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Rodney Smith Photographs



Synopsis

In the tradition of Richard Avedon and Irving Penn, Rodney Smith has a signature, timeless style. This dazzling collection celebrates 50 years of Smith's photography. Rodney Smith bridges the gap between commercial photography and art, between the real world we live in and the artist's world of the imagination. His images—silhouettes and skylines, a man in a hat, elegant women in lush gardens—are by now familiar to us. Rodney Smith Photographs presents the man behind the photographs. A selection of pictures spanning four decades, organized thematically, stand alongside personal reflections drawn from Smith's popular blog. It reveals that the photographer's signature style is the product of his unusual background, his unique perspective, and his many years of self-analysis: in short, Smith's photographs are also pictures of their creator.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Rodney Smith has been making pictures for nearly half a century. He found his calling while an undergraduate at the University of Virginia, but he did his graduate work at Yale in theology and art training that he parlayed into a fellowship in Jerusalem, where he took the photos that would become his first book, *In the Land of Light* (Houghton Mifflin). After his return to the United States, he broke into the world of portrait photography, making his mark as a sought-after fashion photographer and artist. Throughout it all, he has retained his signature aesthetic and his sense of humor. His personality is of another era, his style is timeless, and he only shoots film.

Smith's books include *The End* (Seven Editions), *The Book of Books* (Smart Papers), and

The Hat Book (Doubleday). He lives in Palisades, NY, with his wife.

A decidedly delightful book of excellent photography and production quality. Just be careful when you try to open the absurdly sturdy and strongly glued corrugated board box. If you use a knife be careful not to cut into the book. After you manage to open the box, sit down and enjoy the luscious paper, very good print quality, and a vision that is playful, innovative, not bashful to tip a hat to other artists. I have gone through the book once, now I can slow down a little and savor the rich content. Highly recommend it.

Excellent and beautiful book. The size and the print quality are gorgeous. Finally, the package is resistant and strong to resist the shipment.

For anyone who admires fashion photography, it is virtually impossible to escape the name Rodney Smith. The man is a legend in every sense, having left his mark with some of the most iconic collaborations in the world. Needless to say, this collection of his work is nothing shy of stunning and brilliantly pays homage to such a storied career in the photographic arts (no small task, may I add). Stylistically, I so admire Smith's use of traditional methods: reliance on film, no digital effects in post-production. His elegant aesthetic and mastery of composition elicits some of the most evocative emotions from the subjects (and even the inanimate objects) in his photos. Unlike many published collections I own, which tend to read like a catalogue more than a book, Smith and his collaborators have dexterously threaded a compelling narrative throughout the pages. Smith's own commentary builds excitement and inspires empathy. It personalizes the beauty he sees and creates, adding a layer of haunting relatability to his work. If you are someone who loves and appreciates carefully curated photography, I fully recommend this book. Rodney Smith is a seductive genius, and it is a true honor to be welcomed as a voyeur into his world.

Such a beautifully designed, and beautifully printed book! It comprises many incredible photos taken over the course of his extraordinary career and is his first book to include his color work. Such a great book to add to any art lover's collection!

Beautifully choreographed and playful collection of black & white and color pictures!

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