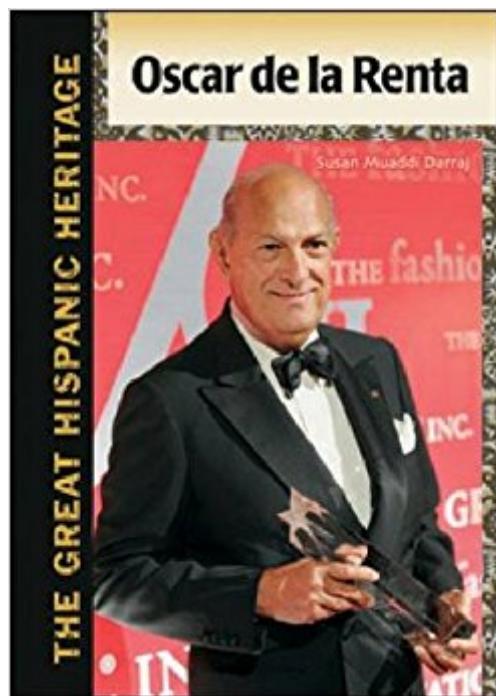


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Oscar De La Renta (Great Hispanic Heritage)



Synopsis

Born the only son in a family of six daughters, Oscar de la Renta was pressured early on by his father to take over the family's insurance business in Santo Domingo, the capital of the Dominican Republic. But the young man was more interested in the world of art than in the world of finance. Nevertheless, his father's business savvy was not lost on Oscar de la Renta. When, as an art student in Madrid, Spain, de la Renta found that he was short on funds, he took a job sketching designs for a fashion company. Within 10 years, he was designing clothing with his own label and gaining a loyal clientele of wealthy socialite women as well as working women. He is the designer who dresses corporate businesswomen as well as first ladies. Today, the Oscar de la Renta name is a virtual empire, one that resonates far beyond the fashion world. Oscar de la Renta describes this fashion designer's life, how he came to dress some of the most visible women in the world, and how his father's business acumen helped him on and off the runway.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Hugely influential and iconoclastic, the subjects featured in the Great Hispanic Heritage series have changed history in markedly contrasting ways, and each volume celebrates the complex, contradictory human being behind the legendary stories. Oscar de la Renta presents a warm, almost fawning account of the wildly successful fashion designer, who maintains a home in and close ties to his native Dominican Republic. Throughout each anecdote-filled volume, sidebars, including those entitled "Being Hispanic," address themes of cultural heritage while providing

additional historical and political context. A selection of well-chosen images, a chronology, chapter notes, and suggested reading lists round out these engaging titles in a sure-to-be-popular series for reports and personal interest. Grades 6-9. --Gillian Engberg

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