

Foreword Review

COMICS & GRAPHIC NOVELS

Citizen 13660

Miné Okubo

University of Washington Press (September 2014) Hardcover \$30.00 (240pp) 978-0-295-99392-8

There's something about incorporating visual imagery that makes history so much more tangible. And Miné Okubo has done just that in order to bring history to life in *Citizen 13660*. Originally published in 1946, *Citizen 13660* is a documentation of life inside the World War II "relocation centers" for those of Japanese ancestry. This oft-overlooked portion of American history is brought poignantly to life by Okubo's expressive ink drawings and accompanying text. Okubo nearly always includes herself in the images displayed, giving them a sense of immediacy: readers are watching Okubo watch the events unfold. She writes in a plain, matter-of-fact style, with the emotion coming through in her drawings. This new edition includes an introduction by Christine Hong, which provides a thought-provoking history of the book. Without a doubt, this book should be on required reading lists for high schools across the country.

ALLYCE AMIDON (Fall 2014)

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