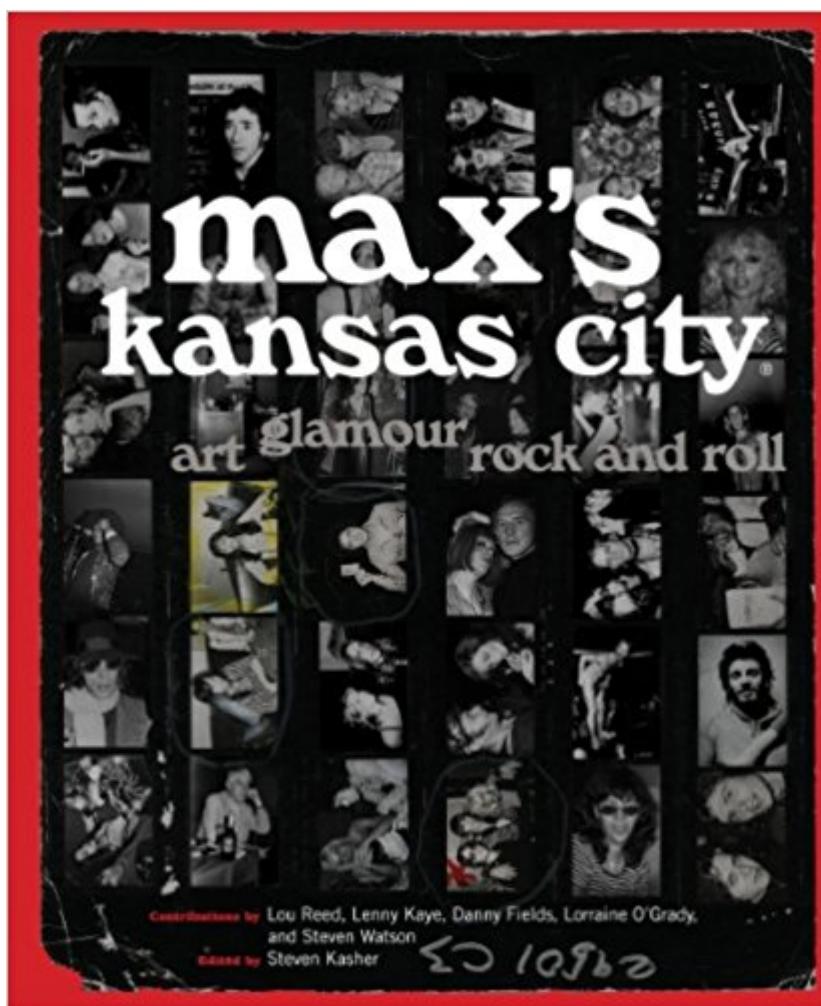


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Max's Kansas City: Art, Glamour, Rock And Roll



Synopsis

At no other time in history has there been a more exciting collision of art, music, and fashion than at Max's Kansas City from the 1960s to the early 80s. Max's was the place where you could stare at Andy Warhol, argue about art with Willem de Kooning or John Chamberlain, discuss literature with William S. Burroughs, and get a record deal just by showing up. If downstairs the artists were paying their tabs with original art, upstairs was home to the iconoclastic New York music scene, with performances by Max's house band, the Velvet Underground; the irreverent New York Dolls; and undiscovered musicians such as Bruce Springsteen, Bob Marley, Blondie, Iggy Pop, and Madonna. A luminous collection of photographs that captures the exuberance and decadence of the coolest club of all time, as well as essays by Lou Reed, Lenny Kaye, Danny Fields, and Steven Watson, Max's Kansas City is a stunning souvenir of one of New York City's most important cultural landmarks. Praise for Max's Kansas City: "a raucous photo book with reminiscences of the club" --The New York Times "a brilliant photographic tribute to New York City's hippest hangout, long regarded the crossroads of music and fashion" --Harper's Bazaar

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Steven Kasher is the owner and curator of the Steven Kasher Gallery. He lives in New York City. Please visit www.maxskansascity.com.

I'm a bit bummed. I was expecting at least a little bit of text, but alas, pretty much just photos. Good ones, but I would have liked to read about my good ol' days.

Had I not owned the book "High On Rebellion: Inside the Underground At Max's Kansas City" by Yvonne Sewall-Ruskin (former wife of Max's owner, Mickey Ruskin), I may have given this a higher rating. "Max's Kansas City: Art, Glamour, Rock and Roll" is glossier in packaging (although it has 12 years on "High On Rebellion", so that isn't surprising), in that, the pictures are bigger, there are more color pictures, etc., but that's about the only thing it can boast over the other. As a 24-year-old girl with a passion for rock n' roll, but who obviously wasn't around back in the early 70's when the back room at Max's was the hottest place to be, I learned of the famed nightclub mostly from collecting issues of Rock Scene magazine, a New York-based music mag that heavily featured bands like the New York Dolls and the Stooges, and they were always reporting about Max's. And although I am in no way an aficionado or expert on the era, I thought the research done for "Art, Glamour, Rock and Roll" was a bit "lazy" to say the least. As pointed out by photographer Roberta Bayley, several recognizable people are heinously labeled as "unidentified". There isn't much text in the book either, but as I was purchasing it for the photos, that part didn't really bother me (but if you're looking for an introduction to Max's, I wouldn't look to this as the answer). If you are buying this book as a complement to High On Rebellion, I would say go for it. Although some of the same photos are featured, there are plenty of different ones, although most aren't that rare, and I was a bit disappointed that there was but one photo of Cyrinda Foxe (former wife of David Johansen and Steven Tyler, a Warhol darling, and a back room staple), and it was one I'd already seen many times before. Still, if you are looking for the usual suspects (Iggy, David Johansen, Patti Smith, Gerard Malanga, Lou Reed, Candy Darling) you can find them here (plus, there are a couple of good quality pictures of the luminously beautiful young Bebe Buell). Other books not strictly about Max's but that put this book to shame are "Bande A'part: New York Underground 60s, 70s, 80s", Patti Smith's prizing-winning "Just Kids", and even "New York In The 70s" isn't bad.

Outstanding photos of a fascinating time

Excellent ... Thanks!

Used to hang out there when I was "much" younger. Brought back many memories.

Great!

this is such a stunningly beautiful tribute to Max's, and is an ideal holiday gift for those new breed punk explorers out there; highly recommended Jimi LaLumia & the Psychotic Frogs/Live at Max's Kansas City

it was exactly what I was looking for.

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