

# **Racinet: The Costume History**

By Françoise Tétart-Vittu



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Togas, turbans, tailcoats, and top hats: The evolution of style from antiquity to 1888

Originally published in France between 1876 and 1888, **Auguste Racinet's** *Le Costume historique* was the **most wide-ranging and incisive study of clothing ever attempted**. Covering the world history of costume, dress, and style from antiquity through to the end of the 19th century, the six volume work remains **completely unique in its scope and detail**.

TASCHEN's complete reprint presents Racinet's **exquisitely precise and colored illustrations**, as well as his delightful descriptions and often witty comments. Spanning everything from ancient Etruscan attire to French women's couture, material is arranged according to Racinet's original organization by culture and subject. As **expansive in its reach** as it is **passionate in its research and attention to detail**, *The Complete Costume History* is an invaluable reference for students, designers, artists, illustrators, and historians; and a rich source of inspiration for anyone with an interest in clothing and style.

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Racinet: The Costume History By Françoise Tétart-Vittu Bibliography

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# **Editorial Review**

#### Review

"...an accessible, elaborate visual history of all the weird, uncomfortable clothes people thought looked good, from massive, powdered wigs to feathered war helmets. Contemporary artists, designers, illustrators, and historians will find no shortage of inspiration in its pages." (*Hyperallergic.com*)

#### About the Author

Françoise Tétart-Vittu studied art history at the Sorbonne and specialized in the costume history of the 18th and 19th centuries. For many years she was head of the graphic arts department and curator at the Musée Galliera, Musée de la Mode et du Costume de la Ville de Paris. She is author of many books on costume history.

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