

Librería
Bonilla y Asociados
desde 1950



Título: When Marina Abramovic Dies: A Biography

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Precio: Desconocido

Editorial:

Año: 2014

Tema:

Edición: 1ª

Sinopsis

ISBN: 9780262526814

When Marina Abramovic' Dies examines the extraordinary life and death-defying work of one of the most pioneering artists of her generation--and one who is still at the forefront of contemporary art today. This intimate, critical biography chronicles Abramovic's formative and until now undocumented years in Yugoslavia, and tells the story of her partnership with the German artist Ulay--one of the twentieth century's great examples of the fusion of artistic and private life.

In one of many long-duration performances in the renewed solo career that followed, Abramovic' famously lived in a New York gallery for twelve days without eating or speaking, nourished only by prolonged eye contact with audience members. It was here, in 2002, that author James Westcott first encountered her, beginning an exceptionally close relation between biographer and subject. When Marina Abramovic' Dies draws on Westcott's personal observations of Abramovic', his unprecedented access to her archive, and hundreds of hours of interviews he conducted with the artist and the people closest to her. The result is a unique and vivid portrait of the charismatic self-proclaimed "grandmother of performance art.