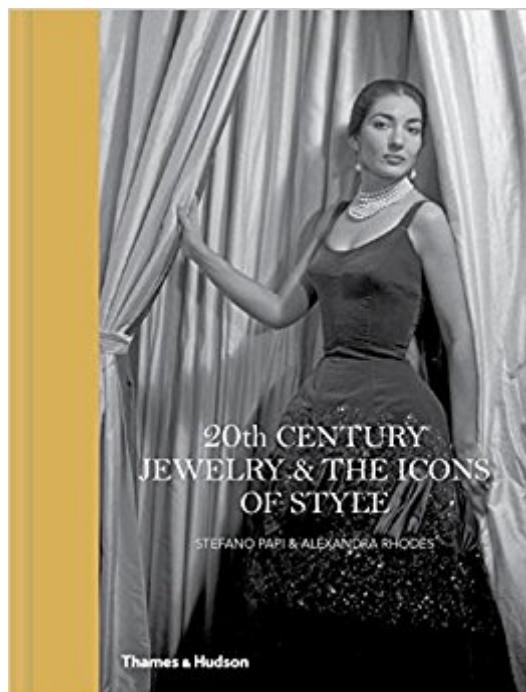


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# 20th Century Jewelry & The Icons Of Style (Revised Edition, Reduced Format)



## Synopsis

“Worthwhile, both for the sumptuous jewelry and for the stunning lifestyle photographs.” Society of Jewelry Historians For many centuries, collecting precious jewels was the province of kings and queens, emperors, and maharajas. But in the aftermath of the First World War, royal gems passed into the hands of a different kind of elite that included celebrities and a coterie that reveled in a nouveau riche whirl. Changes in fashion and the rise of Art Deco style led them to reset pieces or commission exquisite contemporary designs. Authors Stefano Papi and Alexandra Rhodes explore this dazzling era via profiles of eleven glamorous women who built up astonishing jewelry collections in the mid-twentieth century. This revised and updated edition includes two new chapters that explore the lives and jewels of Ganna Walska and Hélène Rochas. The authors reveal the remarkable stories behind the jewels and their collectors. Not only do they bring to life the worlds in which these women moved, but they also describe the gems in detail and chronicle the work of the leading jewelers of the day, including Cartier, Van Cleef & Arpels, and Harry Winston. The book is illustrated with gorgeous close-up photography of the jewels as well as drawings of the original designs, and includes portraits of the collectors by Beaton, Horst, and other leading photographers of the time. 470 illustration in color and black-and-white

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

“A tome profiling the jewelry collections of 13 stylish women of the last century. uses incredible pieces of jewelry as entry points into the lives of some of

history's most exciting and notorious females - National Jeweler

Stefano Papi is based in London and has worked as Senior European Specialist in the jewelry departments of both Sotheby's and Christie's auction houses. Alexandra Rhodes is a Senior Specialist for the international jewelry division of Sotheby's in London.

The photographs in this book are stunning. The book highlights famous women of the twentieth century and features the jewelry they wore. I found it interesting that these ladies would have the pieces broken apart and reset when fashions changed. They also would have stones recut if necessary. I have some gorgeous jewelry but I love the pieces and would not want to change them. I look at the photographs in the book and think that sometimes too much jewelry on one person is really too much. The one person who did not wear too much at one time was the late Duchess of Windsor. Sometimes less is more. Life is much simpler and more comfortable if one is not encumbered by too much money... or heavy jewels.

I love making jewelry and this book has amazing photography of high-end pieces from Cartier, Harry Winston, Van Cleef & Arpel, and many other fine jewelry retail that I would probably never be able to shop in. :) Makes the crap worn at the Oscars look like stuff from Claire's, believe me. :)

i have a large jewelry book collection and this is a great addition. great addition to my great jewelry collectors

Very interestingBeautiful original picturesNice purchase !

Wonderful collection of great jewels ... beautifully photographed ...

Excellent historical reference and beautiful photos

Did you ever wonder about all the elegant women who were known for their fantastic collection of jewelry? Well, wonder no more, in this book you will see how the women who are part of the book took to "collecting jewelry" the buying, changing with times, style & look, most of all keeping the quality of the stones in tact and making sure that the value goes up and keeps going up with the right provenance. One will read and imagine the life of these women and not all had the greatest of

lives but most certainly had the most beautiful jewelry I have set eyes on.

It is beautiful book. I love jewellery.

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