



Off the Wall: Fashion in the GDR (Hardback)

By Gunter Rubitzsch

Bloomsbury Publishing PLC, United Kingdom, 2005. Hardback. Condition: New. Language: English . Brand New Book. For a vague period somewhere in the 1970s, the notoriously repressive bureaucrats, who ran the Deutsche Demokratische Republik, dedicated to bring some colour to their otherwise drab lives. A cunning and original use of tartan - we have it. A little hat giving madam that indefinable flight hostess air - check. And the chic Herr is not far behind with his jaunty cap. The DDR commissioned two photographers, Gunter Rubitzsch and Staube (he/she only used the one name), hired St Pauli Girl models, chose the locations that most inspired them - oil factories, worker canteens, concrete office blocks - and set about creating their own unique and daring style. From blindingly bright mod go-go girls to demure country peasant girls posed with that most German of animals, the llama, these images run counter to everything we imagined went on behind the Berlin Wall. Was it intended as propaganda? A move to counter bourgeois Western values? Aspirational worker wear? We'll never know. What is certain though, is that what was produced in earnest is now a catalogue of camp that its creators never intended. Until...



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