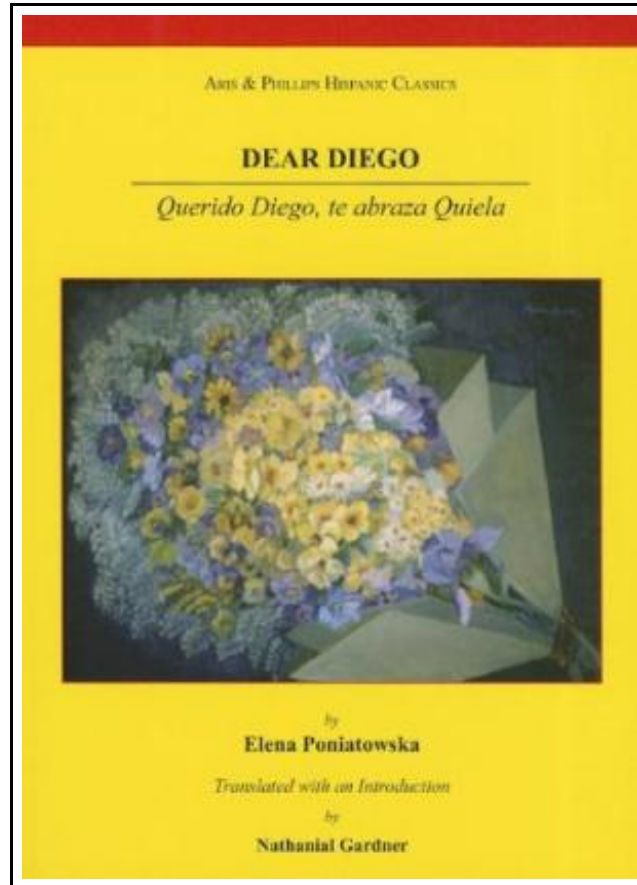


Dear Diego (Hardback)



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Reviews

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(Mrs. Phoebe Schimmel)

DEAR DIEGO (HARDBACK)



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Aris Phillips Ltd, United Kingdom, 2012. Hardback. Book Condition: New. 213 x 147 mm. Language: English,Spanish . Brand New Book. When Diego Rivera's biographer, Bertram Wolfe, was sifting through the painter's jumbled collection of correspondence, he encountered a series of Parisian letters from Angelina Beloff. Long before Diego had become famous for his Mexican murals or applauded for his renowned wife, Frida Kahlo, Angelina had been his wife for over ten years while the young Rivera had lived as a poor and obscure artist in the city of light. Wolfe was impressed by the letters Beloff wrote to her husband after his definitive departure for Mexico and included a chapter on them and the Russian painter in his biography of the muralist. Several years later, Mexican author Elena Poniatowska read Wolfe's biography and, deeply impressed by Angelina Beloff's letters, decided to rewrite them. The result is *Querido Diego, te abraza Quiela*, a masterful blending of fact and fiction that creates a novella out of twelve imagined letters that Quiela (Angelina) writes to Diego over a nine-month period. Within them, we are able to view the artist's world of post-war Paris where Quiela struggles forward without her husband while falling back onto fond memories of their time spent together as well as suffering the torment of darker moments she also lived with the painter. It offers the reader a beautiful portrait of life and art in an iconic city towards the beginning of the 20th century. This brief work exhibits some of the fundamental traits encountered in Poniatowska's narratives: a focus on strong women, an interest in the real and the marginal and a love for Mexico. While translations of this narrative do exist in various languages, Nathaniel Gardner's bilingual edition is a new...



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