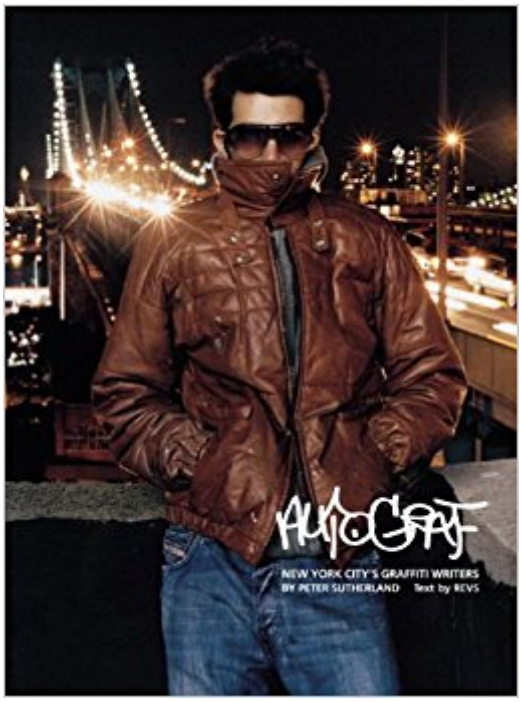
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Autograf: New York City's Graffiti Writers



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Synopsis

With an eye for style, Sutherland captures all of the gritty glory and glamour of the graffiti world and its warriors. Collected for the first time in Autograf: New York CityÃ¢â ¬â„¢s Graffiti Writers, Sutherland presents a never-before-seen chronicle of the people and places that populate New YorkÃ¢â ¬â„¢s famed graf scene. Featuring old-school legends FUTURA, STAY HIGH 149, LADY PINK and DOZE, as well as new-school writers COPE 2, CLAW, KR, CYCLE, KAWS, SACER, EARSNOT, SERF, RATE, CINIK, UFO, and DSENSE, among many others, each one of the fifty-three portraits is authentically tagged by the individual writers using the same paint markers that brought them fame. Complemented by one hundred sixty landscape photographs and featuring handwritten text by legendary recluse REVS, Autograf is the only book to showcase New York CityÃ¢â ¬â„¢s graffiti scene as it was created and defined by some of the most prolific artists of our time.

Book Information

Hardcover: 112 pages

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Product Dimensions: 10.5 x 7.9 x 0.6 inches

Shipping Weight: 1.6 pounds

Average Customer Review: 3.8 out of 5 stars 16 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #687,950 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #126 inÃ Â Books > Arts & Photography > Other Media > Graffiti & Street Art #289 inÃ Â Books > Arts & Photography > Photography & Video > Photojournalism & Essays > Photojournalism #1297 inÃ Â Books > Arts & Photography > Photography & Video > Individual Photographers

Customer Reviews

Almost every artist’s face in this 71/2"Ãƒâ ”101/4" collection of 96 hot-looking four-color portraits (with a few more in b&w) is obscured in some way, reminding us that while some may see these writers as artists, many others, including the police, perceive them as criminals. It’s an apt irony for an art form (one still hotly debated as such) that is all about identity and its "tags," placed in inaccessible locations and under trying circumstances. So when an artist among these leathered and t-shirted urban verbal guerillas here decides to bare his or her face (an act of bravery, or

bravado?), it’s a shock; each artist is more fully represented by his or her unique "autograf" (or tag) perfectly scrawled in thick glossy marker over each shot. REVS, whose huge white block letters are familiar to most New Yorkers, provides a (nicely reproduced) handwritten text on yellow legal paper, complete with misspellings, underlinings and exclamation points: "We need to be paintin 5, 10, 20 story buildings top to bottom with somethin to say... where none of these people in power... can discount your existence!" This terrific books shows its subjects in full effect (if in full stealth mode) with their canvasÃ¢â ¬â •New York’s five boroughsÃ¢â ¬â •sprawled out beautifully and variously behind them, and their names. Copyright Ã Â© Reed Business Information, a division of Reed Elsevier Inc. All rights reserved.

A controversial art form and provocative cultural phenomenon, graffiti has inestimably influenced our entire environmentÃ¢â ¬â •from music and fashion to advertising, architecture, and graphic arts. Yet it is an illegal activity, which makes its practitioners wanted criminals. Motivated by a desire for self-expression and recognition, the act of marking oneÃ¢â ¬â„¢s territory is done at the risk of severe consequences including fines and jail time. Graffiti writers are outlaws, unknown artists whose faces are known only to their peers. Treated as criminals by the law and dismissed as artists by the establishment, writers are perceived as either alluring anti-heroes or loathsome vandals, and usually remain anonymous to their audience. But not to photographer Peter Sutherland.

