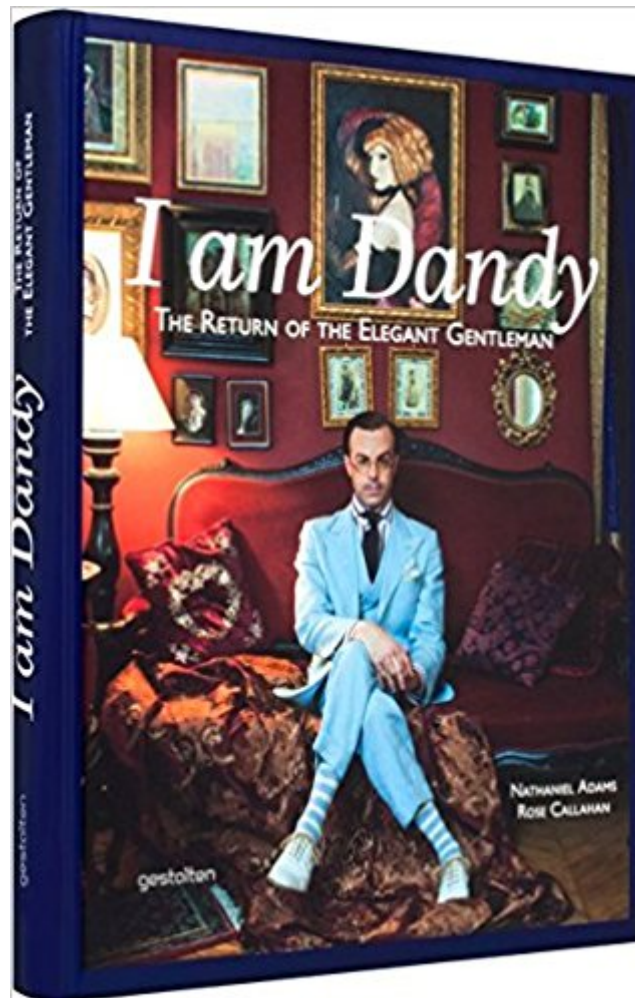




The book was found

I Am Dandy: The Return Of The Elegant Gentleman



Synopsis

The dandy is back! Gone are the days of arbitrary fashion, casual sportswear, and slick metrosexuals. Today, more men are discovering dandyism and giving it their own contemporary look. Even today, men who devote themselves to the finer things in life – especially when it comes to fashion – mostly arouse suspicion. Vanity is frowned upon and lavish grooming is generally deemed superficial or unmanly. Fortunately, a small but tenacious movement has been defying these social dictates for more than 200 years. Its adherents indulge in their love of quality clothing and accessories not only privately, but also very publicly. Photographer Rose Callahan and writer Nathaniel Adams have spent years exploring the fascinating phenomenon of dandyism. They visit contemporary dandies in their homes to document their impeccably designed lives in both words and images. Well-kempt to the tips of their beards and wearing three-piece suits with flawlessly folded pocket handkerchiefs and supple kid gloves, their protagonists revive the charm of the past and reveal that cultivated idleness can be incredibly hard work. These gallant beaux first came on the scene in eighteenth-century London and Paris, where they supported the livelihoods of many a local tailor. Today's dandies continue to propagate a look characterized by trimmed beards, pomade, velvet slippers, and even a touch of make-up as a shield to mask the darker sides of life. Yet in their carefully composed portraits, Callahan and Adams reveal the cracks in this façade. They describe the sacrifices that many fulltime dandies need to make while pursuing their personal aesthetic ideals. A refuge for eccentrics, dandyism has seen a revival in the Anglo-American realm over the last several years. For example, today's distinguished gentlemen can ride their vintage bikes around London during the tweed Run to show off their authentic outfits or attend the Jazz Age Lawn Party on New York City's Governor's Island to bring the era of the Great Gatsby back to life, if only for a few hours. Now, the phenomenon is again going more international. Known for their Dandy Portraits, the spiffy duo of Callahan and Adams approaches their topic – and their protagonists – with a keen, yet empathic eye. In this book, they successfully capture the styles, attitudes, and philosophies of contemporary dandyism in all its nuances.

Book Information

Hardcover: 256 pages

Publisher: Gestalten (September 13, 2013)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 3899554841

ISBN-13: 978-3899554847

Product Dimensions: 1.2 x 9.8 x 12 inches

Shipping Weight: 3.7 pounds (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.3 out of 5 stars 34 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #689,792 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #64 in Books > Health, Fitness & Dieting > Beauty, Grooming, & Style > Men's Grooming & Style #172 in Books > Arts & Photography > Photography & Video > Lifestyle & Events > Lifestyle #335 in Books > Arts & Photography > Fashion > Fashion Photography

Customer Reviews

"This is a beautifully rich and magnetic book that will be perused time and time again by those interested in the world's most rakish gentlemen." —Gentleman's Gazette

The dandy is back! Gone are the days of arbitrary fashion, casual sportswear, and slick metrosexuals. Today, more men are discovering dandyism and giving it their own contemporary look.

I pre-ordered this book as soon as I heard about it! I am glad that it is largely pictorial and more on personality. Too many "dandy" guides focus on only cut and clothing. That said, this book is a compilation of vignettes of modern men purporting to be dandies. Some are more in the spirit of the 19th century dandy, frequenting Savile Row to buy their suits and interested in tailoring and traditional menswear. Others push the definition of the dandy to the extreme, bordering on camp and pop culture cosplay, a Japanese "English" portmanteau of "costume play." These dandies are theatrically eccentric. But are they dandies? This book goes to show that the definition of "dandyism" depends on the dandy in question. Some dandies consider their clothing as a part of self-presentation while others regard their clothing as part of playing dress-up, complete with posturing and artifice. The dandy is as much clothing as the lifestyle and attitude. It's fun to see each man in his own expression of dandyism which, even in its 19th century roots, is an expression of the individual. If one wants a scholarly history of the dandy, one can read Ellen Moers' classic inquiry from 1960 or the modern updated analysis by Nigel Rodgers from 2012. "I Am Dandy," has funny and pretty pictures.

A really enjoyable book if you are interested in style and the past.

A beautiful coffee table book. Each page is a delightful surprise, beginning with the (spoiler alert!) fuchsia inside-cover. I love that the book is divided by its dandy characters: Each section is a short-story unto itself, worlds with their own histories, supporting characters and inspirations. The photographs offer a glimpse into these worlds, the dandies in their own element--surrounded by details like housecoat pockets, buttons and bookshelves. This book is both wonderful to read and have on display. I have the added bonus of having this book signed by the photographer!

The text is drivel. The photos and the subjects are, on the whole mundane. What a disappointment .

This book is fun, educational and enjoyable. I bought it for a friend who loves clothes and he bought 4 copies for his friends!

Well produced and beautifully photographed, this book helps define the 'New Dandy " movement that has been spawned and supported by the various I-gent fora online. A wide range of approaches, from the relative conservatism of G. Bruce Boyer to more extreme ways of dressing. For those who love clothing, or anyone interested in popular culture..this one is a gem!

I really enjoyed leafing through this book. Beautifully produced and gave a great insight to the fashion sense of some real Dandys.

Like its subject, "I am Dandy: The return of the elegant gentleman" is both classic and timely, intriguing and, let's admit it, inspiring to those of us who are less, shall we say, refined. The book is also, appropriately, beautiful.

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