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Marc Chagall and His Times: A Documentary Narrative

By Benjamin Harshav, Barbara Harshav,

Stanford University Press October 2003, 2003. Trade Paperback. Book Condition: New. This book presents a new and comprehensive biography of one of the most prominent artists of the twentieth century in dialogue with the events and ideologies of his time. It encompasses the 98 years of Chagall's life (1887-1985) in Russia, France, the US, as well as Germany and Israel, his deep roots in folk culture, his personal relationships and loves, his involvement with the art of the Russian Revolution, with Surrealism, Communism, Zionism, Yiddish literature and the state of Israel. The book exposes the complex relationships between Chagall's three cultural identities: Jewish-Russian-French. Indeed, it is a biography of the turbulent times of the twentieth century and the transformations of a Jew in it, his meteoric rise from the 'ghetto' of the Russian Pale of Settlement to the centers of modern culture. The book reveals Chagall's endless curiosity, his forays in many directions beyond painting and drawing: public art, theater and ballet, stained glass windows in churches and synagogues, lithographs, etchings, and illustrations of literature and the Bible. We observe the intricate relations between Chagall's life and consciousness and the impact of his life on the iconography of his art....



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