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ROYAL JEWELS

FROM CHARLEMAGNE TO THE ROMANOVS

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Royal Jewels: From Charlemagne to the Romanovs

From Brand: Vendome Press : Royal Jewels: From Charlemagne to the Romanovs before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Royal Jewels: From Charlemagne to the Romanovs:

14 of 14 people found the following review helpful. A jewel in itself By James M. Richardson This book is very well written and researched, I might even say exhaustively researched. Whether just looking at the myriad of photos or reading the informative text the book gives insight into the world of royal jewels. It's focus is on northern Europe branching out to include Russia and Greece. The photos of the jewels are clear and large enough to be studied at length. From a jeweler's point of view I'd like to see more backs and insides of jewelry to understand the construction but it's the rare book that goes that in depth. The writing is easy to read and not bound up in the formalized art speak that renders some jewelry history books indecipherable. Although the product of different authors it reads as a cohesive whole and will no doubt provide hours of enlightenment for both the serious student and someone who just likes to look at stunning jewelry photos. Woven into the text are stories of the jewels and the wearers along with royal portraits showing them in context. While not a must have in the collection of jewelry books, it brings with it a certain panache, welcome in any collection, much like that tiara that you only wear on certain occasions. 4 of 4 people found the following review helpful. Could have been better. By B. Weaves While the photos of the jewelry are wonderful, up

close and in color, I was still a bit disappointed in this book. The choices of jewelry seem a bit random. In some cases, the item photographed is not the one being described. Items are also described that are not photographed; such as an entire parure might be described, but only one item shown. It's nice that there are a few pictures of people wearing items, but sometimes those items aren't shown either. And some of the people in the photographs are not mentioned in captions, so you're not entirely sure who they are as several people may be mentioned in the accompanying text. Still, if you have every tiara book out there, this has a few I haven't seen before. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Very Comprehensive By Ronald K. Anderson This text covers essentially all the Royal Houses. It has great information about both the families and the regalia. Highly recommended reference.

A spectacular celebration of European jewels, from Charlemagne to Louis XIV to Catherine the Great. For centuries, the wealth, power, and prestige of European monarchies was concentrated in the jewels that hung from their necks, decorated their clothing, and dripped from their fingers often into the waiting hands of favorite courtiers. From the weighty, gem-encrusted gold crowns of medieval kings to glittering diamond tiaras of Belle Epoque princesses, *Royal Jewels* shows the exquisite range of gems worn by Europe's fabled monarchs. These are the dazzling remains of a lost era when gems were powerful tools in the game of royal politics, and when the gift of jewelry bestowed far more than wealth on the recipient. Gems expressed court favor, strengthened international ties, and embodied the power of kings long dead and conquerors in the making. With over 300 exquisite photographs and edited by a distinguished group of experts, *Royal Jewels* is an incomparable examination of an incredible art.

About the Author Diana Scarisbrick is a well-known jewelry historian, author, and curator. Christophe Vachaud, an author and curator, specializes in royal European jewel collections. Jan Walgrave, Honorary Director of the Museum of the Diamant in Antwerp, is a jewelry curator and author.