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After Andy: Adventures In Warhol Land



Synopsis

After Andy is Natasha Fraser-Cavassoni's insider's account of working in Andy Warhol's studio and Interview magazine, and explores Warhol's impact on the art world, pop culture, society, and fashion and how his iconic status gave rise to some of our most influential tastemakers today. Natasha Fraser-Cavassoni met Andy Warhol when she was sixteen, and then on and off over the years before landing in New York City at the Andy Warhol Studio, or as she calls it, "Adventures in Warhol Land." In this witty, page-turning account, she takes readers deep into the Pop artist's world as well as miles into the stratosphere of the socialites, fashion icons, film stars, rock legends, and art world powerhouses who could be found in his orbit where she worked with Fred Hughes, Brigid Berlin, Vincent Fremont, and others who were once part of the Factory clan. As the last person hired at the studio before Warhol died in 1987, Fraser-Cavassoni saw firsthand the end of an era and the establishment of a global phenomenon. From the behind-the-scenes disagreements and the assessment of his estate, which included Interview magazine and his art inventory, to the record-breaking auction of his belongings and the publication of his diaries, Fraser-Cavassoni examines the immediate aftermath of Warhol's death and his ever-growing impact, which ranged from New York to Los Angeles and throughout Europe. Interviews with key figures of the art world and dozens of Andy intimates make After Andy and its subject more relevant than ever today.

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Customer Reviews

“An endlessly quotable romp that captures the melancholy and magnificence of Warhol’s final days and legacy” “[After Andy] masterfully winds through anecdotes, scenes and interviews with scores of Warhol’s associates, acquaintances and admirers. It is breezy without ever feeling light, channeling Warhol’s enigmatic presence.” —Nick Ripatrazone, *Rolling Stone*

“In this superfun memoir, Fraser-Cavassoni leads the reader on her adventures as a blossoming London “It” girl, and her encounters with movers and shakers from the art, fashion and celebrity worlds orbiting Warhol, with the visionary Pop artist serving as the linking thread. Many of the memoir’s anecdotes are laugh-out-loud funny.” —Katya Foreman, *WWD*

“Natasha Fraser-Cavassoni’s *After Andy* opens up a can of Pop art and power.” —*Vanity Fair*

“In this witty memoir, former It girl Natasha Fraser-Cavassoni spills the beans on Warhol and his inner circle. In hilarious anecdotes and hard-hitting interviews, [she] explores Warhol’s indelible impact on the art world and pop culture.” —*Artnet.com*

“[An] engaging look at Warhol’s social matrix from the early days of the Factory to the impact of his personal aesthetic on art, fashion and popular culture decades beyond his death—a serious and worthwhile addition to Warhol studies because of the wealth of knowledge [Natasha Fraser-Cavassoni] brings to the subject.” —Tony Norman, *Pittsburgh Post-Gazette*

“Natasha Fraser-Cavassoni, a fashion journalist and writer, tells all—in her new memoir, *After Andy*.” —*Elle Decor*

“[A] glitzy chronicle lavishly detailed—exposing the true glamour of the Warhol-ian world—Fraser-Cavassoni unleashes an intriguing stockpile of anecdotes that will delight Warhol’s legion of admirers. A pop icon’s star-studded legacy decorated with red-carpet prestige.” —*Kirkus*

“With poignancy and lots of laughs, Natasha Fraser-Cavassoni takes us straight to the heart of celebrity culture—by way of 1970s London, 1980s New York, and 1990s Paris. *After Andy* is a must-read for anyone who loves art, fashion, and great gossip!” —Kate Betts, author of *My Paris Dream*

“Natasha Fraser-Cavassoni’s riveting eyewitness memoir captures Warhol’s inner circle—in the aftermath of the artist’s sudden death—with insight, factuality, compassion and fabulous high style.” —Bob Colacello, author of *Holy Terror: Andy Warhol Close Up*

“As a visual artist obsessed with all things Warhol, I dove into *After Andy* looking for tales of the Factory and found the rich and deftly reported memoir of an honest and reluctant “It” girl. Fraser-Cavassoni’s laser-sharp memory and attention to detail—fashion, interiors, conversation—make her story of searching for

herself through the lens and legacy of Andy Warhol an utter joy to read. — Laurie Simmons — “Seen through the eyes and the sharp tongue of a clever English society girl, *After Andy* is a compelling chronicle that offers an entrée into the world of art and fashion in the 1980s and 1990s in New York, Paris, and London. — Diane von Furstenberg, author of *The Woman I Wanted to Be* — “The mysterious fabulosity of Andy Warhol is the gift that keeps on giving. Natasha, the insider, rips the wig off the whole shebang and offers a ton of intelligent and personal insights. — Simon Doonan, author of *The Asylum* — “Natasha Fraser-Cavassoni observes everything with a raised eyebrow, but also with graciousness, amusement, and enthusiasm. She navigates joyously through the past and present, writing about the intimacies of her social and professional life with an outsider’s independent view. Her contradictions are her charm. — Ines de la Fressange, author of *Parisian Chic* — “As an observant insider, Natasha Fraser-Cavassoni has great stories and the best take on things. — Sofia Coppola — “I enjoyed *After Andy* enormously. — Rupert Everett, author of *Red Carpets and Other Banana Skins* — “*After Andy* should be called *Confessions of the Ultimate Insider*. It is a fascinating, candid account of international court society written by a court favorite — a nonfiction version of Truman Capote’s *Answered Prayers*. — Toby Young, author of *How to Lose Friends and Alienate People*

