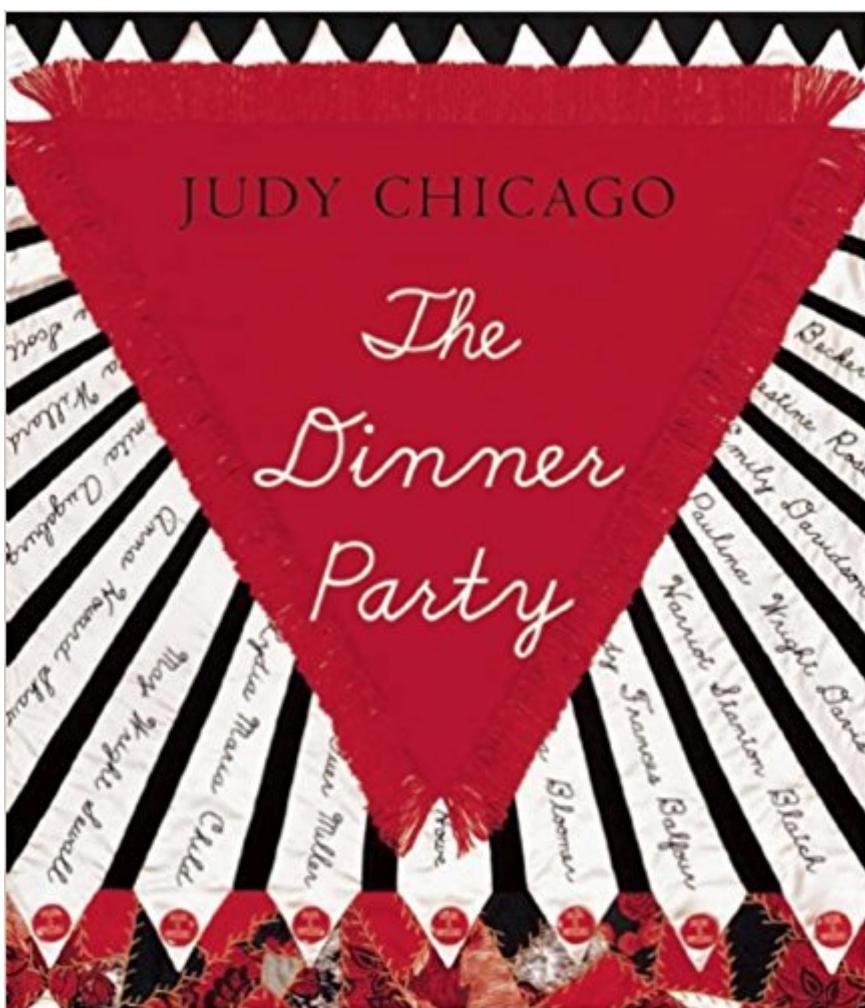


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# The Dinner Party: From Creation To Preservation



## Synopsis

Judy Chicago's masterpiece *The Dinner Party* is a monumental work of art conceived as a symbolic history of women in Western civilization. Strategically countering the traditional erasure of women's achievements, this epic installation honours 1038 iconic, mythical, archetypal and historical women. This, the most definitive book to be published on Chicago's masterwork, reveals more fully than ever before the art and the artist's expanded research into the rich history embodied in the installation. In lively contextualizing sections, Chicago discusses the creative genesis of *The Dinner Party*, the technical processes involved, and the work's early & often hostile & reception by the art world, and its subsequent preservation and permanent exhibition.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

The world's most famous and controversial work of feminist art, Judy Chicago's *Dinner Party* has found a permanent home some 30 years after its creation in the Brooklyn Museum's new Elizabeth A. Sackler Center for Feminist Art. Chicago celebrates in a sumptuous and comprehensive volume dedicated to her radical and extraordinarily crafted sculptural installation, telling the compelling story of its five-year collaborative creation, phenomenal popularity with the public, and vicious critical condemnation. Long committed to making socially conscious art, Chicago marvels over how much has changed in the field of women's history since the 1960s, when she began researching women's lives. Never one to stint on hard work, or miss the opportunity to educate people, Chicago presents

brief and vivid updated biographies of the 39 women represented at the triangular table with elaborate ceramic plates and beautifully embroidered runners and the 999 women whose names appear in the porcelain-tiled Heritage Floor. Gorgeous new photographs by Woodman, Chicago's husband, offer stunning close-ups. For more on Chicago and her work, see Gail Levin's biography, *Becoming Judy Chicago* (2007). Donna Seaman Copyright © American Library Association. All rights reserved

Carefully, thoroughly and vividly educates in all the ways Chicago intended three decades ago -  
SELVEDGE Sumptuous - CERAMIC REVIEW

This particular edition has not only the history of the women featured in the art work but the history of the creation of this monumental sculpture installation itself. It took over one hundred people five years to create this masterpiece, and this book detail's Chicago's journey from a private, insular artist to one who managed to open up her studio and herself to the people necessary to pull this artwork together. On pages 118-9, there is a photo of a potluck dinner that gives you an idea of the scope of gifted people who worked together to pull it off.

This is an incredible book and a wonderful women's history resource. It talks about goddesses, women in history, etc. as well as the art project itself. The project made vulva plates for different women, some real women, some fictional, but things like a frilly Victorian pink lace 3D vulva for Emily Dickinson upset some...and caused this artwork to be banned many places. The book talks about the women's names on the tiles that make up the floor, about the runners which were hand embroidered for the display, etc. This is a book about women and art, women's history, and more! I highly recommend this book for all women.

I was blown away with "the Dinner Party" at the Brooklyn Museum! There is so much to take in about this complicated exhibit and I wanted to know more about the artist's work. Imagine my disappointment when I go to the museum gift shop and they do not have a hard bound book about it! So, after getting back to my iPad that evening, I went to and found this book. It is exactly what I was looking for!

This is a veritable resource of women who have been written out of history by our male-dominated cultures of the west. And to have photographs of the in estimable The Dinner Party warms the heart

of any sensitive person. One of the most seminal art creations of the twentieth century, it is gratifying to have it finally out of storage and on view at the Brooklyn Museum of Art. Judy Chicago has provided a centuries overdue feminine history.

Beautiful in every way. When I saw the Dinner Party at the Brooklyn Museum, I was overwhelmed. I could have spent a week there absorbing this stupendous work of art and felt sorry to leave. With this book I have the next best thing to being there in person.

And this is it-- a complete overview of the event that was the dinner party...Judy Chicago's masterwork. If you never got the opportunity to see it, this volume will help show you what you missed out on, and if you did see it, this will help you remember all the glorious work that made it the homage to our foremothers that it was.

I was able to visit the exhibit when it was in Boston so many years ago (1980). I was amazed at what they had done and the scope of the project. I LOVED how Judy Chicago wanted to "celebrate" women in history and in such a unique way. I have nothing but good things to say about this book, but the exhibit was extraordinary!

This is a replace of the paperback version I once owned. I'm thrilled again and still!

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