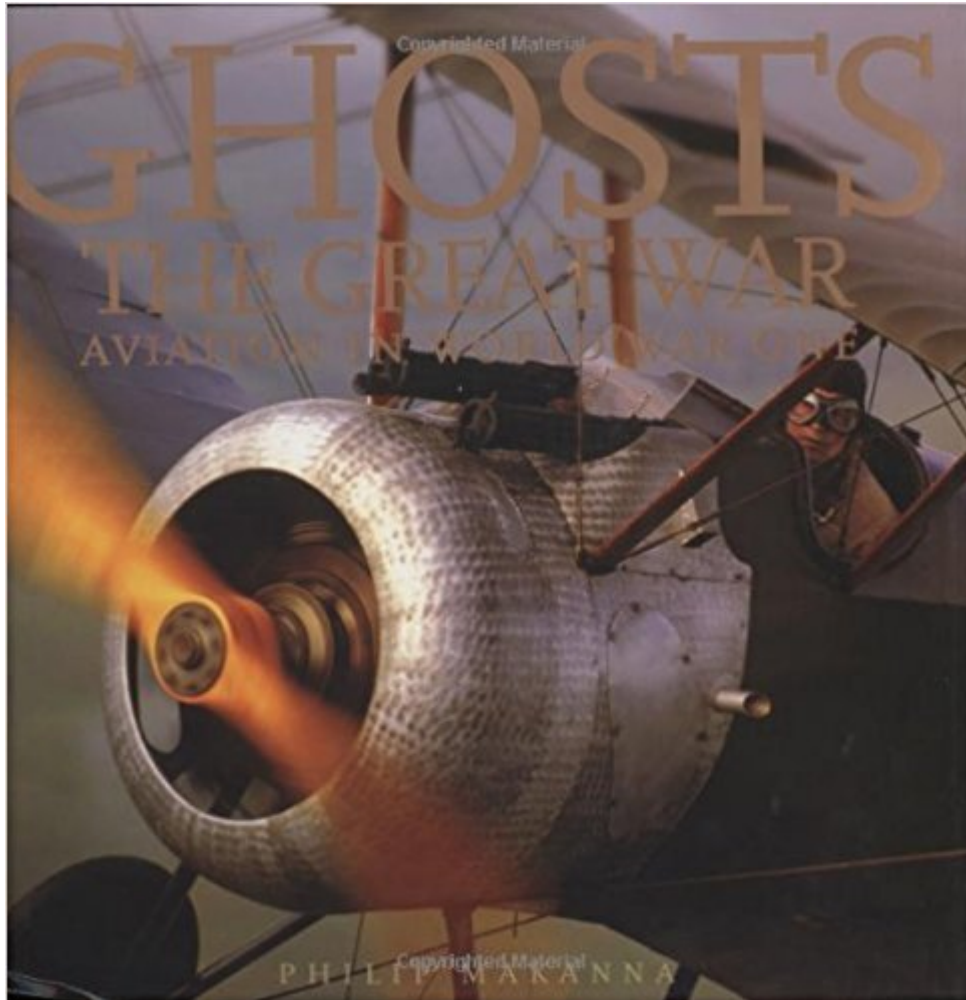


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# Ghosts Of The Great War: Aviation In WWI (Ghosts Aviation Classics)



