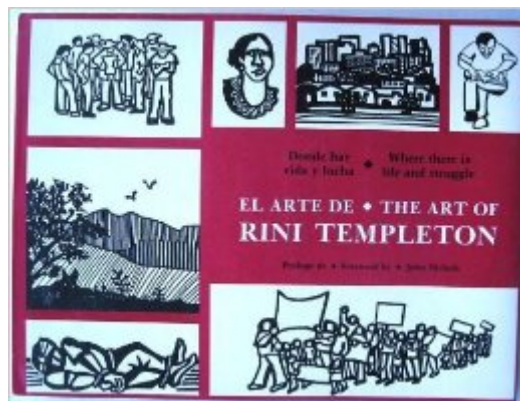


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The Art Of Rini Templeton: Where There Is Life And Struggle/Spanish-English Edition (Spanish And English Edition)



Synopsis

Book by Templeton, Rini

Book Information

Paperback

Publisher: Real Comet Pr (July 1989)

Language: Spanish, English

ISBN-10: 0941104249

ISBN-13: 978-0941104241

Product Dimensions: 0.8 x 11.5 x 8.5 inches

Shipping Weight: 1.8 pounds

Average Customer Review: 4.8 out of 5 stars [See all reviews](#) (4 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #1,954,632 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #92 in [Books > Libros en espaÃ±ol > Arte, arquitectura y fotografÃ­a > Arquitectura](#) #113 in [Books > Libros en espaÃ±ol > Arte, arquitectura y fotografÃ­a > Arte > Historia del Arte](#) #357 in [Books > Arts & Photography > History & Criticism > Themes > Women in Art](#)

Customer Reviews

Rini (Lucille Corrine) Templeton was the daughter of an East Coast government or military official. Perhaps her father's role in the machinery of imperialism sowed the seed of her artistic activism - and her falling out with her family. She was a published poet at a very young age, (8 or 10, I believe), and demonstrated an early intellectual proclivity. While still young, she appeared on a television game show and won a substantial prize. It was this money that afforded her a measure of financial independence and the time to focus on art. She was communist of the type you don't see much anymore. One with a real fire for change, a genuine appreciation for the value of work, and a woman who did the work necessary to espouse her beliefs. She spoke fluent Spanish, and most of her work was oriented toward struggles in Latin America and of the raza over here. She went to Cuba with the venceremos brigade to help out on the literacy campaign shortly after the revolution. She spent three years there. When she came back, she traveled frequently, but she was primarily active in the Taos area as staff artist for El Grito del Norte, a left-wing publication that was an organ of the New Mexico land-based Chicano Movement. She was there when Antonio Cordoba and Rito Canales were murdered by law enforcement. But she was also active in the San Francisco Bay Area, where she collaborated with the Data Center in Oakland and helped push against prop 13. She was also active in Guadalajara and Mexico, DF. She contributed art to Punto Critico, a Mexican

muckraking journal. She worked to support the labor movement in Mexico. She traveled to Nicaragua after the Sandinista revolution. Wherever she went, she documented what she saw in sketchbooks.

This is a small book packed with illustrations, paintings and sculptures by the late activist/artist Rini Templeton. If you were involved in any of the "struggles" of the past in the southwest you've probably seen her work. Her art is about the people and the causes she championed. Her art is the type used for picket signs, newsletters, announcements, posters and illustrations for various books both known and unknown. She did the illustrations for John Nichols, "The Milagro Beanfield War" which was later turned into a movie. Her works are not just plain black and white line drawings as many of her sculptures are exquisite, as are her color prints. She traveled extensively and her works document the various struggles that took place during the turbulent 60's and it's aftermath up until her untimely death in 1986. She died at age 51 and one can only wonder what she may have accomplished had she lived a full life. She probably did more in her short life than most do who live to be 80. She created art and participated in many activities in Cuba, Mexico and the US, particularly the southwest. Her drawings are mostly black ink, woodcuts and silkscreens that are exceptionally powerful and very moving. There is some text in the book but so little that it can be read in one sitting. At the end of the book there are remembrances by her friends who honor her with stories about her life. The text accompanying the drawings explains (not needed) the particulars of the struggle she was illustrating. An inspirational artist who dedicated her life and art to the people she must have so loved. She even went as far as to encourage the reproduction of her works for any "just cause".

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