

'A really engaging, indeed gripping read.'

Elizabeth Wilson

'A fascinating and thoroughly original book, which charts the history of prison clothing internationally from the late eighteenth century to the present day. Juliet Ash pulls back the cloak of secrecy which has surrounded prison dress drawing on a diversity of sources including official documents and the accounts of inmates. By providing detailed social, cultural and political context, Ash draws attention to larger questions of the historical role of clothing and its potential to mark us out, but also to control us.'

Hazel Clark



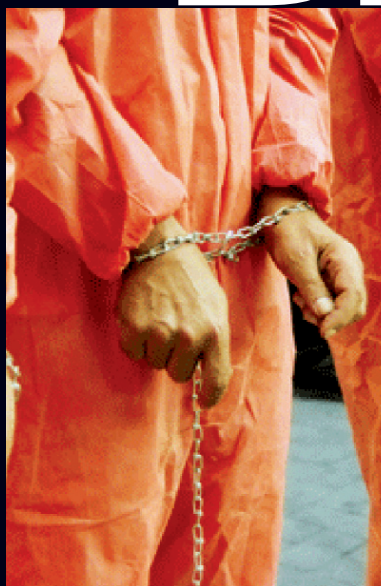
From the broad arrow in the nineteenth century to the orange jumpsuit of the twenty-first, prison clothing has both mirrored and bolstered the power of penal institutions over prisoners' lives. Based on original research, including throughout the voices of the incarcerated, and vividly illustrated, this book is a pioneering history and investigation of prison dress, which demystifies the experience of what it is like to be an incarcerated criminal. Juliet Ash explores the many manifestations of prison clothing. Taking the reader on a journey from the production of prison clothing to the bodies of its wearers, she also finds a history characterised by waves of reform, sandwiched between regimes that use clothing as punishment. She discovers how inmates use their dress to surmount, subvert or survive these punishment cultures. She reveals the hoods the masks, pink and orange jumpsuits, near nakedness, even twenty first-century 'civvies' to be not just other types of uniform but political embodiments of the surveillance of everyday life.

Juliet Ash is Tutor in Fashion/Textiles Design History at the Royal College of Art. She is co-editor with Elizabeth Wilson of *Chic Thrills: A Fashion Reader* and has written a number of articles on dress history and theory.

DRESS BEHIND BARS

PRISON CLOTHING AS CRIMINALITY
JULIET ASH

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