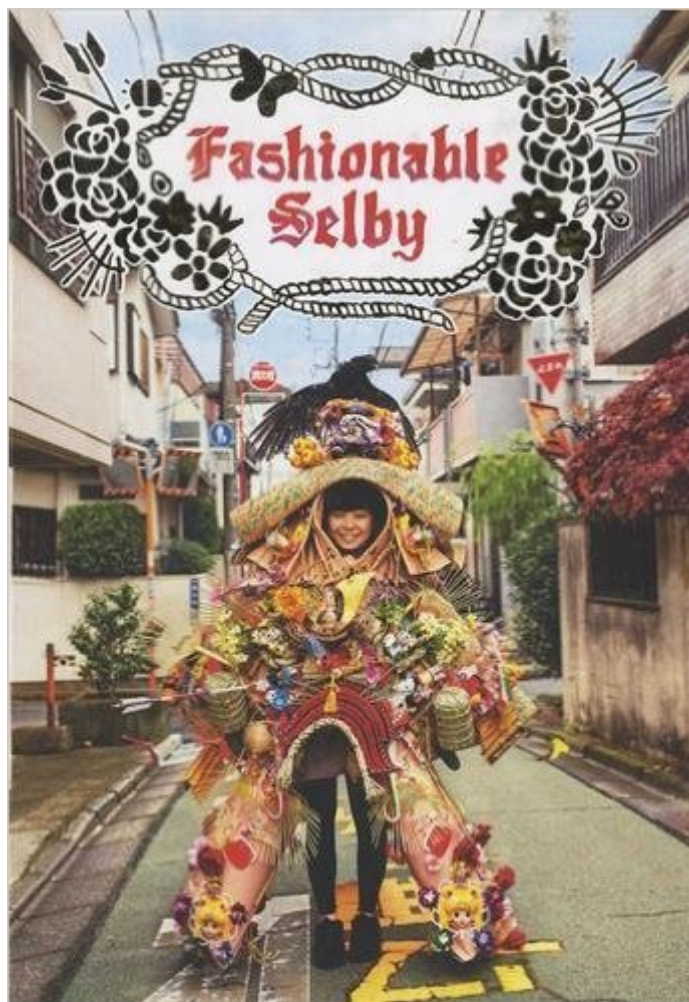


The book was found

Fashionable Selby



Synopsis

The next installment in the bestselling Selby series, Fashionable Selby explores the kaleidoscopic world of fashion, featuring profiles of today's most interesting designers, stylists, haberdashers, models, shoemakers, and more. The subjects include a mix of the avant-garde, the traditional, the must-haves, and the totally unexpected. Chapters on individual artists bring readers inside their studios, workshops, and homes, and include Selby's signature photographs and watercolors of not only the artists and their environments, but also the things that inspire them, the materials they use, their creative process, the people who work alongside them, and the final pieces. From the showroom of one of the Antwerp Six to the studios of Central St. Martins in London to a punk knitter in Brooklyn, Selby captures some of fashion's biggest names, rising stars, and best-kept secrets.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Only a few pages really caught my eye in Fashionable Selby, which I found overall pretty disappointing, much to my surprise given all the extremely positive reviews. The designers and other artisans featured in the book are undoubtedly more interesting than they appear here. The book's presentation of them keeps the details of their work mostly shrouded. For each designer/artisan, we are shown only a few cluttered, murky, hyper-saturated photographs. In the few cases where I found an image visually interesting, I wished the book would give some information about what I was looking at, but none of the images is accompanied by captions or explanations. Each set of images *is* accompanied, however, by a fake-spontaneous, Pollyanna-toned, nearly

illegible handwritten/sketched exchange between (presumably) Selby and the artist. These tend to convey a pretentious, "insider"-y attitude that ultimately comes off as empty. The table of contents, which is done in freehand illustration style, also takes the book's eclectic, hyper-busy M.O. to the point where it is very difficult to read. Overall, the book takes its jumbled, bohemian, quirky aesthetic--which normally I would really quite like--to such an extreme that it becomes nearly illegible and therefore alienating. It's as if Selby wants to tantalize but ultimately exclude readers, consigning them to remain "outsiders" who can never really glimpse the arcane, esoteric worlds he (just barely) represents. This is probably the point, actually--to remind us of the exclusivity of the fashion world by excluding us even at the level of looking and reading. If the book's aim is to convey the fashion world as a world shrouded in mystery, in this it admirably succeeds. It just doesn't inspire the requisite awe in me.

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