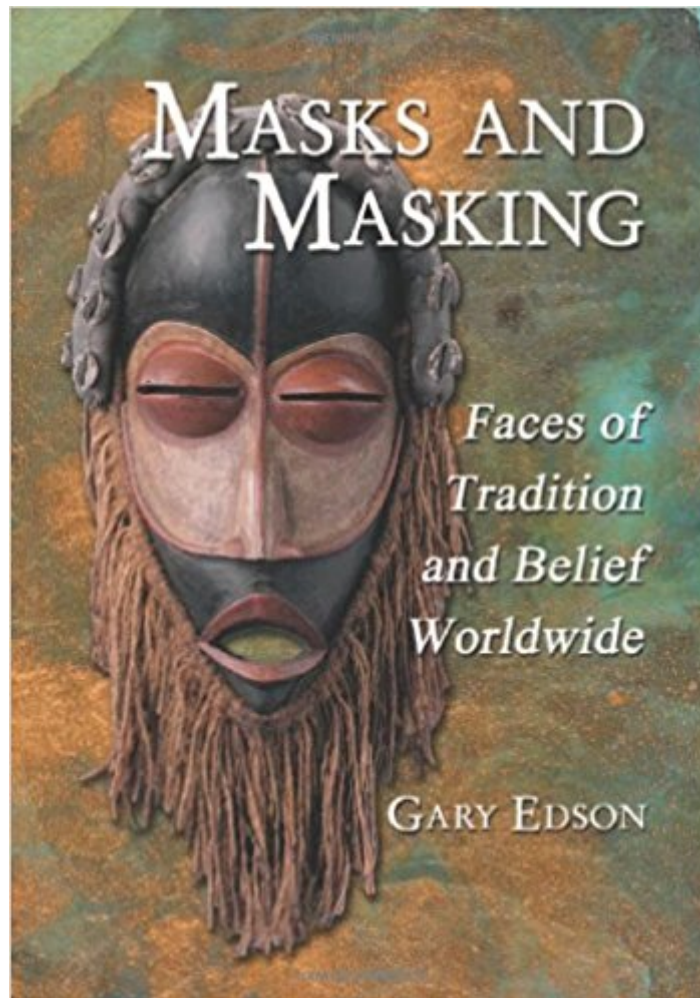




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# Masks And Masking: Faces Of Tradition And Belief Worldwide



## Synopsis

For at least 20,000 years, masking has been a mark of cultural evolution and an indication of magical-religious sophistication in society. This book provides a comprehensive understanding of the mask as a powerful cultural phenomenon--a means by which human groupings attempted to communicate their dignity and sense of purpose, as well as establish a continuum between the natural and supernatural worlds. It addresses the distinctive environments within which masks flourished, and analyzes the mask as a manifestation of art, ethnology and anthropology.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

"Scholarly...invaluable" --Midwest Book Review.

Gary Edson, professor emeritus of museum science at the Center for Advanced Study of Museum Science and Heritage Management, Museum of Texas Tech University in Lubbock, Texas, was executive director of the Museum for 25 years. The author of numerous books and articles on museum practices, he lives and works in Taiwan, R.O.C.

great book - now out of print from the publishers. Thank you for having it available.

This is a great book I initially borrowed it from the library, but needed to have a copy in my personal library. The book provides historical background about mask, explores the symbolism and

communication of mask. This book is a must have for anyone who is interested in the Arts.

Professor of museum science Gary Edson presents *Masks And Masking: Faces Of Tradition And Belief Worldwide*, an examination of the role of masks throughout human history. Exploring cultural uses of masks from creating a substitute face to as a symbol of magic to as communal symbols and couriers of myth, *Masks And Masking* argues persuasively that masks should not be assessed as performing a single function across the complex turn of ages and cultures. More than 100 detailed black-and-white drawings illustrate this scholarly and thoughtful discourse.

Discussions range from surveys of masks as communicators and expressions in societies to masks as communal and spiritual symbols. Black and white mask representations peppered throughout add to a scholarly survey of the role and changing meaning of masks in world beliefs. The result is a set of invaluable observations of masks and their underlying roles in societies, and will provide artists with an invaluable set of cultural and social insights with which to better understand the overall meaning and importance of masks around the world.

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