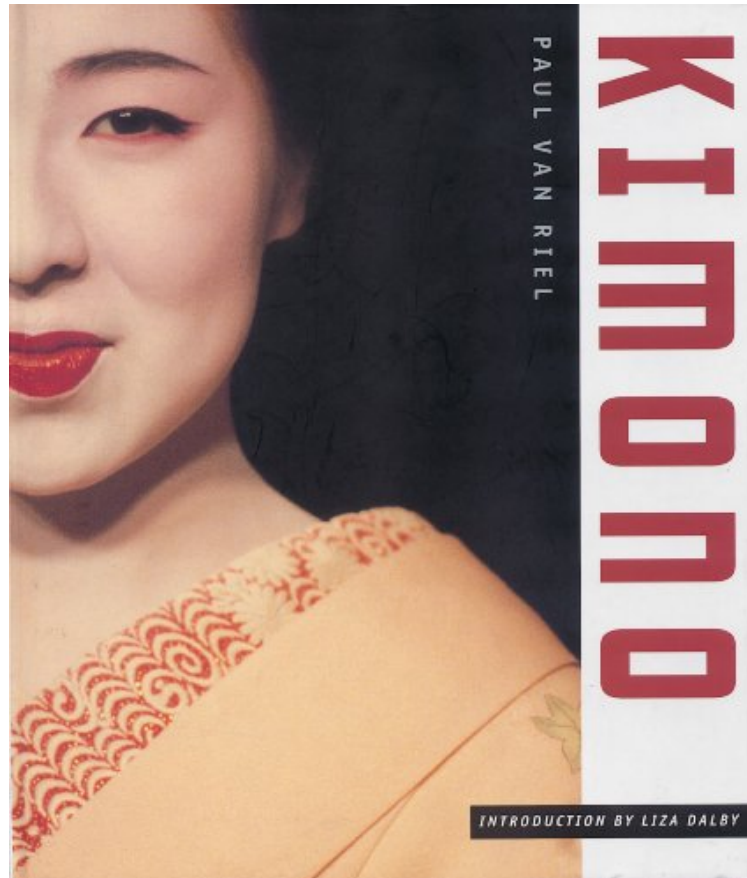


[FREE] Kimono

Kimono

Paul van Riel

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Paul van Riel : Kimono before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Kimono:

2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. Excellent Introduction to Kimono.By Rabid ReaderThis may not be the definitive book on the topic, and it may not be the most academic work on the topic, but it is certainly the most approachable book I've encountered. It's engaging, clever and detailed, without being dry or dragging. For costumers, historians, and aficionados of Kimono and Japan, this is a must-have book even if you plan to later read more academic texts. It makes kimono history and culture very accessible.7 of 7 people found the following review helpful. A book based on fine researchBy Paul WilliamsThis is an essential book, I think, for clothing designers, people who like Japanese style, and fabric makers -- as well as others. Dalby's knowledge of Japan and women's kimono fashion is based on personal knowledge in the culture, including a stint as an "American geisha" in Japan and all the kimono wearing that involved. She also did terrific book research. One of the intriguing parts of the book is the revelation of the fashion art of woodblock print (ukiyo-e) artists. The book becomes a double pleasure of fashion AND art. Her prose explains kimono to you with ease, and it reads like tips from a favorite friend. Even for a man who never expects to wear a yukata again, I enjoyed it tremendously.0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. .By CustomerI

love Liza Dalby's works. I found it very easy to read and understand--quite important considering the intricacies in the rules governing kimono. I priceless reference when studying Heian costume. Very comprehensive. The only thing that put me off was the way it was organized. It is not by period. There is a topic, and then within the topic it is organized by period. This gives it the feeling of jumping around, as you are constantly rotating through periods and back again.

Any first-time visitor to Japan will be struck by that most beautiful symbol of its ancient culture: the kimono. This book contains a selection of the numerous encounters photographer Paul van Riel had with people wearing kimono all over Japan. Although its popularity has dwindled somewhat over the last 25 years, the national garment of Japan is still deeply rooted in Japanese culture, as these photographs testify. Liza Dalby describes the kimono's transformation from daily clothing to formal wear over the course of the 20th century. Her personal experiences give us a glimpse of the meanings the kimono has for the geisha. Introduction and captions by Liza Dalby, photographs and text by Paul van Riel.

From Publishers Weekly Another Eastern fashion innovation is spotlighted by anthropologist Liza Dalby (Geisha) in *Kimono: Fashioning Culture*. When Dalby spent a year as a geisha in Kyoto in the 1970s, she found that the most difficult part of her work was wearing the kimono. Her experience inspired this exhaustive chronicle of the history and social meanings of the robe. Dalby is particularly concerned with how the confining robe in which women can't, among other things, cross their legs clashed with creeping Westernization in the last century, giving rise to such controversies as the 1920s skirmish over what kind of underwear should properly be worn with the kimono. Copyright 2001 Cahners Business Information, Inc. From *Library Journal* Dalby, author of *Geisha* (Univ. of California Pr., 1983), has written a lively, informative study of the kimono, tracing its evolution throughout Japanese history to its current status as the national dress of Japan. Her book's coverage includes all types of "native" dress, past and present; her unique position as a Western "insider" allows her to demystify the complex social mores connected with wearing the kimono. The work is also notable for reprinting and translating sections from 17th-century pattern books and for its discussion of the Heian (794-1185) color palette. Jill Liddell's *The Story of the Kimono* (Dutton, 1989) and Alan Kennedy's *Japanese Costume: History and Tradition* (A. Biro, 1990) cover different aspects of kimono history and textile design. The three books nicely complement one another, providing almost complete coverage of the subject. At once scholarly and enjoyable reading, *Kimono* is recommended for academic and public libraries with collections on Asian culture.- Katharine L. Kan, Aiea P.L., Hawaii Copyright 1993 Reed Business Information, Inc. "Of all the traditional Japanese arts, kimono design may be the most sumptuous to survive today. These exceptional photographs beautifully illustrate not only its richness but the position it occupies in modern-day Japan." -- Arthur Golden, author of *Memoirs of a Geisha*