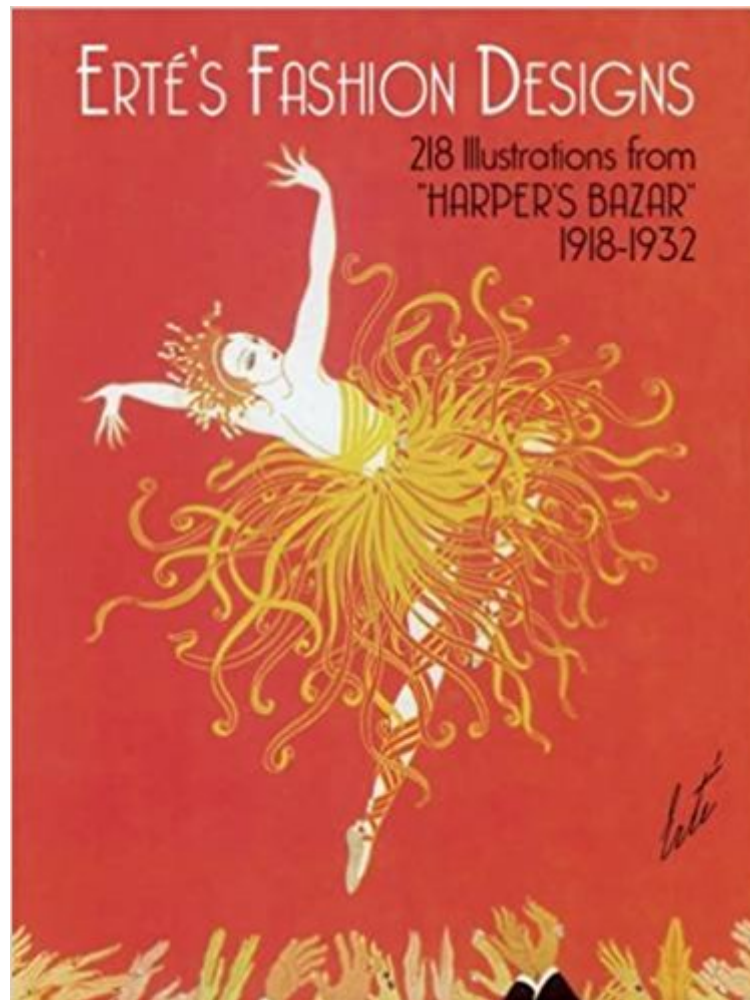




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Erté's Fashion Designs (Dover Fine Art, History Of Art)



Synopsis

Ert   once designed a costume for Mata Hari. Sixty-seven years later, still creating, he designed costumes and sets for the 1980 Glyndebourne Festival's Der Rosenkavalier. In between (mostly in the '20s) he was the only top Paris designer illustrating his own haute couture, most of the illustrations appearing in Harper's Bazar. An earlier volume (Fashion Drawings and Illustrations from "Harper's Bazar" 0-486-23397-9) sampled some of Ert  's enormous contributions to that magazine; this is another collection of original designs from Ert  's triumphant Harper's Bazar period. "He envisioned women," wrote Stella Blum, Metropolitan Museum of Art Costume Institute Curator, "not only as ultra-chic creatures for whom money was no object, but also as . . . music hall stars, Assyrian princesses, Egyptian queens. . . . Yet under this veil of fantasy the clothes and accessories Ert   created reveal a sound construction that really works." Ert   loves elaborate decoration, but hates meaningless ornament; these 218 illustrations show how he integrates all his pockets, pearls, cuffs, fur linings, jeweled tassels, and seamless dresses into thematic unity, and maintains a consistent ideal of fashion, by constant improvisation and inventive wielding of pure line. His firework color sense finds spectacular realization in 8 full-color reproductions of Harper's Bazar covers, all of which are now prized collector's items. In both black-and-white and color work, his sinuous, undulating line and decorative flair never fail, and show why his fashion design has not only returned to popular favor, but is being seen in museums and galleries along with his paintings and prints. Over a career spanning the century, Ert   has expressed his versatility in many forms; in these exquisite, delicate, theatrical miniatures (which will delight any lover of fashion history and graphics) he gives the very best of himself.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

These designs may not always be emblematic of actual clothing in the 1920's, but they represent some of the most innovative, dramatic, and stylish stuff from the era, and remain inspirational to this day. The book features a few of his more ordinary designs, but also includes "Harper's Bazar" covers, theatrical designs, and some amazing haute couture. While there are no pictures of extant costumes, this book of illustrations, quite a few in color, is beautiful, stylish, and motivating.

With this book you get a glimpse into the master's mind at the birth of Art Deco and beyond. Erte's designs flourished in the mid-20's, when the Deco age was new, but you can still sense a taste for the nouveau and baroque ages in his art and gorgeous designs. Erte was a pioneer artist until his death and anyone seeking to learn true fashion design will benefit from the vision of Erte.

I have not been exposed to any other artist/designer of the Art Deco Era that surpasses the talent and technique that is Erte. His representation of women and androgynous is tastefully and glamorously depicted in each and every creation. Erte would have rocked the Haute Couture Houses of his time as well as throughout each season to present time. Alexander McQueen is the only one that comes close in as far as uniqueness is concerned but McQueen misses the mark on complimenting the beauty that is the female body. McQueen's fashion distracts from the woman it should be the other way around. Erte's art draws us in to the mood of the subject and the shape of the subject's body first, then to the fashion. RuPaul said it best, "we all come into this world naked; the rest is drag". The author of this publication has produced a well representation of Erte's most familiar creations.

Erte was such a genius and apparently students and friends of mine feel the same as my first and second copy have disappeared..... This is a particular favorite as it features some of my favorite standard designs of his...

I really like art deco - the style, the fashion, just the curves and feel of it. I try to incorporate the feeling into clothes I make for myself. And who is the master of deco? Erte, of course! This stuff is beautiful., except for the lavish use of fur. But no one thought about that then. With imagination, fake

fur or velvet, and what is probably going to be very expensive fabric, I am ready to re-create a few of these.

Erte is one of the most creative designers of all times - drawing upon many cultures to create outfits that are simply gorgeous. This book is a very cheap way of studying some of his designs. Well worth the price!

One of the best! Truly unusual designs for creative figurative art dolls. Highly recommended.

I really admired Erte's work. Unfortunately I could never afford the high priced originals. This shows his work and I get to dream from it.

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