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Rei Kawakubo/Comme Des Garçons: Art Of The In-Between



Synopsis

A revelatory look at the influential and enigmatic designer behind Comme des Garçons. The great pantheon of fashion designers produces only a handful of creators who are masters of their mécier. Rei Kawakubo of Comme des Garçons is one of them. Widely recognized among her contemporaries as the most important and influential designer of the past forty years, she has, since her Paris debut in 1981, defined and transformed the aesthetics of our time. This lavishly illustrated publication examines Kawakubo's fascination with interstitiality, or the space between boundaries. Existing within and between dualities—whether self/other, object/subject, art/fashion—Kawakubo's work challenges the rigid divisions that have come to define received notions of identity and fashionability, inviting us to rethink fashion as a site of constant creation, re-creation, and, ultimately, hybridity. Featuring brilliant new photography, and thought-provoking texts by Andrew Bolton, this book expresses the conceptual and challenging aesthetic of this visionary designer. An insightful interview and illustrated chronology of Kawakubo's career provide additional context.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

“The catalog is a collector's piece . . . the 240-page book is minimal, arresting, and impossibly chic.” Elle *[A] substantial survey. . . . Kawakubo calls her clothes ‘objects for the body,’ and this catalog allows those objects to speak to readers who understand that fashion goes beyond what you're wearing to work tomorrow.” Library Journal*

Gorgeously illustrated, this book explores the creative output and artistic preoccupations of one of the most important and wildly inventive fashion designers of the last four decades.

Beautiful book capturing the essence of Kawakubo's artistry and voice. Photographs of her workmasterly reproduced. A must for followers and collectors of her clothes.

Completely fabulous! Not only a truly beautiful book to hold in your hand but the interview with the curator is so compelling and so Kawakubo. It's really wonderful.

Huge book, designed by Baron & Baron. The first printing I received came with a folding poster similar in style to the tipped-in photo on the slip-case cover (shown in the product image). The actual cloth book cover has some standard debossing with a weirdly flimsy vellum jacket. The photography is excellent with numerous pages that fold-out. Well worth the price and recommended for anybody who works in the creative industry.

The photographs are superb and effectively convey to the reader the emotion of Comme des Garcons. However, the text is printed in extremely small type and in gray ink. This combination makes reading the text difficult at best. I have communicated these comments to the MET.

This is an amazing collection of Rei Kawakubo's work. Normally exhibition books tend to be a bit blah, but not this one. It's beautifully presented on models rather than simply mannequins. Comme des Garçons is one of the most creative fashion labels around and this is a must for fans and great for those new to her work.

Kawakubo's artistry is viewed perhaps as it is meant to be- not fashion but as art, using fabric as medium. Spectacularly creative and astonishing. The book captures it in an evocative, clean presentation. Anyone interested in art will find it compelling and beautiful.

I got to see the show at the Met, and I just absolutely loved it. I didn't want to buy the book at the museum due to travel weight - so I ordered it and had it shipped via . It's a beautiful book with wonderful imagery.

Defied expectations. Simply a very beautiful book!. Thank you.

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