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Alex Webb: The Suffering Of Light





Synopsis

"The Suffering of Light" is the first comprehensive monograph charting the career of acclaimed American photographer Alex Webb. Gathering some of his most iconic images, many of which were taken in the far corners of the earth, this exquisite book brings a fresh perspective to his extensive catalog. Recognized as a pioneer of American color photography since the 1970s, Webb has consistently created photographs characterized by intense color and light. His work, with its richly layered and complex composition, touches on multiple genres, including street photography, photojournalism, and fine art, but as Webb claims, "to me it all is photography. You have to go out and explore the world with a camera." Webb's ability to distill gesture, color and contrasting cultural tensions into single, beguiling frames results in evocative images that convey a sense of enigma, irony and humor. Featuring key works alongside previously unpublished photographs, "The Suffering of Light" provides the most thorough examination to date of this modern master's prolific, 30-year career. The photographs of Alex Webb (born 1952) have appeared in a wide range of publications, including "The New York Times Magazine," "Life," "Stern" and "National Geographic," and have been exhibited at the International Center of Photography, New York; Walker Art Center, Minneapolis; and the Whitney Museum of American Art, New York. He is a recipient of the Leica Medal of Excellence (2000) and the Premio Internacional de Fotografia Alcobendas (2009). A member of Magnum Photos since 1976, Webb lives in New York City.

Book Information

Hardcover: 204 pages

Publisher: Aperture; First Edition edition (May 31, 2011)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 1597111732

ISBN-13: 978-1597111737

Product Dimensions: 13.2 x 0.9 x 12.2 inches

Shipping Weight: 4.8 pounds (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.9 out of 5 stars 42 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #89,519 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #27 inà Â Books > Arts &

Photography > Photography & Video > Individual Photographers > Monographs #59 in A A Books

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Customer Reviews

A 30-year retrospective of a great, and often overlooked, American pioneer of colour photography who pays scant regard to genre boundaries, merging art photography, photojournalism and often complex street photographs.--Sean O'Hagan"The Guardian" (12/13/2011)The images - rich in color and visual rhythm - span 30 years and several continents. Of course, Haiti and the Mexican border are well represented, locales that opened up a new way to see.He has been able to render Haiti - a place often depicted for its chaos - with a precise eye, finding personal moments that are as still as they are complex. He can use shadows as skillfully as a be-bop musician to set the tempo. The people in his frames can look like dwarfs being stomped on by giant, disembodied feet. He can make an American street seem far more foreboding than any Third World slum.--David Gonzalez"The New York Times" (12/18/2011)In far-flung corners of the globe, Webb captures glimpses of beauty in impoverished lives and stoicism in the face of strife.--Jack Crager"American Photo" (12/01/2011)

Alex Webb was born in San Francisco in 1952. His photographs have been featured in The New York Times Magazine, Life, Stern, and National Geographic and exhibited at the Walker Art Center, Minneapolis, and the International Center of Photography and Whitney Museum of American Art in New York. He is a recipient of the Leica Medal of Excellence (2000) and a member of Magnum Photos.Geoff Dyer is the author of "Jeff in Venice, Death in Varanasi, "among other novels, and several nonfiction books, including "Out of Sheer Rage". He won a National Book Critics Circle Award in 2012 for "Otherwise Known as the Human Condition". He lives in Los Angeles.

Thank you Mr. Webb for letting us into your world and opening our eyes to possibilities deemed only imaginable. I look at these photos and at times I have a hard time understanding how they could even be real. They are simple beyond anything I've ever seen. But what you have done is created a subtextual world, images that seem to go beyond the naked eye. I am so glad I bought this book, it has enhanced my eye and I feel like I am a better photographer because of it. It has also made me realize how much better I can be. Worth every Penny!!!!

Beautiful book, Alex Webb really gives me some sense of what to look for when I travel and shoot street shots, I only wish I could see the way he sees things.

Amazing photos. I only shoot black and white for my personal work, considering myself a traditionalist. But seeing color work as amazing as this really blew my mind. Any photographer

would appreciate this collection of photos, especially if they like to do documentary or street photography.

I am primarily a black and white film shooter but I feel like it's good to look at photographers who do other things and shoot with different styles. From a photography standpoint this book is amazing. Alex Webb truly is the master of color in the street. From a print standpoint this book (as is every other book from Aperture) is hands down one of the best quality books I have. There is so much detail in each image. You can put your face as close to the pages as you want and still continue to see small things in each of the images. Overall, one of the best purchases I've made.

A beautiful book. Lots and lots of images. Very high quality design and printing. It's a nice size, biggish for today's standards. Really outstanding at any price.

Striking photos by one of the contemporary masters. He uses high contrast, bright colors, and amazingly timed juxtapositions to make photos that are uniquely his own. Highly recommended to anyone interested in contemporary "street photography".

This book is an amazing collection of stunning images. Anyone with an interest in "Street Photography" or Art in General will appreciate his work. What a special eye he has, what an inspiration he is!

Great book! This book was recommended to me by Eric Kim, thanks!

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