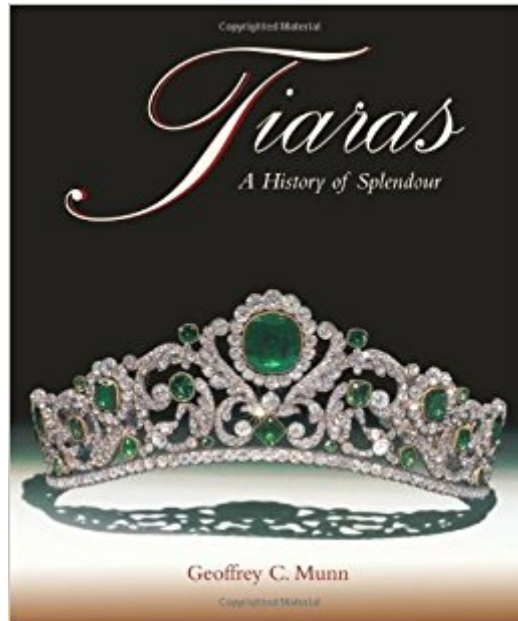




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Tiaras - A History Of Splendour



Synopsis

Tiaras have always inspired a great fascination and the most beautiful and influential women have been painted, photographed and admired whilst wearing them. Even in the twenty-first century they are still worn and continue to inspire special poise and elegance. This lavishly illustrated book includes new photographs of a variety of Royal tiaras together with those of French and Russian Imperial provenances. Geoffrey Munn has been granted special access to the photographic archives of many famous jewellers, including Cartier, Boucheron and Fabergé, for his research. Other makers include Castellani, Fouquet, Garrards, Giuliano, Lalique, and Tiffany. Among the contemporary pieces illustrated are tiaras belonging to Jamie Lee Curtis, Vivienne Westwood, Elton John and Madonna, made by Slim Barratt, Galliano and Versace.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

"...lavish and beautifully illustrated new study...[Geoffrey Munn's] text is perfectly balanced between sober art and historical chops (as when discussing three tiaras designed by Prince Albert for Queen Victoria) and giddy appreciation (discussing a tiara made for drag comedienne Dame Edna Everage" Publishers Weekly

Geoffrey Munn is the Managing Director of Wartski Ltd, a firm of antique dealers in London specialising in European precious metalwork. He is co-author of *Pre-Raphaelite to Arts and Crafts Jewellery* and author of both *Castellani and Giuliano - Revivalist Jewellers of the 19th Century* and *The Triumph of Love - Jewellery 1530-1930*. He is also the jewellery specialist on the BBC's *Antiques Roadshow*.

This book is absolutely the best book on tiaras available. Unfortunately, there are only three books in total that are specifically about tiaras. This one, Munn's other book *Tiaras Past and Present*, and Diana Scarsbrick's *Tiara*. All three are good books and resources on tiaras but this is definitely the most comprehensive and the largest. I think it weighs 5 pounds! It really is a wonderful read with lots of pictures but as others have noted, the pictures do not line up with the text and you will shuffle a bit. The historical tidbits were fascinating and it really is sad that this is a lost art. It's also very disappointing to find that so many famous tiaras have been converted into other items or sold at auction. Since tiaras are so eye-catching, most people used their very best jewels in them because they would be seen. These days there aren't many ruling monarchs or formal events where tiaras are required. The opening of Parliament in England and the Nobel Prize Ceremony are the only two. There are wonderful royal events, particularly with the Swedish and Danish royal families. Some of the newer princesses have had new tiaras designed for them but nowhere near on the scale that it used to be. Munn really conveys that there was a golden age of tiaras and that unfortunately that time has passed. If you're a Tiara Tuesday enthusiast, this is a valuable must have book. There are a lot of tiaras that you can find online for sale but trying to match the tiara to its owner can be quite an adventure! The photos in this book are clear and detailed so that you can figure out which tiara you have. Some of them are very famous, like Queen Elizabeth's Girls of Great Britain and Ireland tiara which she wears all the time. However, there are photos of Mary of Teck wearing the Teck Crescent tiara and no one has seen that in decades. So whether you're a tiara collector or a jewelry fan, this book is both a very satisfying read and a good visual reference.

Spectacular jewelry eye candy for those who admire precious gems and royal history. This book is packed with gorgeous photographs of tiaras in royal and private collections. In addition, Mr. Munn provides the fascinating back stories to these famous and not so famous tiaras. While most of us won't have the privilege of owning/wearing jewels of this caliber, this book brings the reader up close and personal with some fabulous gems.

This is an encyclopedic book. I enjoyed reading it and just reading through it. Make no mistake, this is a scholarly work as well as eye candy. The pictures are wonderful. You'll get closer than you ever could in real life to priceless tiaras from periods throughout history. The articles show you every detail of these wonderful creations. You'd have to work someplace like Garrard's to get any closer to the jewels. I think what I like best about the book is the fact that it isn't a "coffee table" book that just

leaves you longing for jewelry, but instead it gives you the history behind the pieces. U loved it and would buy for a friend.

A truly magnificent book which is also a pleasure to read. Could not recommend it enough.

I received this book as a gift and although it is pricey it is worth every penny. The number of photographs and drawings of the tiaras and the woman wearing them is astounding. This is the best eye candy (if you love tiaras)!!! The different tiaras and the stories that go with them are fastinating. The diamonds, rubies, pearls, and emeralds, not to mention the coral in the tiaras are simply lovely. I am really enjoying this book and would recommend it to any jewelry lover without hesitation.

Lovely book, it has always amazed me how royalty has the most beautiful jewelry. Of course most of it is owned by the State. I think Onassis was the last private person to purchase jewelry impressive pieces.

Oh my God! This is serious eye candy. The photos are huge and clearly detailed. The book is huge. You'll never get through just looking at all the pictures in one sitting. There's lots of good information about the tiaras, too. Considering that you can spend \$20 on a paperback with no photos, I would definitely advise you to spring for the \$47 for this huge book that has lots of colorful photographs of some of the most amazing jewels in the world. [...]

This book is fantastic. The photography is beautiful and the information is very informative. Have enjoyed very much.

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