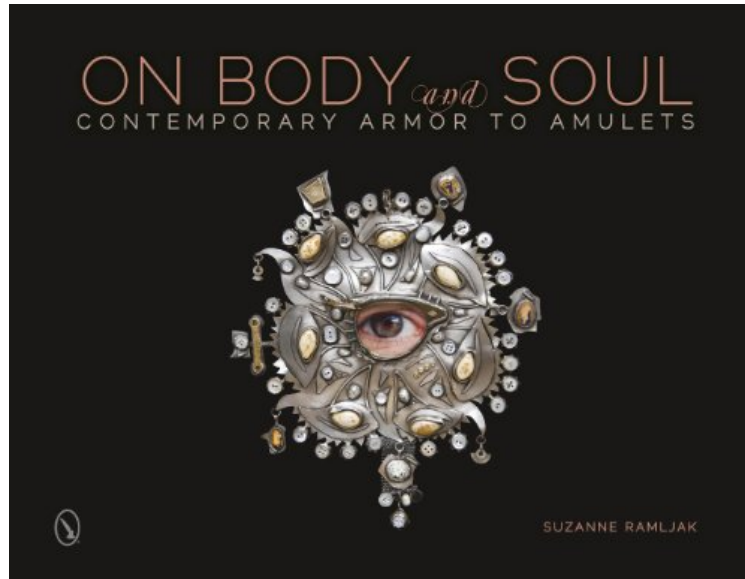


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On Body and Soul: Contemporary Armor to Amulets

Suzanne Ramljak

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Suzanne Ramljak : On Body and Soul: Contemporary Armor to Amulets before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised On Body and Soul: Contemporary Armor to Amulets:

3 of 3 people found the following review helpful. "Metal Masterpieces" By Mary Alvarado I love it not only because my friend's work is on the cover, and her fantastic works of art are in the book, as well, but the whole book is filled with stunning metal works. From chastity belts to metal knuckles and talons, it is filled with very creative and imaginative choices, wonderful and sensuous to look at! I am so inspired, it makes me want to take workshops in metal. A very exciting and beautiful book. Bravo to Suzanne Ramljak, who obviously has exquisite taste! And congratulations to the talented artists who made it into this book, no small feat! 1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. A 21st Century Record of Defensive Ornament By Eve W. Engle A feast for the eyes, On Body and Soul: Contemporary Armor to Amulets is beautiful and thought provoking. Author Suzanne Ramljak has managed to create a record of early 21st century response to imbalance in our world's social order. This book isn't just photographs of incredible works by some of today's best artists and artisans, but a fascinating study of individual perceptions of culturally defensive protective ornament. Every artist, academic library, and public library should own a copy. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. This is a great exploration into the possibilities of body adornment By Julesa Barnes This is a great exploration into the possibilities of body adornment. I bought this book because of its beautiful photographs and the inspirational artists inside. It is not an instructional book by any means but is a beautiful source of inspiration.

From the beginning of time, armor and amulets have been used for protection and are found in cultures across the globe, and those who crafted them have been esteemed as artists by their communities. The contemporary examples showcased here, in 200 eye-catching images, demonstrate the enduring artistry of the forms and the crucial role such objects can play in safeguarding body and soul, especially in our current Age of Terror. An exciting array of protective

hardware (armor, barriers, wearable weaponry) and protective "software" (charms, amulets, talismans), reveal a broad range of strategies for human defense. Focusing on work from the twenty-first century, this captivating book features some of today's finest artists and metalsmiths and testifies to the continued relevance of this creative pursuit. An introductory essay charts the wider cultural terrain of protective ornament--touching on issues of history, anthropology, and psychology, while portfolio sections spotlight subsets of defensive and offensive wear. Among the works of art are helmets, elaborate knuckledusters, pendants, collars, rings, bracelets, metal jackets, and chain mail, all designed for safety.

About the Author Suzanne Ramljak, a writer, art historian, and curator, is editor of *Metalsmith* magazine and curator of exhibitions at the American Federation of Arts. She was formerly editor of *Sculpture* and of *Glass Quarterly* magazines. Ramljak is the author of *Crafting a Legacy: Contemporary American Crafts in the Philadelphia Museum of Art* and *Elie Nadelman: Classical Folk*, and has contributed to numerous other publications, including *One of a Kind: American Art Jewelry Today*. She has lectured widely on contemporary art and served as guest curator for several exhibitions, among them *Different Tempers: Jewelry and Blacksmithing*; *Body Language: Contemporary Art Jewelry*; and this book's companion exhibition, *Protective Ornament: Contemporary Amulets to Armor*.