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Sophie McConnell

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Metropolitan Jewelry

Sophie McConnell : Metropolitan Jewelry before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Metropolitan Jewelry:

1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Fantastic Pictorial ReferenceBy Marti DolataIf you've ever been into historical costuming, you know that it is the fine details that are hard to get right. To have a volume that focuses on jewelry in context with the costume is invaluable. The pictures are also great for costume details. Although the volume ranges from egyption to Victorian jewelry, it is strongest in the ages that would appeal to members of the SCA. One particular thing I like is that the sources of all the 151 full color pictures are referenced. Closeups of details allow you to see how medieval gems were flat faceted, the extensive use of enamel on metals, and the chain constructions. One favorite Elizabethan portrait clearly shows a type of netted ruching, as well as the silver embroidery, lace designs on the high ruff, the complicated slashing and use of pinned "jewels" (enameled metal set with gems) to complement the fabric design. Another portrait of a 16th C. flemish gentleman clearly shows the fine smocking over the gathers at the neck of his shirt/shift. Since this book was from the Metropolitan Museum of Art it is a feast for the eyes. A treasure for the avid costume fanatic.

This book highlights pieces of jewellery from ancient and modern cultures in every part of the globe. Of special interest are the objects that appear in paintings and other works of art: jewel-studded gowns, glittering Renaissance brooches and an Egyptian beaded collar are among the featured works from the "Metropolitan Museum"'s collection. Necklaces, earrings, rings and bracelets fill this book and also included are objects of religious significance, military honours and other kinds of personal decoration. The captions relate anecdotes concerning the artists and wearers and

describe the history and style of the jewellery pictured.