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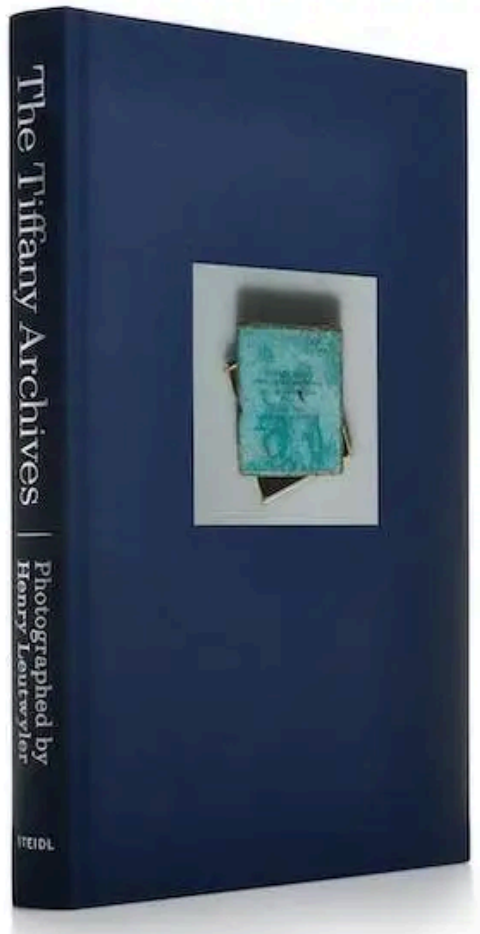
# 'The Tiffany Files': a book like no other

BY BETH BERNSTEIN

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Talk about hidden treasures. When I first leafed through *The Tiffany Archives*, published by Steidl with photographs by Henry Leutwyler, it took me on a journey through the past and present of Tiffany & Co jewelry, silverware, decorative items and more. The most charming thing about the book is that it is not in chronological order or by classification, but rather displayed side by side from different artistic periods and mediums.



Christopher Young, vice president and creative director of creative visual merchandising and The Archives, explains in his introduction: “The way the archivist values everything equally is illustrated by some democratic and charming combinations. Dissimilar things, such as an umbrella and a necklace, a jewel and an invitation, are placed side by side on the sheets. The striking juxtapositions also visually communicate the depth and breadth of Tiffany’s creations.” He goes on to explain: “Inheriting the cultural responsibility of preserving and documenting the many innovations of Tiffany's countless artists and designers, *The Tiffany Archives* also catalogs their sketchbooks and inspiration libraries, as well as hundreds of thousands of works on paper that chronicle Tiffany & Co.' historical continuation.”

In this gem of a book you'll find World's Fair records, sales catalogs, and photographs dating back to the company's origins.

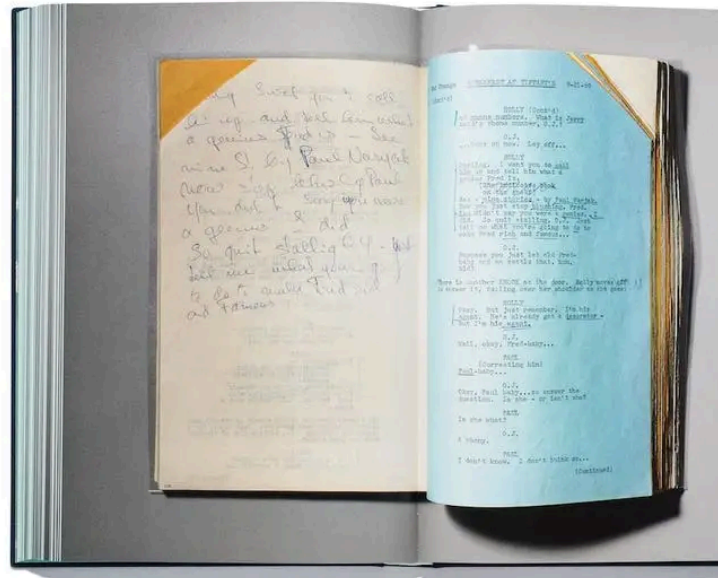
Young also writes: “The purpose of *The Tiffany Archives* is not to serve the past. The Archives exist to inform the future.”



For jewelry enthusiasts, it reveals a selection of pieces and sketches from the collections never before seen or photographed.

There are also Art Deco bracelets, orchids by Pauling Farnham, an example of the French Crown Jewels, the first Bird on a Rock by Jean Schlumberger, as well as pieces by the creative pioneers who worked with and for the company: Donald Claflin, Angela Cummings, Dr. George Fredrick Kunz, Jean Schlumberger, Elsa Peretti and Palomo Picasso, just to name a few of the Tiffany alumni who contributed to the success of the renowned house. There's also a nod to pop culture with photographs and anecdotes from the 1961 film, *Breakfast at Tiffany's* and how the first catalogs became the iconic Blue Book.





My favorite parts of *The Tiffany Archives* , and I have many, are the sketches and drawings and the making of many of them brought to life.

*The Tiffany Archives* has been published in a limited edition.