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# Set In Style: The Jewelry Of Van Cleef & Arpels



## Synopsis

Since its opening on the place Vendôme in Paris in 1906, renowned jeweler Van Cleef & Arpels has played a leading role in setting style and design trends in luxury jewelry and in the development of the art of jewelry design. Van Cleef & Arpels pieces have been worn by such style icons as the Duchess of Windsor, Grace Kelly and Elizabeth Taylor, and the company's prestige has spread throughout the globe, thanks to an unending list of prominent commissions issued by royal and imperial courts and the world's rich and famous. *Set in Style: The Jewelry of Van Cleef & Arpels* explores the historical significance of the firm's contributions to jewelry design in the twentieth century, including the establishment of Van Cleef & Arpels in New York in 1939. The book features more than 350 of Van Cleef & Arpels' most celebrated works from museum and private collections worldwide, including jewels, timepieces, fashion accessories and objets d'art, focusing on those created exclusively for the American market. Six accessible essays accompanied by nearly 400 photographs, including previously unpublished design drawings from the Van Cleef & Arpels archives, examine the precious pieces through the lenses and themes of innovation, transformation, nature, exoticism, fashion and personalities.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

This book traces the incredible craftsmanship of Van Cleef and Arpels, showing off a broad set of amazingly stunning jewelry. You'll see sketches of works, the works themselves, and learn about how they were made (including the incredibly complex and beautiful mystery settings), and some of the people such as Princess Grace and Elizabeth Taylor that wore them. The book is filled with

excellent plates that really give a sense of the jewelry. It relates to a show on exhibit in New York in early 2011, which is also well worth seeing. Large, heavy and great pictures. Definitely a good book if you are interested in fantastic high end jewelry. And if you can't quite afford things such as a 75ct yellow diamond pendant, this is perhaps the next best thing.

If you are a fan of high-end jewelry, this is a must. VC&A set the tone of what was fashionable for countless decades creating ever so beautiful new styles and techniques which revolutionized and forever changed the art of jewelry making. This is a very thorough book on the history of one of most impressive jewelry makers and how and why VC&A was able to withstand the test of time and taste. The photographs are exquisite and there is also plenty of photographs of original designs in charcoal and gouache straight from the VC&A archives, as well as some of their most famous and glamorous clients wearing their VC&A pieces. Excellent!

Went to the exhibit in NY and it was really badly designed. Hard to see the objects. I bought this book to get a better idea of the history of the pieces and they did a wonderful job here. A brilliant look into one of the worlds most famous jewelry designers.

This beautiful book showcases Van Cleef & Arpels' stunning jewelry in the best possible manner. The book is huge and loaded with high quality color photos detailing the beauty of each piece with enough close-up shots to appreciate the spectacular craftsmanship. There is also brief but informative text describing the pieces presented and the history of their respective owners along with pictures of them wearing their precious jewelry. This is a beautiful book and highly recommended to all fans of jewelry and fine books.

I saw this exhibit while in New York, and this book makes the jewelry look even more beautiful. The way they were able to get light behind all the pieces and show them up close is phenomenal. I am glad I saw them 'live' for reference, but the book is the better viewing.

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Van Cleef & Arpels Van Cleef & Arpels: Treasures and Legends  
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