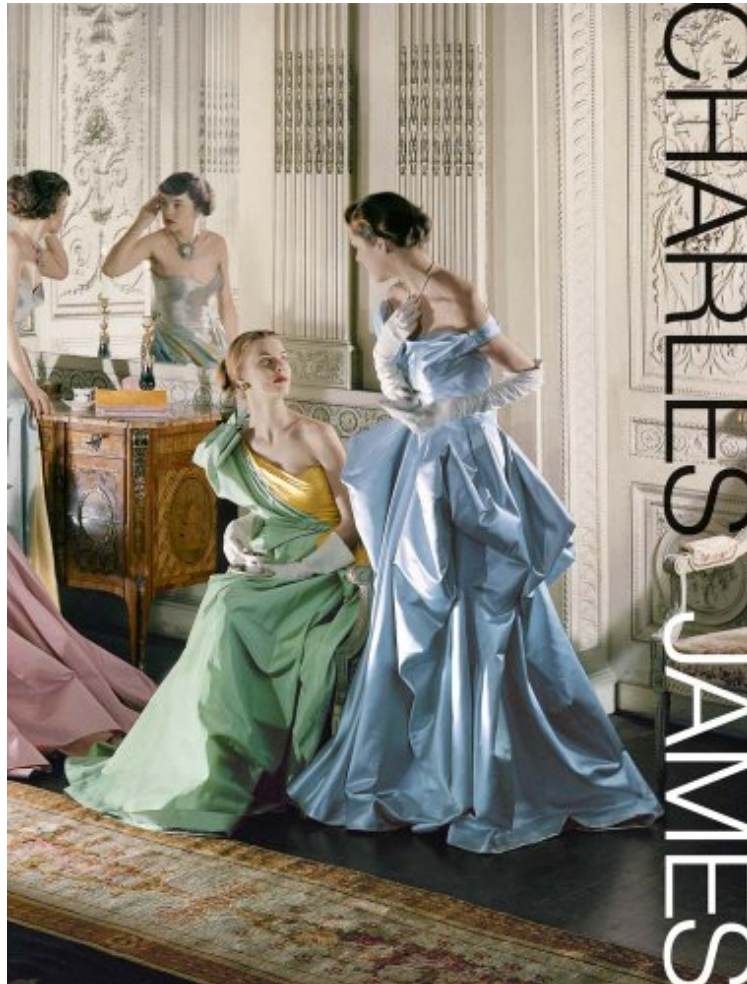


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Charles James: Beyond Fashion (Metropolitan Museum of Art (Hardcover))

Harold Koda, Jan Reeder

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Harold Koda, Jan Reeder : Charles James: Beyond Fashion (Metropolitan Museum of Art (Hardcover)) before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Charles James: Beyond Fashion (Metropolitan Museum of Art (Hardcover)):

35 of 35 people found the following review helpful. Stunning!By CBRThis is an exquisite book. Lots of super close-up pictures of the outside and inside of some of the most beautifully constructed garments you will ever see.It makes me weep to compare these masterpieces to the kind of crap most people wear these days, but that's another story!If you love beauty and are interested in the construction and engineering of clothes this book should be in your library.30 of 30 people found the following review helpful. Blows The Genius of Charles James out of the water!By Mark HughesThe most comprehensive book on the worlds most talented couturier ever. This book has it all over the

previous book *The Genius of Charles James* from the Brooklyn exhibit in 1983. This tome is perhaps the best ever fashion book on a designer. This is up there with Betty Kirke's book on Vionnet and the various books on Gres and Balenciaga. I cannot stress how important a book this is and it has more than whetted my appetite for the show. 4 of 4 people found the following review helpful. Is it worth it? (Sewing Edition) By Le Lapin I will keep this review short and honest. Charles James is one of my favorite designers hands down, and honestly I ordered the book for his (SWEEPING BALL GOWNS) super excited, and was a bit (A LOT) disappointed. The majority of the book was full of his more structured pieces. The photos are clear and in color, but I will say I was underwhelmed by a lot of the pieces included. If you are getting the book for his biographical background you will love this, if you are getting the book for his (SWEEPING BALL GOWNS) I would skip this one-I did not see any dress that a Pinterest search would not pull up-which disappointed me a little further. I did not give this book a low rating because -the book was made to showcase all his works, not just the (SWEEPING BALL GOWNS) I did take off a point because I was underwhelmed by a good amount of pieces that were in this book-which I thought would be impossible. I mean its (CHARLES JAMES). Pro's: Tons of in color photos :) His personal and professional life is written in a timeline format which I loved. Cons: In my opinion not always the best of his work was showcased, some of the items were underwhelming. Did not show photos of inside the garments, This might be nit picky but it would have been amazing to be able to see the interior construction in photos especially for the price tag that is on this book. So, is it worth it? for me.. No. Had I checked this book out from the library I would not have been tempted to purchase it.

"His work went beyond fashion and was a fine art." a Charles James patron Charles James, often considered to be America's first couturier, was renowned in the 1940s and 1950s as a master at sculpting fabric for the female form and creating fashions that defined mid-century glamour. Although James had no formal training as a dressmaker, he created strikingly original and complex designs, including intricate ball gowns worn by members of high society in New York and Europe. This lavishly illustrated book offers a comprehensive study of James' life and work, highlighting his virtuosity and inventiveness as well as his influence on subsequent fashion designers. Featuring exciting new photography of the spectacular evening dresses James produced between 1947 and 1955, this publication includes enlightening details of these intricate creations alongside vintage photographs and rarely seen archival items, such as patterns, muslins, dress forms, and sketches. A detailed and illustrated chronology of James' life describes his magnetic personality, his unorthodox design processes, his colorful supporters such as Salvador Dalí, Elsa Schiaparelli, Christian Dior, and Cristóbal Balenciaga and profiles of a number of his famous clients, such as Gypsy Rose Lee. With flair and style echoing that of its subject, Charles James brings to life one of the most fascinating and creative figures in American fashion.

"[A] magisterial monograph." Laura Jacobs, Wall Street Journal