



African Vodun: Art, Psychology, and Power

Suzanne Preston Blier

Download now

[Click here](#) if your download doesn't start automatically

African Vodun: Art, Psychology, and Power

Suzanne Preston Blier

African Vodun: Art, Psychology, and Power Suzanne Preston Blier

Beads, bones, rags, straw, leather, pottery, fur, feathers and blood—these are the raw materials of *vodun* artworks. The power of these images lies not only in their aesthetic, and counter-aesthetic, appeal but also in their psychological and emotional effect. As objects of fury and force, these works are intended to protect and empower people and cultures that have long been oppressed.

In this first major study of its kind, Suzanne Preston Blier examines the artworks of the contemporary *vodun* cultures of southern Benin and Togo in West Africa as well as the related *voudou* traditions of Haiti, New Orleans, and historic Salem, Massachusetts. Blier employs a variety of theoretically sophisticated psychological, anthropological, and art historical approaches to explore the contrasts inherent in the *vodun* arts—commoners versus royalty, popular versus elite, "low" art versus "high." She examines the relation between art and the slave trade, the psychological dynamics of artistic expression, the significance of the body in sculptural expression, and indigenous perceptions of the psyche.

Throughout, Blier pushes African art history to a new height of cultural awareness that recognizes the complexity of traditional African societies as it acknowledges the role of social power in shaping aesthetics and meaning generally. This book will be of critical importance not only to those concerned with African, African American, and Caribbean art, but also to anthropologists, African diaspora scholars, students of comparative religion and comparative psychology, and anyone fascinated by the traditions of *voudou* and *vodun*.

"An extraordinary tour de force."—*Choice*

"Extraordinarily detailed....Blier's examination of the entire, often mysterious history of vodun is...in a word, definitive."—*Booklist*

"A serious study that concentrates on the hidden power of objects and the meaning behind that potency is long overdue. Welcome Susan Blier's *African Vodun*....Certainly a must for...those concerned with the psychology of art."—Janet L. Stanley, *Art Documentation*

"[Blier] is usually sensitive to the need to resist imposing Western artistic values and academic methodologies inappropriately upon such art. But she offers the reader a gift even more precious; she offers rare insights into how various art forms—sculpture and home architecture in particular—yield meanings for the African *users* of such art."—Norman Weinstein, *Boston Book Review*

 [Download African Vodun: Art, Psychology, and Power ...pdf](#)

 [Read Online African Vodun: Art, Psychology, and Power ...pdf](#)

Download and Read Free Online African Vodun: Art, Psychology, and Power Suzanne Preston Blier

From reader reviews:

Phyllis Baudoin:

The book African Vodun: Art, Psychology, and Power make you feel enjoy for your spare time. You can use to make your capable far more increase. Book can for being your best friend when you getting strain or having big problem with the subject. If you can make reading through a book African Vodun: Art, Psychology, and Power to get your habit, you can get a lot more advantages, like add your capable, increase your knowledge about several or all subjects. You can know everything if you like wide open and read a e-book African Vodun: Art, Psychology, and Power. Kinds of book are a lot of. It means that, science book or encyclopedia or others. So , how do you think about this e-book?

Lily Winstead:

In this 21st centuries, people become competitive in each and every way. By being competitive now, people have do something to make them survives, being in the middle of the particular crowded place and notice by surrounding. One thing that oftentimes many people have underestimated this for a while is reading. Yep, by reading a publication your ability to survive raise then having chance to remain than other is high. To suit your needs who want to start reading any book, we give you that African Vodun: Art, Psychology, and Power book as nice and daily reading reserve. Why, because this book is greater than just a book.

Debra Heffner:

Within this era which is the greater particular person or who has ability in doing something more are more treasured than other. Do you want to become certainly one of it? It is just simple method to have that. What you have to do is just spending your time almost no but quite enough to have a look at some books. One of many books in the top listing in your reading list is actually African Vodun: Art, Psychology, and Power. This book and that is qualified as The Hungry Inclines can get you closer in turning out to be precious person. By looking upward and review this publication you can get many advantages.

Lorenzo Maskell:

That book can make you to feel relax. This book African Vodun: Art, Psychology, and Power was multi-colored and of course has pictures on the website. As we know that book African Vodun: Art, Psychology, and Power has many kinds or category. Start from kids until adolescents. For example Naruto or Investigator Conan you can read and think you are the character on there. Therefore not at all of book usually are make you bored, any it can make you feel happy, fun and relax. Try to choose the best book for you and try to like reading that will.

Download and Read Online African Vodun: Art, Psychology, and Power Suzanne Preston Blier #JAR6Z23BHYT

Read African Vodun: Art, Psychology, and Power by Suzanne Preston Blier for online ebook

African Vodun: Art, Psychology, and Power by Suzanne Preston Blier Free PDF d0wnl0ad, audio books, books to read, good books to read, cheap books, good books, online books, books online, book reviews epub, read books online, books to read online, online library, greatbooks to read, PDF best books to read, top books to read African Vodun: Art, Psychology, and Power by Suzanne Preston Blier books to read online.

Online African Vodun: Art, Psychology, and Power by Suzanne Preston Blier ebook PDF download

African Vodun: Art, Psychology, and Power by Suzanne Preston Blier Doc

African Vodun: Art, Psychology, and Power by Suzanne Preston Blier Mobipocket

African Vodun: Art, Psychology, and Power by Suzanne Preston Blier EPub