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The Book Cover In The Weimar Republic



Synopsis

Roaring Jackets: The finest German publishing 1919–1933 The years between the First and Second World Wars in Germany are famed for their cultural boom. With Berlin as its epicenter, the Weimar Republic was replete with ground-breaking literature, philosophy, and art. At the heart of this intellectual and creative hub were some of the most outstanding and forward-thinking book designs in history. The Book Cover in the Weimar Republic assembles 1,000 of the most striking examples from this golden age of publishing activity and innovation. Based on the remarkable collection of Jürgen Holstein and his rare collectible Blickfang, it combines an unparalleled catalog of dust jackets and bindings with Holstein's introduction to the leading figures and particular energy of the Weimar publishing age. Expert essays discuss the aesthetic and cultural context of these precious fourteen years, in which a freewheeling spirit would flourish, only to be trampled, burned, or driven out of the country with the rise of National Socialism. From children's books to novels in translation, bold designs for political literature to minimalist artist monographs, this is a dazzling line-up of typography, illustration, and graphic design at its most energetic and daring. Part reference compendium, part vintage visual feast for the eyes, this very particular cultural history is at once a testament to an irretrievable period of promise and a celebration of the ambition, inventiveness, and beauty of the book. Text in English and German

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

A wonderful compendium of graphics and visual styles from the twenties to early thirties from right before the Nazi crack-down on personal and artistic expression. Virtually all are from books either completely unknown today or at least forgotten, with a looming and ominous subtext of having all been created in the shadow of disaster. It's hard to look at these works today without wondering what became of the artists and business people involved. In fact, if I have one complaint, it's that there is frequently, not enough information about the books themselves. Yes, a brief description of the visuals and graphic style is provided but I would have also liked more information about the subject and context of each of these volumes as well. An English translation of the titles would have been particularly useful and important. A beautiful collection of fascinating, provocative, stimulating and oft-times sobering works, which would have been made all the richer and more meaningful with a bit more context, (at least to my unschooled eye.) None the less, a brilliant, thoughtful, and not-to-be missed assemblage. As ever from Taschen.

Amazing book! The scholarship is impeccable and the illustrations for this large and very heavy volume are comprehensive. Have spent several days going through and it is a pleasure that I don't want to end.

As always, Taschen has published a gorgeous art book. The selection and huge profusion of beautifully-illustrated book covers shown in this book are a real "feast for the eyes".

This period of the Weimar Republic was an cauldron of artistic brilliance. This book has many amazing illustrations, including many by my grandfather, the Dada and Political Genius John Heartfield.

perfect

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