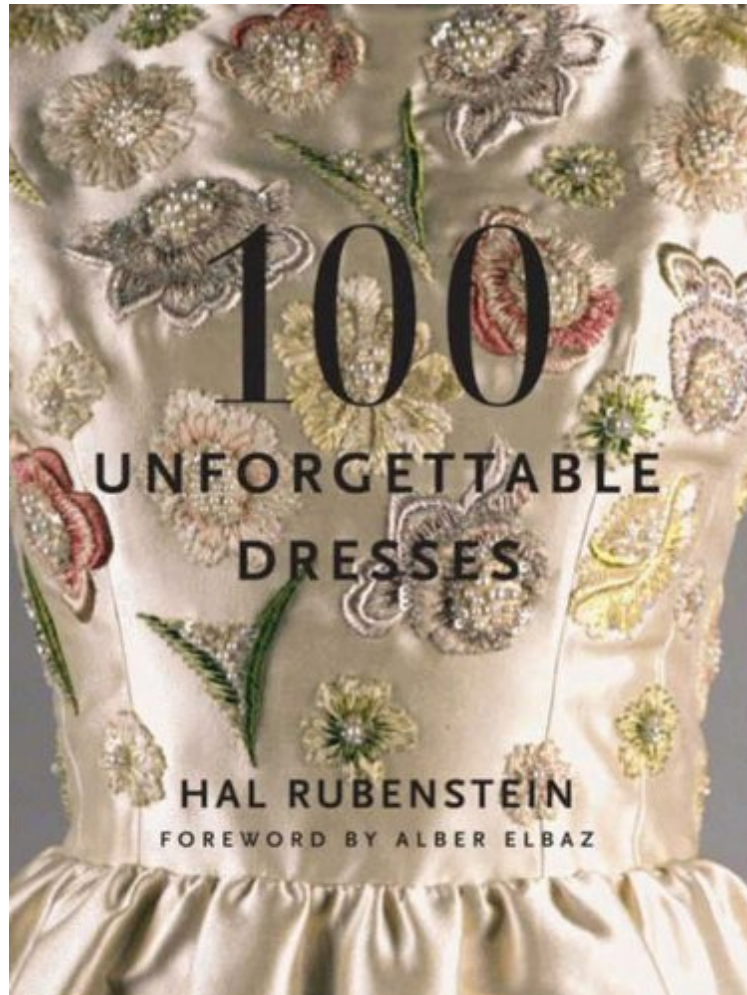


100 Unforgettable Dresses

Hal Rubenstein

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Hal Rubenstein : 100 Unforgettable Dresses before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised 100 Unforgettable Dresses:

73 of 74 people found the following review helpful. wonderful proseBy walkureI just purchased this through . I was initially wary of the title as I've been rather disappointed with most of the fashion-themed books published this year and for the last few years (and I've been buying fashion books for decades including anything with the word "couture" or "Vreeland" or "Yohji" or "Comme" in the title). However, it was a sheer joy to read from page 1 till the end; even the acknowledgements are so well-written. The author is witty, perceptive, sensitive to the ephemeral pleasure and excitement of fashion shows, alert to the technical details or innovations in a dress, fashion conscious (as opposed to some of the new titles written by bloggers or associate professors in design with no fashion passion and no references in the history of fashion) - there is delight in a superbly apt description of the dress and of that very moment when the dress made that impact. If you enjoyed the passion of Martin Gottfried in *Broadway Musicals* (1986), then you will

know what I'm referring to. All through, there are little known delicious tidbits associated with each dress; for example, the seams on Carolyn Bessette Kennedy's Narciso wedding dress (not a favourite dress of mine but that's not the point) and a wonderful little story about the cutting of the dress (which I cannot spoil for the next reader). One doesn't have to agree with all his choices but I was thrilled that he chose Anne Margaret's dress in the opening sequence of *Bye Bye Birdie*. The description of Carmen Kass walking in the Chanel *rtw* ostrich feathered dress is gorgeous. I'm probably overreacting (slightly) here but this is not fashion writing, this is prose. 16 of 16 people found the following review helpful. So disappointed By denelle m. manick I guess when i saw the 100 unforgettable dresses I was thinking from the 1800's to present day. I would say that 80% is 2000- to 2011. If those are the unforgettable dresses we're in a very sorry state in this country! 2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. 10 stars out of 5. By SR TI've had this book for three years now (I bought it March 7, 2012) and it is one of my favorite books. I've probably got 40/50 coffee table books that I've collected in three years. My collection is worth around \$2,000. And out of all of them, this is the one I visit the most. Partly because it's a lot smaller than the million pound books I have, and partly because it's just that great. It's an amazing reference. I'm seventeen, and my life is based around fashion. I know more than people who have been in the industry for decades. This book has taught me a lot. It has information that you can't find anywhere else. The descriptions of Carmen Kass' Chanel dress and Carolyn Bessette's wedding dress are absolutely mesmerizing. I will pull this book randomly just to read one page. I haven't read it cover to cover, because it's fun to go back and find dresses you haven't read about. Read this. Experience it.

