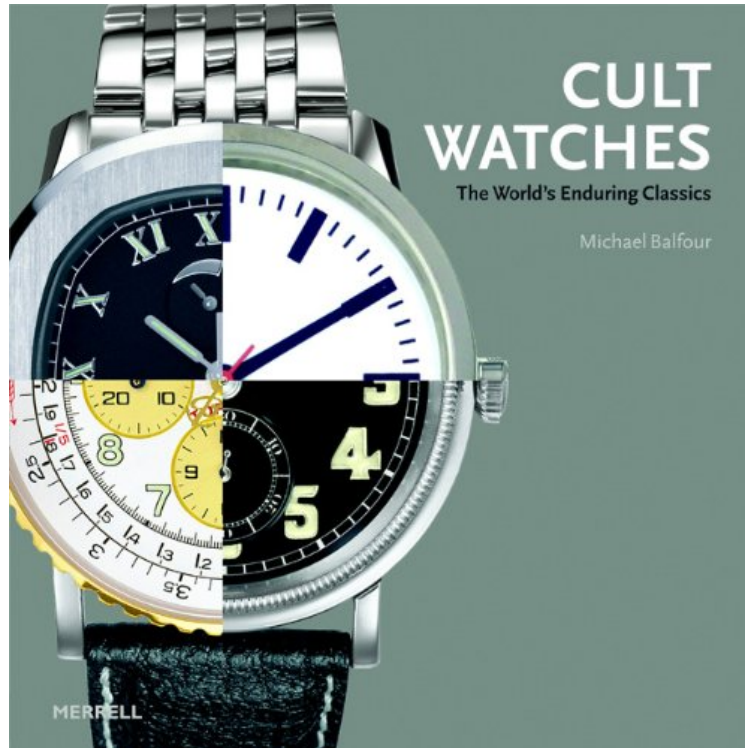


Cult Watches: The World's Enduring Classics

Michael Balfour

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Michael Balfour : Cult Watches: The World's Enduring Classics before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Cult Watches: The World's Enduring Classics:

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Five Stars By Jimmy D. Hackett Book was in great shape and was what I was hoping for - lots of pictures. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Very honest book By Diogo It's a nice book, with great references of the history of these beautiful watches. Very instructive, with amazing pictures!!! Nice buy!!! 7 of 7 people found the following review helpful. up-to-date review and commentary of high-value collectible watches By Henry Berry Balfour highlights 30 of the world's leading watches with half a dozen or so color photographs so clear details of the watch faces can be seen and with essays on each watch's history and individuals who have played a role in its becoming a leading watch. "Leading" means watches which are expensive, but which also stand out for their design and craftsmanship and are desired by wealthy individuals around the world who have an appreciation for high quality and modern fashion design. Balfour is a prominent observer of the field of leading watches who besides doing frequent lectures and broadcasts, has written for GQ and Newsweek International. He is also the main watch-industry correspondent for the Financial Times. In addition to highlighting the 30 watches, the handsome book contains considerable secondary material of interest to collectors at all levels; including newcomers to this glamorous field involving auctions and investment purchases as well as retail sales. In the Introduction, Balfour cites several watchmakers such as Alain Silberstein who necessarily, but regrettably were left out of the limit of 30 watches. While not receiving the full treatment of the highlighted watches, worthwhile information is given on these (i. e., they are not simply mentioned). In the section "Collecting and investing" of the

Introduction, Balfour describes categories of watches such as sports watches, military watches, and car watches. Of an appearance and production quality of a coffee-table art or fashion book, "Cult Watches" has enough basic and authoritative content to be a primer and reference as well. Some of the watchmakers are household names; while others are recondite to all but the most active and experienced collectors. Cartier, Rolex, and Bulova are known by most. Breguer, Girard-Perregaux, Jaeger-LeCoultre, and Tissot are not generally familiar. Balfour gives all of the chosen 30 watches, familiar or unfamiliar, equal treatment on the basis of his expertise and enthusiasm for this popular fashion field. Anyone attracted to it will enjoy and learn from the book.

Wristwatches are 'micromarvels' of engineering that attract the attention of collectors, investors and regular wearers alike. "Cult Watches" is a lavishly illustrated account of the world's most popular classic timepieces - the top 30 that have achieved cult status, from the Rolex Cosmograph Daytona and Cartier Tank to Ingersoll Mickey Mouse watches and the 'quartz revolution' Swatches. Watch-industry expert Michael Balfour introduces the great horological innovators and their legacies, and adds historical asides that enhance our understanding of both their contexts and their enduring attractions. Future contenders for the status of cult watch are not forgotten, with the result that this book features hundreds of watches in words and pictures. This is the first book to portray the wristwatches with the most dedicated following. Each model and its brand is profusely illustrated with a fascinating variety of both historical and contemporary images, for ready reference. This is a beautifully produced book that will appeal to watch enthusiasts, collectors and investors worldwide.

Beautifully produced and authoritatively written - BLACKMORE VALE MAGAZINE Lavishly illustrated - EUROPA STAR Beautifully illustrated ... Great for watch enthusiasts, collectors and investors - CONNOISSEUR WITH AA GILL Filled with delicious trivia, solid history and a great understanding of what makes a watch something out of the ordinary - the book is a delight - QP MAGAZINE About the Author Michael Balfour is a leading commentator on the world watch industry, and broadcasts and lectures on the subject. He regularly writes for many international watch journals, and is the principal watch-industry correspondent for the Financial Times.