

SEAN KELLY

Sutherland, Amy. "Marina Abramovic," *The Boston Globe*, March 29, 2014.

The Boston Globe

Marina Abramovic



When visitors went to Marina Abramovic's retrospective at the Museum of Modern Art in 2010, they found the fearless performance artist there. Anyone could sit across from the Yugoslavian-born Abramovic and stare into her eyes. She discusses that work and others at a sold-out appearance at the Museum of Fine Arts on Wednesday evening from 6:30 to 7:30 in Remis Auditorium.

BOOKS: How would you describe yourself as a reader?

ABRAMOVIC: I like to read three or four books on different subjects at the same time. Lately, I have been reading mostly books that deal with anthropology, history, and biographies. I am very interested in real people and their lives. Some examples include "Chaos, Creativity and Cosmic Consciousness" by Rupert Sheldrake, Terrence McKenna, and Ralph Abraham; a biography of the theosophist Madame

Blavatsky; and "Guns, Germs, and Steel" by Jared M. Diamond.

BOOKS: What is the last book that really grabbed you?

ABRAMOVIC: I just finished "The Wind-Up Bird Chronicle" by Haruki Murakami. I love how he mixes realism with the supernatural so that his unreal worlds became very real and accessible. Next on my reading list is his novel "Norwegian Wood."

BOOKS: Have any books had a major impact on you as a person or an artist?

ABRAMOVIC: Dostoevsky's "The Idiot," the Romanian writer Mircea Eliade's works about shamanism, and everything by the Russian poet and the Russian writer Marina Tsvetaeva. My parents had a very large library of Russian literature, and I became interested in her work when I was young because she had the same name as me.

BOOKS: Do you do any reading in preparation for your performances?

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