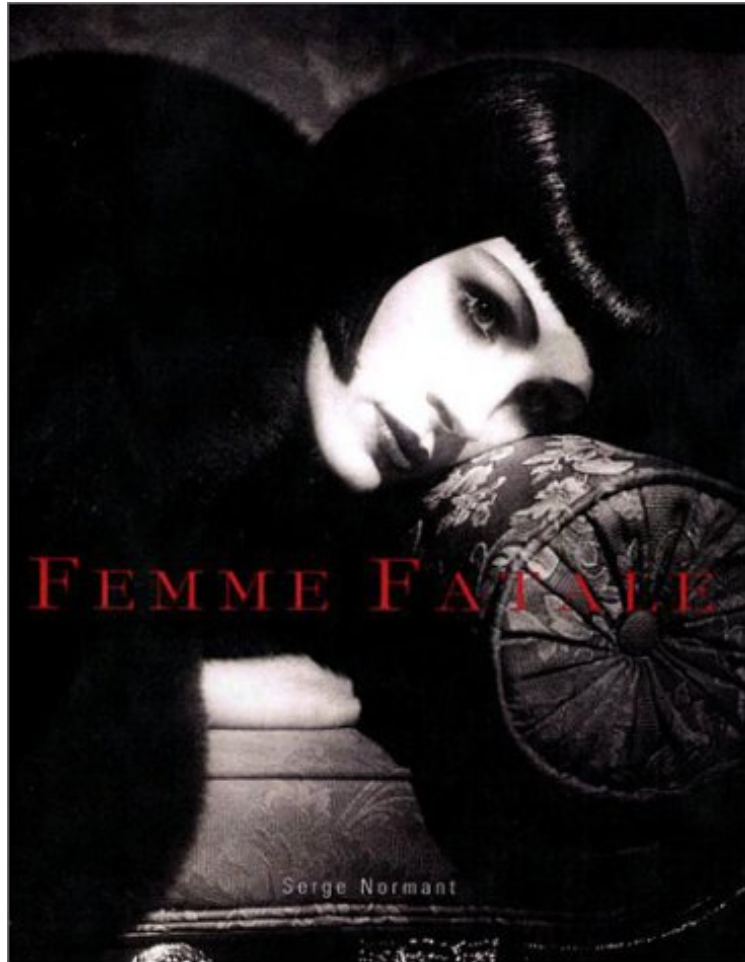


[Download] Femme Fatale: Famous Beauties Then and Now

Femme Fatale: Famous Beauties Then and Now

Serge Normant, Bridget Foley

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Serge Normant, Bridget Foley : Femme Fatale: Famous Beauties Then and Now before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Femme Fatale: Famous Beauties Then and Now:

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Great Photo Reference BookBy Carl W. HerbertIn reading some of the reviews for this book it occurs to me that the descriptive blurbs may not convey the intention of this book as well as they should. Some buyers may have ordered this book without understanding its purpose.The author is Serge Normant, a celebrity hairstylist. He collaborates with fashion photographer Michael Thompson and fashion editor Bridget Foley to create a book that interprets looks for women during the twentieth century of western history. There are a few old snapshots and studio photos included here and there within the book, but most of the photographs are recent studio work. The photos feature current (2001) celebrities such as Cindy Crawford, Elizabeth Hurley and Britney Spears, and they are styled according to the fashions of the represented periods. However, the book is not intended to emulate the pictorial history of past decades. It re-interprets a stream of fashion and pop history. The

modern fashion and glamour industries prevail in their influences in the photographic work. The text is written from the fashion editor's perspective. I bought this book for inspiration and for use as a styling reference. I feel it suits this purpose perfectly. The photographs are large and excellent in quality. The text is insightful and well written. This book probably is most useful to photographers, stylists, costumers and anybody else who refers to photo books for inspiration. It would also be great as a coffee table book for those who enjoy celebrity portraits and fashion photos.

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Great Idea, mediocre execution
By D. Johnson
Much, if not all this material has been published elsewhere, so you may have seen it. However, it has not been presented together organized around the interesting concept that Julia Roberts, Elizabeth Hurley, Susan Sarandon, Britney Spears and a host of beautiful women are paying homage to women of a previous age. (Yes, that Britney Spears). In an interview with a French magazine, the photographer described himself as awed or intimidated when Susan Sarandon showed up. He only relaxed when she took charge and he just responded to what he saw. The mutual respect shown by the professionals on both sides of the camera is what makes these images good. This is not just a catalog of beautiful pictures of contemporary icons playing dress up. If it is authentic it makes a convincing statement about the power and stature of these famous modern women and a lot of not so famous all around us. If you know a young woman who wants to be in the next book like this, show it to her. I have handed it to several young women I've photographed recently. "Oh, my God! Britney Spears is beautiful." "That can't be Claudia Schiffer." "Elizabeth Hurley scares me!" Isabella Rossellini as Betty Page is the show stopper, however. The photography is as good as it gets, but the material added to hang it all together weakens the book. Some of it is completely contrived and bogus. Next time let the women and the photographer do their work and let the readers draw the conclusions. Meanwhile a lot of wannabe photographers and young models have some catching up to do.

23 of 24 people found the following review helpful.
dissappointing
By Molly
Because of the title *The Femme Fatale, Famous Beauties Then and Now*, I was expecting a sort of photographic history book. I would be very interested in seeing how the image of a Femme Fatale has changed over the years, from the glamorous pencil browed vixens of the 1920's to the much more volupt modern beauties. (Think pulp fiction novel cover vs. Catherine Zeta Jones) I would have liked to read up on how even though what is considered beautiful (and dangerous) has changed, the character of the Femme Fatale predominates our culture, in literature and film. I really got the wrong book. Instead of what I was expecting, this book features celebrities made over to appear like they would in different time periods, and the photos are high quality, oversized and printed on slick glossy paper. Some of the transformations are very well done (the girl on the front cover is Julia Roberts, believe it or not) So the book is not without merit, but they could have done a lot more. If I wanted to see pictures of Britney Spears, I'd just read *People* magazine.

Chic, sexy, and sophisticated, *Femme Fatale* pays tribute to a century of feminine glamour. Invoking not only iconic beauties like Jean Harlow, Brigitte Bardot, and Marilyn Monroe but also the looks that defined each decade from the 1900s to the new millennium, celebrity stylist Serge Normant crafts clothes, setting, hair, and makeup to transform today's most beautiful women. He re-creates Julia Roberts as Louise Brooks, and Cindy Crawford as a forties glamour goddess, a savvy paparazzi-stalked nineties superstar, and a twenties ingenue. Elizabeth Hurley frolics as a flower child and vamps as Mata Hari. Isabella Rossellini is a curvaceous fifties pinup and an eighties punk. And Britney Spears exudes all the poise of Grace Kelly. This lavish exploration of fashion history, imagination, and stylish beauty carries with it Bridget Foley's cultural survey of each decade from social and political issues to art movements and key style makers. Beauty, fashion, celebrity, and photography mavens will all love *Femme Fatale* and so will every woman who has ever fantasized about looking like a star. Text by Bridget Foley Photography by Michael Thompson