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Looping The Loop: Posters Of Flight



Synopsis

Looping the Loop tells of the passion for flight with an array of 102 rare posters spanning the years of Early Flight, World War I, The Golden Age of Aviation, and World War II. Originally published in Fall 2000 in conjunction with the Smithsonian Institution Traveling Exhibition Service companion exhibition, these vibrant, colorful, hallmark designs each on their own full page, provide an artistic and historical retrospective. The late Ambassador Henry Serrano Villard (1900-1996), a statesman, philanthropist, and scholar, is considered to have been one of the world's leading authorities on early aviation. The book is based largely on Mr. Villard's never-before-published personal accounts from attending worldly early aviation events. Through his eloquent, graceful writing, he leaves a legacy of love and understanding of man and flight. 102 full-color illustrations with accompanying historical text.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

The romantic appeal of watching the pioneer fliers take to the air cannot be overstated. Although the Wright brothers' accomplishment at Kitty Hawk in 1903 has not vanished from the public memory, the significant early contribution of French fliers largely has. If nothing else, this gorgeous book makes clear the inspiring efforts of the early French fliers (who predominate here) as well as those of the artists who celebrated them in charmingly vivid posters for air shows. Of the 102 posters from the Allen Airways Flying Museum, El Caho, CA, and other collections shown here, 32 are part of a traveling exhibit that opened in the Smithsonian in April and will travel for two years around the

country. As art historian Rennert points out in his foreword, the arrival of flight coincided with a French poster craze, or *affichomanie*. When the French aeronaut Louis Bleriot crossed the English Channel in July 1909, conditions were perfect for a renaissance in commercial art, and artists and fliers went about inspiring each other. Aviation historians Villard and Allen have produced an uncompromisingly elegant salute to early flight and its mustached heroes dropping bouquets from the skies. For art and aviation collections. DNathan Ward, "Library Journal" Copyright 2000 Reed Business Information, Inc.

"A must for poster lovers" -- USA Today, December 14, 2000"Aviation posters book will knock you for a loop" -- Associated Press, July 17, 2000"Gorgeous book...an uncompromisingly elegant salute to early flight..." -- Library Journal, June 15, 2000"Rich cultural history" -- The New York Times, July 2, 2000

If you like poster art and have a love of airplanes, this book can't be beat. Large reproductions, good color, informative text.

Bought it as a gift. It was exactly what I wanted!

A printed poster advertising a public exhibition of flight faces a considerable challenge: How do you convey the beauty and exhilaration of aircraft overhead in a two-dimensional image? Now compound this challenge many times over by asking an artist of the early 20th Century, who might at best have seen actual aircraft once or twice, and may only have the work of other artists and written descriptions to work from, to paint such an image, and in a way that it can be printed by pre-WWI presses. And yet, the artists whose work is on display in this book succeeded, sometimes brilliantly. The posters Allen and Villard chose for the Smithsonian exhibition of aviation posters and which Kales Press has so beautifully reproduced bring to life the first dozen years of the Air Age. [Looking over the book again, I find that a sizable portion of its posters are from later years, through both World Wars. But it is the earliest posters which I think readers will find most compelling.]

If you're a fan of vintage aviation, this book is a must - page after page of beautiful historic aviation posters. It's a real treasure!

Great book of old airshow advertising posters from Europe. The posters date from the 1880's to

WWI. Great gift for enthusiasts! Beautiful prints, fun to see!

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