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Frances Borel, Ghysels Colett : Splendor of Ethnic Jewelry: From the Colette and Jean Pierre Ghysels Collection before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Splendor of Ethnic Jewelry: From the Colette and Jean Pierre Ghysels Collection:

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Throughout history jewellery has expressed a multitude of meanings - social position, marital status, self-esteem. Richly elaborate or elegantly simple, Native American beadwork, Turkoman silver, Burmese jade and other examples

of ethnic jewellery are avidly sought by collectors. This book reveals the full splendours and the subtle meanings behind the finely crafted works of art in one of the world's finest private collections of ethnic jewellery - that of Colette and Jean-Pierre Ghysels, which has until now remained carefully protected in Brussels, never exhibited extensively, and accessible only to selected scholars. Published here, the Ghysels Collection comes to light in photographs taken especially for this book by John Bigelow Taylor. Amongst the 400 colour reproductions are pieces from every corner of the globe: objects of gold and silver, precious and semi-precious gems, animal fur, bones, teeth and feathers. The range of sizes, forms and craft techniques is equally impressive. Colette Ghysels herself provides detailed captions for all the illustrations, identifying materials and craft methods, giving tribal names and uses of particular objects, and offering an appreciation of the value, rarity, significance and innate beauty of each piece.

From Library Journal Over 30 years in the making, the Ghysels Collection of ethnic jewelry here yields a magnificent array of over 400 pieces of jewelry, ranging from the elaborate extravagance of Central Asian headdresses to the stark simplicity of Solomon Islands chest pendants. Art historian Borel's gracefully written essay describes the universality of the desire to ornament the body, as seen in the cultures of Africa, Asia, Oceania, and the Americas. Captions describing the provenance and use of each piece accompany the luminous photographs. The jewelry pieces are not pictured as actually worn but are appreciated as objects of art. This beautifully executed volume will provide inspiration for designers and pleasures for students of ethnic cultures. Recommended for large decorative arts collections. Therese Duzinkiewicz Baker, Western Kentucky Univ. Libs., Bowling Green Copyright 1994 Reed Business Information, Inc. From Booklist It is through wonderfully composed color photographs, enhanced by text, that the body decorations of cultures from around the world come to life here. Curator-scholar Borel concentrates on the materials, the cultural imagery, and the meaning of jewelry worn by peoples in Africa, Asia, Oceania, and the Americas. The impressions are indelible: Brazilian men tossing around a certain colorful, feathered akangitat, or headdress, during special ceremonies, Sudanese women with spiked silver bracelets for self-protection, and amulet cases with carnelian, worn at the waist to ease the pain of childbirth. Barbara Jacobs About the Author FRANCE BOREL is director of the Ecole Nationale Supérieure d'Art Visuel de la Cambre in Brussels. JOHN BIGELOW TAYLOR is one of the world's foremost photographers of art. He is the photographer of Abrams *The Currency of Fame* and *The Cycladic Spirit*, among other books.