

Art and fashion titles walk the runway

Well Turned Out

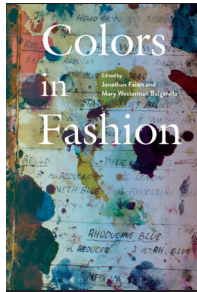
Anderson, Fiona. **Tweed.** Bloomsbury Pr. (Textiles That Changed the World). Dec. 2016. 232p. ed. by Linda Welters. illus. notes. bibliog. index. ISBN 9781845206963. \$114; pap. ISBN 9781845206970. \$34.95.

Young, Caroline & Ann Martin.

Tartan + Tweed. Frances Lincoln. Feb. 2017. 240p. illus. notes. bibliog. index. ISBN 9780711238220. \$35. DEC ARTS

Appealing to anyone exploring the language of fashion, *Tartan + Tweed*, from journalists Young and Martin, weaves the material history of these ubiquitous textiles, chronicling their enduring popularity and shifting cultural meanings in fluid prose and plentiful illustrations. Several previous books also delve into tartan's history and appearances in popular culture, notably Jeffrey Banks and Doria de la Chappelle's glamorous *Tartan: Romancing the Plaid*, and Jonathan Faiers's denser, more academic *Tartan*.

Independent curator Anderson's *Tweed* joins the same "Textiles That Changed the World" series as Faiers's 2008 title. Anderson's study brings new research to the history of tweed, expanding beyond Harris Tweed and upper-class Britain to a more global view. *Tweed* groans with endnotes, with mostly black-and-white illustrations and a textbook-like format. Books on tweed are generally fewer and less colorful than those on tartan. The most dynamic parts of both Young/Martin's and Anderson's wide-ranging volumes consider how fashion designers including Vivienne Westwood, Alexander McQueen, Ralph Lauren, and Coco Chanel employed and deployed traditional fabrics in serious and subversive ways. They further investigate the curious ability of these fabrics to sustain contradictory meanings. Also of note are *Tartan + Tweed's* guides to identifying types—herringbone to houndstooth, Black Watch to Stewart—with practical tips on buying a kilt and caring for a tweed suit. **VERDICT** Give *Tartan + Tweed* to your menswear-loving friends, and put *Tweed* on your fashion history course reserve.—Lindsay King, Yale Univ. Libs, New Haven, CT



★**Colors in Fashion.** Bloomsbury Pr. Nov. 2016. 256p. ed. by Jonathan Faiers & Mary Westerman. illus. notes. bibliog. index. ISBN 9781474273688. \$114; ebk. ISBN 9781474273718.

DEC ARTS

Why did the British suffragettes wear white? What color did Thailand's Queen Sirikit sport on Fridays? And why were dyed green carnations in the early

1800s so deadly? The role of color in the world of fashion, as readers will learn, is to inform, communicate, and even discriminate, as well as to illustrate political, economic, and sexual ideas. This book includes 16 of the best papers presented at the 2014 Costume Colloquium conference held in Florence, Italy, and they cover many shades of the rainbow to answer the questions above, as well as the meaning of black in postwar Paris, how fashion and color are used to show identity and belonging with the Yoruba in Nigeria, and how early colorized silent films employed high fashion to attract female viewers and blur the lines between upper- and lower-class forms of entertainment. **VERDICT** Readers of fashion, costume, and design, as well as anthropology, history, and art history will enjoy this accessible, fun title.—Melissa Aho, Univ. of Minnesota Bio-Medical Lib., Minneapolis

Corn, Wanda M. **Georgia O'Keeffe: Living Modern.** Prestel. Mar. 2017. 320p. illus. notes. index. ISBN 9783791356013. \$60. FINE ARTS

Georgia O'Keeffe (1887–1986) came of age as a young woman and an artist when the "functional simplicity" of the arts and crafts movement was in vogue and a woman's dress said something about her modernity. Art historian Corn (*Seeing Gertrude Stein*) considers O'Keeffe's influences but points to photos of the artist (eschewing the ribbons, bows, and puffed sleeves of her classmates) that indicate O'Keeffe's minimalist aesthetic formed early on. These qualities, as seen in the painter's dress, living quarters, and work are clearly

articulated and well documented in this generously illustrated book. Thirty years of photos of O'Keeffe by Alfred Stieglitz (and other photographers who came after) offer evidence of how little her style changed over the years, as do numerous images of the beautifully designed and exquisitely sewn garments she made for herself, commissioned and purchased, and preserved. While not immune to contemporary fashions, occasionally adapting new trends and regional wear to her wardrobe (more colors in the 1950s, Marimekko dresses in the 1960s, denim), O'Keeffe's signature style was one that fused "male with female and East with West." **VERDICT** A fascinating, holistic look at a 20th-century icon, superbly illustrated.—Daryl Grabarek, *School Library Journal*

★Engel, Allison & others. **ThriftStyle: The Ultimate Bargain Shopper's Guide to Smart Fashion.** Charlesbridge. Sept. 2017. 224p. photos. ISBN 9781623545024. \$15.99. DEC ARTS

This comprehensive guide is written in a friendly, approachable way, as if your cool aunts took you along to their favorite Salvation Army shop. It's much more than a thrift store junket, though.

All three authors are seasoned thrifters and have years of writing and TV experience (twins Allison and Margaret Engel collaborated on plays and the Food Network's *Food Finds*; TV producer Reise Moore has worked with A&E's *Biography* and for Animal Planet). Here they canvas 165 stores around the country and then stage a

"fashion shoot" using real people in all-thrifted ensembles (Roger Snider's photos are charming and plentiful). The book also features trips to the tailors, dry cleaners, reweavers, and sewists who help whip the bargain finds into shape—a nice touch to see the people behind the scenes. Throughout, the authors convey the joy of discovering designer pieces for pennies, and the chapters on defining your own style and developing your eye to find those hidden treasures among the racks are informative. An extensive resources



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