



Kimono Design: An Introduction to Textiles and Patterns

Keiko Nitani

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Kimono Design: An Introduction to Textiles and Patterns uses hundreds of photographs and a wealth of information on colors, fabrics and embellishments to paint a portrait of Japanese culture, art and thought. Lavish classical patterns, sweeping scenes, and the many motifs that have been woven, dyed, painted or embroidered into these textiles reveal a reflectiveness, a sense of humor, and an appreciation of exquisite beauty that is uniquely Japanese.

Organized according to motifs traditionally associated with each season of the year, *Kimono Design* interprets the kimono's special language as expressed in depictions of:

- Flowers and grasses
- Birds and other animals
- Symbols of power, luck and prestige
- Land-and-seascapes
- scenes from literature, history and daily life
- scenes of travel and the Japanese concept of other lands
- and many others...

Extensive notes on all the motifs demonstrate how the kimono reflects changing times and a sense of the timeless. Information on jewelry, hairpins and other accessories is scattered throughout to give a fuller sense of the Japanese art of dress. This is a volume that Japanophiles, historians, artists and designers will all cherish.

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