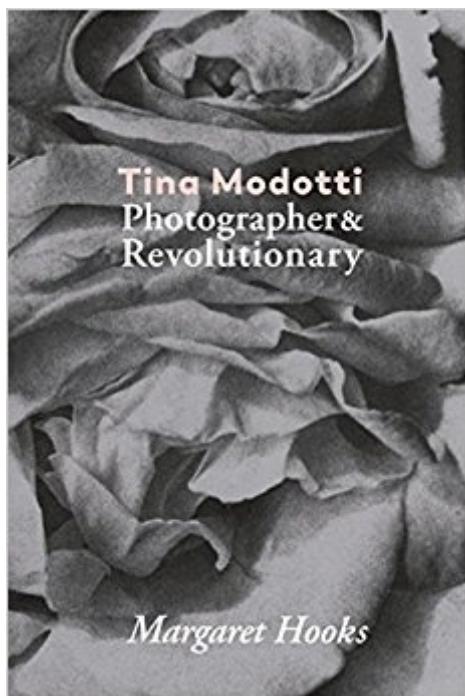


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# Tina Modotti: Photographer & Revolutionary



## Synopsis

Between politics and form: the life and work of Tina Modotti The apt subtitle of this award-winning biography, *Photographer & Revolutionary*, sums up the creative tensions that characterized Tina Modotti's life and brief photographic career. Active as a photographer for only nine years, Modotti was pulled between formal and social concerns. Producing striking modernist compositions of everyday objects, photojournalism of poverty and conflict, and portraits of celebrities and common people alike, Modotti balanced political concerns with formal rigor. First published in 1993 and long out of print, *Tina Modotti: Photographer & Revolutionary* is the definitive portrayal of Modotti's life and work. Few photographers are more deserving of a biographical treatment than Modotti, whose work as an actress and artist's model introduced her to Edward Weston, who was to become her lover. Soon after she arrived in Mexico City with Weston, Modotti became increasingly politicized, working for the communist newspaper *El Machete* and establishing herself as the go-to photographer for the Mexican Muralist movement. The book includes extensive archival material, interviews with Modotti's contemporaries and many rare photographs. Margaret Hooks has written extensively on the life and work of artists, among them Leonora Carrington, Frida Kahlo, Tina Modotti, Max Ernst and Edward James. Her recent writing provides new insight into the relationship and collaborative works of the Surrealist painters Leonora Carrington and Max Ernst.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

Bringing Ms. Modotti out from Mr. Weston's shadow, Ms. Hooks detailed her life as an artist, activist and woman at the height of Mexican muralism, where Bohemia met political revolution through a whirlwind of artistic expression. (Maurice Berger The New York Times Lens Blog)

MARGARET HOOKS is an Irish writer based in Spain who has written extensively on the life and work of artists and photographers among them Tina Modotti, Frida Kahlo, Leonora Carrington Edward Weston and Edward James. *Tina Modotti: Photographer & Revolutionary* was nominated for the prestigious Infinity Award and received a Krazna-Krausz prize for books on photographers and is available in eight languages. Her other books include *Frida Kahlo: Portrait of an Icon*, *Surreal Eden: Edward James & Las Pozas*, *Tina Modotti: 55 photographs* and her articles, essays and reviews have appeared in ARTnews, BOMB magazine, Afterimage, Vogue, Aperture, The Guardian, The Observer Magazine, Cultural Survival, Gatopardo, Luna Cornea and other publications. Her latest book *Surreal Lovers* will be published in April 2017. Hooks has written on the creative collaborations of Roberto Bolano & A.G. Porta, Salvador Dali & Edward James and Leonora Carrington and Max Ernst. Her published translations include the Roberto Bolano-A.G. Porta short story "Bar Diary" (2015) and the autobiography of the psychoanalyst and feminist Marie Langer: *From Vienna to Managua*.

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