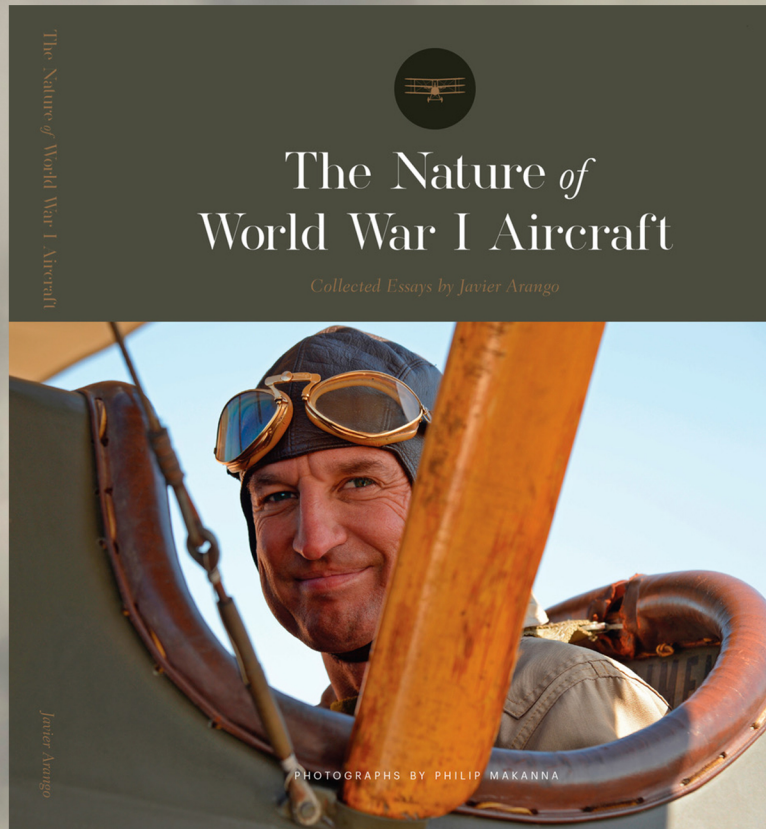


BOOK REVIEW

The Nature of World War I Aircraft *Collected Essays by Javier Arango*

Nick Stroud, Editor, The Aviation Historian, UK.



"The late Javier Arango's contribution to historic aviation, particularly our understanding and appreciation of the extraordinarily rapid evolution of aircraft and airpower during the First World War, is considerable, and this beautiful labour of love put together by his family and one of the world's finest aviation photographers is an eminently worthy tribute to one of our community's "true believers". The photography of Javier's extraordinary collection of Great War and pioneer-era aircraft by one of the doyens of American air-to-air photographers, Philip Makanna, is characteristically sumptuous, but this is no mere "coffee table book"; the glorious images provide a stunning accompaniment to a thoughtfully curated collection of Javier's erudite essays on numerous often-overlooked aspects of the development of First World War aircraft. Javier's passion was understanding and revealing the fundamental nature of these remarkable machines and the people who designed, built and used them; it is the story of parallel developments in airframe and powerplant design and the application of techniques and tactics which came together to establish the essential blueprint for the successful airpower asset that still holds true today. *The Nature of World War I Aircraft* is both a rare treat for those with a passing interest in classic aviation and a love of a spectacular aircraft photograph, and for those who want something rather more in-depth. This is a must-have for any self-respecting aviation-related bookcase."