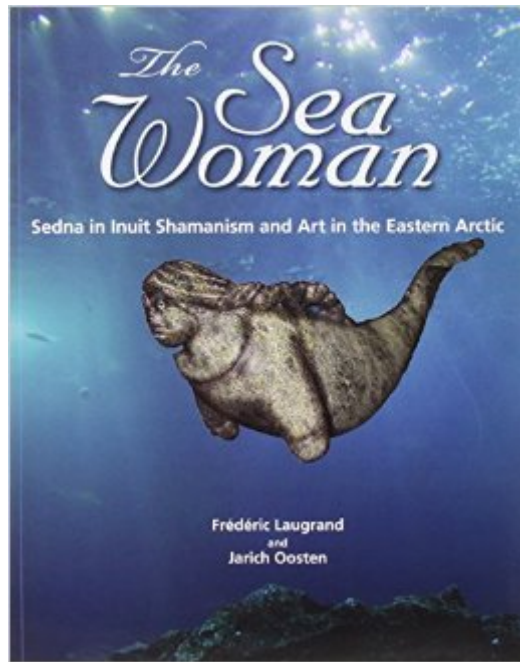


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The Sea Woman: Sedna In Inuit Shamanism And Art In The Eastern Arctic



Synopsis

This study offers an in-depth examination of the role of shamanism in modern Inuit art and culture. Inuit shamans derived their healing skills and power over natural elements from their ability to communicate with supernatural beings, such as Sedna the sea woman. As the authors document here, despite the current domination of Christianity, contemporary Inuit life and culture is still powerfully shaped by the shaman tradition. They focus on representations of the sea woman as an example of shamanism contextualized in art and explore what these depictions reveal about the dialogue between Inuit and Western cultures in the twentieth century.Â

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Illustrated with full-color photography, particularly of Inuit carvings and sculptures of Sedna, *The Sea Woman: Sedna in Inuit Shamanism and Art in the Eastern Arctic* is an in-depth artistic and cultural study of the mythical Inuit figure of Sedna, the sea woman, believed to be the caretaker of animals' souls and avengers of transgressions against them (such as wanton or wasteful killing, as opposed to respectful killing and thorough use of their bodies). A recurring presence in artistic sculpture, legends, shamanism, and customs of proper behavior, Sedna the Sea Woman is a fascinating paragon worthy of the scholarly analysis that authors and anthropology professors Frederic Laugrand and Jarich Oosten provide. Highly recommended as a worthy addition to Native American cultural studies shelves.

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