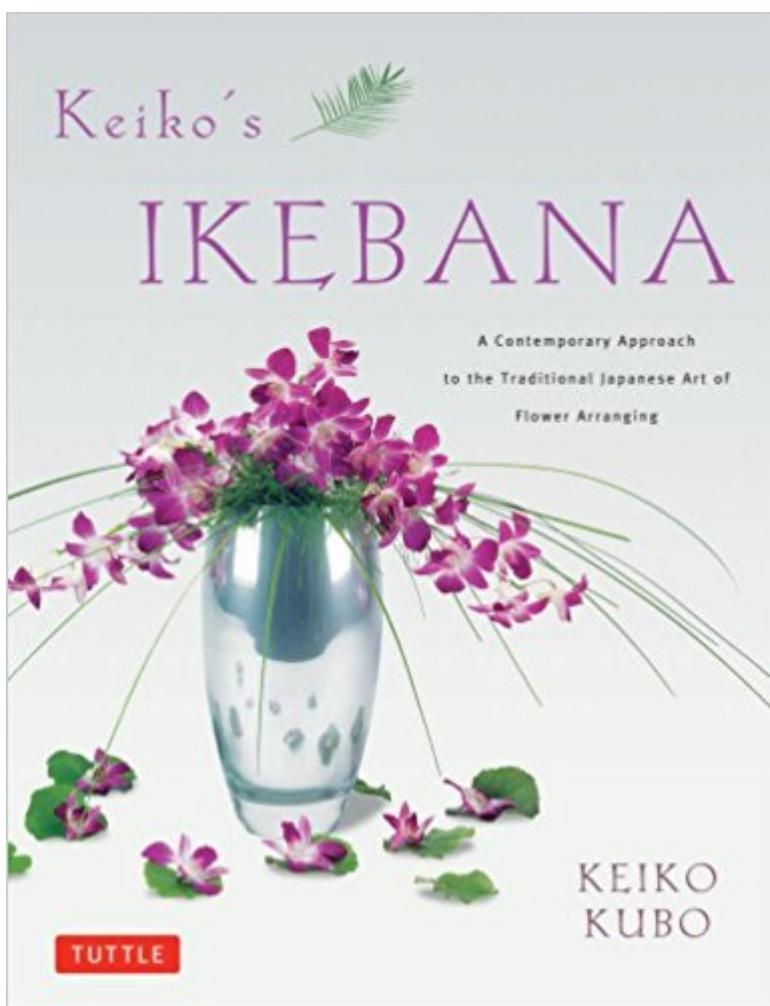


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Keiko's Ikebana: A Contemporary Approach To The Traditional Japanese Art Of Flower Arranging



Synopsis

Keiko's unique approach to ikebana, the Japanese art of flower arranging, combines traditional techniques with modern tastes. Her influences—“which range from sculpture to today's Western floral design”—“come together to create one-of-a-kind arrangements that are authentic and eye-catching, simple and graceful, and possible for anyone to achieve. This book presents step-by-step instructions for creating 20 stunning ikebana arrangements in a range of sizes and styles. Each of the flower arrangements can be completed in just three simple steps and uses easy-to-find floral materials and containers. The book also includes an introduction to the history of ikebana as it relates to Japan and Japanese culture, as well as a guide to the basic rules of ikebana design and floral techniques. Suggestions for finding and choosing materials and supplies make it easy to learn how to arrange flowers and gain a hands-on appreciation of the art of Japanese flower arranging.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Kubo brings her skills as a sculptor, certified ikebana instructor and student of Western floral design to this introduction to the traditional Japanese art form, which includes directions for 20 arrangements. The author describes her approach to ikebana as a freestyle mix of classical principles and contemporary Western design. By playing with three main elements (line, volume and accent), Kubo says, even beginners can create a wide variety of designs that bring out the inherent beauty of flowers, leaves, branches and other natural materials. She provides a concise history of

ikebana, dating to the sixth-century custom of offering flowers to Buddha; explains styles that have developed up to the present day; and discusses ikebana's close ties to Japanese architecture and culture. Kubo also gives brief but thorough descriptions of the tools and techniques readers will need to master, as well as a list of resources for supplies. Kubo's respectful but eclectic take on tradition is refreshing. Novice practitioners will likely welcome her less-is-more philosophy, in which a minimum of materials are transformed into satisfying art forms. Beautifully illustrated with color photographs by Erich Schrempp, the book is an elegant reminder of nature's subtle ability to nurture the human spirit. (Mar.) Copyright © Reed Business Information, a division of Reed Elsevier Inc. All rights reserved. --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

"Kubo's respectful but eclectic take on tradition is refreshing. Novice practitioners will likely welcome her less-is-more philosophy, in which a minimum of materials are transformed into satisfying art forms."--"Publishers Weekly""Offers an introduction to this international art that is both practical and contemporary."--"Garden Design""Ikebana enthusiasts-the craft has a devoted following in North America-will find many good ideas here."--"Library Journal""The extraordinarily talented floral design artist, Keiko Kubo, shares her innovative ideas in [Keiko's Ikebana]. The book's content is not only inspirational but also very practical with step-by-step instructions on each design for readers."--"The National Gardener"

Great book showing the style of Ikebana.

I was purchasing the book as a gift. Even though I was promised that I would receive it by a certain date, I did not. This is very unusual in my experience with - thus only four stars. The book was reasonably priced and my friend loved it!

It wasn't as instructional as I had hoped however it's a beautiful book and has many arrangements to follow

It gave me ideas I never thought of. What a comprehensive tutorial to contemporary floral design. I will wow my guests and clients!

Beautiful photos of outstanding ikebana. I found such inspiration from the arrangements and technical advice was priceless. I would recommend for starters in the art. Beautiful.

I bought a beautiful Ikebana vase at the Atlanta Arts Festival last year as a gift for my 81 year old mother. The potter who made the vase recommended this book as a companion gift. My mother loved the book with it's clear instructions and visuals. I wish I could attach the photo of her first Ikebana arrangement made with a branch and berries.

I am very new to Floral Design - which is now way beyond "Flowers in a vase" and becoming a very contemporary forms of art. So I find Ikebana to be so refreshing for its simplicity. I have taken several courses in Ikebana and find it such a relaxing form of design. Even the history of Ikebana is facinating. I refer to this book often but also just enjoy browsing through it.

Inspiring, instructive, and beautiful presentation of Sogetsu ikebana for neophytes and seasoned practitioners alike, this book is sure to please.

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