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A Token of Elegance: Cigarette Holders in Vogue

Martin Barnes Lorber, Rebecca McNamara, Carolyn Hsu-Balcer : A Token of Elegance: Cigarette Holders in Vogue before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised A Token of Elegance: Cigarette Holders in Vogue:

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At once an important social history of tobacco and smoking and a beautiful coffee table book, A Token of Elegance is ideal for art and design historians, history students, museum professionals, and collectorsOf great interest to jewelry

historians as many cigarette holders were made for their international clientele by the major jewelry firms and this is the first book where so many cigarette holders are catalogued and photographed

Through eye-catching new photography, readers will view not only the first cigarette holder ever made (in 1875) but also exquisite examples made by leading international jewelers *A TOKEN OF ELEGANCE: Cigarette Holders in Vogue* is essential reading as well as an ideal illustrated book to give this holiday season. (ArtFix Daily, October 8, 2015) Cigarette holders, while utilitarian in purpose, are often works of art, objects of beauty and even tools for communication according to this unprecedented look at these diminutive objects through approximately 135 pieces from the Hsu-Balcer collection. This lavishly illustrated book reveals for the first time the social history of tobacco combined with a design history of its accessories. (The Journal of Antiques and Collectibles) Two of the year's standout books about niche collections delve into antiques that protected smokers' hands from heat, smells and stains. (The New York Times) A social history and an illustrated catalog of rare examples of design, this is a beautiful and fanciful book that is a treat in the eyes for anyone interested in the place where art, design and function come together to form a perfect product. (Antiques and The Arts Weekly) This is truly an elegant book full of smokeless enjoyment. (Maine Antique Digest) Written by Martin Barnes Lorber and Rebecca McNamara, the finished product is a coffee table-style volume that includes stunning photography by John Bigelow Taylor and Dianne Dubler. (Barbara Miller Beem Antique Week, January 11, 2016) About the Author Martin Barnes Lorber has had a distinguished decades-long career in the fine arts. He was the founder and head of the Japanese Department that included the arts of Korea, Southeast Asia, South Asia and the Himalayas at Sotheby's New York. He is the principal American Contributor to the Asian Art Newspaper, London. Rebecca McNamara earned her Master's in the History of Decorative Arts and Design from Parsons the New School for Design/Cooper Hewitt Smithsonian Design Museum in 2014. She is a writer and editor on arts and design and burgeoning museum professional, having worked in the curatorial departments of the Cooper Hewitt Smithsonian Design Museum and the Indianapolis Museum of Art. John Bigelow Taylor and Dianne Dubler are New York-based, still-life photographers, specializing in architecture, works of art, antiquities and jewelry. Working with the world's foremost collectors, museums and publishers, they have created the photography for over 200 books. Currently, they are producing bespoke, limited edition books on estates and collections for private clients around the world. Carolyn Hsu-Balcer is a designer, philanthropist and art collector based in Los Angeles and New York. She has organized ground-breaking art exhibits including Xu Bing Tobacco Project (VMFA), "Light Before Dawn" (Asia Society Hong Kong), "Blooming in the Shadows" (China Institute), and "Oil and Water" (MOCA NY).