



## **Foale and Tuffin**

### **The Sixties. a Decade in Fashion**

**Iain Webb**

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- A vibrant portrait of two key British fashion designers of the 1960s, the scene that surrounded them, and the part they played in creating it
- In-depth interviews with Foale and Tuffin themselves, and contributions from major figures including Jean Shrimpton, Terence Conran, Barbara Hulanicki and Manolo Blahnik
- Stunning fashion images from David Bailey, Helmut Newton and others, along with unique material from the Foale and Tuffin archive

**Marion Foale and Sally Tuffin** were two bolshy girls who just did it. After meeting at Walthamstow Art School in 1955 and then studying together at the Royal College of Art, they embarked on a trailblazing career in fashion lasting throughout the 1960s, until their partnership came to an end in 1972. Quirky, youthful creativity, acute sensitivity to the latest moods and trends, expert craftsmanship, and a little Swinging Sixties good fortune placed them at the hub of the cultural explosion in London that defined the era. Their boutique off Carnaby Street was at the epicenter of the new fashion scene. Suddenly, David Bailey was photographing their outfits for Vogue, Cathy MacGowan was wearing them on Ready, Steady, Go!, and they were jetting around America as part of the groundbreaking Youthquake tour. Through detailed interviews with Foale and Tuffin themselves, exclusive access to their personal archives, and contributions from an extraordinary array of figures from the fashion, art and cultural scenes of the 1960s, 70s and beyond, Iain R. Webb builds a fascinating picture of the time, throwing new light on how fashion and business underwent a period of unprecedented change. It was a period of cross-pollination in art, music and fashion, of entrepreneurial and cultural innovation. Contributors include Manolo Blahnik, Sir Terence Conran, Felicity Green, Barbara Hulanicki, Catherine Milinaire, Janet Street Porter, Mary Quant and Jean Shrimpton. The narrative of the Foale and Tuffin story perfectly traces the decade from its groovy, optimistic beginnings, when the two embryonic fashion designers blithely set up shop in 1961, to its crash-and-burn finale, as Sixties sanguinity melted away into a hangover of Seventies cynicism, masked as it was with the distraction of fancy-dress escapism.

**Iain R. Webb** is an eminent fashion journalist, whose work appears in newspapers and magazines internationally. He is the author of *Bill Gibb: Fashion and Fantasy* (V&A Publishing, 2008).