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Yves Saint Laurent: Style

Foundation Pierre Bergé , Pierre Bergé , Josephine Bacon (Translator)

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In collaboration with Fondation Pierre Bergé—Yves Saint Laurent. Yves Saint Laurent's signature style intertwines references from the art world with those of popular culture and social revolution. Since its establishment in the 1960s by the designer and Pierre Bergé, the Yves Saint Laurent haute couture house has redefined femininity, creating arguably the most famous (and sexiest) suit for women, "Le Smoking" tuxedo, and innovative collections with names such as Pop Art, Ballet Russes, and Picasso. This retrospective book is the first to cover the forty years of Yves Saint Laurent and highlights the inventive character of the designer's work. Over 160 of his finest designs and accessories, all taken from the Fondation Pierre Bergé—Yves Saint Laurent collection, are presented. The book is the companion volume to an exhibition that will travel to The Montreal Museum of Fine Art and the de Young Museum in San Francisco.

Yves Saint Laurent: Style Details

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Author : Foundation Pierre Bergé , Pierre Bergé , Josephine Bacon (Translator)

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From Reader Review Yves Saint Laurent: Style for online ebook

Jaimie says

In contrast to the majority of fashion catalogues and coffee table books, the pages of this volume are filled with more sketches of designs than photographs. In providing this artistic viewpoint of Yves Saint Laurent's work this book is a valuable source in the research of his design aesthetic and technique. To the casual reader this deficit of photographs in lieu of sketches may come as a disappointment, but if they have read any of the other books on Saint Laurent they will be familiar with the physical manifestations that the sketches inspired. In some ways, it would have been nice to see both sketch and final product side by side, but doing so would be a massive undertaking for any publisher/writer, and I can't imagine that there would be a large market for this type of book anyways beside the academic fashion researcher or archivist.

Wandoo Ityavyar says

Yves Saint Laurent Style is a memoir about Yves Saint Laurent's ascent to style icon. Yves Saint Laurent was born in Oran, Algeria in 1936. Upon completion of high school, he moved to Paris. After he graduated at the top of his class in Couture school, he showed his sketches to Michel de Brunhoff, director of Vogue, who introduced him to Christian Dior in 1954. Christian Dior hired him on the spot. Yves learnt under Christian Dior, who was said to have captured the Zeitgeist with uncanny acuity.

While at Dior, Yves met Pierre Berge in 1958, who would later come to be his life long business partner. Upon meeting Pierre, Yves said

“ It was an extraordinary meeting. He had everything that I didn't have. In the event, he was very important for me. Without him, I would never have known what I have known. He freed me from my shyness. His strength was something important to me. I could lean on him when I was tired out. Pierre Berge is the story of my life.”

In January 1958, while still at Dior, Yves launched his first collection, Trapeze, which was extremely successful. There after he became increasingly famous. From 1958 through 1960, he would launch another 6 collections under the mentorship of Christian Dior. In 1959, Yves Saint Laurent branched out and designed some costumes for the theatre.

In 1961, Yves Saint Laurent was unable to go back to Dior, due to the brief interruption of his work by the army draft, he therefore opened his own couture house with Pierre Berge in a two bedroom apartment in Paris. He was financially supported by the American, J. Mack Robinson who deeply believed in his talent and capabilities.

In December of 1961, Yves designed his first dress with the YSL logo for Mme, Arturo Lopez- Willshaw. On January 29 1962, Yves Saint Laurent showcased his first collection which Life magazine describes as “the best collection of suits designed since Chanel.” Yves is famously known for transforming the sailor suits(pantsuits, jackets and striped t-shirts) and making them into an elegant line.

Yves Saint Laurent describes the mantra for his work as not trying to get his name in the press but trying to design clothes that women will wear and love. When Yves designs, he does not set out to be a revolutionary, he simply goes with his emotions and reproduces his feelings/instincts. When Yves Saint Laurent started out as a fashion designer, he noticed that older women seemed to be scared to wear a line deemed to be for women thirty years and younger. He set out to design something more ageless and classic. In addition to developing a classic style, it was Yves personal belief that a well-dressed woman is one who knows how to create harmony between her clothes and her personality.

Yves Saint Laurent says he gets all his inspiration from travelling- his mental excursions to Russia, Spain,

Africa, India. . . Yves said he does not need to go into a place or landscape before he produces a dazzling picture, because in the end the most wonderful voyage is one that takes him around his own room. Over the years Yves continues to push the envelope by exploring with clashing hues and tonalities, animal print and flowers; He also draw into his knowledge of classic literature and famous movie stars. He reported being inspired by Vivien Leigh's fragile personality dressed in a sumptuous cast off, in A Street Car Named Desire. He was also influenced by other artist like Picasso and Shakespeare. Through all Yves Saint Laurent's transitions, he said his style never changes, he just gets deeper. After Christian Dior's untimely death, Yves Saint Laurent would become the second most influential designer of the twentieth century.

Yves Saint Laurent retired from his career in 2002. Thereafter he decided to open a foundation with his long standing business partner- Pierre Berge. Yves entire heritage from 1962 to present is preserved at the Pierre Berge- Yves Saint Laurent Foundation in Paris. The foundation consists of 5,000 garments, 15,000 accessories, and thousand of sketches. It opened its doors to the public on March 10, 2004.

Yves Saint Laurent Style is akin to a coffee table book with a lot of samples of Yves' designs and sketches.

Kristina says

If you love fashion and fashion history this is well worth picking up for your coffee table. YSL was a man truly ahead for his time and gave the world a lot of beautiful, beautiful things to be and to aspire to be.

Camilla Nielsen says

A very popular book that offers a nice pop of color. The book itself is filled with fashion illustrations and clothes displayed on mannequins.

Review of other fashion coffee table books and pictures of the books:

<http://happycompletehome.blogspot.dk/...>
