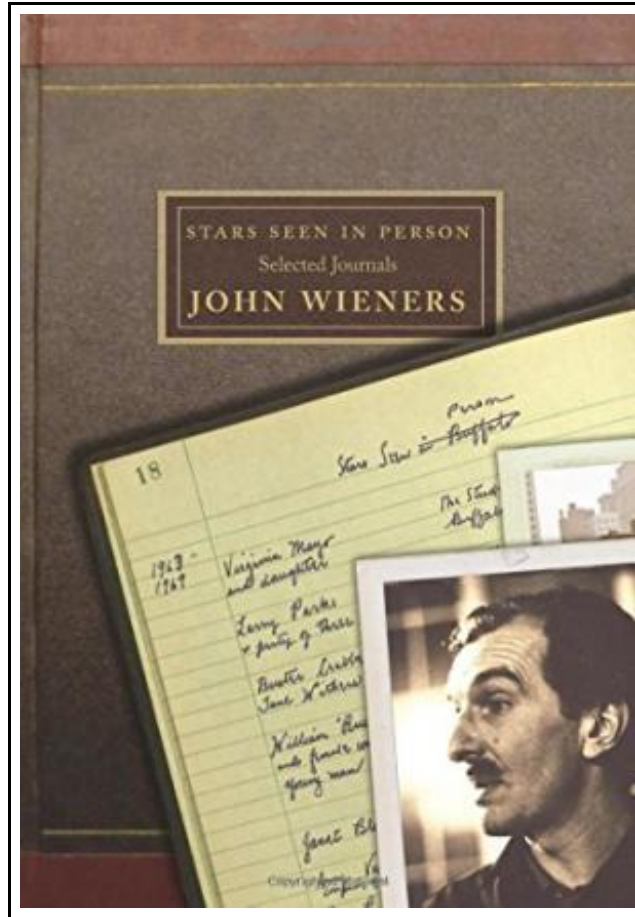


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(Orlando Abernathy)

STARS SEEN IN PERSON: SELECTED JOURNALS OF JOHN WIENERS (PAPERBACK)



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City Lights Books, United States, 2015. Paperback. Book Condition: New. 203 x 140 mm. Language: English . Brand New Book. A contributor to Donald Allen s seminal New American Poetry anthology, John Wieners was on the periphery of many of the twentieth century s most important avant-garde poetry scenes, from Black Mountain and the Boston Renaissance to the New York School and the SF Renaissance. Having achieved cult status among poets, Wieners has also become known for the compelling nature of his journals, a mixture of early drafts of poems, prose fragments, lists, and other fascinating minutiae of the poet s imagination. Stars Seen in Person: Selected Journals of John Wieners collects four of his previously unpublished journals from the period between 1955 and 1969. The first journal depicts a young, openly gay, self-described would-be poet dashing around bohemian Boston with writer and artist friends, pre-drugs and pre-fame. By the last book, decimated by repeated institutionalization (the first for drug-related psychosis, the rest the consequence of the first) and personal tragedies, Wieners is broken down and in great pain, but still writing honestly and with detail about the life he s left with. These journals capture a post-war bohemian world that no longer exists, depicted through the prism of Wieners sense of glamour. Praise for Stars Seen in Person: Like Rimbaud in Season in Hell, or Baudelaire with Intimate Journals, there s an unguarded spark and trust in John Wieners because impulse and imagination reign supreme. In 1955 he writes, I shall try the only true thing I want to do. I shall go to my poems. Predating The Hotel Wentley Poems, moving through Ace of Pentacles, and ushering us into his life before Nerves, Stars Seen in Person further illuminates John as our future/former best unkept secret. --Micah Ballard...



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