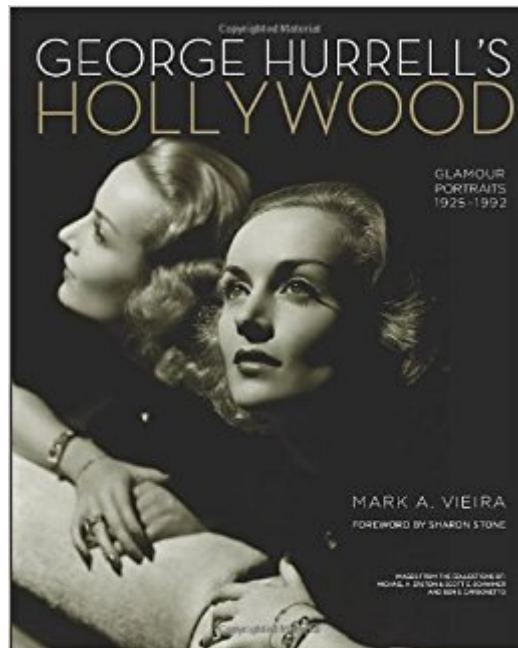


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# George Hurrell's Hollywood: Glamour Portraits 1925-1992



## Synopsis

George Hurrell (1904–1992) was the creator of the Hollywood glamour portrait, the maverick artist who captured movie stars of the most exalted era in Hollywood history with bold contrast and seductive poses. This lavishly illustrated book spans Hurrell's entire career, from his beginnings as a society photographer to his finale as the celebrity photographer who was himself a celebrity, and a living legend. From 1929 to 1944 Hurrell was the "Rembrandt of Hollywood," creating portraits of Marlene Dietrich, Norma Shearer, Bette Davis, Carole Lombard, and Joan Crawford that were a blend of the ethereal and the erotic. His photos of Jane Russell sulking in a haystack made the unknown girl a star without a film credit to her name. He immortalized leading male stars of the day from the Barrymores to Clark Gable and Gary Cooper. Later photo shoots magnified the glamour of the likes of Warren Beatty and Sharon Stone. Through newly acquired photos and in-depth research, photographer and historian Mark A. Vieira, author of Hurrell's Hollywood Portraits, offers not only a wealth of new images but a compelling sequel to the story presented in his earlier book on Hurrell. Hurrell was himself a star—rich, famous, successful. Then, at the height of his career, he suffered a vertiginous fall from grace. George Hurrell's Hollywood recounts, for the first time anywhere, Hurrell's rise from the ashes—how movie-still collectors and art dealers pulled the elderly artist into a nefarious world of theft and fraud; how his undiminished powers gave him a second career; and how his mercurial nature nearly destroyed it. The photographs that motivate this tale are luminous, powerful, and timeless. This book showcases more than four hundred, most of which have not been published since they were created. George Hurrell's Hollywood is the ultimate work on this trailblazing artist, a fabulous montage of fact and anecdote, light and shadow.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

I have been a major Hollywood glamor collector since I was 11 years old and have all of our favorite movie picture books (A World of Movies, Image Makers, Four fabulous Faces, Grand Illusions), etc. NONE of them can compare to 'George Hurrell's Hollwywood', not even the book of his work that he was personally involved in. This book is not only a book, but an "experience."The photography quality is so crystal clear and so beautiful, it is often startling. The tones are breath taking in their perfection. There are close to 400 pages of photos of most every name you can imagine, especially the greats. I have seen a lot in my time (I used to work at a major movie memorabilia store for 4 years) and many of these photos I have never seen before. Staggeringly beautiful shots of Crawford can be found throughout (lots of her in here!), as well as Harlow (more of her is included than you are used to seeing from her Hurrell sessions), as well as very rare Mae West's showing that in fact she really was a beauty, and lots of Norma Shearer and Garbo. One shot of Robert Taylor (page 311) is so lifelike it is as if he's there in person, looking at you. Had the image been any larger than 4X6 I might felt compelled to get up and at LEAST put on a bath robe! Then...there is the text. Wow. Not the usual brief descriptions or captions as seen in other books, but true and fascinating behind-the-scenes stories of many of the famous photo shoots. We learn all KINDS of interesting things about the old stars and how certain beloved photographs came to be; the music played during the shoots, the quirks, difficulties, lighting techniques, etc. Some anecdotes are very funny.

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