



Iris Apfel: Accidental Icon

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“Personal style really originated with Iris Apfel; she has always espoused the virtues of not just dressing for yourself, but being who you are and doing it unapologetically, which is perhaps why she and her messaging and aesthetic have resonated so comprehensively. She’s a transcendent icon!”—Leandra Medine, manrepeller.com

A unique and lavishly illustrated collection of musings, anecdotes, and observations on all matters of life and style, infused with the singular candor, wit, and exuberance of the globally revered ninety-six-year-old fashion icon whose work has been celebrated at the Metropolitan Museum of Art’s Costume Institute and by countless fans worldwide.

A woman who transcends time and trends, Iris Apfel is a true original, one of the most dynamic personalities in the worlds of fashion, textiles, and interior design. As the cofounder with her husband, Carl Apfel, of Old World Weavers, an international textile manufacturing company that specialized in reproducing antique fabrics, her prestigious clientele has included Greta Garbo, Estee Lauder, Montgomery Clift, and Joan Rivers. She also acted as a restoration consultant and replicated fabric for the White House over nine presidential administrations. Iris’s travels worldwide and a passion for flea markets of all sorts inspired her work and fueled her passion for collecting fashion and accessories.

In 2005, she was the first living person who was not a designer to have her clothing and accessories exhibited at the Costume Institute at the Metropolitan Museum of Art, a blockbuster show that catapulted her to fame and a career as a supermodel, muse, and collaborator for renowned brands, from Citroen to Tag Heuer, and global gigs at Bon Marché in Paris and the Landmark Mandarin Oriental in Hong Kong. In 2015, acclaimed director Albert Maysles released *Iris*, his last film—now an Emmy Award nominee—to a global audience.

Now, this self-dubbed geriatric starlet, whose irrepressible authenticity, wit, candor, and infectious energy have earned her nearly a million followers on social media, has created an entertaining, thought-provoking, visually arresting, and inspiring volume—her first book—that captures her unique joie de vivre. *Iris Apfel: Accidental Icon*, contains an eclectic mix of musings and 180 full-color and black-and-white photos and illustrations—presented in the same improvisational, multifaceted style that have made Iris a contemporary fashion icon. Astute maxims, witty anecdotes from childhood to the present, essays on style and various subjects, from the decline of manners to the importance of taking risks, fill the book as do lists, both proclamatory, revelatory, and advisory.

All are paired with a bold, color-filled, exciting design that varies from page to page. Here, too, is a treasure trove of never-before-published personal photographs and mementos, mixed with images from top international fashion photographers and illustrators with enchanting, surprising novelties such as Disney cartoons, vintage postcards, the Iris Apfel Halloween costume for children, and more.

Iris Apfel: Accidental Icon Details

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Author : Iris Apfel

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From Reader Review Iris Apfel: Accidental Icon for online ebook

Kristina says

This woman is everything, and this book is perfection.

Cindy Richard says

One of my new favorite books, it is chock full of advice from an inspiring woman who is ageless and fearless. This book is filled with a colorful menagerie of images, words, and experiences that only someone as amazing as her could have had. Her life is as charming and irreverent as she is. I picked this book up at the gift shop at the Peabody Essex Museum- they have a large collection of Iris's clothing and accessories. I hate that I just missed the huge exhibition they staged of her collection - I moved to the area about a month after it was gone. I can't wait for future exhibits of her collection! My favorite quote from the book, "Having a sense of wonder, a sense of humor, and a sense of curiosity- these are my tonic. They keep you young, childlike, open to new people and things, ready for another adventure."

Ellen says

For anyone who wants creative inspiration or a fashion muse, get this book! It is, in itself, a true bargain! Read about the 96 going on 18 Fashionista who is still totally involved in creativity and life. I first heard of her last year when watching a documentary about her. Actually, I had heard of her before, but had not known much of her life. "She's you!" my husband said as we watched and became fascinated.

The book is full of her ideas on creativity and design. Her signature style, "more is more; less is a bore" is reflected in her wonderful jewelry and unusual outfits. She is no snob, however, nor a slave to fashion. Ms. Apfel talks about the excitement of finding a great \$3 bracelet and mixing it with expensive jewelry, or not! She is a flea market fan big time, and has explored them all over the world.

The photographs of her wonderful home, complete with collections of nutcrackers and all kinds of objet d'art, made me drool! Her love of textile and knowledge of patterns from all eras and countries makes you want to go fabric hunting. She has worked with presidents from the 1940s to 90s when decorating and refurbishing rooms in The White House, but she retains her common sense, humility, and artistic vision.

Her amazing life is reflected in the great love she has for her parents, both talented, encouraging free thinkers. She dedicates this book to her late husband, the wonderful, supportive Carl, and to them. Carl, too, is given lots of fashion and business credit, and she describes how she made him wonderful trousers in upholstery and other novelty materials that got him many compliments. My mother used to make me skirts

out of all sorts of novelty prints like this, and I still wear them.

