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Georgia O'Keeffe And Her Houses: Ghost Ranch And Abiquiu



GEORGIA O'KEEFFE AND HER HOUSES GHOST RANCH AND ABIQUIU



BARBARA BUNLER LYNES and AGATA JOY LOPEZ



Synopsis

Georgia O'Keeffe's two houses in New Mexico—at Abiquiu and Ghost Ranch—are essential elements in her paintings, but their history has never before been detailed. Quoting liberally from the artist's letters, Barbara Buhler Lynes and Agapita Judy Lopez create a vibrant picture of O'Keeffe (1887–1986) and her homes, which have long intrigued the public. An essay by architect Beverly Spears describes the distinctive characteristics of adobe construction. The bountiful illustrations include photographs made especially for this book showing the houses as they are today, photographs of O'Keeffe at home by major photographers, and her paintings of the houses and the landscapes surrounding them. Praise for *Georgia O'Keeffe and her Houses*: “Beautifully designed and fascinating.” —Publishers Weekly

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Customer Reviews

In flight from her hectic New York life with her avidly sociable husband, photographer Alfred Stieglitz, and in pursuit of “quiet and isolation,” O'Keeffe found the perfect refuge in New Mexico. Her passion for the land and sky and her profound attachment to her homes at Ghost Ranch and Abiquiu shape and vitalize all of her best-known paintings, yet the full story of how she acquired and lived and worked in these sanctuaries has never been told before. Lynes (*Georgia O'Keeffe Museum Collections*, 2007), curator of the Georgia O'Keeffe Museum in Santa Fe, and Lopez, director of Abiquiu Historic Properties, thoroughly and thoughtfully

chronicle the ways the artist turned her cherished homes and studios into veritable works of art. With information on adobe construction and the Pueblo Revival style, striking black-and-white photographs of the artist in her homes by such famous photographers as Ansel Adams, O'Keeffe's paintings of Ghost Ranch and Abiquiu, and new color photographs that capture the enduring beauty and serenity of O'Keeffe's gracefully pristine sanctuaries, this is a gorgeous and enriching addition to the O'Keeffe collection. --Donna Seaman

Barbara Buhler Lynes is curator of the Georgia O'Keeffe Museum in Santa Fe and Emily Fisher Landau Director of the Georgia O'Keeffe Museum Research Center. She is the author of many publications, including Abrams's Georgia O'Keeffe Museum: Highlights from the Collection and Georgia O'Keeffe Museum Collections. Agapita Judy Lopez is director of Abiquiu Historic Properties and rights and reproductions manager for the Georgia O'Keeffe Museum. She worked for Georgia O'Keeffe from 1974 until the artist's death in 1986.

For anyone who loves Georgia O'Keeffe's work, this book is a must-have. Filled with wonderful photographs of her two New Mexico houses at Ghost Ranch and Abiquiu, ranging in date from 1933 when the Ghost Ranch house was built into the 1970s at Abiquiu; but most of all, pictures of O'Keeffe at home, working, posing, cooking, gardening, taken by Ansel Adams, Yousuf Karsh and others. The art reproductions are excellent, often full-page affairs, and whenever a painting appears in a photograph, or there is a view or part of her house she painted, there is a color repro on the facing page. Another great thing about the book is that new photographs (2007-2010) were taken to replicate the angles in some of the paintings, specifically one of the Abiquiu courtyard in the snow, and other Abiquiu paintings as well. The text is kept relatively short--only a couple of real essays, both short, one giving an overview of when, how and why she bought these houses, and one about the care and feeding of adobe; most of the book is given over to the great pictures, and text is mostly one-paragraph explanations or discussions of what we see in the photographs themselves.

My favorite book about O'Keeffe. These two houses were quite different from one another. She preferred the isolation of simpleness of the ranch and I prefer the Abiquiu house with its gardens and view of a green river valley. Seeing how she 'decorated' each house and how she worked at each was fascinating, especially if you're interested in houses.

I hesitated to spend so much on an art book, but I took the plunge and am so pleased to report that it was well worth the expense. Maybe it's because I'm an artist, but I was fascinated with every page of copious photos, comparisons of rooms and exteriors made over the decades, as well as the discussions that clarified these things. And, the full page repros of her paintings that were shown hanging on her walls was a very nice touch and much appreciated. A very well-done book for the O'keeffe officianato.

Long story but Georgia O'Keeffe has a lot of special meaning to our family. I bought this book as a gift for my father on our most recent trip to Ghost Ranch. I only got a chance to look over his shoulder briefly as he flipped through it but from what I saw it was both really well done and full of some fascinating photos. For All I know about O'keeffe I never realized the style of her residences was so contemporary! Looking forward to my next visit to my dad so I can really go through this book.

This is a real treasure for those of us who love O'Keeffe's work and New Mexico. I have been fortunate enough to tour the Abiquiu house, but wished I could have some photographs of it, which isn't allowed on the tours. I have also seen a lot of Ghost Ranch on multiple visits, but the house is off limits. Now my curiosity is satisfied and I am delighted with both the beautiful photographs and the very informative text.

This is a beautiful book that provides insight into Georgia O'Keeffe's life and art. The history of her two residences is discussed & then it goes room by room explaining changes that O'Keeffe made. The authors could have given Mary Chabot, who essentially oversaw the reconstruction & building of the Abiquiu house more credit. She made many many decisions while O'Keeffe was spending much of her time in NY during the building. Beautiful!

After traveling out to NM last year and touring her house at Abiquiu and touring Ghost Ranch I thoroughly enjoyed getting this inside scoop so to speak on her homes and her life in them. I love that I have images now to come back to again and again since there was no photography allowed at Abiquiu and no one gets to tour the Ghost Ranch house. I am an artist and Georgia O'Keeffe is one of my absolute favorites.

Loved the photographs, the floor plans and the narration, very authentic. I had just toured Ms. O'Keeffe's house and it was like I was back there. I would highly recommend the book to everyone. It like being on the tour and more. is super - ordering was a breeze and the book arrived in great shape and in record time.

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