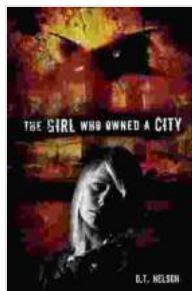


The Girl Who Owned a City: The Extraordinary Story of Olga Hirshhorn

Olga Hirshhorn was a remarkable woman who defied the odds and became one of the most powerful women in the world. Born in Odessa, Ukraine, in 1899, she immigrated to the United States with her family in 1913. She married Joseph H. Hirshhorn, a wealthy businessman, in 1926. The couple moved to Washington, D.C., in 1934, and Olga quickly became a fixture in the city's social and cultural scene.



The Girl Who Owned a City by O. T. Nelson

★★★★☆ 4.6 out of 5

Language : English

File size : 1953 KB

Text-to-Speech : Enabled

Enhanced typesetting : Enabled

Word Wise : Enabled

Print length : 208 pages

Screen Reader : Supported



Olga Hirshhorn was a passionate art collector, and she used her wealth to amass a world-renowned collection of modern art. In 1959, she donated her collection to the Smithsonian Institution, which established the Hirshhorn Museum and Sculpture Garden in her honor. The museum is now one of the most popular art museums in the United States.

Olga Hirshhorn was also a generous philanthropist, and she donated millions of dollars to various causes, including education, health care, and

the arts. She was a strong supporter of the National Museum of Women in the Arts, and she served on the board of trustees for many years.

Olga Hirshhorn was a visionary leader, and she left a lasting legacy on the city of Washington, D.C. She was a pioneer for women in business and philanthropy, and she helped to shape the city's cultural landscape. She was a truly extraordinary woman, and her story continues to inspire people today.

Early Life and Education

Olga Hirshhorn was born in Odessa, Ukraine, in 1899. Her father was a wealthy businessman, and her mother was a socialite. Olga received a privileged education, and she was fluent in several languages. She studied art history at the University of Geneva, and she also studied at the Sorbonne in Paris.

In 1913, Olga and her family immigrated to the United States. They settled in New York City, where Olga continued her studies at Columbia University. She also began working as a volunteer at the Metropolitan Museum of Art.

Marriage and Family

In 1926, Olga married Joseph H. Hirshhorn, a wealthy businessman. The couple had two children, a son, Joseph Jr., and a daughter, Alice. The family moved to Washington, D.C., in 1934.

Olga Hirshhorn was a devoted wife and mother. She was also a gracious hostess, and she enjoyed entertaining guests at her home. She was known for her impeccable taste, and she always dressed to perfection.

Art Collection and Philanthropy

Olga Hirshhorn was a passionate art collector, and she used her wealth to amass a world-renowned collection of modern art. She began collecting art in the 1930s, and she quickly developed a keen eye for quality. She purchased works by some of the most famous artists of the time, including Pablo Picasso, Henri Matisse, and Jackson Pollock.

In 1959, Olga Hirshhorn donated her collection to the Smithsonian Institution. The collection was valued at over \$20 million at the time, and it is now one of the most important collections of modern art in the world. The Hirshhorn Museum and Sculpture Garden opened to the public in 1974, and it has since become one of the most popular art museums in the United States.

Olga Hirshhorn was also a generous philanthropist. She donated millions of dollars to various causes, including education, health care, and the arts. She was a strong supporter of the National Museum of Women in the Arts, and she served on the board of trustees for many years.

Legacy

Olga Hirshhorn died in 1983 at the age of 84. She left behind a lasting legacy as a pioneer for women in business and philanthropy. She was a visionary leader, and she helped to shape the cultural landscape of Washington, D.C. She was a truly extraordinary woman, and her story continues to inspire people today.

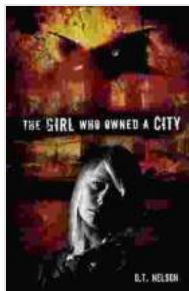
Additional Information

- Olga Hirshhorn was a member of the board of directors of the National Gallery of Art.

- She was a founding member of the American Friends of the Israel Museum.
- She was a recipient of the Presidential Medal of Freedom.
- The Olga Hirshhorn Museum and Sculpture Garden is located on the National Mall in Washington, D.C.

Sources:

- The Girl Who Owned a City: The Extraordinary Story of Olga Hirshhorn by Carol Vogel
- Olga Hirshhorn: A Woman of Art and Philanthropy by Nancy Groce
- The Hirshhorn Museum and Sculpture Garden website



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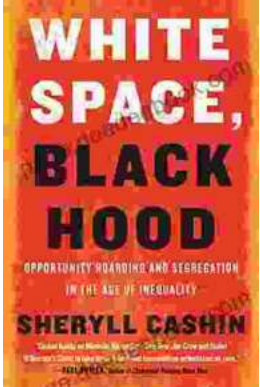
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