100 Unforgettable Dresses is filled with the stories, secrets, intrigue, and insights behind the most indelible dresses in our collective memories. Featuring looks from the runway, film, television, the red carpet, and the worlds of royalty and politics, this book celebrates the staying power of these gorgeous, sleek, sultry, and outrageous creations as well as the lasting impact they've had in fashion, popular culture, and our own lives. More than two hundred images, a witty, informative text, and exclusive interviews with the designers and the women who wore the dresses reveal the initial spark and captivating drama behind the making of each dress. Also featured throughout are extensive anecdotes and observations about great style makers—Grace Kelly, Audrey Hepburn, Cher, Sarah Jessica Parker, Jacqueline Kennedy Onassis, and Cate Blanchett—highlighting the conception of their most spectacular looks and examining their lasting influence. Here is the tale of how a canny Gianni Versace helped an unknown Elizabeth Hurley become world famous overnight, thanks to the paparazzi frenzy whipped up by her red-carpet appearance in his now legendary safety-pin dress. Learn about the unique wedding gown Narciso Rodriguez designed exclusively for Caroline Bessette-Kennedy that inspired a whole new generation of brides. Go on the set of *Top Hat*, where Ginger Rogers's ostrich-feather-laden dress began to molt immediately upon arrival, its flying feathers bringing the film's production to a halt. Of course, the seminal work of exemplary designers—Yves Saint Laurent's Mondrian dress and Christian Lacroix's pouf, Chanel's little black dress and Valentin's infamous red ones, Diane von Furstenberg's iconic wrap and Marc Jacobs's grunge collection—is featured throughout, with plenty of inside information on what inspired the invention of each piece. With its wonderful anecdotes, fascinating facts, and just enough juicy gossip, 100 Unforgettable Dresses is a bewitching read for everyone who enjoys sensational clothes, movies, television, and music. Whether you're a fashion maven, a red-carpet addict, a celebrity tracker, or a pop-culture aficionado, you won't be able to put this book down!

"This book is a gallery of dressmaking magic. I feel as though I am looking at a very special family album, one that revels in the joy, happiness, and desire we inspire in others when we triumph in creating moments of memorable beauty." (Alber Elbaz) From the Back Cover 100 Unforgettable Dresses is filled with the stories, secrets, intrigue, and insights behind the most indelible dresses in our collective memories. Featuring looks from the runway, film, television, the red carpet, and the worlds of royalty and politics, this book celebrates the staying power of these gorgeous, sleek, sultry, and outrageous creations as well as the lasting impact they've had in fashion, popular culture, and our own lives. More than two hundred images, a witty, informative text, and exclusive interviews with the designers and the women who wore the dresses reveal the initial spark and captivating drama behind the making of each dress. Also featured throughout are extensive anecdotes and observations about great style makers—Grace Kelly, Audrey Hepburn, Cher, Sarah Jessica Parker, Jacqueline Kennedy Onassis, and Cate Blanchett—highlighting the conception of their most spectacular looks and examining their lasting influence. Here is the tale of how a canny Gianni Versace helped an unknown Elizabeth Hurley become world famous overnight, thanks to the paparazzi frenzy whipped up by her red-carpet appearance in his now legendary safety-pin dress. Learn about the unique wedding gown Narciso Rodriguez designed exclusively for Caroline Bessette-Kennedy that inspired a whole new generation of brides. Go on the set of *Top Hat*, where Ginger Rogers's ostrich-feather-laden dress began to molt immediately upon arrival, its flying feathers bringing the film's production to a halt. Of course, the seminal work of exemplary designers—Yves Saint Laurent's Mondrian dress and Christian Lacroix's pouf, Chanel's little black dress and Valentin's infamous red ones, Diane von Furstenberg's iconic wrap and Marc Jacobs's grunge collection—is featured throughout, with plenty of inside information on

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About the Author Hal Rubenstein is a writer, designer, and one of the founding editors at *InStyle* magazine, where he served as fashion director for fifteen years. In fall 2013, he launched his eponymous women's collection on the Home Shopping Network and formed Hal Rubenstein Associates, which has provided private consultation to brands such as Gabriel Co. jewelers, the Raleigh Hotel, Giorgio Armani, and American Express. In 2015, he launched his website, Halrubenstein.com, which focuses on popular culture and provides advice on leading a better life; and with model-designer Iman Abdulmajid he introduced a new style show on Sirius Radio. The author of *Paisley Goes with Nothing* and the bestselling *100 Unforgettable Dresses* (Harper Design, 2011), he is a special projects editor at *Architectural Digest*. He has also written cover stories and interviews, and served as a columnist on various pop-culture topics for *The New Yorker*, *New York* magazine, *Interview*, *Elle*, *Vogue*, *Vanity Fair*, and *Details*. He has been a frequent red-carpet commentator for such shows as *The Today Show*, *Extra*, and *The View*. He lives in New York City with his husband, David Nickle, and his dog, Murray.