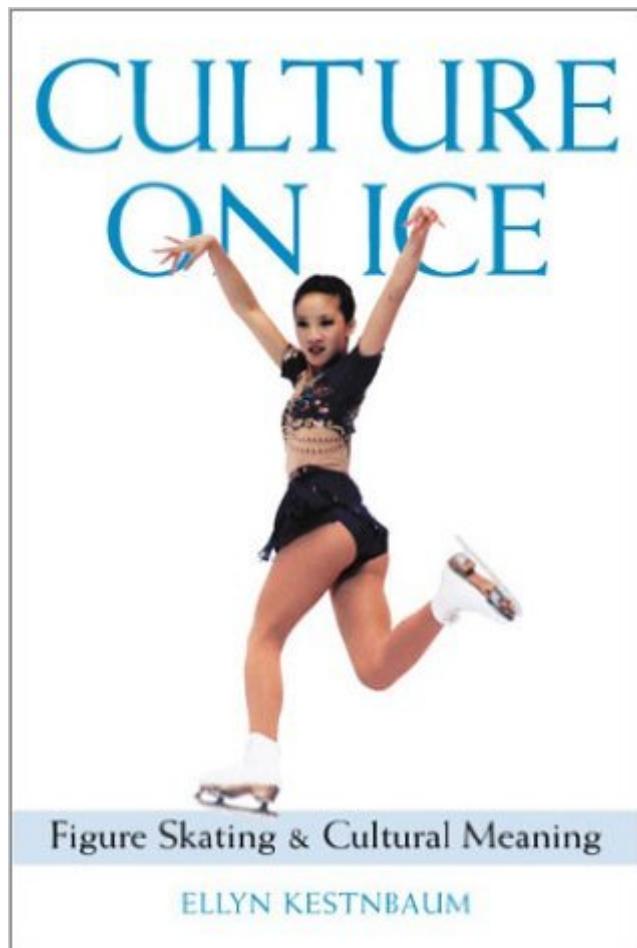


The book was found

Culture On Ice: Figure Skating & Cultural Meaning



Synopsis

Figure skating is one of the most popular spectator sports in the U.S., yet it eludes definitive categorization. In this engaging new book, Ellyn Kestnbaum examines figure skating from multiple perspectives: as sport, as performance, and even as spectacle, guiding the reader through both the technical aspects of skating and the sometimes convoluted rules of figure skating competition. By careful readings of skating events at the 1994 and 1998 Olympic Games, she argues that figure skating is a language, one whose meaning is inflected by the culture at large. In particular, she looks at the ways in which race, social class and gender all disrupt, subvert or reinforce the practices of figure skating, and examines the influence of the media in shaping perceptions of the sport. As a skater, skating fan and scholar, Kestnbaum brings a unique point of view to this study, providing not only a history of the skating world but also a feeling for what it is like to be on the ice.

Book Information

Paperback: 368 pages

Publisher: Wesleyan; 1st edition (May 21, 2003)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 081956642X

ISBN-13: 978-0819566423

Product Dimensions: 6 x 0.9 x 9.1 inches

Shipping Weight: 1.4 pounds (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.5 out of 5 starsÂ See all reviewsÂ (2 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #2,527,375 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #60 inÂ Books > Sports & Outdoors > Individual Sports > Rollerskating & Rollerblading #6056 inÂ Books > Politics & Social Sciences > Social Sciences > Gender Studies > General #18721 inÂ Books > Politics & Social Sciences > Anthropology > Cultural

