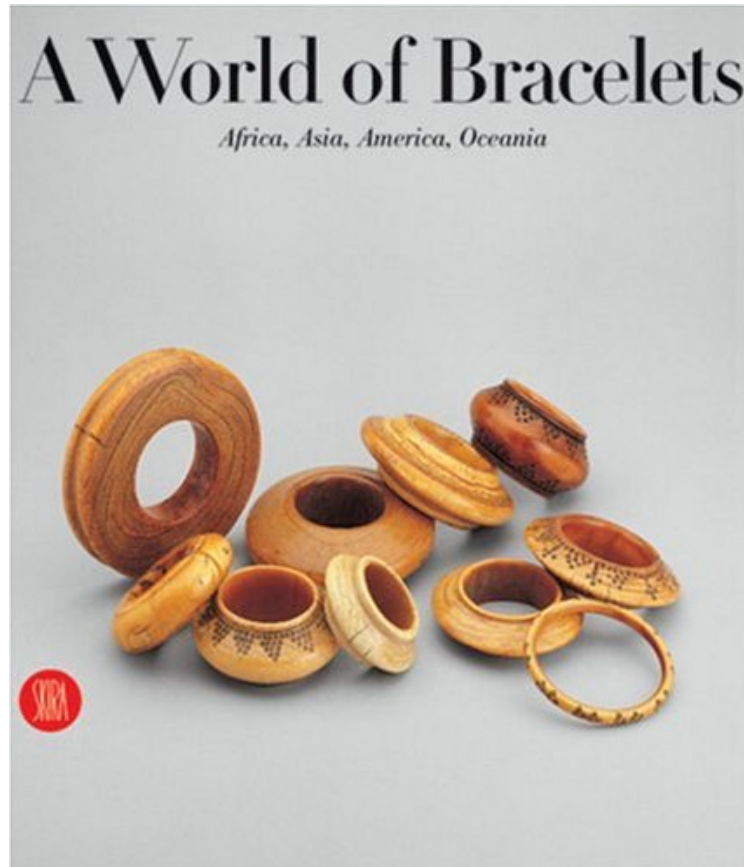


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A World of Bracelets

Anne Van Cutsem

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Anne Van Cutsem : A World of Bracelets before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised A World of Bracelets:

0 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Five Stars By James A. Hawley love it 6 of 7 people found the following review helpful. Perfect with a little but... By Udo Gangl Over the past years one can see a rising amount of publications dedicated to tribal art (primitive / ethnographic art) in many different ways. Books which intention is a scientific one and books which would like to attract regular (not already attracted to tribal arts) readers. Even if the scientific books are something very helpfull for scholars, dealers, collectors and any other "hard core" enthusiasts, the mostly doesn't attract general public too much. Books which are made for many people mostly lack certain important information or doesn't always give very accurate or exact descriptions like all of the books from this serie (World of Rings/Necklaces/Belts...). This sometimes inaccuracy and the little complicated way that you always have to go to the end of the book to read the captions belongig to the pictures is the biggest (if so, because it always depends very much on the reader) problem with this book BUT that's the only and for myself rather minor mistake. On the other hand if you look through the book (as well as the others) you have a marvellous/wonderfull/phantastic view on a world of wonders. Probably anybody will be surprised by the variations of a single theme. What people all over the world saw

as a bracelet is sometimes unbelievable. The book shows excellent pictures of pieces in very high quality; everything in color and displayed in a very well designed way which attracts the eye a lot. Personally I think the most important thing is to SEE as much as possible (in quantity as well as in quality) which is very easily done with this book. There hasn't been any kind of publication in this way ever before, hence I recommend that if you like ethnic jewelry you will like this book. Because of the problem mentioned above and the fact that it is called "world" of bracelets but leaves the Americas to a minimum (like the other books do as well - I would recommend Mrs. Ghysels to collect a little more of the Americas) I can't rate it with 5 stars but with 4.9 of 9 people found the following review helpful. Breathtaking! By Sharilyn M Miller This is a breathtaking, beyond-beautiful book of ethnic bracelets. If you're a jewelry artist, you will gain a tremendous amount of inspiration from this coffee-table (NOT a how-to) book. I highly recommend it.

The Ghysels collection of ethnic jewelry is one of the world's largest and most comprehensive. It is the culmination of a passionate quest of over four years for aesthetic beauty and authenticity. As such, it represents an invaluable repository of research, taste and discernment. We enthusiastically pursue our journey through the twists and turns of the Ghysels' wealth of adornments. After having explored the universe of rings and earrings in two prior books in this series, we now have the pleasure of discovering the universe of bracelets. These mainly unpublished bracelets--about 1200 of them--have been chosen piece by piece with great love and exquisite taste. They form a group of exceptional quality that displays a great variety of forms. The creativity of Colette Ghysels' layouts and the quality of Mauro Magliani's photographs add to our visual pleasure. From the standpoint of their shapes, many ethnic bracelets straddle the border area between two worlds: that of prehistory, where the traditions of some ethnic groups have been kept alive into the 20th century, and that of jewelry created by contemporary artists. Just as with rings and earrings, bracelets and anklets punctuate the phases of one's life. Small rings, which tinkle with the least movement, preserve children from evil spirits in the Near East. All self-respecting Jewish brides from Sana'a wear several pairs of bracelets with gossamer filigree. In order to ensure abundant progeny, a Bengal bride will be given a bracelet made from a shell. A flat ivory bracelet rewards a Sudanese elephant hunter of the Dinka tribe for his bravery. And, when undertaking their final journey, both men and women surround themselves one last time with bracelets, such as the jade ones found in Chinese tombs. The author guides us on a continent-by-continent tour, explaining the historic and cultural contexts in which these ethnic bracelets originated. Captions inform us of materials, dimensions and uses. A glossary of technical terms, maps and an index round off the descriptive information.

About the Author Anne van Cutsen, an art historian from the Universiteit Libre in Brussels, is the author of *A World of Rings. Africa, Asia, America* and *A World of Earrings. Africa, Asia, America*, published by Skira/Seuil. Mauro Magliani is one of Italy's most renowned art photographers. Assisted by his wife, Barbara Piovan, he has worked with the finest publishers in Italy and abroad since 1986. For this series by Skira, he has produced photographs for *A World of Rings. Africa, Asia, America* and *A World of Earrings. Africa, Asia, America*.