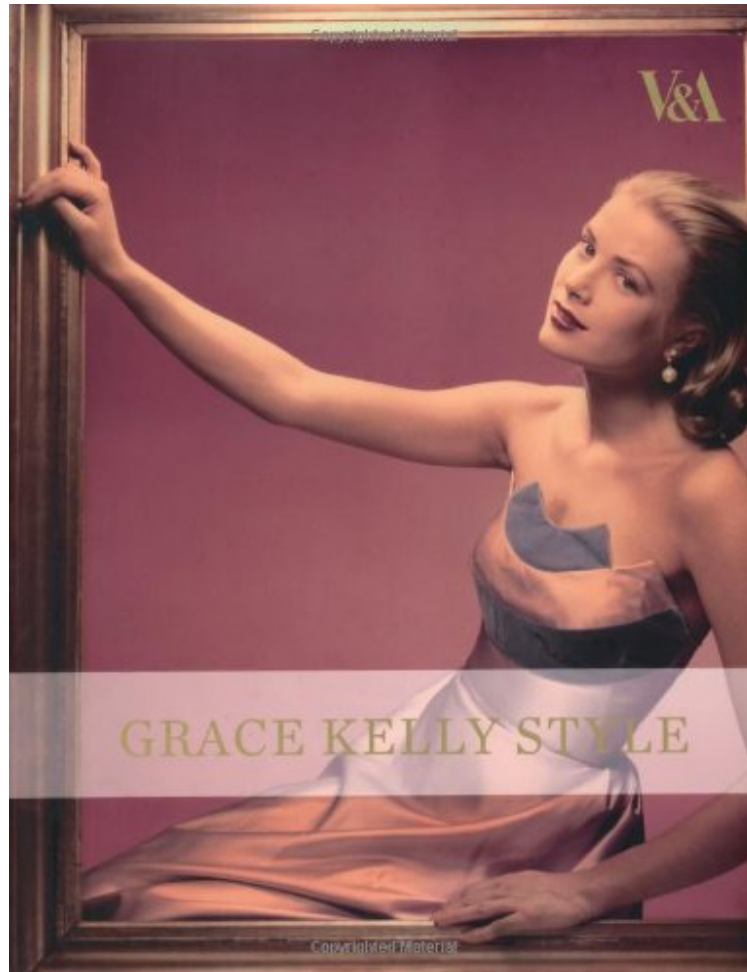


(Read now) Grace Kelly Style: Fashion for Hollywood's Princess

Grace Kelly Style: Fashion for Hollywood's Princess

H. Kristina Haugland

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H. Kristina Haugland : Grace Kelly Style: Fashion for Hollywood's Princess before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Grace Kelly Style: Fashion for Hollywood's Princess:

12 of 12 people found the following review helpful. A good overview, but bad exhibit bookBy wildrosesAlthough Princess Grace of Monaco has long been listed as a fashion icon of the 20th century, up until now, no book have been written regarding her unique and timeless style. To coincide with the Victoria and Albert Museum exhibition of her clothing (which lasted from April-September 2010), this book has been produced.The book is broken down into 3 sections: Actress, Bride, Princess. Accompanying each section are biographies of the prominent designers that she worked with in stage of her life. Throughout the book are lots of photos showing her style evolution.Since this book is the first of its kind (technically, the second as there was an earlier exhibit of her wedding dress with a catalogue accompanying it: "Grace Kelly: Icon of Style to Royal Bride" by H. Kristina Haugland), one can't do comparisons. However, a few words are necessary to give Grace Kelly fans a good idea as to whether it's worth buying or not.The

