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Everything Is Alive



Synopsis

Oka Doner's life work shines a light on the continuing importance of art and transformative power in our cosmic and enchanting natural world. Michele Oka Doner is one of today's foremost artists. Her prodigious career spans five decades and numerous artistic media, from sculpture and works on paper, furniture and jewelry. The common thread running through Oka Doner's oeuvre is her lifelong study and appreciation of the natural world from which she derives her formal vocabulary. In *Everything is Alive*, this vocabulary hones in on magic, enchantment, and transformation as one is led through the artistic processes behind some of Oka Doner's prominent art installations. From Micco, the monumental concrete arch suffused with native greenery of the Everglades to Oka Doner's haunting ceramic SoulCatchers and figurative sculptures born from clay at the Nymphenburg Porcelain Manufactory in Munich, to Miami International Airport where Oka Doner's Sargassum soars overhead and her *A Walk on the Beach* lies at the feet of millions of travelers who pass through each year. Four essayists, Judith Thurman, Joseph Giovannini, Cynthia Nadelman, and Gregory Volk, serve as guides through Oka Doner's evolution as an artist and creation of these installations, which are brought to life on the page through stunning photographs, original process sketches and inspirations. *Everything is Alive* offers just a glimpse into the full breadth of Oka Doner's works, but most importantly, it shines a light on the continuing importance of permanent installations of art and the worldview that there is beauty to be found in all living things.

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Customer Reviews

Michele Oka Doner is an internationally renowned artist whose career spans five decades. Born in Miami Beach, Florida, her work is fueled by a lifelong study and appreciation of the natural world. The breadth of her artistic production encompasses sculpture, furniture, jewelry, public art, functional objects, video, artist books, and costume and set design. She is the author of five books, including *Into the Mysterium* (2016, Regan Arts). She is well known for creating numerous public art installations throughout the United States, including *Flight* at Regan International Airport, Washington, DC; *Radiant Site* at the Herald Square MTA station, New York; and the mile and quarter long *A Walk on the Beach*, a bronze and terrazzo concourse at Miami International Airport. Represented by Marlborough Gallery, Oka Doner's work is found in the collections of the Metropolitan Museum, the Whitney Museum of American Art, The Art Institute of Chicago, Musée des Arts Décoratifs (the Louvre), the Victoria & Albert, Yale University Art Gallery, the University of Michigan Museum of Art, and The Detroit Institute of Arts, among others. She has received numerous awards, including those given by United Nations Society of Writers and Artists, Pratt Institute, New York State Council of the Arts, and the Knight Foundation. In 2016, she received an honorary doctorate from The University of Michigan, where she earned her undergraduate and MFA degrees. She has served on the boards of Pratt Institute, The Wolfsonian Museum, and BOMB Magazine. She lives and works in Soho, New York City.

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