

(Ebook pdf) Red Star over Russia: A Visual History of the Soviet Union from the Revolution to the Death of Stalin

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David King

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#1685450 in Books Harry N. Abrams 2009-09-01Ingredients: Example IngredientsOriginal language:EnglishPDF # 1 11.40 x 1.25 x 9.60l, 4.75 #File Name: 081098279X352 pages | File size: 66.Mb

David King : Red Star over Russia: A Visual History of the Soviet Union from the Revolution to the Death of Stalin before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Red Star over Russia: A Visual History of the Soviet Union from the Revolution to the Death of Stalin:

9 of 9 people found the following review helpful. An Intoxicating Look at Soviet Art HistoryBy Marco Antonio AbarcaThere are very few countries that have faced the severe traumas the Soviet Union experienced from 1917-1953. Although it may have been a hellish place to live, the Soviet Union nevertheless experienced a period of intense artisitic achievement. The art of this time was original, energetic and fueled by a manic need to educate.David King is a well known historian of the Soviet Union with a special interest in the use of photography in Soviet propaganda. King is also a serious collector of early Soviet art. His collection encompasses posters, photographs and other paper ephemera. "Red Star Over Russia" is a catalogue of his remarkable collection. Along with his many startling images, King also provides a well written descriptions which place the images in their proper context."Red Star Over Russia"

is a beautiful book with powerful images printed on high quality paper. This is a highly collectable book that will hold its value over time. In the coming years, "Red Star" will repeatedly provide me with great reading company. Highly recommended. 2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. FASCINATING HORRIFYING! By Susan F. Meller

A powerful book that opens windows into Soviet Russia from the Bolshevik Revolution in 1917 through thirty years of Stalin's reign. What the reader sees is both fascinating and horrifying. I find myself drawn back to the book over and over again, in part because it is too much, way too much to deal with all at once. Stalin's paranoia spared no one. The photos of his victims are haunting. Interspersed are full color posters, many in the familiar Soviet Constructivist/Agitprop style. Seeing these works in this context rather than on the walls of an art gallery or museum exhibition, puts them in an entirely different light. Chilling.

From the book jacket cover through every page of this book, David King has set the perfect stage for his incredible collection of images. The graphic design is superb. His text is terse. The visual history carries one along like the swell of the revolution itself - until it becomes too much to bear. I am thankful the pages can be shut...

5 of 6 people found the following review helpful. Back In The USSR By Christian Schlect

A necessary purchase for anyone with a speck of interest in the Soviet era, at least as it was from inception through to the death of Stalin. The historical photographs and poster artwork amassed by David King and presented here are often stunning. I especially valued the text and pictures of those defendants in the infamous show trials and the ones of the famous theater director, Meyerhold. Readers should know that the author, David King, writes out of understandable hatred of Stalin and with less understandable acceptance, if not admiration, of Lenin and Trotsky.

Red Star Over Russia is a breathtaking visual history of the Soviet Union from 1917 to the death of Stalin, using a vast array of material including posters, photographs, paintings, magazine covers, advertisements, and ephemera to illustrate the dramatic birth and eventual decline of the Soviet Union. The book's urgent, cinema verite style plunges the reader into the shattering events that brought hope, chaos, heroism, and horror to the citizens of the world's first workers' state.

About the Author David King is the author of *The Commissar Vanishes: The Falsification of Photographs and Art in Stalin's Russia*, *Ordinary Citizens: The Victims of Stalin*, and numerous other books on Soviet subjects. He was art editor of the *Sunday Times* from 1965 to 1975, and is the owner of one of the world's preeminent collections of Russian artifacts. He lives in London.