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Mrs. O: The Face Of Fashion Democracy



Synopsis

Celebrated for her style and substance, Michelle Obama has transformed the role of first lady and become a 21st century icon, attracting attention from all over the world. The qualities so admired in her - intelligence, strength and charisma - radiate through her personal style, which has united accessibility with high-wattage glamour. The clothes, like the woman, feel both familiar and inspirational. Readily mixing high-end labels with more affordable brands, with a focus on craftsmanship and artistry, Mrs. O has elevated the notion of real value and ushered in a new era of "fashion democracy". Building on the success of Mrs-O.org - the Web site that chronicles Michelle Obama's style - MRS. O: THE FACE OF FASHION DEMOCRACY takes a closer look at America's modern style icon, featuring more than 120 photographs of the first lady and delving into the back story of her clothes and accessories. It also goes behind the scenes with interviews from her favorite designers, including Isabel Toledo, Jason Wu, Michael Kors, Maria Pinto and Isaac Mizrahi. Opening with a brief overview of Michelle Obama's early years, the book goes on to provide rarely seen photos from behind-the-scenes on the presidential primary trail through the 2008 Democratic National Convention, the monumental events of election night, the inauguration and early chapters of life in the White House. The final chapter hears the opinions of Mrs. O's adoring fans - giving the last word to the people. Original photographs of Michelle Obama's most iconic looks, along with commentary from fashion experts, top off this tactile visual feast. Woven together with sketches and illustration inspired by the first lady, the book reveals the story of a new era of American fashion.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

I have mixed feelings about considering Michelle Obama a fashion icon, First Lady of Style and other blurbs of the like as expressed in this book. There are just few things I would recognize as her strong points when it comes to fashion. They are: * The fact that she is extremely creative in her use of brooches to enhance and give character to an outfit. * The way she has brought the "dress" back into being acceptable formal attire for the world of politics instead of the overused "pantsuit". * Her fitness. She has great arms and shoulders to wear sleeveless and strapless frocks. Other than the above, Mrs. O's (like this book calls her) fashion choices are oftentimes shocking, and sometimes totally wrong. Author Maria Tomer, who is no doubt fascinated by the First Lady's fashion sense, explains how most of Michelle Obama's fashion choices are realized through Chicago's fashion guru, Ikram Goldman, whose chic store is "all about the mix" in order to achieve "the magic of fashion" (page 194). But personally, I feel a First Lady should incline herself more towards styles of the like of Carolina Herrera, Vera Wang and Oscar de la Renta, rather than eccentrics like Thakoon or Junya Watanabe. Regarding the latter one, the ensemble worn during the Obamas' first European tour in London, during a visit to the Elizabeth Garrett Anderson School, composed of a brightly coloured argyle cardigan that seemed to be sewn at the back, giving the impression of burlesque trompe l'oeil and worn over a full skirted dress, seemed more appropriate for a fun cocktail during girl's night out than for an official engagement.

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