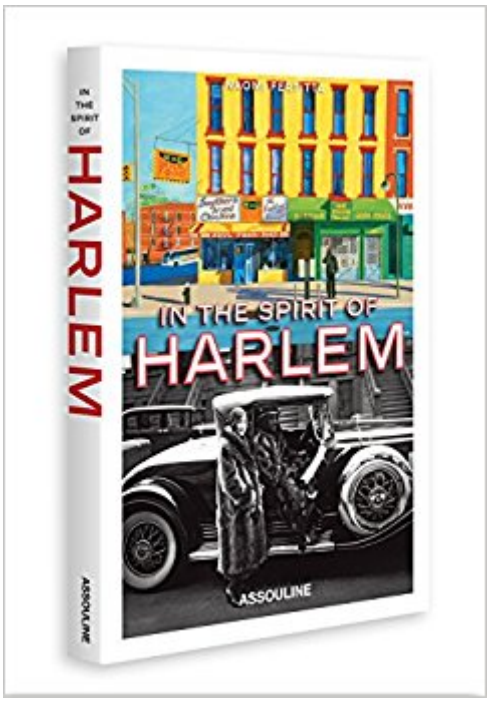
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In The Spirit Of Harlem (Icons)



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Synopsis

With its incredible history, cultural richness, musical heritage, and renowned cuisine, Harlem is undoubtedly one of the most intoxicating New York City communities. In this beautifully illustrated volume, author Naomi Fertitta takes readers on both a written and visual journey to pious churches, landmark architecture, sparkling clubs, vibrant theaters, and bustling restaurants. For native New Yorkers and visitors alike, In the Spirit of Harlem paints a colorful picture of one of AmericaÃ¢â ¬â„¢s most fascinating neighborhoods. The book includes a foreword by chef Marcus Samuelsson and a directory comprising FertittaÃ¢â ¬â„¢s recommendations.

Book Information

Series: Icons

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Average Customer Review: 3.8 out of 5 stars 5 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #218,700 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #93 inÃ Â Books > Arts & Photography > History & Criticism > Themes > Landscapes & Seascapes #562 inÃ Â Books > Humor & Entertainment > Pop Culture > Art #1454 inÃ Â Books > Arts & Photography > History & Criticism > History

Customer Reviews

Naomi Fertitta is an author, creative director, and lifelong New Yorker. In New York: The Big City and Its Little Neighborhoods (Universe, 2009), she explored the city’s numerous ethnic enclaves.

love it

Great

This book has a terrific selection of photos, most of which are from long ago. Also, the front cover is particularly beautiful - and the front & back inside covers have beautiful graphic art (it’s the same on

both sides).

I asked for the books to be wrapped and I am VERY disappointed with the results. I need to take off the paper and redo - its embarrassing.

This is the third book from the publishing company Assouline (now celebrating 20 years of printing ÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã Å“artÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã Â• books) that IÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã â„¢ve reviewed and this is another fine example of mixing great graphics ÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã â œ on high quality paper ÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã â œ with informative text.While a full-page photo of restaurateur Marcus Samuelson (who wrote the one-page Foreword) seemed a bit out of place to me, the rest of this 144-page 8x10 inch is filled with great images of both past and present Harlem. The majority are of HarlemÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã â„¢s past ÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã â œ and this is what I loved about it ÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã â œ though there are some recent color photos to show what the old neighborhoods look like now. Two subjects are prominent here: Entertainment and Civil Rights. Harlem was the center for both.The author has acquired photos from the Getty Images and other graphic archives and shows us images of theaters like the Apollo and night clubs like the Cotton Club. There are full page black and white images of the legends of jazz like Fats Waller, Bessie Smith and Charlie Parker (though I found the ÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã Å“purposely double exposedÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã Â• image of Parker to be a poor choice. (The two-page black and white photo of Lindy hoppers on pages 104-105 has red blotches on it, but the publisher told me that they were planned that way.). Because of these two images I felt I need to deduct a star from my rating. The rest of the images are sharp and clear and ÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã â œ in the case of the color photos ÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã â œ and images of sheet music ÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã â œ colorful. The author provides just enough text to explain the cultural history of the neighborhood. To someone who hasnÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã â„¢t been there. She also provides a listing of museums, music venues , one hotel, and list of selected shops and restaurants and bars.Assouline is primarily an ÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã Å“art bookÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã Â• publisher and, while smaller in size than many of their other volumes, this can serve as a coffee-table book too. IÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã â„¢ve returned to it twice to look at the photos while listening to one of my favorite Louis Armstrong albums. It put me in the mood.I hope you found this review both informative and helpful.Steve RammÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã Å“Anything PhonographicÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã Â•

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