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Yoko Ono: Collector Of Skies



Synopsis

This lyrical biography explores the life and art of Yoko Ono, from her childhood haiku to her avant-garde visual art and experimental music. An outcast throughout most of her life, and misunderstood by every group she was supposed to belong to, Yoko always followed her own unique vision to create art that was ahead of its time and would later be celebrated. Her focus remained on being an artist, even when the rest of world saw her only as the wife of John Lennon. Yoko Ono's moving story will inspire any young adult who has ever felt like an outsider, or who is developing or questioning ideas about being an artist, to follow their dreams and find beauty in all that surrounds them.

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Customer Reviews

I bought this book in the hopes of sharing Yoko with my students. I found the overview of Yoko's life to be very informative and especially enjoyed the emphasis on her years before and after John Lennon, if only because so much of what people understand about her is rooted in her years with John. It serves as a great introduction to Yoko, as I had hoped. Her influence on contemporary art

and pop culture is undeniable and the overview of this is written in simple, easy-to-follow text. The images are delicious and offer a comprehensive account of her accomplishments without being heavy-handed.

YOKO ONO: COLLECTOR OF SKIES is magnificent! Nell Beram and Carolyn Boriss-Krimsky created more than a fascinating book, it's a work of art. This book is one of the most beautiful in my Yoko Ono collection. I'm convinced the hardcover first edition will become very valuable, in more ways than one, and a favorite. We're all major Yoko Ono fans here in France. We experienced (and it was a most memorable, awesome experience) her 70th birthday happening in Paris. Yoko Ono is amazing and COLLECTOR OF SKIES makes clear that her genius is not only innovative but will continue to inspire artists of all kinds for generations to come.

Purchased this for my brother who lives in a nursing home who has been a fan of The Beatles, John Lennon & Yoko Ono for years.

This is a biography that is divided into a series of years of Yoko Ono's life: 1933-1953, 1953-1962, 1962-1966, 1966-1968, 1968-1970, 1970-1973, 1980-1994 and 1994 to the present (2013). There are many photos of Yoko, including ones of her as a child, her art works and her family, including, of course, the ones many have seen of her and John Lennon. This book gives a background and a clue into the life of Yoko. It tells of her hardships and rejections, her experiences in Japan during and after WWII. Much of her life is told and her feelings explained, including explaining her art works. Her first marriage to Toshi, her second with Tony Cox and their daughter Kyoko are described. Then her meetings with Lennon and her thoughts on giving her opinions to the Beatles' music are detailed. The bed-in and their reasons for that, her custody battle for Kyoko are explained. Sean's birth and their life together afterwards and Lennon's death are expounded upon. Her life after and that of Sean and even Kyoko are touched upon. All is told in a simple and clear fashion with many of her quotes. For those who only know of Yoko Ono during her time with John Lennon, this will give a background to her life. This is a book for fans of Yoko Ono and even John Lennon and for those who simply want to learn more about the life of Yoko Ono.

This is a short and absorbing bio of an iconic and polarizing figure. Like a lot of people, I became familiar with Yoko through the Beatles. She was the bad guy who broke up the biggest band in the world. Or so the story went. This biography shows us another Yoko: an innovative and exciting

conceptual artist, musician, writer and comeback kid. The biography is short but hits the high marks, beginning with Yoko's privileged, yet emotionally cold, upbringing in Japan. The precocious child came out of the bombing raids of World War II with an insatiable curiosity and desire to make a mark. This would lead her to write music, pen incredibly imaginative poems and envision a new society through art. In New York, she ran in circles that included Andy Warhol and John Cage, and was an early member of Fluxus. Her films and performance art gained some critical acclaim, which was soon overshadowed by her relationship with John Lennon. The book sprints through life with John, pre- and post-Beatles, but offers the story we've already heard with a more balanced viewpoint. Yoko and John were a couple that redefined the marriage of equals and channeled their energies into projects audiences didn't always like but wouldn't call boring. The authors followed the story into the 1990s and 2000s as Yoko put out new music and a couple hot remix albums, along with tours and catchy videos. In fact, I wish the authors had included more on this period.

In this biography of Yoko Ono's life, released on the eve of her 80th birthday, authors Beram & Boriss-Krimsky strive to show her as an unusual and unique artist misunderstood by her own generation, not fully accepted by her peers, yet finally accepted by all later in life. They try to put to death the many rumors that claim she was responsible for the Beatles breakup after she met John Lennon, showing John's love for her creativity and willingness to explore new things, while also shedding background information on her life in Japan, her creative genius, and various marriages. *Yoko Ono: Collector of Skies* is not filled with Beatles nostalgia, but with Yoko's unique form of creativity. Some of what she attempted to share over the years is quite obscure and deep, leaving the typical art critic and reader/viewer to scratch their heads in disbelief. *Yoko Ono: Collector of Skies* tries to explain, through Yoko's thoughts and own words, what she really was thinking when creating her work while the rest of us were wondering *what was she thinking?* Her deepest desire was to be a creative artist, and to be recognized for her work. This biography is aimed to educate those who previously may just have thought of her as John Lennon's wife. It shows that she was his wife, but was so much more in her own right. For readers aged 14 and older.

Yoko Ono: Collector of Skies reads like a lovely novel. It is well-written, as compelling and intriguing as the artist herself, suitable for adults as well as young adults. This book makes a worthy addition to a library's collection, especially for students who study art. Personally, I was very much moved by the explanations behind the art, especially by *Play It By Trust* (the entirely white chess set) and

Wish Tree. It is said that 'art makes you look at the world differently.' I am looking at the world differently since I read this book.

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