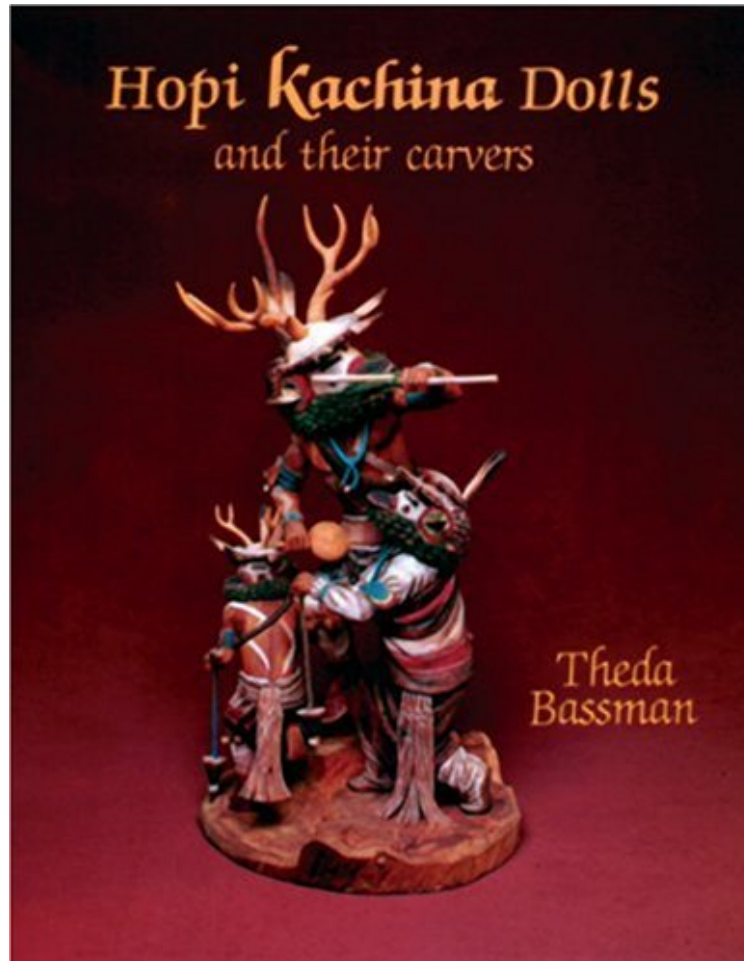


(Get free) Hopi Kachina Dolls and Their Carvers

## Hopi Kachina Dolls and Their Carvers

*Theda Bassman, Gene Balzer*

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**Theda Bassman, Gene Balzer : Hopi Kachina Dolls and Their Carvers** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Hopi Kachina Dolls and Their Carvers:

5 of 5 people found the following review helpful. Magnificent Native American ArtBy John C. RossI have many hundreds of books and magazines on various types of woodworking, and this is one of my favorites. Gene Balzer has beautifully photographed some of the finest Native American art, by 25 of the best Hopi carvers of the late 1980s. Author Theda Bassman has also included interviews with each of these carvers. These interviews reveal the simplicity of the Hopi, the pervasive reverence of their culture, and a remarkably spiritual approach to an ever increasingly sophisticated art form.Kachina are supernatural beings who dwell in the San Francisco Peaks near Falgstaff, Arizona. For untold years these Kachina have left their mountain homes to visit the Hopi villages from February through July. The Hopi petition the Gods through these Kachina intermediaries for favorable weather, bountiful crops, and a peaceful, prosperous life. In sacred ceremony, costumed men and women represent the Kachina in song and dance.

Similarly costumed Kachina dolls are given to girls and women as prized possessions and religious reminders. Before the 1975 Migratory Bird Act forbade the Hopi from using wild bird feathers in their doll making, dolls were made of relatively crudely carved pieces of wood glued together, and decorated with feathers, fur and fabric. Since then, with traditional feathers unavailable, the style of one piece doll carving has taken root in both shop and gallery. These modern creations include carved feathers, fur and fabric. This style has become increasingly sculptural and sophisticated in portraying both the costume and representative motions of the ceremonial Kachina. These one piece Hopi Kachina dolls are currently among the finest genre of Native American art. They constitute a native art that is perhaps exceeded only by the North West form-line carvers. Their work inspires me and amazes me. It leaves me in awe, and with more than a little envy of the ability to combine faith and aesthetics, with a craft I dearly love to create such a magnificent art form that is both new and ancient. I consider these carvings to be artistically fascinating and culturally priceless. 1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. 1 of the 3 BEST BOOKS on Kachinas. By The Wizard One of my 3 favorite, FULL COLOR books on kachinas. The other 2 are: 1) "FOLLOWING THE SUN AND MOON Hopi Kachina Tradition" by Aplh H. Secakuku and 2) " The Hopi Approach to the Art of KACHINA DOLL CARVING" by Erik Bromberg. If you're looking for good information and lots of FULL COLOR pictures these are ALL GREAT BOOKS! I HIGHLY recommend ALL 3.0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Five Stars By W E F I excellent service. I will use them again. thanks

Kachina dolls are carved from cottonwood by Hopi artists in Arizona to represent the many spirits of their religion. Old examples are preserved at the Heard Museum in Phoenix and most of the important Indian museums nationally. Today, modern Hopi artists continue to make exquisite Kachina dolls, and they have become very sought after by a growing number of collectors world-wide. The reader of this new book is able to grasp the art of Kachina wood carvings, and enjoy knowledge behind each doll, through the carvers who make them. The book beautifully illustrates contemporary Kachina dolls with over 150 exquisite color photographs, and delves into the lives of the carvers who make them. Twenty-five of today's important Kachina carvers have been interviewed personally for a first-hand glimpse into their work. Discussions with Cecil Calnimpewa, Von Monongya, and Loren Phillips, to name just a few, bring to life the essence behind their carvings. All who are interested in Southwestern crafts and art in general will appreciate these beautiful art works carved by such interesting people.

About the Author Theda Bassman, owner of the former gallery "The Indian and I," lives in Palm Desert, California and on the Mogollon Rim in Arizona.