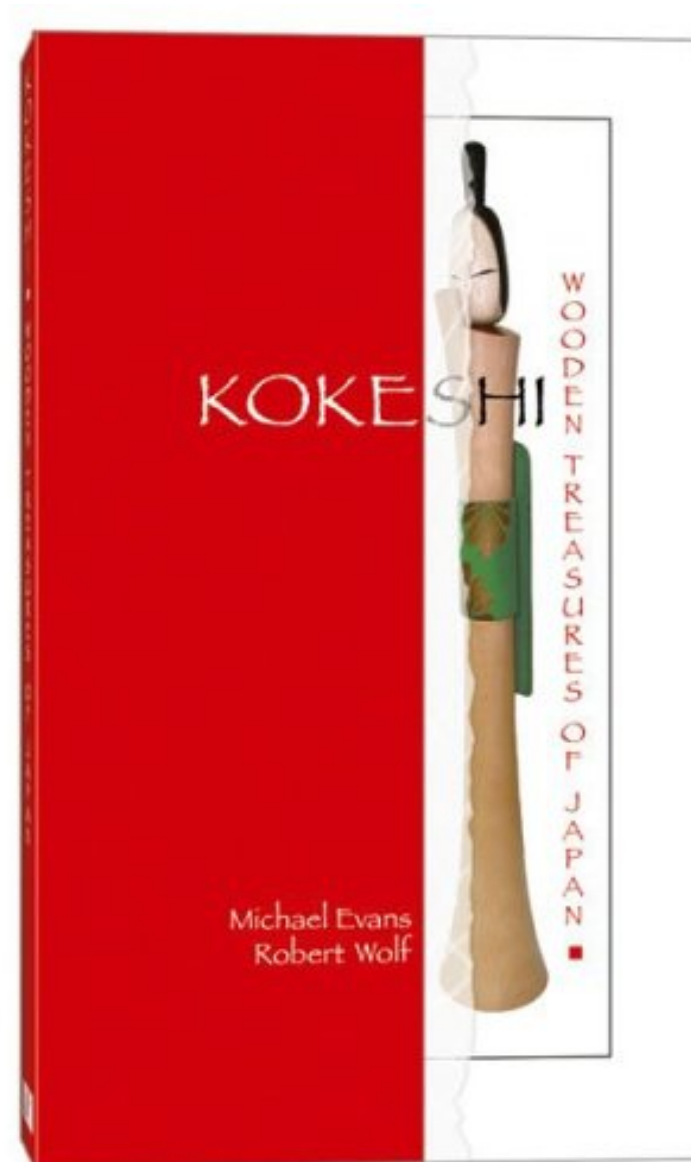


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## Kokeshi: Wooden Treasures of Japan

*Michael Evans, Robert Wolf*

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**Michael Evans, Robert Wolf : Kokeshi: Wooden Treasures of Japan** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Kokeshi: Wooden Treasures of Japan:

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Stunning Book!By SerenaFinally! A quality Kokeshi book in English! I am so happy I found it. I have quite a few Kokeshi dolls. If I had had a book like this it might not have taken me so long to figure out what to buy. Eventually I did learn a lot on my own, but I still tend to buy what I like and the unique. I don't buy them because I want to have a valuable collection. I buy them because I love them and if

some happen to be rare and sought after; that's great! No, this book isn't everything a Kokeshi lover could want or need, but it is a great start. I will be buying their newer book soon. 1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. For collectors by collectors. By Jacky This is a real old treat for any Kokeshi collectors. For me it reads mainly as a visual reference and is extremely articulate in its choice and variety of traditional and artistic-traditional styles of representation. The publication is on wonderful thick paper with photos are of excellent quality and generous size which really gives you a sense of the wood, paint finishes and textures which make such a visual-tactile craft exciting and seductive. The book design itself also deserves an award. Treat yourself! 1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. A Lovely, Informative Book! By Kenzo Toga I can't tell you what a pleasure it was to receive this book! This book was created by two gentlemen who know and understand the various forms of Japanese folk arts, having collected many items while traveling extensively in Japan. Both Mr. Wolf and Mr. Evans have backgrounds in Architecture and Graphic Design. The pictures of kokeshi are well done and include small insets of the artists' signatures, which elevate this book to a must-have for anyone interested in collecting and understanding the nuanced differences of these delightful dolls. There aren't many books on this subject and even fewer in English, so this is the one to have!

This gorgeous new 232 page book - the only comprehensive book on the subject in English and in print - captures the charm of these wooden treasures with 224 full color plates of the very best examples of both traditional and creative Kokeshi dolls from all regions of Japan. The cover is unusual and has the look and feel of hand-crafted binding (Perfect Bound). Size: 6-9/16" x 11" x 3/4". Kokeshi: Wooden Treasures of Japan, is a modern exploration of a folk craft two centuries old. This timely publication reflects both the growing interest in Japan and Japanese culture in the West, and the rediscovery of folk art, traditional crafts and culturally unique handmade objects. Beyond simple visual charm, the book presents an entirely new way of appreciating Kokeshi. By exploring the variety, diversity, and historical uniqueness of Kokeshi, the dolls become - beyond a delight to the eye - an important representation of a culturally rich and creative society. Familiar examples along with rare and lesser-known dolls are presented according to traditional or creative association. Special attention is given to dolls of the ten traditional Kokeshi families, as well as creative dolls depicting popular folk legends and figures. Kokeshi by representative artists, and regional and religious dolls are also included. To complete this publication, artists' marks, signatures and places of origin are illustrated. This book is an essential reference for the serious collector, and a fascinating education for anyone interested in folk dolls, traditional arts, or Japanese culture. This book received an award by the Independent Publishers Association for 2005.

This publication is a beautiful object in its own right, clarifying history, leavened with nuances of cultural history and custom. --Martha Drexler Lynn Ph.D., former associate curator of decorative arts at the Los Angeles County Museum of Art This gorgeous book, the only one in English and reflects the growing interest in a culturally creatively rich society. --Melia Childress, Media Salad About the Author Michael Evans received his undergraduate degree from San Diego State University in Graphic Communication. He retired from Arizona State University where he was Director of Student Services within the College of Architecture and Environmental Design. Robert Wolf received his first professional degree from Southern Illinois University under R. Buckminster Fuller, and his master's degree in Design from the University of Missouri. Robert is Emeritus Professor/Director of the School of Design within the College of Architecture and Environmental Design at Arizona State University, where he directed the professional programs of Interior Architecture, Industrial Design, and Graphic Design. Michael and Robert returned to the Monterey Peninsula to open Vermillion Asian Arts in 1998. The gallery, located in Carmel, California, focuses on Japanese antiques, contemporary crafts, and publications that support the appreciation of the Japanese culture.