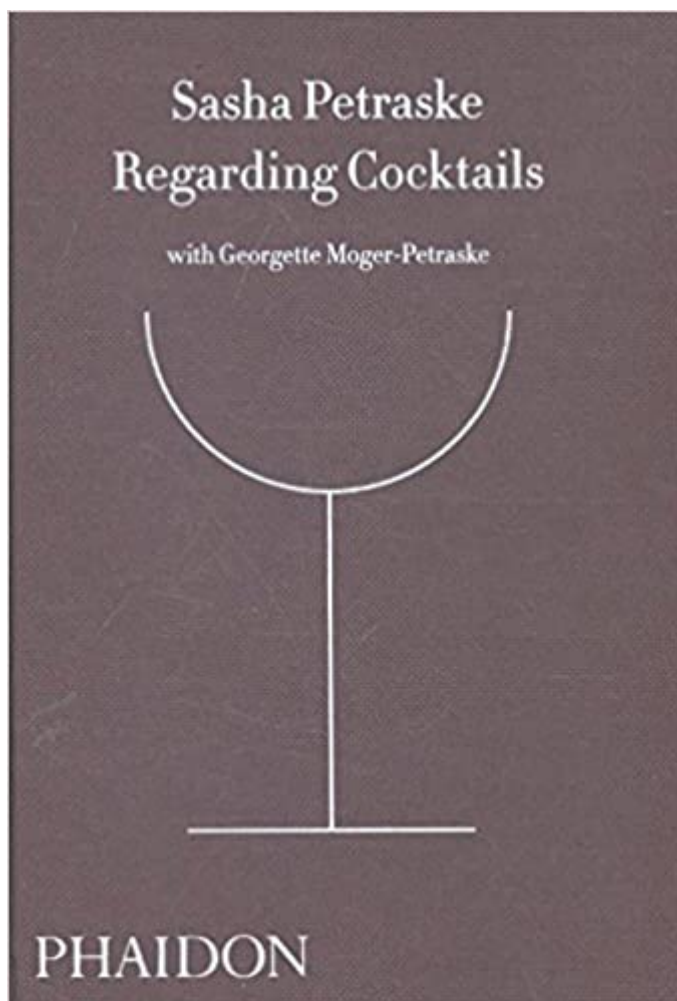


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# Regarding Cocktails



## Synopsis

Regarding Cocktails is the only book from the late Sasha Petraske, the legendary bartender who changed cocktail culture with his speakeasy-style bar Milk & Honey. Forewords by Dale DeGroff and Robert Simonson. Here are 85 cocktail recipes from his repertoire—the beloved classics and modern variations—with stories from the bartenders he personally trained. Ingredients, measurements, and preparations are beautifully illustrated so that readers can make professional cocktails at home. Sasha's advice for keeping the home bar, as well as his musings, are collected here to inspire a new generation of bartenders and cocktail enthusiasts.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

As featured in Bloomberg Pursuits, Domino, The Globe & Mail, Food & Wine, Image, Lucky Peach, Orlando Weekly, Robb Report, Saveur, Travel + Leisure, Wine Enthusiast, and Wired, and on Chowhound, The Daily Beast, Eater, Epicurious, In Good Taste, Remodelista, and Tasting Table; as heard on Heritage Radio "An enlightening glimpse into one of the people responsible for America's craft cocktail movement." —Epicurious "A gorgeous gift with style kudos." —Image Interiors & Living "Overflows with a wealth of knowledge and also offers a window into his methodical thinking process, where no detail was too small to mull over patiently." —The Daily Beast "The cocktail bible... Makes one feel even more fortunate that we have this knowledge written down in black and white for us not only to learn from, but give us inspiration to evolve and continue our quest to enter mixology Valhalla. Sasha Petraske will be there waiting for us, Martini in hand I'm sure. Thank you for guiding us out of the desert and into our own secret oases where the milk & honey will be forever

plentiful." â "InGoodTasteUK.com, William Hanley"The most beautiful cocktail book of the year."  
â "Bloomberg Pursuits"A brilliant, bittersweet drink manual from the late creator of this century's  
most influential drinking dens." â "Food & Wine Online"This book, a true labor of love, helps  
immortalize [Petraske's] voice and ensures that his gentle but uncompromising influence will endure  
for generations to come." â "Tales of the Cocktail"This sleek little volume, packed full of staple  
recipes and inventive new takes, will quickly become a best-loved reference book for any arbiter of  
spirits." â "Travel + Leisure Online"Recipes, anecdotes and all manner of tippie-related pearls of  
wisdom from the late, great bartender of New York City's speakeasy style Milk & Honey." â "The  
Lady"[B]eatifully illustrated." â "Chowhound"Should be on every drink lovers' bookshelf for its  
simple, delicious - and meticulous - recipes." â "Daily Telegraph"Read it and you'll be an instant  
mixologist." â "Remodelista.com"If you're looking for a more classically-oriented take on cocktail  
history and recipes, I recommend the late Sasha Petraske's Regarding Cocktails." â "Saveur  
Online"[G]rounded in exacting taste, and nothing less than perfection." â "Wired"Easily the most  
buzzed booze book of the year... Essential reading for cocktail geeks." â "American Way Magazine  
(American Airlines in-flight magazine)"More than just a recipe book, it's also a home bartending  
guide and liquid memoir." â "Wine Enthusiast"Thinking about building your dream library and  
brightening your coffee table with eye-candy and conversation starters? Look no further than  
Phaidon books." â "Big Life Magazine"This is a book that regards the home cocktail party as a  
serious endeavor - in a good way." â "Forbes Online

