

Fleur Cowles

Born in 1908 in New York City, Fleur Cowles was a renowned journalist, author, artist, patron and fashionista. She maintained a position as a doyenne of both New York and London society and lived till 101. Fleur worked hard to make her fortune in a man's world and founded her own magazine Flair in the 1950s for the elite. Although the magazine was short-lived, it was lavishly produced and included contributions from Salvador Dali, Picasso, Winston Churchill and Tennessee Williams, while inspiring generations of magazine editors and is highly sought after by collectors.

Fleur was friends with US presidents and served on various US government committees, and even represented President Eisenhower on non official state visits. She was renowned for hosting fabulous dinner parties for friends including movie stars such as Marilyn Monroe and Elizabeth Taylor and even had Cary Grant as her best man at her fourth marriage. She moved to live in London in 1955 and cultivated friendships with European royalty including Queen Elizabeth and was described as best friends with the Queen Mother.