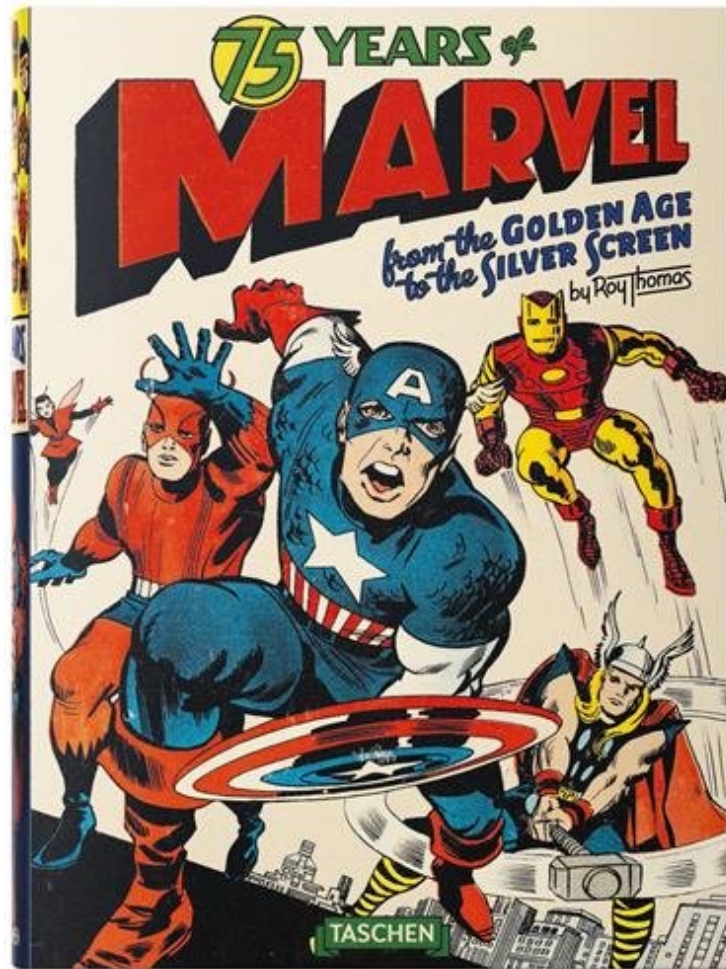


75 Years of Marvel Comics XL: From the Golden Age to the Silver Screen

Roy Thomas

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Roy Thomas : 75 Years of Marvel Comics XL: From the Golden Age to the Silver Screen before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised 75 Years of Marvel Comics XL: From the Golden Age to the Silver Screen:

4 of 4 people found the following review helpful. Massive, Impressive, Gorgeous... I'm out of superlatives!By Dan Pace (feral atom)This titanic tome is gorgeous! It's an absolute must-have for anyone interested in the early days of Marvel. Over 200 pages each devoted to Golden Age (with Atlas Era), Silver Age and Bronze Age. The Daily Bugle Table of Contents was a nice touch, with each era broken into two halves, a bit more than 100 per half. The modern era received a scant 60 pages, but it felt about right. There are even a few pages devoted to tying in the Marvel Cinematic era. There are so many great anecdotes and creator as well as collector tidbits sprinkled throughout the

fantastic imagery. This is a true labor of love. The good: Seriously, this is a showcase item. It's a conversation starter. Where else can you find intricately detailed Alex Schomburg covers blown up so large? Every page printed with lustrous fidelity on heavy stock. Any imperfections on the source material are captured, giving much of the classic material a time-worn, ancient artifact vibe. I was shocked to see pristine Marvel Mystery 15 original art from Bill Everett!! That was unexpected. The bad: It left me wanting more. Hundreds of covers, interior art, photos, mementos, and still I wanted more. Even though the size can be a bit difficult to deal with, when I finished each section, I had a bit of regret that the era had come to a close. The pacing was great: Roy and his collection of nostalgia editors did a fantastic job of getting an iconic collection of material together. (I know, I know, this was supposed to be the bad, but what can I say... this is near perfect). Okay, there are a few typos here and there. For the number of hardcore editors on this book, I was surprised by the number of minor goofs here and there. Maybe too many cooks in the kitchen? Also, a few of my favorite covers or interiors were shot a bit smaller than I would have liked, such as the Human Torch #12 cover where Torch is melting a guy's flesh to the bone. It's slightly larger than the thumbnail covers on the back of Masterworks volumes. That's offset by full-page or larger details on Marvel Mystery Comics 3 with Sub-Mariner on the conning tower of a sub, or the cover to Human Torch 5 proclaiming the 60-page epic crossover war between Sub-Mariner and Human Torch with the world in the balance. They also have beautiful double-page spreads of Captain America (Avison) and Steranko's quadruple spread from Nick Fury (in gatefold). Each section is offset with an iconic spread printed on reflective cardstock. Gold for Golden Age (Subby vs Torch), Silver (Spider-man meets the FF) and Bronze (Thor, Odin and Hela) and a rainbow iridescent spread of Marvel characters from John Byrne. King-sized Kirby art! Dynamic Ditko art! All the great artists that have walked the Hallowed Halls of Marvelism on display in an amazing volume. I've read through cover to cover twice already. This is a book that's hard to put down (and heavy to hold up too!) Superior quality book that you won't regret owning. 2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. A book for rabid fans and casual comic book fans alike. By Jason E. Waters I'm not the world's most effusive Marvel fan. I bought this mostly as a companion piece to DC's 75th Anniversary book, written by Paul Levitz. I haven't read the actual words written, so I can't speak to Roy Thomas' work, but the layout was just as beautiful as the DC book. There's a lot of material from the Golden, Silver, and Bronze ages, with PLENTY of original art, famous covers, and artful photos of historical interest, both of creators and products that were produced during the time (including a neat double-page spread of the Marvel plastic cups produced for 7-11 stores in the 70's). If the writing is as informative as the information I gleaned from the pictures (and I have no doubt that it is), then this book is a must-have for long-standing members of the Merry Marvel Marching Society. Don't let the price tag scare you off, this book will enhance your library, and members of your community will begin to look to you as a taste-maker. 1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Great Coffee Table Book. By Peter J. McGill As long as you have a sturdy coffee table. I was initially disappointed with this book. Such a large tome, but really, there is little text. Little discussion, little insight. Very little gossip. Yes, great reproductions of original art, covers and comic book pages, but I was hoping for something more substantial from Roy. Each chapter was more or less an overview of the period... and then it was "here are some more pictures!". I still give the production 5 stars. Great quality, great visuals...it's just great. I think if you are looking for some insight into the history of the comic book company, perhaps look at Marvel Comics The Untold Story, Tales to Astonish, or even Stan Lee And The Rise and Fall of the American Comic and Joe Simon: My Life in Comics. My only other advice: If you buy the book, get yourself a lectern. It's not a book to read in bed.

A mighty history: Building the House of Ideas

About the Author Since 1965, Roy Thomas has been writing for movies, television, and especially comic books. With notable runs on Avengers, X-Men, Conan the Barbarian, Incredible Hulk, and Star Wars; he served as a Marvel editor from 1965-80 and editor-in-chief from 1972-74. He currently edits Alter Ego and writes two online Tarzan strips as well as the occasional comic book. He and his wife Dann live in South Carolina. Art director and editor Josh Baker has been making books for TASCHEN since 2005. His one hundred-plus book collaborations include signed limited editions by Dennis Hopper, Bert Stern, and Ellen von Unwerth, and best-selling pop culture titles such as 75 Years of DC Comics and Norman Mailer's Moonfire. He lives in Oakland, California.