book is a very good overview of Princess Grace's style evolution and the key components of her fashion. I've long considered myself a Grace Kelly aficionado, and someone who loves to emulate her fashion, but even I picked up a few things from this book I hadn't noticed before from general biographies or picture books. While this book celebrates Princess Grace's style, it doesn't condescend with 'the reader is ignorant of fashion' and that the subject of the book and its writers are superior. (See the exhibition book "Jacqueline Kennedy: The White House Years" for that type of writing.) In fact, the third section of the book is a revelation because it points out why the once fashion-forward Princess became seemingly reactionary and ultra-conservative in her fashion choices during the 1970s-early 1980s. Also, the photo selection is quite nice. Many are recognizable and iconic, but there are few that are new. The way the book is put together, you get a nice sense how Princess Grace and how her style evolved as trends and fashions changed. The fact that this book is the first of its kind to examine Princess Grace's style was enough for me to buy it. However, you should know that: Despite being co-produced by the VA Museum, I am loathe to call this an exhibition catalogue. Very few pictures of the clothes are displayed, and as other reviewers have noted, it is usually up close details of an outfit. So, if you missed the exhibition (as I did) and was hoping this book would give you an idea of what it was like, you are going to be completely and totally disappointed. It is sorely lacking! The VA Museum should be ashamed of themselves for not putting out a proper exhibition catalogue! (Words can't begin to state just how ridiculous this "exhibition" book is.) Also, it's not in depth and comprehensive study of Princess Grace's style. If you collect books about style icons, you know what I mean: pictures everywhere of not just the clothing, but the accessories that make the outfit. Outfits both famous and obscure. Fashion mistakes as well as fashion It moments. While this book is a nice overview, there could have been SO much more. I don't regret buying this since I feel Princess Grace's style is something that doesn't get enough attention or appreciation. However, I would hope it is the first of many to come. The book is flawed, but still good enough. 33 of 34 people found the following review helpful. Not what I expected from the VA By OaklandBookworm Because this book was from the Victoria Albert museum - presumably the accompaniment to an exhibit about Grace Kelly fashion - I really expected the photography to be of much higher caliber than it was. The clothes on exhibit were photographed from odd angles and didn't have the sharp lens focus that I have seen in other museum-published books. I appreciate that the intent was to focus on some detail of the dress (side strap close-up of the "Oscar dress"), but we also never got to see the dress showcased, sometimes only the live or "press" photo of Grace Kelly wearing the outfit (and then the view of the clothes was circumstantial and at times partially hidden). As a person interested in the exquisite "iconic" fashion worn by Grace Kelly and fashion construction overall, I was disappointed. The text with the photos was trite; a rehashing of captions and descriptions that had been used already with many Grace Kelly photos. The best photo is on the front cover, and even here the color values seemed to be a little off. I have seen the photo before in better focus thereby giving the viewer a good look at the two tone bodice as well as the skillful piece work. Perhaps the VA exhibit had a catalog that showcased the fashion to better advantage? I hope so because this book, though expensive to publish, doesn't do it. 2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. Fabulous Book On A World Renowned Icon By Susan Goodman Pictures were beautiful. Text was very informative. Amazing fashion by Edith Head and other designers. Special book for anyone who admires Grace Kelly.

Hollywood star, royal bride, beloved princess Grace Kelly (1929-1982) embodied all three titles with a style all her own. Renowned for her cool beauty and faultless taste, the young actress stood apart from the other film sirens of the 1950s, with thousands of women, both in the US and Europe, emulating her classic yet accessible style. Her marriage to Prince Rainier of Monaco in 1956 catapulted Grace to further fame and cemented her influence on the world of fashion. From the Parisian catwalks to the pages of Vogue, the Grace Kelly Look became the look of the moment. This book, the first to look exclusively at Grace Kelly's unique style, accompanies an enchanting exhibition opening at the Victoria and Albert Museum, London, in April 2010. Sumptuously illustrated, the book introduces Grace's glamorous wardrobe - dress by dress, couturier by couturier, among them Chanel, Madame Grs, Yves Saint Laurent, Christian Dior, and Balenciaga - as she transformed herself from actress to bride to princess.

'Examines the iconic style of Kelly, the actress, the royal bride and the enchanting fairy-tale princess' Scotsman 'Sumptuous' Harper's Bazaar About the Author Kristina Haugland is Associate Curator of Costume and Textiles at the Philadelphia Museum of Art and author of *Grace Kelly: Icon of Style to Royal Bride*. She lives in Philadelphia. Jenny Lister is Curator of Nineteenth-Century Textiles and Fashion at the VA. Samantha Erin Safer received her masters from the Royal College of Art and was formerly Assistant Curator of the Fashion and Textile Museum, London.