Apfel mixes pieces from Loehmann's, antique stores, estate sales, flea markets, and couture houses to create looks that have made her outfits and jewelry, layered one wonderful layer on the other, museum exhibits.

She talks about compiling these outfits and her projects freely, and is still a visiting professor at a major university.

Read the book; it will make you want to get up and do wonderful things! Her advice for longevity is age is just a number, get out and learn, stay curious and interested, and above all, follow your passions and dreams.

Christine says

What an inspiration....as beautiful to look at, as it is to read...just plan fun and inspirational.

Meredith says

5 Solid Stars!!

Love, love, love this book. Will be reading it again and again!

Hanje Richards says

Beautifully produced book. Iris Apfel tells her own story complete with brilliant and beautiful photography and graphic design, befitting this “geriatric starlet” and her passion for design, fashion and the all important accessories that she wears with such style.

T says

I loved reading this book. Iris has a great sense of style and amazing humor.

Ellen says

Just like Apfel, this book is happy, colorful, lovely, and full of life.

She talks about her amazing adventures as a young girl, fashion journalist, interior designer, and "accidental icon," as well as the great love she has for her late parents and late husband of 68 years, Carl. "Although I'm in my 90s, I still feel like I'm 5 1/2 because I always look at the world like I'm discovering it for the first time," Apfel writes. You can't help but be in a great mood after finishing this book!

Jamespc says

Thank god for this book. Beautiful design, wonderful advice, amazing photographs, and a fashion biography of sorts every bit as glamorous as its subject.

Gretchen Rubin says

A quick, thoughtful, entertaining read -- Iris Apfel is terrific, now I want to watch the documentary.

jendlo says

I'd rather rather pore over this book than Instagram any day!

It will delight the style crowd that shuns Kate Spade.

Jolanta Da says

2.5*

Iris Apfel - siu dienu legenda, New York gyvenanti stiliaus ikona, nepaliaujanti stebinti visu savo dziazuojanciu garderobu. Sulaukusi savo garbiu 90+, spalvingoji bobulyte, zavi savo jaunatvisku zvilgsniu I gyvenima, jumoro jausmu, gyvybiskumu...tokiu gyvenimu su upu. Jos sugebejimas vis dar stebetis, atradineti, noreti zaisti - ikvepiantis...

Pati knyga parasyta, suredaguota ir isleista labai jau ne puikiai. Taip, lyg butu tik koks pirmas bandymas - maketas. Po nuotraukomis nera jokio uzraso - paaiskinimo, lieka tik spelioti su kuo autore ten, kur, kada...Man buvo per mazai jos garsiuju outfit nuotrauku, bet pilna kokiui tai piesinuku, kurie menkino si leidima. Nors, ka cia gali zinoti, gal toks ir buvo sumanymas. Kaip ten bebutu, taciau pacios autores asmenybe negali nezaveti.

Tarp kitko, ji nera atsitiktine madoje. Ponia Apfel yra turejusi savo audiniu ir interjero dizaino verslus, restauravusi (audinius) ir dekoravusi baltuosius rumus devynioms prezidentu administracijoms (nuo H. Truman iki B. Clinton), ilgus (l. ilgus) metus kolekcionavo aksesuarus...

Taip stulbinamai isgarsejo 2005-iais Metropolitan Museum of Art pristacius jos rubu ir aksesuaru kolekcija. Veliau seke dokumentinis filmas...ir uzsisuko visa media masina...Dabar ponja ramybes nebeturi... Taciau, kaip supratau, tuo ji megajausi...Greiciausiai ji sugeba dziaugtis ir megautis viskuo ir visada...

Kaip cia jos nepacituosi:

“If you want to stay young, you have to think young.

Having sense of wonder, a sense of humor, and a sense of curiosity – these are my tonic. They keep you young, childlike, open to new people and things, ready for another adventure”.

“Anyway, you have to have fun. If you can’t have fun, you might as well be dead”.

“You only fail if you do not try”

Kathryn says

What a wonderful experience to read this book. The front cover is unique and every page inside was joyful, loud and so Iris. I knew little about her and learned a great deal. Her writings are not very long, the majority of the book is pictures and pages with colorful musings. I think everyone would enjoy this book.

Nino Meladze says

Inspiring woman who is basing her success on common sense. I loved discovering Iris’ passion for travel and deep reflections that no doubt inspired her immaculate style. Humour and Hard Work are two themes that come through strongly, which gave significantly risen respect levels of Iris for me.

Kirsti says

"Although I'm in my 90s, I still feel like I'm 5 1/2 because I always look at the world like I'm discovering it for the first time. If I could remain one age forever, I wouldn't. I don't believe in that."

I adore Iris Apfel and her keen mind and her resplendent accessories and her life-sized ostrich statue that you pull the wing up and it's a drinks cabinet. This book has gorgeous illustrations and photos.
