

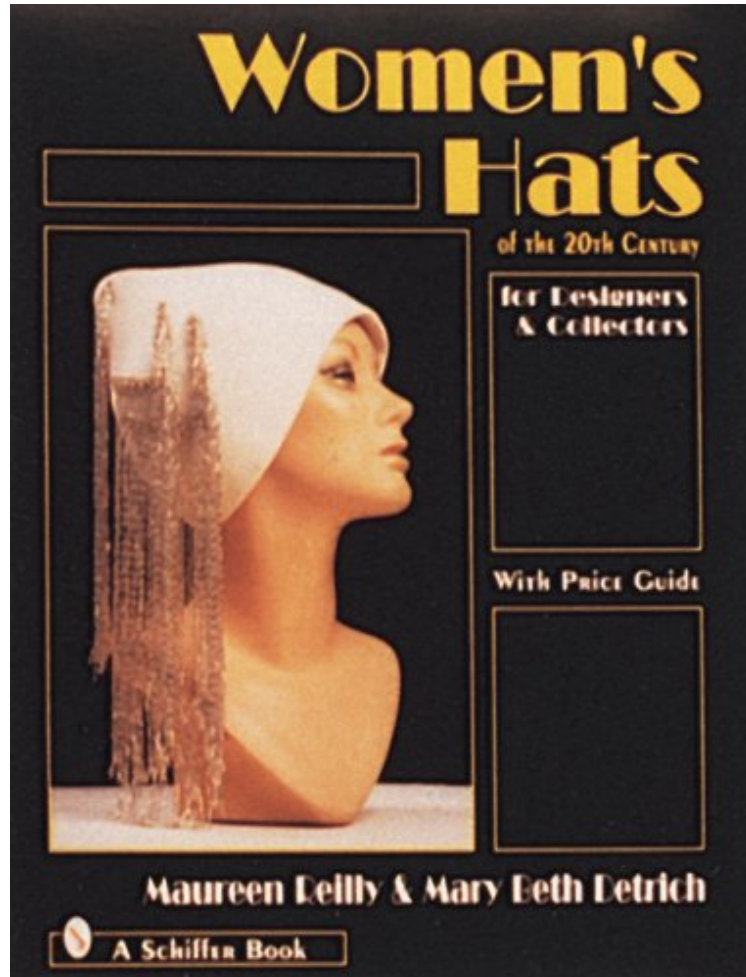
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Maureen Reilly

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[Get free] Women's Hats of the 20th Century: For Designers and Collectors

## Women's Hats of the 20th Century: For Designers and Collectors

**Maureen Reilly : Women's Hats of the 20th Century: For Designers and Collectors** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Women's Hats of the 20th Century: For Designers and Collectors:

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Bad Photos and Poor Organization Mar This BookBy Wendy WhippleWhile this book has some really terrific and interesting historical information about hats and hatmaking, in many ways it really falls short of its stated goal of being "for designers and collectors." The photography and styling of the photographs are absolutely abysmal. Many of the photos are underexposed and poorly lit, others are on backgrounds that obscure the details of the hat or produce a photo that makes the whole thing look monochromatic. In one case, a hat with a black crown is photographed against a black background, making the crown disappear almost entirely! In another, a purple hat is taken on a pink background, on a purple/pink mannequin. Some of the backgrounds are so busy, it's hard to focus on the details of the hat. The authors, Reilly and Detrich, take credit for the photo styling,

