

A Collage of Customs

by Mark Podwal

DESCRIPTION:

In *A Collage of Customs*, Mark Podwal's imaginative and inventive interpretations of woodcuts from a 16th-century *Sefer Minhagim* (Book of Customs) allow readers of this volume to see these historic images in a new light. Podwal brings humor and whimsy to religious objects and practices, while at the same time delivering profound and nuanced commentary on Jewish customs and history, both through his art, and through his insightful accompanying text.

The book appears in concert with an exhibition of Podwal's renderings at the Cincinnati Skirball Museum.

CONTRIBUTORS BIOGRAPHIES:

Mark Podwal has written and illustrated more than a dozen books, and has illustrated more than two dozen works by such authors as Elie Wiesel, Heinrich Heine, Harold Bloom, and Francine Prose. His art is represented in the collections of the Metropolitan Museum of Art, the Victoria and Albert Museum, Prague's National Gallery, the Bodleian Library, and Jewish museums in Berlin, Vienna, Prague, and New York, among other venues. Honors he has received include being named Officer of the Order of Arts and Letters by the French Ministry of Culture; the Jewish Cultural Achievement Award from the Foundation for Jewish Culture, and the *Gratias Agit* Prize from the Czech Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

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