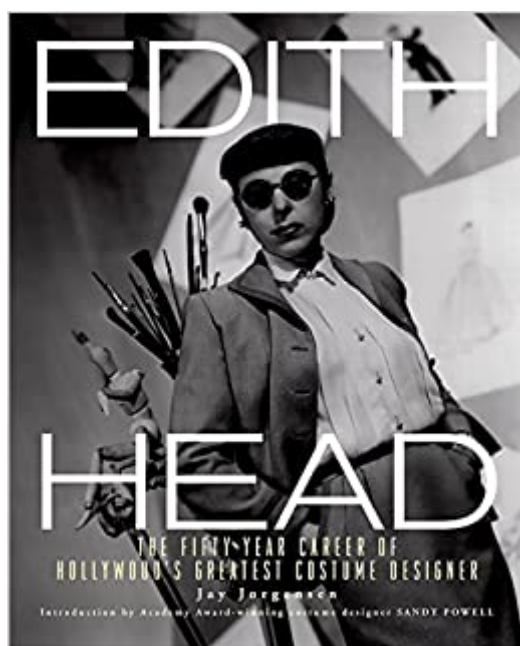


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# Edith Head: The Fifty-Year Career Of Hollywood's Greatest Costume Designer



## Synopsis

All About Eve. Funny Face. Sunset Blvd. Rear Window. Sabrina. A Place in the Sun. The Ten Commandments. Scores of iconic films of the last century had one thing in common: costume designer Edith Head (1897–1981). She racked up an unprecedented 35 Oscar nods and 400 film credits over the course of a fifty-year career. Never before has the account of Hollywood's most influential designer been so thoroughly revealed; because never before have the Edith Head Archives of the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences been tapped. This unprecedented access allows this book to be a one-of-a-kind survey, bringing together a spectacular collection of rare and never-before-seen sketches, costume test shots, behind-the-scenes photos, and ephemera.

## Book Information

Hardcover: 400 pages

Publisher: Running Press; First Edition edition (October 5, 2010)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0762438053

ISBN-13: 978-0762438051

Product Dimensions: 10.2 x 1.5 x 12.2 inches

Shipping Weight: 5.6 pounds (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.2 out of 5 stars 32 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #381,242 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #143 in Books > Arts & Photography > Fashion > Designers #198 in Books > Biographies & Memoirs > Regional U.S. > West #288 in Books > Arts & Photography > Fashion > History

## Customer Reviews

The Independent (UK), 10/4/10 "There's fierce, and there's Edith Head. The name to drop in the golden age of Hollywood, Head was wardrobe consultant on Rear Window and All About Eve, to name a couple of classics. This stunning new book chronicles her 50-year career with sketches and archive material." Harper's Bazaar, October 2010 "It's a must-have book for connoisseurs of fashion and film alike." • Donna Marie Smith, Palm Beach Cty. Lib. Syst., FL- Library Journal "Xpress Review 10/29/10 "The golden age of Hollywood sparkled with glamorous stars and extravagant cinematic productions. Costume designer Edith Head won five Oscars and epitomized "along with actors she clothed such as Barbara Stanwyck, Grace Kelly, and Audrey Hepburn" the star quality of these heady days. Jorgensen (editor, Peterson's Photographic

magazine) captures a behind-the-scenes look at the world and work of this dedicated, prolific artist. He includes background information and gorgeous color photographs and illustrations of the costumes she meticulously designed. While incorporating biographical information about Head, Jorgensen focuses primarily on the clothes, which perfectly personified the characters in films like *All About Eve*, *Roman Holiday*, and *Sunset Boulevard*. Verdict For fans of classic Hollywood movies and students of fashion, photography, and film. Those who want a more in-depth look at the personal life of this iconic Hollywood figure should read David Chierichetti's *Edith Head: The Life and Times of Hollywood's Celebrated Costume Designer*. BookPage, December 2010

â œâ |scrupulously researched and handsomely assembled workâ | Filled with pithy anecdotes and never-before-seen sketches, *Edith Head* is the book for the costume design enthusiast. Films in Review â œThe book is a treat. A spectacular repository of on-set pictures of Ms. Head at work, plus her costume designs, and even a recipe for Chicken and Potatoes Casa Ladera (her home in the 50s), we get a full-bodied picture of her career . . . fun . . . beautiful.â •Â Sight & Soundâ œThis spectacular one-of-a-kind book surveys Headâ™s work in words and pictures, bringing together rare, never-before-seen sketches, fabric samples, costume tests and behind-the-scenes photos from the Edith Head archives.â •Â Guardian â œ[Author Jay Jorgensenâ™s] pictures are a revelation. He has excellent images of Head's designs, at their best when based on character rather than dazzle.â •Â Rage Monthly â œ*Edith Head: The Fifty-Year Career of Hollywoodâ™s Greatest Costume Designer* is a beautifully done book. The flow of the chapters, the extensive photos comprised of stars and the costumes alone are quite remarkable and create a fascinating read for Hollywood fashion aficionados.â •Â

