



Understanding Jewellery: The 20th Century

David Bennett
Daniela Mascetti

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- An exciting new reference work on 20th century jewelry
- Provides a detailed history of jewelry design and development from 1900 to 2000
- Over 500 new, high quality, full color photographs
- The perfect gift for jewelry lovers, scholars and professionals

"Understanding Jewellery is a love letter to glorious pieces from the last hundred years." —**M. J. Rose, The Adventurine**"

"An enjoyably scholarly romp through the past and a feast for the eyes for the novice and the consummate jewelry fan and collector." —**Beth Bernstein, Forbes**

"A must-have coffee table book for jewellery aficionados..." —**Elisa Vallata, Departures International**

"As with stocks, education is the way to begin. There are many excellent books on the jewelry market, but start with Understanding Jewellery, the industry bible by two former Sotheby's jewelry executives, David Bennett and Daniela Mascetti." —**Bloomberg**

"Speaking of classic books, one that I recommend to friends who want a readable, educational and beautifully illustrated book about antique and vintage jewelry is Understanding Jewellery, by David Bennett and Daniela Mascetti..." — **Instore**

Understanding Jewellery, by authors David Bennett and Daniela Mascetti, is often described as the must-have jewelry book of our time – a 'Bible' in the jewelry trade. First published in 1989, it has remained in print ever since, amassing a loyal following of devotees who admire its detailed information and stunning imagery.

In this new work, Bennett and Mascetti have taken the original concept of *Understanding Jewellery* a stage further. Now, with the benefit of 20 years of hindsight, they have concentrated on the 20th century alone by conducting a detailed survey of each decade, identifying the key players, trends and movements. The book is an encyclopaedic history of the various forms, techniques and materials employed by the companies and individuals who defined jewelry in the 20th century.

Most significantly, this book includes a new set of photographs, which make **Understanding Jewellery: The Twentieth Century** one of the most dazzling, absorbing and varied collections of jewelry images ever assembled in a book. This large format hardback volume is a perfect gift for all lovers of jewellery and the definitive guide for those who desire a deeper understanding of the subject.

Regarded internationally as a leading authority in the field of precious stones and jewelry, **David Bennett** spent 42 years in the role of Worldwide Chairman of Sotheby's jewelry division, a post he held until 2020. During his prestigious career, David sold three of the five most-expensive jewels in auction history, as well as seven 100-carat diamonds, earning him the nickname the '100-carat man'. David has also presided over many legendary, record-breaking auctions, such as the Jewels of the Duchess of Windsor (1987), The Princely Collections of Thurn und Taxis (1992) and Royal Jewels from the Bourbon-Parma Family (2018).

Daniela Mascetti is one of the jewelry world's most experienced scholars specializing in the history of jewelry. Daniela joined Sotheby's in 1980, opening the firm's jewelry department in Milan shortly afterwards. Following a distinguished career of 40 years at Sotheby's, she was appointed Jewellery Chairman of Europe, a position she retained until 2020. Highlights from Daniela's distinguished career include research for the sales of historic collections such as the Jewels of the Duchess of Windsor (1987), The Princely Collections of Thurn und Taxis (1992), Elton John, Maria Callas and Gina Lollobrigida.