so I assume they know nothing about photography, but the photographer (John Klycinsky) certainly should have known better! The best way to take product photos (because that's what these are), is on a neutral grey background, so you don't under/over expose the product, or do weird things to the colors of the product. Period. Yes, yes, that pink background is very pretty, but you're not taking a portrait of the mannequin, you're taking a photo of that hat! They're not all bad, but the ones that are bad are quite bad, and considering that's what this book is \*for\* that's a pretty huge flaw. Another gripe for me is the chapter separation is really not very clear. The hats they feature (and price) are separated by era, beginning with Victorian Innovations, in spite of the fact that this is a book of 20th Century hats. From there, it's broken down into The Edwardians (1901-1918), Modern Times (1919-'34), The Glory Days (1935-'46), The New Look (1947-'59), End of an Era (1960-'75). Some of the pages have odd subtitles (such as "Act One") in a larger typeface than the actual chapter title, completely unnecessary and in most cases add absolutely nothing to the page at all. It's almost as if someone (an editor, one of the authors?) was offended by too much blank space on the page and needed to fill it with something. How about useful information, like a date on the hat you're pricing (more on that below), or a year span at the top of each page? As a price guide, this book is really not terribly useful, because there are photos of hats throughout with prices attached to them (most undated). Flip to any random page in the book, p141 for instance, and you'll find a hat that will have a price and perhaps a label. Year? Don't know. What chapter is it? Don't know, not anywhere on the page (141 falls in the "Glory Days" section, FYI). You'll have to hunt for the front of the chapter, or flip back to the front of the book for the Table of Contents for that chapter's page span. The index is approximately useless. "Please note that we have listed at least a few hat styles for each of the major designers, although this index does not exhaust every style\label pictured in the book." The book was published in 1997. There were computers in 1997 that would do indices for you. The fact that their index is not exhaustive is just lazy. A reference book needs an index! The information about the designers, American and French, was very interesting. I wish there was more to it, actually. The labels to look for as a collector, valuable. Having some photos of those labels might have been helpful, as well. The glossary was far too cursory, but I suppose if you're a hat person, you probably don't need one... on the other hand, if you're just getting started, it's simply not in-depth enough. It probably sounds as though I hate this book. I don't. I am horribly disappointed in it. I make hats. I'm a photographer. I was hoping to find inspiration for future projects on the pages, and what I found instead were a lot of poor decisions on the part of either the photographer, the authors, or both. Additionally, the price guide part of the book is so badly organized as to be totally useless. If you were to find a hat, and wanted to try and figure out what it might be worth, as a collector, it would take endless searching in this book to locate one similar to it, assuming you could at all. I had high hopes for this book, and they absolutely were not met. That said, the historical information is interesting, the hats featured are varied and in some cases spectacular, but it really is a shame they weren't photographed better. Better off getting this one from the library, or very inexpensively used. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Excellent book! A true millinery reference guide for designers ... By MissV Excellent book! A true millinery reference guide for designers and collectors alike. Lots of useful information on vintage millinery, pricing, where to purchase, construction and what to look for. Many design inspirations for hat designers. Worth the purchase. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Inspiring book By Hugo Vandendries Nice overview with a lot of clear pictures although the most of the hats are presented on artificial heads. I miss photographs of real persons. The lay out of the book seems to me a bit old fashioned. Nevertheless this book is a collectors item and a source of inspiration for everyone who loves hats.

Hats represent an art form that is opening up new vistas for the vintage clothing collector. For the authors hats are a visual treat, and they have crafted a book that is chuck-full of some of the sweetest you'll ever see. This carefully researched book profiles important American and European milliners, and lists the most desirable designer and salon labels. It offers special sections with tips on dating, valuation, and storing and decoration. 500 vivid photos are beautifully styled and enhanced by lively and informative captions. Many period advertisements and illustrations from popular magazines depict the styles and moods of the times.

From Library Journal Only a few decades ago, a woman would not be well dressed without a becoming hat to complement her costume. Here, antiques dealers and hat collectors Reilly and Detrich share their enthusiasm for women's hats while tracing the history of this fashion item from the turn of the century until 1975. With over 665 examples displayed on dummies and photographed in full color, their book testifies to the almost infinite variety of hat designs available to American women over the years. After briefly profiling ten American and seven French milliners, the authors provide a long list of "labels to look for," highlighting hats that vintage-clothing enthusiasts are likely to discover at antique shows, flea markets, and vintage clothing stores. They also explain how hats are made, how to date old hats (admittedly difficult, but their advice should help), how to determine purchase price, and how to care for, store, and display these treasures. The book evokes a feeling of nostalgia and likely will inspire designers and collectors. Recommended. ? Therese Duzinkiewicz Baker, Western Kentucky Univ. Libs., Bowling Green Copyright 1997 Reed Business Information, Inc. About the Author Maureen Reilly and Mary Beth Detrich are vintage clothing

collectors and buffs in Sacramento, California.