Jay Jorgensen is an editor for Peterson&#39;s Photographic magazine. He has written many celebrity profiles and his photography has been showcased in magazines such as *People* and *TV Guide*. He divides his time between Los Angeles and Palm Springs, California.

I'm still waiting for a book befitting the genius of Edith Head. Layout is bad, narrative is shallow (but does include important information) and printing is large, filling pages that should have images of her greatest achievements. There was no final proofreading so it is filled with typos. I appreciate the wealth of information but I think the entire book should be reworked. Don't believe the reviews from the fashion business, as it is a self-promoting industry with little substance. I know very little about the designs of Edith Head and I would like to learn. I love Edith Head's designs in *A Foreign Affair*, *The Heiress*, *Carrie*, *Witness for the Prosecution*, *The Lady Eve*, *Ball of Fire*, *Double Indemnity*,

Notorious, A Place in the Sun, Rear Window, Vertigo, Roman Holiday, To Catch a Thief, The Birds, Marnie, Sylvia, Sweet Charity, The Sting.

The woman behind all of Hitchcock's wardrobe. This woman is amazing. Such an eye for the female body. I wish she were alive today as I'd love to see what she would be creating for today's Hollywood Actresses. If you love Edith Head and 1950s Fashion as much as I do. This book is a must for your collection.

I received the item on time as indicated but was disappointed that the jacket cover is sort of a mess -- especially since I am giving this book as a gift to someone else. I'm surprised given that I paid the highest price on for the book that it now will appear to my family member that the book has been used when clearly I purchased a new copy.

I bought this for a friend who is a Hollywood officianato. She had a copy that someone stole from her, so I gave her this as a birthday gift. She is really happy with it.

Edith Head set the standard in Hollywood for costume Design. A fashion standard that rippled across everyday clothing. Edith dressed some of the worlds greatest movie stars. She set the standard for fashion today. she was a trend setter way before her time. If you want to know what it was like back in the golden age of Hollywood and want to understand fashion or if you are a clothing designer or are in the fashion industry, this is a must have book. This should be in your personal book collection so that when the people that run in your circle notice you know who Edith Head was, it will speak volumes about who you are.

Edith Head was the best designer in the movies. I actually met nearly all the stars she designed for and they looked great. Men and women. When I had to choose clothes for my first job hunt, I COPIED her ideas and got a great job.

This much-awaited volume on Miss Head is an absolutely beautiful volume. I waited years to have a colossal book on her costumes much more than more information on her life which is available in other volumes. While the book itself is a magnificent production, including the graphics, layout, photography and cover fabric, there are a few aspects that go wanting, but do not detract from anything but the highest recommendation. I find that the pictorial coverage is most stingy with her

designs for The Ten Commandments, even though the picture of Anne Baxter's elegant and stylized portrayal of Nefretiri is captured by the one and only photograph devoted to this motion picture. Of special note is that despite the computer and editorial staff, the text which is sufficient except again for The Ten Commandments, has numerous spelling, syntactical, and possibly typographical errors. While I think nobody can attest to any accuracy regarding her early years, nor certain facts regarding her most personal interior life, the text is informative, and not burdensome in presentation of her typical daily activities. It is to the point!! It is especially a noteworthy book because we are treated to photography that we have never seen in other books about this most highly-acclaimed and most sensitive artist. While one may find that she may have been highly protective of her billing and her Oscars, one understands that it was out of necessity, due both to her formative years and instinct to guard and protect her artistry. Had she not guarded her designs, one can only imagine that the system in which she worked could have concealed her rightful acknowledgements. I applaud both Edith Head for giving so many of us such magnificent pleasure over so many decades, and for the author and staff who made this book happen. Ray W. Clarke Cleveland & Palm Beach

This was a present to my teenage daughter and she loves it!! Here's what she says....Great pictures with plenty of her costume drawings. It's also got a lot of information on her life that I didn't know and covered more than just the basics that you see everyday.

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