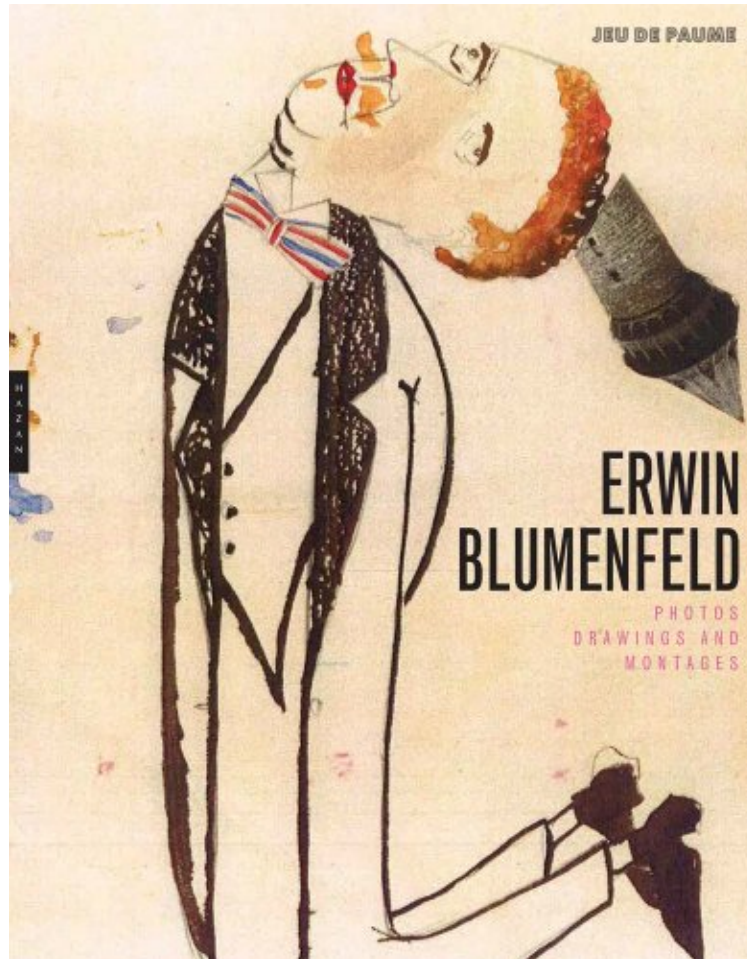


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Erwin Blumenfeld

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From Editions Hazan, Paris : Erwin Blumenfeld before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Erwin Blumenfeld:

3 of 3 people found the following review helpful. An Inspiration, a multimedia geniusBy Alexander S.Erwin Blumenfeld (18971969) was one of the most influential photographers of the 20th century. Born in Berlin, Blumenfelds peripatetic career took him first to Amsterdam and then to Paris. In Paris, Blumenfeld began working in fashion photography at Vogue. During this time, he was also producing anti-Nazi photomontage, avant-garde drawings and artistic photographs. After two years in a French concentration camp, he escaped to the United States and established himself as an eminent fashion photographer. Even in this commercial sphere, Blumenfeld's work was minimalist and edgy, demonstrating his lifelong interest in experimentation.This impressive book allows us to see the full range of Blumenfelds innovations, reuniting all the media used by the artist throughout his long career: drawing, photography, photomontage, and collage. His experimental work, including a series of conceptual self-portraits,

appears alongside celebrity portraits and his better-known fashion photographs. For many artists who work across mediums and in both the commercial and artistic worlds, one strand of their work is primary and everything else is ancillary. For Blumenfeld, a political photomontage of Hitler stands next to a fashion photograph unabashedly, as his distinctive genius was expressed equally (if differently) in each. These days, as ever, artists find themselves forced to work in different spheres to support their artistic vision. Blumenfeld viewed that not as an irksome obligation or necessary evil, but rather as a daily opportunity for creative expression and experimentation. He couldn't help himself; he was an artist every moment of his life. Alexander Strecker, assistant editor at www.lensculture.com

Erwin Blumenfeld (1897-1969) was one of the most influential photographers of the 20th century. His work offers a unique perspective on the society and politics of the 1930s through the 60s. Born in Berlin, Blumenfeld's peripatetic career took him first to Amsterdam and then to Paris, where his work in fashion photography began at *Vogue* in 1938. After two years in a French concentration camp, he made his way to the United States and established himself as an eminent fashion photographer. Over one hundred of his photographs featured on the covers of prominent fashion and general interest magazines, including *Vogue*, *Harpers Bazaar*, *Life*, *Look*, and *Cosmopolitan*. Often minimalist, mainly in color, these photographs testify to Blumenfeld's lifelong interest in experimentation. This landmark publication broadens our understanding of Blumenfeld's innovations, reuniting all the media used by the artist throughout his long career: drawing, photography, photomontage, and collage. The motifs of his experimental, sometimes overtly political, black-and-white photographs appear alongside numerous self-portraits and celebrity portraits, as well as the fashion photographs for which he is most known. Presenting some 150 images, this book provides a fresh understanding of Blumenfeld's photography for the commercial worlds of fashion and advertising.

"This catalogue for the first retrospective in France emphasizes his European Dada and surrealist by featuring 200 early drawings, collages and montages, and art and fashion portraiture influenced by Man Ray." R.T. Clement, CHOICE