Sasha Petraske opened Milk & Honey, a speakeasy cocktail bar in New York, in 2000. He later had  
ventures in New York, London, and Australia. Sasha and his bars won numerous competitions and  
awards. He lived in New York until his untimely death in 2015. His wife, New York-based Georgette  
Moger-Petraske, is a spirits writer.

No name-dropping, no star f-cking. If those words carry meaning for you, then so too do the drink  
recipes in this book. If not yet, for the reader of this book they soon will. Here, at last, is Milk &  
Honey resurrected on the page. One can, if they were lucky, recall the short, candlelit bar and the  
quiet excitement of ducking in off of a Chinatown street and being served essentially the perfect  
drink for whatever your palate in what was the most exciting bar in the world during its time. The  
book is not just Milk & Honey, of course. It is Little Branch and the John Dory Oyster Bar and Dutch  
Kills and White Star and everywhere he touched and everyone he worked with gathered up in a  
collection of recipes and elegiac words. Sasha Petraske left the world too young, but as an old soul

he left behind an entire culture of service and drink preparation that lives on in his many acolytes. This book collects, essentially, the favorite recipes of Sasha and those who worked with and for him, each introduced with a short paragraph explaining the drinks background and meaning and seasonality. The framing idea of the book is the framing idea of mixology as Sasha and his ventures expressed it: every cocktail is a variation of one of five types of drinks: the Old Fashioned, the Martini or Manhattan, the Sour, the Highball, or the Fix. There are five chapters of recipes he enjoyed (largely designed by his acolytes or developed in concert with him, and attributed appropriately) with an additional chapter on non alcoholic and sweeter large format drinks. The recipes reflect the elegance and simplicity that Mr. Petraske stressed: unlike other recent bar books that seek to be the last word on all cocktail making and which call in each recipe for very specific brands, here liquors are specified by type and perhaps origin, but in the context of a simply presented list of ingredients followed by detailed instructions on assembly and only occasionally the introducing paragraph will name a particular brand. An aesthete and something of an obsessive compulsive when it came to lists, Petraske would doubtless be pleased by this layout. Each facing page contains an impressionistic line drawing of the drink that reflects the ratios called for in the recipe. Some of the great classics are here, but the recipe reflects the particular way Sasha preferred them, so too are the more famous originals of his and his extended bar family. The beginning and end of the book contains framing essays, some by Petraske but others by his wife and friends describing the philosophy of work and dress that Petraske lived and sought to impart upon others. Reflecting his particular sense of humor, cocktails for cats are also described. You can find Petraske's work living on in his colleagues now bringing their own voice to the great bars of LA, Chicago, NYC (Attaboy, the now transformed original Milk and Honey space led by Sam Ross and Michael McIlroy), Melbourne, and London, or you can recreate these recipes at home. I think that this book will give you recipes that feel both familiar and surprisingly new at the same time, the kind you would get when you let a great bartender who knows what you love make a drink, bartenders choice. While Petraske is missed, this book is not to be.

Seriously such an amazing look into the life and mind workings of an incredibly talented man who helped shape many things about our drinking in these current times. A very quick and interesting read. Even maybe more so for the stories and anecdotes than the actual drinks which are great themselves.

I used to work for Sasha and bought the book as a gift for friends who love cocktails and love to

host guests. I was shocked to see all of his tricks and secrets published in the book and thought that the info and the recipes were perfectly laid out for regular people to learn and execute the craft. He was a perfectionist, an artist and a true professional, now everyone can get a glimpse into his approach to cocktail making.

Fantastic book. It's very inspiring to read about bartenders who not only raise the bar for themselves, but also elevate those around them to be better at their craft.

Apart from the great cocktail recipes, this things looks absolutely amazing.

Some excellent recipes in here that have kept me on the go to the liquor store for ingredients (happily). It has freshened up my home bar with fantastic new options.

Such an enjoyable read. So much more than cocktails! Really conveys how intense Sasha was about making truly exquisite drinks. There is also a great section about essentials in home bar building (ingredients, not construction) and tons of interesting anecdotes.

Great book, I have dozens of cocktail books going back to the 20s, and this is one of the best!

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