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Transitions And Exits



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Synopsis

Wild man Ari Marcopoulos crossed time zones incessantly while documenting the non-linear lives of one of the first 21st-century tribes: snowboarders. Rell Sun once called surfers the Gypsies of the Earth because they travel more and consume less. Snowboarders are the evolutionary offshoots of these nomads, who follow the seasons in search of what is embedded in their DNA. Transitions and Exits documents much of the time these young nomads spend travelling to the Nirvana of fresh powder and perfect jumps. And the waiting in Purgatory: riders kindle their boredom with hours, even days of contemplation. It's the time when helicopters are grounded, low pressures are laying new carpets of snow, and the weather channel is only hinting at what's to come. In snowboarding there are many prodigies. They are young, come from California and Scandinavia, earn serious dough for play, and speak a unified language around boarding and the latest electronic gadgets. But after hearing the crack of a compound fracture sounding off the walls of a perfectly shaped halfpipeÃ¢â ¬â •the price paid for mastering a new trickÃ¢â ¬â •it's hard to label this life glamorous. With photos and digital video grabs of the world's top snowboardersÃ¢â ¬â •all of whom are under the age of 25Ã¢â ¬â •Transitions and Exits showcases, in a hardcore artist's book and DVD, a brilliant take on a surreal world, much like Larry Clark's Tulsa.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Photographer Ari Marcopoulos has made a career of capturing life on the cultural edge. From his beginnings as an artist working for Andy Warhol, Marcopoulos has been drawn to those who work and live outside of their contemporary society. Some of his more famous subjects include William

Burroughs, the Beastie Boys, and Jean-Michel Basquiat. In Transitions and Exits, Marcopoulos covers the life and times of the world's top young snowboarders with contemplative portraits, mountainous landscapes, and daredevil action shots. The faces of these athletes lie somewhere between wholesome and ragamuffin, and they deliver us into a fascinating world of modern Peter Pans, filled with video games, black eyes, cheap beer, and cigarettes. But beyond the mere stuff of adolescents lies boyishness with a cause. Marcopoulos explains: "They are political in the way they shape their existence. Their lifestyle is financed by corporations and yet they live by their own rules outside of social norms.... In snowboarding there is nothing better than breaking the rules." The photographs illustrate a commitment to natural beauty, adventure, and athletic perfection, as well as capturing the family-like clan that develops in the many off-hours. Included is an enlightening interview between the photographer and curator-writer Louise Neri. --J.P. Cohen

I thought this book was gonna be a bit better than it was. I normally love Ari's photography. It's mostly pics of young adults getting wasted in hotel rooms. I had hoped for more shots of snowboarding and for a bit more creativity overall. There are even some sequences of hardcore porn on a television set, perhaps at the time that seemed a like a good idea but their nature seems pretty adolescent.

this book offers a radical new look at the world of snowboarding and, for that matter, specific aspects of youth culture in general. it's also beautifully photographed and avoids the usual stylistic clichees of snowboarding photography... marcopoulos seems to have followed the crusaders of corporation-sponsored "rebellion" and "individualism" over longer periods of time, getting familiar with the various protagonists and their lifestyle, thus gaining access to all areas. this results in a volume of images of touching intimacy and odd beauty. 'transitions and exits' could well become the thinking person's snowboarding bible. marcopoulos would deserve it.

Ari Marcopoulos poesseses a unique ability to keep pace with the transglobal cultural ethos that is constantly and belatedly appropriated by mainstream media. Transitions and Exits is a perfect example. Marcopoulos and Cortez have selected a group of images that both confirms and dispels the stereotypes of this exploding privileged community. Marcopoulos' subtle use of digital manipulation and compositing within some of the layouts reinforces his vision and the overall story of his subjects. Marcopoulos understands his medium and has achieved its potential yet again.

I purchased this book based on the reviews of customers and editorial reviews as well. Nowhere did I read about what was really in the book, which is glossy porn and drug use. If this is what you want then by all means buy the book. But if you are looking for good shots of snowboarders, any information at all about snowboarding, or really impressive photography, look elsewhere. There is no artistic content in this book. I could have taken these photos. This is not Maplethorpe or Liebowitz, it is just stupid. I just thought you should know what you are getting.

On the frontier of the snowboarder, mad dogs patrol. Ari Marcopoulos's photographs paint quite a picture of this crispy culture, from shattered spines to heavenly landscapes, busted faces to blue sky. He's an insider - travelling with these nomads from the Alps to Alaska, he's taken rolls of behind the scenes snapshots, along with large format landscapes and the money shots. It's an honest, evocative portrait of this nomadic culture.

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