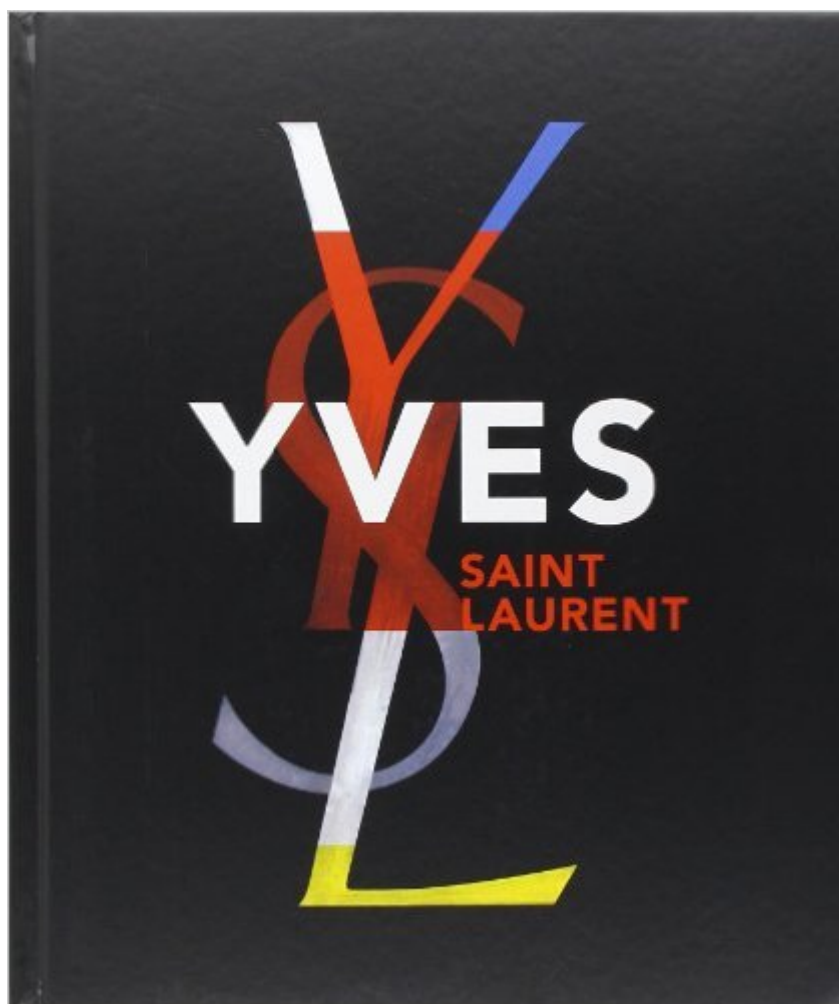


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Yves Saint Laurent



Synopsis

One of the most distinctive and influential designers of the second half of the twentieth century, Yves Saint Laurent takes his place in the pantheon of French couturiers, alongside Coco Chanel, Christian Dior, and Jeanne Lanvin. Yves Saint Laurent, the first comprehensive retrospective of his life's work, will accompany an exhibition of some 250 garments from the collection of the Fondation Pierre Bergé & Yves Saint Laurent at the Petit Palais in Paris. From his early days working under Dior and heading the House of Dior after his mentor's death, to the opening of his first prêt à porter shop on the Rive Gauche and the debut of the Le Smoking tuxedo, to the muses he adored, Loulou de la Falaise and Catherine Deneuve among them, this volume reveals the breadth and scope of the designer's entire career. With a preface by Pierre Bergé, author Faride Chenoune explores the sources of inspiration that drove Saint Laurent's continuous innovation, drawing upon painting, sculpture, theater, opera, literature, and cinema.

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Customer Reviews

These days, celebrities lending their name to a brand is commonplace, a practice that's become - in our humble opinion - vulgar. Whether based on greed, narcissism, or simply bad management, it seems like every other Hollywood leading lady (and more and more, leading man) has a line of clothing, home goods, energy drinks, [insert name of nearly any other item you can think of here]. For every dozen Hollywood starlets or handful of douchebags (Ed Hardy/Christian Audigier comes to mind) hawking cheap wares at Macys, Kmart and QVC, however, there are one or two designers who've actually given up their blood, sweat, and tears - not to mention learning the art

and possessing genuine creative talent - to legitimately deserve the right to put their name to a label. Dior, Fendi, Gucci, Chanel, Lanvin, Louis Vuitton... timeless, classic, beautiful brands - all of which carry a name from an actual person. Standing strong among them, with a rich history of creative brilliance, is Yves Saint Laurent. The first tome to celebrate the sheer design genius of the man, Yves Saint Laurent represents a comprehensive retrospective of the designer, the icon, the legendary god of fashion who helped create the industry that we know today as fashion. A celebrity among celebrities, from his first couture collection to his last, Saint Laurent's clothes were celebrated and his brilliance admired - as well they should be. As vibrant, diverse and fascinating as the man himself, Yves Saint Laurent - the book - plays excellent tribute to the artist. An accompaniment to a retrospective exhibition at the Petit Palais in Paris (featuring more than 300 garments; on view through August 29, 2010), it's a first-rate volume that's as full of history as it is photographs.

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