Natasha Fraser-Cavassoni is the author of *Sam Spiegel*, *Tino Zervudachi*, *Loulou de la Falaise*, *Monsieur Dior*, *BiYan* and *Vogue on Yves Saint Laurent*. Fraser-Cavassoni was the European Editor for *Harper’s Bazaar* from 1999-2004 after serving as a staff member and journalist at *Women’s Wear Daily* and *W* magazine. She lives in Paris with her two daughters.

The fizzy champagne writing style could merit a 4 or 5-star review: this book is lively and gossipy and moves along at a bouncy pace. My problem with the book is that the title is a "bait and switch." We get tidbits on Andy Warhol at the start and then a very long digression into the author’s memories of a glittering childhood filled with aristocratic British friends and family, drafty but charming old estates, post boarding schools and honorary titles and lots and lots of lovely parties. I thought I was buying a serious account of Andy Warhol’s work and the art scene of the 1970s and 1980s, but this book is instead a Beatrix Pottery memoir of a lovely and privileged girlhood that

morphed into a lovely and privileged stint as an art assistant in Manhattan. It isn't this woman's fault that she was born to such a storied English background and she is a good writer. Yet since I neither know her nor care that much about her--and especially since I was expecting to read about Andy Warhol -- even the charming bits of her memoir start to grate and seem self-indulgent. (This is especially true when we get to the obligatory set piece about Mick Jagger.) I would like to ask for my money back--not because the book is necessarily bad, but because the cover and title are highly misleading.

Natasha Fraser-Cavassoni was hired to work at Andy Warhol's studio four days before Warhol's death on February 22, 1987. Although their working relationship was brief, Fraser-Cavassoni (Sam Spiegel: The Biography of a Hollywood Legend) had met the pop artist seven years earlier, when she was 16. In 1980, Fraser-Cavassoni, the daughter of novelist and historian Lady Antonia Fraser and step-daughter of playwright Harold Pinter, was already running with a fast, glittery crowd and was months away from an affair with Mick Jagger ("Mick had the power to intoxicate") that landed her, Jagger and Jerry Hall in national tabloid headlines. The bewigged Warhol is definitely a supporting player in this flashy, name-dropping memoir, but fortunately Fraser-Cavassoni's jet-set life, celebrity encounters and high-profile jobs make for a fast read and a gossipy good time. With jobs at Interview, Women's Wear Daily and W magazines, she was at all the art, fashion and film parties. Anna Wintour helped her get hired working under Karl Lagerfeld at the Chanel Studio, while aging cosmetics pioneer Estée Lauder threatened to have her deported. When the focus turns to Warhol and the running of his empire after his early death (he died at 58 from complications after gall bladder surgery), Fraser-Cavassoni offers a front row seat at the jockeying for power, the marketing of his image and the posthumous publication of Warhol's diaries in 1989, which caused uproar among fashionable society. AFTER ANDY reads like a delicious gossip column covering the wild antics of those in the art and fashion world. Natasha Fraser-Cavassoni's AFTER ANDY shares her deliciously gossipy view of the fashion/film/art world from her front row seat at Andy Warhol's studio.

Has not much to do with Warhol to justify it's title. It's the memoirs of a socialite, lists of famous people- something that has nothing to do with what I expected from cover & title. First Audiobook I return (out of 600).

“When I moved to Manhattan, Andy Warhol’s memorial was my

first New York society event. This is the first line of Natasha Fraser-Cavassoni's new memoir, and there are two important items to note. The first is that she was hired to work at Warhol's studio four days before he died in 1987. The second is that, while this might have been Fraser-Cavassoni's first New York society event, it was hardly her introduction to society – she's the daughter of Lady Antonia Fraser and a conservative MP, not to mention the stepdaughter of Harold Pinter. The author's connection to Warhol allows her to offer a fascinating look at the construction of his legacy after his death, but her own life is equally compelling. Fraser-Cavassoni worked with Karl Lagerfeld at Chanel, she had an affair with Mick Jagger, and her memoir takes the reader from London in the 70s to New York in the 80s and Paris in the 90s.

3/4 of this book is about Natasha. It jumps all over the place time-wise which is super distracting. I was incredibly disappointed in this book. Tiny bits and pieces were okay, but I think unless you're a big fan of Natasha (whom I didn't know prior to this book) then I'm not sure what you're going to get out of it. As a huge Warhol fan I would definitely not recommend this. Reread his diaries instead.

At first it was a very zippy read, but it got to the point where I felt like I was reading a book-length Vanity Fair article and that's when I stopped.

Thoroughly entertaining, page-turner with an insider's acute observations of Pop Art's first genius.

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