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Okimono Kimono



Synopsis

Here's an exciting and charming addition to the CLAMP collection of works! CLAMP artist Mokona loves the art of traditional Japanese kimono. In fact, she designs kimono and kimono accessories herself and shares her love in *Okimono Kimono*, a fun and lavishly illustrated book full of drawings and illustrations, interviews (including an interview with Ami of the J-pop duo Puffy AmiYumi!), and even short manga stories from the CLAMP artists. Fans of CLAMP will love *Okimono Kimono* for the personal glimpse of Mokona's kimono obsession, and people who love the traditional Japanese arts will appreciate the love and detail Mokona puts into her work.

Book Information

Paperback: 128 pages

Publisher: Dark Horse (June 22, 2010)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 1595824561

ISBN-13: 978-1595824561

Product Dimensions: 5.9 x 0.4 x 8.3 inches

Shipping Weight: 2.4 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

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Customer Reviews

First I think I should say that "Okimono Kimono" is not what you probably think it is. When I first about it, I thought it was an illustration book of CLAMP characters wearing kimono. The cover is misleading, and the blurb doesn't help matters much. It turns out that "Okimono Kimono" is not an illustration book but a guide to wearing kimono by CLAMP member and kimono enthusiast Mokona. Photos of models wearing the kimono are used instead of illustrations, though the backgrounds are sometimes painted. Although I would've loved a book of CLAMP's kimono illustrations, this is a beautiful book. The kimono are lovely, colorful and full of interesting patterns. The models are pretty and take on interesting poses. Mokona goes into great detail with each kimono, explaining the significance of the colors and patterns and giving advice on what obi and accessories to wear with them. The first four are her own creations, and with these, she details her process. She explains

how CLAMP's work inspired these kimono, what emotions they're supposed to convey. There's also concept art and notes on the painting process. Most of the kimono are based around an occasion, like cherry blossom viewing, weddings, or just going into town. They range from elegant and mature to playful and fun, vintage to modern. I thought the vintage ones were especially interesting, as Mokona explains what era they're from and where she got them. "Okimono Kimono" may center on kimono, but there's plenty of room for obi and accessories, too. Mokona talks about how the kimono, collar, obi, and accessories all go together, and while I didn't always like her combinations, her thought process was interesting. There are as many different kinds of obi and hair ornaments as there are kimono.

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