

The Museum of Modern Art

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MAJOR PUBLICATION ACCOMPANIES LIUBOV POPOVA EXHIBITION

A fully illustrated catalogue accompanies the exhibition **LIUBOV POPOVA**, the first American retrospective of works by the Russian Constructivist artist, on view at The Museum of Modern Art through April 23, 1991. Written by Magdalena Dabrowski, associate curator in the Department of Drawings and organizer of the exhibition, the publication also contains essays by Eugena Ordonez, associate conservator, The Museum of Modern Art, and Irina Pronina, senior research curator, State Tretyakov Gallery, Moscow.

In her essay, "Liubov Popova: Artist-Constructor," Ms. Dabrowski discusses the development of Popova's style from figuration to abstraction and subsequently to utilitarian design. The author recounts the artist's relentless pursuit of a personal visual language, as well as her affinities with fellow avant-garde artists and other modernist European trends.

In "Popova's Working Methods and Materials," Ms. Ordonez examines the artist's technique and use of such materials as sand, calcite, and gypsum. In a close examination of six works in different mediums, the author identifies the materials used by Popova, determines how the works were constructed, and relates this information to the artist's possible aesthetic intentions.

Ms. Pronina's essay, "Popova at the Tretyakov Gallery," considers the 1989 Popova retrospective in Moscow. Celebrating the 100-year anniversary of the birth of the artist, the exhibition was the first important showing of Popova's work in the Soviet Union since a posthumous exhibition in 1924-25. Ms. Pronina describes the efforts made by the artist's family, friends, and collectors to document fully her life's work and to reconstruct stage sets and dresses based on original sketches.

Published by The Museum of Modern Art, *Liubov Popova* contains 136 pages with ninety-two color and thirty-eight black-and-white illustrations. A chronology and a bibliography complete the volume. The hardcover edition, distributed by Harry N. Abrams, Inc., is \$39.95; the paperbound book is \$19.95; both are available in The MoMA Book Store.

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