Customer Reviews

Culture on Ice is the first skating book I have bought in more than two years. It is also the first skating book where I actually learned something in every chapter and started to think about skating in ways that hadn't occurred to me. Even though it's an "academic" book, its contents and message appeal to skating fans universally. The first two chapters are heavy on theory and may present some difficulty for those unfamiliar with academic theories of meaning, but they're worth sloughing through. (I think you could even get away with skipping them if you really can't get through the language.) Chapter three onward should be relatively smooth sailing for any confirmed skating fan

with the caveats that the language is academic and the sentences are long. The research is meticulous, and the chapter notes are full of exciting hidden gems of amazing detail. The technical appendix and suggestions for further reading alone would be worth the cover price for anyone looking to gain a more comprehensive understanding of the sport. *Culture on Ice* is successful as a work of theory, a work of history, and an appreciation of all who contribute to figure skating. Kudos to Ellyn Kestnbaum for taking figure skating beyond coffee-table-book status and establishing a framework for future critical analysis of the sport.

An adequate and fair history of the art of figure skating from its origins to the present. One aspect I found troubling was the book's commitment to viewing the art through the eyes of feminist "gender identity" theory. I'm not sure what an introduction to post modernist feminism contributes to a book about figure skating. Another shortcoming is the author's occasional fade into modern academic jargon that borders on gibberish. Consider the following gem of a sentence from page 259: "The conflicting codes of both "feminine" objectification and "masculine" agency in the person of the same skater provide a potentially empowering tension in symbolic identification with a position that is neither purely powerless nor purely powerful, blurring the either/or dichotomy of a structuralist reading into an androgenous both/and." What is missing here is basic writing skill. I really bought this book for the picture of Michelle Kwan on the cover. Still I learned a fair amount about the art of figure skating from reading it.

[Download to continue reading...](#)

Culture on Ice: Figure Skating & Cultural Meaning Conditioning for Figure Skating: Off-Ice Techniques for On-Ice Performance Figure Making Can Be Fun?!?: A complete guide to making a professional ventriloquist figure. Eileen Peerless Power Skating Method: The Art of Technique Applied to Hockey Skating No-Churn Ice Cream: 50 Delicious Ice Cream Recipes WITHOUT ICE CREAM MAKER (Recipe Top 50's Book 25) Ice Ice Babies: Ice Planet Barbarians: A Slice of Life Short Story Ice Cream: Ketogenic Homemade Ice Cream (Paleo / Gluten Free): 20 Low-Carb, High-Fat, Guilt-Free Recipes Ketosis: Keto: Ketogenic Diet: Ketogenic Ice Creams: Lose Fat Quickly with Top 50 Keto Ice Cream Recipes (diabetes, diabetes diet, paleo, paleo diet, low carb, low carb diet, weight loss Book 1) Vegan Ice Cream: 50 Delicious Vegan Ice Cream Recipes (Veganized Recipes Book 1) Ketogenic Ice Cream: Over 50 Homemade Ice Cream Recipes Low Carb Ice Cream: 21 Great Low Carb Sugar Free Ice Cream Recipes: (low carbohydrate, high protein, low carbohydrate foods, low carb, low carb cookbook, ... Ketogenic Diet to Overcome Belly Fat) Ice Core Evidence - Dispelling Arguments Against Immanuel Velikovsky's Theories Based On

Greenland Ice Cores Northward over the "Great Ice": A Narrative of Life and Work along the Shores and upon the Interior Ice-Cap of Northern Greenland in the Years 1886 and 1891-1897. Volume 1
Ice Planet Holiday: A SciFi Holiday Alien Romance (Ice Planet Barbarians Book 5) Who Owns the Past? Cultural Policy, Cultural Property, and the Law (The Public Life of the Arts) Edinburgh: A Cultural History (Interlink Cultural Histories) (Cities of the Imagination) Commodity Activism: Cultural Resistance in Neoliberal Times (Critical Cultural Communication) Making a Nation, Breaking a Nation: Literature and Cultural Politics in Yugoslavia (Cultural Memory in the Present) Media and Cultural Studies (KeyWorks in Cultural Studies) Tomarts Encyclopedia & Price Guide to Action Figure Collectibles, Vol. 2: G.I.Joe Thru Star Trek

[Dmca](#)