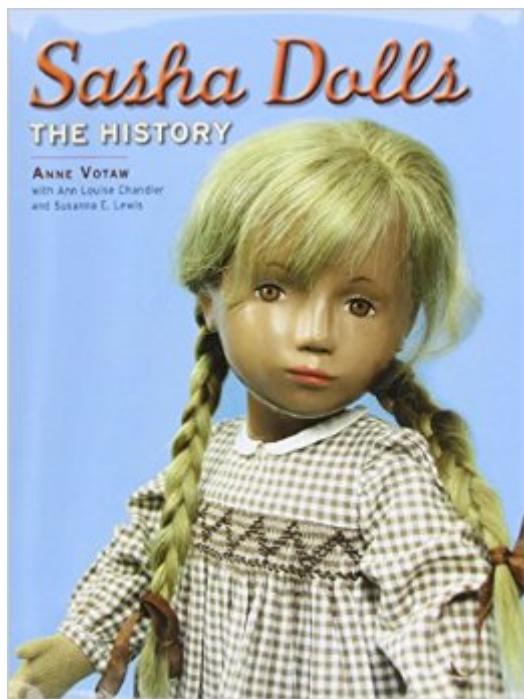


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# Sasha Dolls: The History



## Synopsis

The visionary Sasha Doll designed in the 1940's by Swiss artist Sasha Morgenthaler to teach humanitarian ideals has creatively engaged children and collectors ever since. The development of the Sasha Doll - from models sculpted in the artist's Zurich studio and first sold in December 1945 to the later manufactured vinyl replicas by Germany's Gotz, England's Frido/Trendon, and Gotz again in 1995, plus a passionate but ill-fated American production attempt - is examined in fascinating detail in this book. The authors share their first-hand knowledge of the later Sasha productions, as well as decades of primary research, including numerous interviews with those involved in the doll's history. They also trace the ongoing philosophical, aesthetic and technical issues surrounding the production of this beloved plaything. The result is a compelling, behind-the-scenes story that reveals the many complexities of producing the four generations of the Sasha Doll. Also included is a comprehensive illustrated guide to identifying Studio Sasha Dolls that explains the evolution of molding mediums, body construction, jointing systems and the artist's painting style and reliance on repeating forms. More than 250 color photos of manufactured Sashas and Studio dolls, including many shown for the first time in print, make *Sasha Dolls: The History* a must-have for lovers of this enigmatic doll.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

This is the latest and most complete book about Sasha dolls. I met the authors this past summer in Anaheim, CA at the UFDC (United Federation of Doll Clubs) annual convention. They presented a one hour powerpoint showing some of the lovely color pictures contained in this book and explained their format of each chapter. It goes through the various changes the Sasha dolls have been

through during their many decades of existence. The book is the best available on this subject.

I grew up with a Gregor of my own as a child, but it wasn't until adulthood that I began to collect all of the other treasured things featured in the little catalog that sat inside his box when I first opened him. At first overwhelming and then confusing, I was very fortunate to early on find this book, which explained in verbose but unpretentious language the history and vast variation of dolls made by Sasha Morgenthaler. Covering not just the artist herself but also the three production runs in Germany and England, the text weaves together the vast influences and artists who were a part of the life of Morgenthaler and the production of her dream. Finding out that Max Bill designed the red and blue circular Sasha logo, and that Sasha and her husband (the Swiss painter Ernst Morgenthaler) were friendly with Paul Klee and even Einstein gave me such appreciation not for the physical works themselves, but also the artistic, social, and political statements behind them. While there were one or two places where I'd have liked a bit more detail about certain murky experiences (I wanted very much to know the circumstances of Sara and John Doggart's sell of the Trendon factory in Stockport which led to the short and abortive Sasha Dolls Limited and why Sara Doggart believed, very falsely, that the new ownership would continue the doll which was instead cancelled within the year), I have to say that I could not find more information, either in part or whole, outside of this book. I consider this essential for all Sasha doll collectors, alongside Dorisanne Osborn's out-of-print *Sasha Through The Ages* from 1999 (which features photography of all outfits and variations as well as prototypes of fashions not featured in Votaw's book, while lacking the narrative and detailed storytelling). For someone starting a collection this is the very first stop one should make!

The long awaited book by "The Three Anns", it is first of at least three books. Beautifully written and wonderful photos, on the history of Sashaphilie's beloved doll, SASHA. Anne Votaw, has really out done herself with this book. After years of collecting everything she could with the help of Ann Chandler, and Suzanna Lewis, she has released this eye candy book. Photos so delicious, you'll be wishing you could jump into the book to be near these works of art. The book includes all Studio dolls, Frido/Trenton and Gotz dolls. This book is a Must for a Sasha Collector/Lover.

I have enjoyed refreshing and increasing my Sasha knowledge with this well-written book. It was a little disheartening that the authors' list of Sasha doll articles did not include my article, "Sasha Morgenthaler's Dolls for Everyone," published in *Doll Castle News*, January-February 2010, pages

28-30. Otherwise, I am quite pleased with the book.

If you are a Sasha Doll lover then you will want to own this book! It is fantastic and I am very happy with the fast shipping and careful packaging so that it reached me quickly, safely and in great condition!

This book is an excellent resource for Sasha doll history. There are lots of gorgeous pictures of rare dolls, outfits, and ways to identify them. It's well researched and beautifully written. I recommend this book highly.

Got my daughter, Andrea, this doll when she 5 years old. She loved it, and everybody in the family was fascinated about how Sasha's eyes followed you around the room, ( or so you thought)! Andrea needs to share Sasha's story with her daughters, who have a few American Girl Dolls,

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