reader behind the scenes of his runway shows, and talks about his private world--from his longtime boyfriend to the creation of his clothes. "Valentino" turns clothing,a necessary element of daily life,into works of art. There is refinement and grace. "Valentino" is a feast for the eyes.

This a great overview of Valentino and a very good exhibition catalog. The key to any good monograph is having recent and detailed photographs of the clothing both full view and close-up, this has both. The text is light and I would have liked to know more about the individual pieces. Combined with the catalog for "Valentino A Roma" an exhibition that took place at the Ara Pacis in Rome you have a full view of the mastery that is Valentino.

A very elegant book in content and format. The colors are ravishing, the photos magnificent. All the glamour in the palm of your hands....

This book was what I hoped for, large images of the beautiful work done by Valentino and his crew. When I finished going through the book I found myself wishing there were even more pictures of vintage gowns. Really good coffee table book. I didn't read any of the written parts, but have really enjoyed the pictures.

Unlike Ms. Goblin's "Balenciaga Paris" volume posing as it was as an exhibition catalogue, this one is a wonderful feast for the senses. Mr. Valentino has created some of the most glorious creations for genuine Women of Style and he will be missed as a force in the diminished world of Haute Couture. If you wear or admire Haute Couture, this is a must have volume for your library.

Book has MANY blank pages. After every picture is a Blank page..They need to take the amount of pages it boasts and slice it in half. Beautiful pics but not worth the money. If there were more picture it would be great but I can't justify paying \$50 for blank pages.

This book is a wonderful book. Loads of beautiful pictures of Valentino's fashions along with information on his designs. Ginnie

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