GREAT BOOK. THANKS..

Basically an ok book for the ny scene. Not much in the way of content though. Not much pieces, mostly local bombing and pics of some of the writers with their eyes blurred.

graffiti gets a bad rap for polluting our visual landscape throughout the world. who are these so-called criminals? city officials spend hundreds of thousands of dollars a year trying to remove this art when they could better spend that money on educating our youth. what motivates these individuals to bomb public surfaces, yet there is no face to the tag?peter sutherland reveals the mysteries behind today’s NYC tag-and-bomb scene by photographing the sources. the portraits are well crafted in composition, lighting, and context. on top of that, each artist has tagged his/her own portraits. sutherland has taken an original idea and elevated photography to a higher art form by revealing the diverse personalities, demeanor and emotions of these artists. definitely a book that everyone should add to their collections!

PLEASE... to all of the people who are saying that the artists in this book are not good and their art is garbage... you need to look into the history of graffiti to see your facts. Sure some of the artists are not THAT popular, but if you TRUELY knew anything about the history of our beloved art form, you would be so amazed by this book. Lady Pink is probably one of the most influential graffiti artists in the world. These cats are the artists that truely made graffiti what it is today. FUTURA, DOZE, Lady PINk, Kaws, and stay high 149 were TRUE GRAFFITI ARTISTS. No matter how talented the so called "graffiti kings" in NYC are in the present day, they will never bring a revolution like those artists did. Many of the so called "kings" of our generations have yet to even paint a train! How can you be so disrespectful to your elders. Thats like being a fine artist and insulting dali, because he was not to your taste. Please get some respect.....and by the way... this book rules! So next time you want a graffiti book to your liking... make sure you dont get an informational book like this that tells you about the past graffiti writers who are the masters, get one about some lame cats who tag theyr name on the side of an abandoned building without even making a statement... hmmf

This is an instant classic... up there with the darkest and grittiest of NYC documentation. When first flipping through this book, other classics such as Back in the Days came to mind, as well as the feature length documentaries Pedal and Dark Days, which all sucessively set out to document some of NY’s most influential subcultures. By themselves Peter’s photographs are amazing, but add to that the ingenious concept of having the artists actually sign the photo and you have more than a photograph, you have a valid piece of contemporary art. I’d say you could easily add this to the list of sucessful documentaries, plus, having this book on your coffee table won’t hurt your street cred! Highest recommendation.

My initial thoughts midway through the book was, nice portraits, interesting people, oh yeah I’ve seen his tag around...But once I was done, I realized this book had a lot more to it than just the photography and the people in them. You realize graffiti/tagging is still an illegal act (as far as the NYPD is concerned, they’d probably like to keep it that way) and wow it’s evolved and changed with lots of new "faces". Peter Sutherland’s Autograf is a project of cultural importance & relevance, it makes you think about the evolution of where the art of graffiti and public art has gone and introduces you to some old and new taggers. The documentary style of Sutherland’s photography adds to the reality of the art form and gives you an initmate look into each tagger’s personality. I’ve seen a lot of these tags all over the 5 boroughs and it’s amazing that Sutherland was able to find all

of them and capture them in notable NYC spots that you may or may not recognize. His photography style varies depending on the subject, all executed really well. I highly recommend this, pick it up and check out the 323, Claw and Fanta images, hot!

I love the idea of the book~ A "blackbook" that's alive with photos of the writers....but truth be told, this book is nothing less than a quickly assembled capital venture...Many of the writers in this book are questionably "all city" and about a third of them ARE'NT EVEN FROM NEW YORK~!... It was obviously put together by someone who looked no further than 2 DEGREES OF SEPARATION to find the artisits for the book. It is neither a fair representation of NYC graffiti nor an artisitic feature book... You will see handstyles ("tags") of the featured artists, but there is little more than a handful of actual WORK from writers.... It is an interesting take on graffiti documentation and I suppose a nice addition to an already well established collection of such books... but you'll flip through it once and never pick it up again.

peter sutherland came up with a great idea: take portraits of nyc's best graf artists and then have them tag over their photos! genius! I always wondered what these people look like and now I get a glimpse. glimpse is a fairly appropriate word here because in many of the pics the subjects have obscured their faces in a variety of creative ways. in my opinion this is what takes the project from great to outstanding!! genius...sheer genius!!check this book out if you get a chance. and if you see peter around nyc give him a big hug and thank him for his creativity...he's making the world better every day.

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