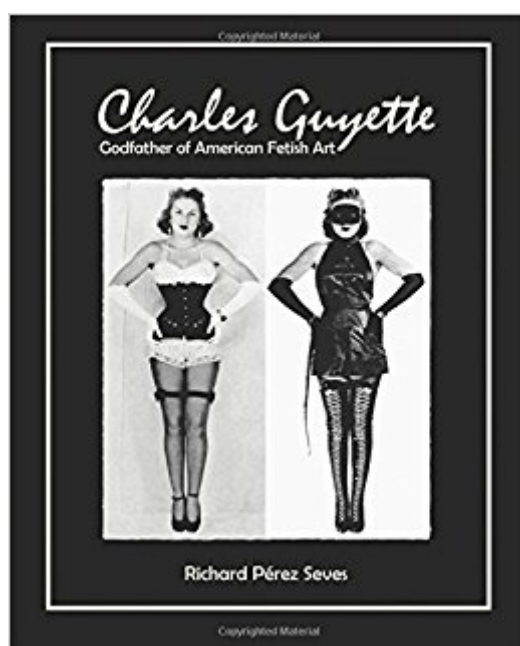


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# Charles Guyette: Godfather Of American Fetish Art (Bizarre Underground Pioneers) (Volume 1)



## Synopsis

CHARLES GUYETTE (1902 – 1976) is rightly considered the godfather of American fetish art. In fact, his fetish art operation was the first of its kind in America, dealing in what was then generally regarded as “deviant” European-inspired material. In 1935, he was arrested and sent to federal prison. But what should’ve been the end was just the beginning. Although rarely credited by name in his lifetime, he influenced everyone who would follow him, particularly the publishers Robert Harrison, John Willie, Irving Klaw, and Leonard Burtman. The aim of this book was to evoke the spirit of Guyette to collect surviving fragments of a decimated catalog largely by referencing vintage fetish publications from the 1930s through the 1980s and reconstruct a lost history. This portfolio of images is followed by biographical information seen nowhere else, and serves as a substantial introduction to the birth of American fetish art and the cultural impact of an unrecognized pioneer.

“Peek Inside Book” video (copy and paste): <https://youtu.be/QGgVxgLBn1o>

“Peek Inside Book” blog (copy and paste): [goo.gl/ZEKh3R](http://goo.gl/ZEKh3R)

Publications referenced in composing this tribute include: Black Lace v.1, n.1, undated (c. 1958). London Life, March 22 1935. Catalog C-2, 1957. Bizarre Life v.1, n.1, 1966. Exotique Correspondence Digest n.1, 1958. London Life, April 8 1939. Exotique n.13, undated (c. 1957). Fantastique Photo Album n. 2, undated (c. 1960). Exotique n.1, undated (c. 1955). Exotique n.10, undated (c. 1956). Bizarre n.9, 1952. Bizarre n.6, 1951. Exotique n.12, undated (c. 1957). Exotique n.8, undated (c. 1956). Exotique n.16, 1957. Exotique Photo Album n.1, undated (c. 1957). Gay Book magazine, Dec. 1937. Gay Book magazine, May 1938. Wink magazine, Jan. 1949. Gay Book magazine, Aug. 1937. Bizarre Life v.4, n.6, 1980. Exotique n.34, 1959. Erotic Symbolism by Edw. Podolsky, 1960. Bizarre Classix v.1, 1976. Portrait of Evil F-6, undated (c. 1962). Wink magazine, April 1947. Exotique Correspondence Digest n.1, 1958. New Exotique Photo Album n.9, 1959. Exotique Correspondence Digest n.1, 1958. Flirt magazine, March 1948. Gay Book magazine, Feb. 1937. Wink magazine, Dec. 1947. Exotique n.4, undated (c. 1956). Fetishist n.1, undated (c. 1985). Painful Memories v.1, n.1, undated (c. 1981).

Tags: Charles Guyette, Irving Klaw, John Willie, Eric Stanton, Robert Harrison, Leonard Burtman, Bettie Page, Edward Mishkin, Yva Richard, Diana Slip, Carlo, Franz Rehfeld, Weimar Republic, vintage fetish, corsets, ultra high heels, boots, fetish fashion

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## Customer Reviews

Happy to announce the publication of Charles Guyette: Godfather of American Fetish Art, my low-cost tribute book to the first person to produce and distribute fetish art in America. I've referenced more than 50 years of vintage fetish publications to pull together a lost and forgotten catalog. Included is an illustrated, extensively-researched biography on Guyette, touching on all those who were affected by him including John Willie, Irving Klaw, Leonard Burtman--even Eric Stanton and Bettie Page. (Guyette was, among other things, a costumer who dressed Bettie Page and others for Irving Klaw photo shoots.) If you're interested in the roots of fetish fashion that extend to the present day and fashion designers like Alexander McQueen, Thierry Mugler, Jean Paul Gaultier, Dior, you'll want to pick up a copy of this book. If you're interested in costume play or are fascinated by mysterious masked ladies, corseted cuties, all sorts of exotic boots and shoes, you'll want to pick up a copy of this book. There's no denying the bizarre appeal of vintage fetish fashion. Wouldn't you agree?"Peek Inside Book" video (copy and paste): [youtu.be/QGgVxgLBN1o](https://youtu.be/QGgVxgLBN1o)"Peek Inside Book" blog (copy and paste): [goo.gl/ZEKh3R](https://goo.gl/ZEKh3R) \* \* \*

One of the reasons I put this book together was to honor the fetish community and one way to do this was to recognize and celebrate individuals who contributed to it. Charles Guyette was the first person to produce and distribute fetish art in America. This is his story, this is his contribution to the diversity of American culture.

CHARLES GUYETTE (2017) by Richard Perez Seves is pure entertainment. Yes,

it's well-researched, insightful and brilliantly written but mostly it's just fun. If you're not familiar with the name (and I wasn't!) Charles Guyette was a pioneer in kinky photography back in the 1930s, marketing photographs of shapely ladies in corsets, boots and especially high heels, with a bit of bondage and fighting on the side. He served time in Federal Prison for sending pictures through the mail that would today be considered too tame for PLAYBOY, then re-emerged as a couturier to strippers, specializing in G-strings. The author wisely leaves all this for later in the book and puts the images up front. And what images! A feast of lovingly photographed young ladies in fetish wear, carefully reproduced from original sources and presented for maximum effect. By the time Seves started recounting the fascinating story of this remarkable man, I was hooked and you will be too!

A tremendous value, given the low cost, of a figure who has otherwise been lost to history. Guyette was an entrepreneur of fetish imagery, fashion and footwear who aided the careers of more notable figures like John Willie and Irving Klaw. Seves does a service to us by rescuing this man from obscurity. The book is 7 1/2" x 9 1/2", paperback, 173 pages. At least 100 photographs, halftone black & white, no color. The quality of the reproductions is not high but the low cost and volume of photos gathered in this small volume makes up for it. Most of the photos feature women wearing various kinds of fetish style high heeled footwear. There is also a small selection of photos depicting women boxing, which was unheard of at the time. A small percentage of photos feature bondage. A smaller percentage feature nudity, including a couple males in submissive postures. Also, corsets, masks, stockings, garter belts, riding crops, and pony play are depicted. Some of Guyette's advertisements for his business are illustrated. Absolutely worth the cost.

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