



# Where the Heart Beats: John Cage, Zen Buddhism, and the Inner Life of Artists

*Kay Larson*

Download now

Read Online →

# Where the Heart Beats: John Cage, Zen Buddhism, and the Inner Life of Artists

Kay Larson

**Where the Heart Beats: John Cage, Zen Buddhism, and the Inner Life of Artists** Kay Larson  
A “heroic” and “fascinating” biography of John Cage showing how his work, and that of countless American artists, was transformed by Zen Buddhism (*The New York Times*)

*Where the Heart Beats* is the story of the tremendous changes sweeping through American culture following the Second World War, a time when the arts in America broke away from centuries of tradition and reinvented themselves. Painters converted their canvases into arenas for action and gesture, dancers embraced pure movement over narrative, performance artists staged “happenings” in which anything could happen, poets wrote words determined by chance.

In this tumultuous period, a composer of experimental music began a spiritual quest to know himself better. His earnest inquiry touched thousands of lives and created controversies that are ongoing. He devised unique concerts—consisting of notes chosen by chance, randomly tuned radios, and silence—in the service of his absolute conviction that art and life are one inseparable truth, a seamless web of creation divided only by illusory thoughts.

What empowered John Cage to compose his incredible music—and what allowed him to inspire tremendous transformations in the lives of his fellow artists—was Cage’s improbable conversion to Zen Buddhism. This is the story of how Zen saved Cage from himself.

*Where the Heart Beats* is the first book to address the phenomenal importance of Zen Buddhism to John Cage’s life and to the artistic avant-garde of the 1950s and 1960s. Zen’s power to transform Cage’s troubled mind—by showing him his own enlightened nature—liberated Cage from an acute personal crisis that threatened everything he most deeply cared about: his life, his music, and his relationship with his life partner, Merce Cunningham. Caught in a society that rejected his art, his politics, and his sexual orientation, Cage was transformed by Zen from an overlooked and marginal musician into the absolute epicenter of the avant-garde.

Using Cage’s life as a starting point, *Where the Heart Beats* looks beyond to the individuals Cage influenced and the art he inspired. His creative genius touched Robert Rauschenberg, Jasper Johns, Andy Warhol, Yoko Ono, Alan Kaprow, Morton Feldman, and Leo Castelli, who all went on to revolutionize their respective disciplines. As Cage’s story progresses, as his collaborators’ trajectories unfurl, *Where the Heart Beats* shows the blossoming of Zen in the very heart of American culture.

 [Download Where the Heart Beats: John Cage, Zen Buddhism, and the ...pdf](#)

 [Read Online Where the Heart Beats: John Cage, Zen Buddhism, and t ...pdf](#)

**Download and Read Free Online Where the Heart Beats: John Cage, Zen Buddhism, and the Inner Life of Artists** Kay Larson



## **Download and Read Free Online Where the Heart Beats: John Cage, Zen Buddhism, and the Inner Life of Artists Kay Larson**

---

### **From reader reviews:**

#### **Virgie Tauber:**

Why don't make it to become your habit? Right now, try to prepare your time to do the important behave, like looking for your favorite e-book and reading a publication. Beside you can solve your short lived problem; you can add your knowledge by the guide entitled Where the Heart Beats: John Cage, Zen Buddhism, and the Inner Life of Artists. Try to stumble through book Where the Heart Beats: John Cage, Zen Buddhism, and the Inner Life of Artists as your pal. It means that it can to get your friend when you experience alone and beside regarding course make you smarter than in the past. Yeah, it is very fortunated to suit your needs. The book makes you far more confidence because you can know anything by the book. So , we need to make new experience in addition to knowledge with this book.

#### **Gary Johnson:**

A lot of people always spent all their free time to vacation or go to the outside with them household or their friend. Were you aware? Many a lot of people spent many people free time just watching TV, or even playing video games all day long. If you need to try to find a new activity honestly, that is look different you can read a book. It is really fun in your case. If you enjoy the book that you read you can spent 24 hours a day to reading a publication. The book Where the Heart Beats: John Cage, Zen Buddhism, and the Inner Life of Artists it is very good to read. There are a lot of folks that recommended this book. These people were enjoying reading this book. If you did not have enough space bringing this book you can buy typically the e-book. You can m0ore easily to read this book from a smart phone. The price is not to fund but this book features high quality.

#### **Charlotte Neville:**

People live in this new morning of lifestyle always try to and must have the spare time or they will get large amount of stress from both way of life and work. So , if we ask do people have extra time, we will say absolutely yes. People is human not just a robot. Then we request again, what kind of activity are you experiencng when the spare time coming to an individual of course your answer will certainly unlimited right. Then do you try this one, reading textbooks. It can be your alternative throughout spending your spare time, the book you have read will be Where the Heart Beats: John Cage, Zen Buddhism, and the Inner Life of Artists.

#### **Liza Serrano:**

On this era which is the greater individual or who has ability in doing something more are more precious than other. Do you want to become one of it? It is just simple solution to have that. What you must do is just spending your time very little but quite enough to enjoy a look at some books. Among the books in the top record in your reading list is actually Where the Heart Beats: John Cage, Zen Buddhism, and the Inner Life of Artists. This book which is qualified as The Hungry Mountains can get you closer in becoming precious

person. By looking up and review this e-book you can get many advantages.

**Download and Read Online Where the Heart Beats: John Cage, Zen  
Buddhism, and the Inner Life of Artists Kay Larson  
#8KYCTGUVFOB**

## **Read Where the Heart Beats: John Cage, Zen Buddhism, and the Inner Life of Artists by Kay Larson for online ebook**

Where the Heart Beats: John Cage, Zen Buddhism, and the Inner Life of Artists by Kay Larson Free PDF d0wnl0ad, audio books, books to read, good books to read, cheap books, good books, online books, books online, book reviews epub, read books online, books to read online, online library, greatbooks to read, PDF best books to read, top books to read Where the Heart Beats: John Cage, Zen Buddhism, and the Inner Life of Artists by Kay Larson books to read online.

### **Online Where the Heart Beats: John Cage, Zen Buddhism, and the Inner Life of Artists by Kay Larson ebook PDF download**

**Where the Heart Beats: John Cage, Zen Buddhism, and the Inner Life of Artists by Kay Larson Doc**

**Where the Heart Beats: John Cage, Zen Buddhism, and the Inner Life of Artists by Kay Larson Mobipocket**

**Where the Heart Beats: John Cage, Zen Buddhism, and the Inner Life of Artists by Kay Larson EPub**

**Where the Heart Beats: John Cage, Zen Buddhism, and the Inner Life of Artists by Kay Larson Ebook online**

**Where the Heart Beats: John Cage, Zen Buddhism, and the Inner Life of Artists by Kay Larson Ebook PDF**