## Synopsis

The First World War began to hammer aircraft into reliable flying form only ten summers after man's first flight. These first warplanes, born as sport planes, soon evolved into the lethal aircraft that swarmed over the bloody trenches of Europe. They altered the history of the world and carried the dreams and the nightmares of all mankind on their wings. Renowned aviation photographer Philip Makanna has captured the essence of this era in the forthcoming *GHOSTS of THE GREAT WAR*, a hardbound book that weaves his stunning color photographs with an extraordinary collection of archival duotones. Makanna has spent 31 years taking aviation photography to amazing heights. In this edition, his images depict the beginnings of military aviation with Bleriot's wing-warping Model XI, Fokker's Spider, a web of wires and wood, and Sopwith's simple seaplane racer. The book continues through to the advanced aircraft that appeared at the war's end. Javier Arango has written a passionate and informative text which describes these extremely rare aircraft and the history of their development. Arango also offers a unique perspective as he writes about the flight characteristics of these aircraft from his personal experiences as their pilot. Stunning images and evocative words combine to describe the beauty, the romance and the tragedy of military aviation's early days. Included in this new book are the timeless words of Cecil Lewis who, in 1915, plunged into the war as an eager seventeen-year-old. His poetry and wisdom guide the reader through this complex of experiences and emotions that changed the world forever. The ancient flying machines featured in *GHOSTS of THE GREAT WAR* form the *Aeroplane Collection*, one of the largest collections of flyable World War One aircraft in existence. The Collection, based in California, is currently home for 21 aircraft of the WWI period. Of these, seventeen different types are fully airworthy. *GHOSTS of The Great War, Aviation in World War One* is the fifth volume in Philip Makanna's classic series of aviation books. Its 192 pages are filled with 160 color photographs, 110 archival images and 27 drawings.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

Philip Makanna has to be one of the best aviation photographers of our era. His images of WW1 aircraft taken in California mixed with old photographs of the same planes taken during WW1 is most enjoyable. Concentrating on a few aircraft allows him to provide a more complete history of each one. This could easily be a great "cocktail table" book but it is much too entertaining for that. I have already shared it with a half dozen other aviation enthusiasts, some of whom have bought their own copy. In fact, my copy is with a good friend in California right now and I hope he will return it soon so I can look at it again. Mr. Makanna is to be congratulated for another great aviation book.

It is sometimes difficult to find items that truly bring history to life. "Ghosts of the Great War" happens to be one of those items. The book contains amazing color photographs of rebuilt First World War aircraft and compliments them with original black and white photographs. The book also simple, informative texts describing the history and functions of the particular aircraft, as well several quotes from the aviators who originally piloted the aircraft during the war. This book is a rare jewel, a tribute to those who dared to be the first to fly during the dark days of the First World War, and is a must have for any one with an interest in aviation history.

THIS BOOK IS A FANTASTIC JOURNEY INTO THE PAST. THE PICTURES OF THE AIRPLANES ARE LARGE, SHARP, CLEAR AND THE PAPER IS HEAVY AND THICK. A HIGH QUALITY BOOK THAT IS A REAL PLEASURE TO DIVE INTO.

In keeping with Ghosts I and II, this book provides some spectacular pictures of WW1 aircraft. The pictures really make the book. What is kind of neat but also kind of nutty is that the author spends a lot of time on aircraft types that made marginal contributions at best. Yes, many were better planes than those that were ultimately chosen. But so what if only 50 actually saw service? Buy the book for the pictures not the prose...

This book documents eighteen "canvas falcons", including three antebellum aeroplanes, of Javier Arango's Aeroplane Collection. It includes famous, and relatively common, examples - such as the Sopwith Pup & Camel, and Fokker Dri & DVII - as well as rarer birds, represented by the Pfalz DIII and Fokker DVI. Both static and in-flight shots of most planes are included. If there are flaws, they are these; first, with the exception of the Pup, there are no close-up cockpit views, a common weakness of such books. Second, some of the more ubiquitous fighters - the various Albatros and SPAD models - are notable by their absence, though this may be due to the limitations of the collection. Well worth owning in any case.

[[ASIN:0916997294 Ghosts of the Great War: Aviation in WWI . This is a very well produced book with excellent state of the art air to air photos, combined with original photos from WW 1. The text is just right; [ not too much] and this book is a 'must have ' for WW 1 aviation enthusiasts and is significantly better than "Ghosts of the Skies" for WW 2

I have been an aviation fanatic all my life,(I'am now 60) and I recomend this book with it's outstanding photograph's. The text give an excellent overview of the beginning of airpower and a good intrduction to WWI aviation. I've always had more than a keen interest in WWI flying ,being a member of a WWi historical group. My only problem with the book was I was hoping for more photos of cockpits and a more detailed discription of how to fly these wonderful old planes. But it makes a wonderful addition to my quite extensive library.(I had just gotten two (what I consider two classics) that I had from my childhood, Falcons Of France and They Fought For The Sky, and this book makes a fine addition.

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