

Mardi Gras



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In this pictorial study, author Leonard Huber recounts the history of Carnival in New Orleans, bringing to life in photographs and in text the colour, the pulse, and the pageantry that have earned for this annual extravaganza the distinction as 'the greatest free show on earth!' Step by step, the author traces the evolution of Carnival from its modest beginnings, including: Lavish balls during the American regime under Governor William C.C. Claiborne; The first masked parade in 1837; The first torchlight parade by the Mystick Krewe of Comus in 1857; The coming of Rex and Momus in 1872; Participation of royalty, including Alexis, Grand Duke of Russia, and the Duke and Dutchess of Windsor; The fiercely anti-Republican themes during the bitter years of Reconstruction; Modern innovations and the establishment of new Krewes; and Creation of the Rex doubloon in 1960. More than 160 photographs and drawings, many of them old and rare, illustrate the fast-moving narrative. Also included are reproductions of elaborate ball invitations dating from the nineteenth century, as well as portraits of early kings and queens. Huber was one of Louisiana's leading historians who spent a lifetime observing Carnival and Mardi Gras. Many of the photographs and memorabilia reproduced in this volume were from his extensive private collection.

作者介绍:

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