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The Wes Anderson Collection

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Synopsis

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Customer Reviews
I pre-ordered this book in April and today I finally got it in my hands. Being a filmmaker and die hard Wes Anderson fan buying it was a no brainer. However I didn’t think I could be this impressed. It is absolutely beautiful filled with illustrations, production stills, story boards and much more. Not only all that but there are essays and interviews by Zoller, who has followed Anderson’s career from the beginning, jam packed with details on his artistic process for the films, his thoughts on different circumstances surrounding his scripts and general Wes Anderson quotables. If you are a fan do yourself a favor and get this book you will not regret it!
Matt Zoller Seitz is an excellent critic, having established himself over a long career, and etching out a space in the online world of film and TV criticism uniquely his own. An admirer of filmmaking that’s unafraid of revelling in the beauty of the craft itself, Seitz champions those films and filmmakers that so many modern critics will readily dismiss for showing hints of “artifice.” Few modern directors so embody the idea of intentional artifice as Wes Anderson. Opinions about his work are all over the map, but almost always strong. His films inspire scorn as well as reverence. He’s an auteur in every sense of the word, and his films, from Bottle Rocket through to Moonrise Kingdom display a remarkable confidence of craft, tone, style and distinct personality. There are no films quite like Wes Anderson’s, no matter how many indie filmmakers attempt to emulate him. In this absolutely incredible book, Matt Zoller Seitz sits for a series of interviews with Wes Anderson, discussing each film in his body of work, running through his development as a filmmaker, his influences, his techniques and his general philosophies on film and filmmaking. Comprehensive is perhaps the best word to describe The Wes Anderson Collection, but this book is more than that. Designed with as much thought and care as any of Anderson’s own films, Seitz’s book features big, beautiful pages chock full of accompanying stills, media and supplemental material about each film and often corresponding to the interview at hand. Reading the book is such a pleasure. It makes you want to revisit each and every Anderson film, but also explore all the other films and influences discussed. It immerses the reader in Anderson’s world, and provided that’s something the reader would enjoy it’s a could not be more engaging.

This is one of the best art books I’ve ever purchased. It’s rich with content, behind the scenes photos, exclusive illustrations, and excellent interviews with Wes Anderson. To be honest, I think the book is worth triple what I paid for it. I’m not sure how can even sell it for $25.00 when it has so pages filled with beautiful photos. I bought a second copy for a friend and plan to buy a few more for Christmas Gifts. If you’re a Wes Anderson fan, and you should be, I highly recommend this book.

To see more pictures from the book, please visit my blog via my profile link. Preamble: To fully enjoy and get the maximum leverage from the contents of this book, I highly recommend the reader to watch (all, if possible) of Wes Anderson’s films first. For those who already have, you’re in for a treat. :]
The Wes Anderson Collection is a rich and thorough discussion/dissection of the director’s full repertoire of films (from Rocket Bottom to Moonrise Kingdom). Through conversations with the author Matt Zoller Seitz, Wes Anderson gives us illuminating insights into his ideas, motivations and inspirations, served with hearty amounts of production stills, reference images, concept sketches,
storyboards and more. This book is not only a great treat for fans of Wes Anderson’s films but also an excellent resource for the craft of film-making (art direction, production design, cinematography, costume design, the works). I’m going to read it from cover to cover, and then do it again. Very highly recommended.

This really is a cool book. It is filled with pictures and interviews. Nice cover, so makes a great coffee table book- especially for a guy. My 30 year old brother was really interested and looked through it for a long time.

I had never seen a Wes Anderson movie. I pre-ordered the book simply because I enjoy Zoller-Seitz’s usually spot on movie reviews at Roger Ebert.com and his TV reviews in the New York magazine. The day the book arrived I could not put it down. Very few books are truly unique. This one is. It’s a wonderfully done book filled with production stills, beautiful illustrations, story boards, photos and more. Even more impressive is the interview with Wes Anderson which reveals his thought processes in the writing, producing and directing of his films. It’s fascinating stuff! After reading the book I have watched three of Anderson’s movies and have become an instant fan. Also, thanks to this book, a well informed knowledgeable fan who appreciates the many talents of this wonderful director. Great book! Highly recommended not only for Wes Anderson fans but for anyone interested the process of making a movie.

My Dad nearly pees his pants with laughter when he watches Wes Anderson films. Then he proceeds to quote them for the next month whenever I talk to him on the phone. If you have anyone in your life like this, the book will make an excellent gift. While I like Wes Anderson, I can’t claim that I would scream like a 12 year old at a Justin Bieber concert were I given this gift. I only have the memories of my 55 year-old father performing that same maneuver when presented with this masterpiece.

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