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Both Sides Of Sunset: Photographing Los Angeles



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Synopsis

Los Angeles is a city of dualitiesÃ¢â ¬â ¢sunshine and noir, coastline beaches and urban grit, natural beauty and suburban sprawl, the obvious and the hidden. Both Sides of Sunset: Photographing Los Angeles reveals these dualities and more, in images captured by master photographers such as Bruce Davidson, Lee Friedlander, Daido Moriyama, Julius Shulman and Garry Winogrand, as well as many younger artists, among them Matthew Brandt, Katy Grannan, Alex Israel, Lise Sarfati and Ed Templeton, just to name a few. Taken together, these individual views by more than 130 artists form a collective vision of a place where myth and reality are often indistinguishable. Spinning off the highly acclaimed Looking at Los Angeles (Metropolis Books, 2005), Both Sides of Sunset presents an updated and equally unromantic vision of this beloved and scorned metropolis. In the years since the first book was published, the artistic landscape of Los Angeles has flourished and evolved. The extraordinary Getty Museum project Pacific Standard Time: Art in L.A. 1945Ã¢â ¬â œ1980 focused global attention on the city's artistic heritage, and this interest has only continued to grow. Both Sides of Sunset showcases many of the artists featured in the original bookÃ¢â ¬â ¢such as Lewis Baltz, Catherine Opie, Stephen Shore and James WellingÃ¢â ¬â ¢but also incorporates new images that portray a city that is at once unhinged and driven by irrepressible exuberance. Proceeds from the sale of the book will benefit Inner-City ArtsÃ¢â ¬â ¢an oasis of learning, achievement and creativity in the heart of Los Angeles' Skid Row that brings arts education to elementary, middle and high school students.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Defies expectations in capturing the texture of this vast suburban metropolis. (George Melrod Art Ltd.)Decades fold together and famous pictures flow along peaceably with their lesser-known relatives in a continuously unrolling and emphatically horizontal visual narrative that feels cinematic...You close the cover having had an adventure. (Luc Sante The New York Times)some of the most striking visuals to come out of the city over the past five decades. (Ashleigh Kane Dazed)Taken together, these many angles on Los Angeles reflect the cityÃ¢â ¬â„¢s complex identity and all of its gleaming facets. (Lucia De Stefani Time, Lightbox)No overview of Los Angeles is ever going to be complete. Our city is too big, too atomized, too much of everything all at once. All we can ever see is one tiny big of it at a time. And this book offers plenty of wondrous bits. (Carolina Miranda Los Angeles Times)ItÃ¢â ¬â„¢s a rich book, too large and too diverse to neatly summarize, but it has more soul than just a Ã¢â ¬Å“surveyÃ¢â ¬Â• of Los Angeles photography. (Owen Campbell American Suburb X)ItÃ¢â ¬â„¢s an insiderÃ¢â ¬â„¢s view, a portrait of Los Angeles in a series of discrete mirrors: a city, as it ever was, in the process of becoming, making coherence out of chaos, ineluctable and revealing at once. (David L. Ulin The New Yorker, Photo Booth)Here, Los Angeles, in all its romanticism and grit, its sprawling and weird glory, light and dark, large and small, now and then. (Rebecca Bengal Vogue.com)Both Sides of Sunset: Photographing Los Angeles presents one of the more nuanced odes to L.A.Ã¢â ¬â ¢the good, the bad, and the ugly freeways. (Mayer Rus Architectural Digest)This makes "Both Sides" all about the images Ã¢â ¬â ¢ which makes it a wonderful book with which to revel in the wild architecture, the burned-out rocker types, the overpowering roadways, the singular street life, the sublime ridiculosity. (Carolina A. Miranda Los Angeles Times)With nearly 300 images by some of the world’s leading photographers, the book is a kaleidoscopic look at a complex, ever-nchanting locale of dreams and despair. (Peter Terzian Elle Decor)Following the success of 2005’s highly acclaimed Looking at Los Angeles, Metropolis Book’s new tome highlights the City of Angels and pinpoints its many dualities (lush, natural beauty vs. harsh urban stretches; crowded beaches vs. vacant hillsides) through compelling photography taken over the past few decades. (Laura Eckstein Jones Modern Luxury)Affinities emerge: Josef Hoflehner’s startling 2010 shot of a plane seemingly parked in the sky above an In-N-Out Burger closely follows Zoe Crosher’s series of distant passenger jets photographed through dismal motel-room windows. (Chistopher Lyon Bookforum)Being the first Californian in my family and visiting the east coast frequently, I’ve always had tricky relationship with this city that birthed me. I feel like as I flip through the following pages I’ll have the kind of experience we all hope to when looking at a piece of work...a very emotional one. (Josh

Klinghoffer)I like the democracy of this book. It treats all the images as necessary for the whole; there are no stars or hierarchy. From the ocean to the burbs, inside cars, behind sunglasses, and from a bird's eye view, the facades and the faded glory are all here in pictures, not fighting for attention, but hand in hand becoming a whole. This whole doesn't have a "The End" moment and it has another side of the street to look at. (The Editors Metropolis Magazine)

A very well presented and varied look at LA, with photographs from the 1950's (with 2 from the 1940's) up to recent years. Generous in it's length, each photo receives a full page or page and a half, along with name of artist, title (if any) and date. The dates are the only drawback I found, as some of them are defintely incorrect. Perhaps the editors had to go by the date that was given them. Many readers could probably care less, but to me the period of time that a photograph is taken is important. I found it surprising that such a nice collection, so beautifully laid out, had these errors. Still highly recommended.

Love this coffee table book of photographs of Los Angeles. Great images from the past as well as present, whether iconic locations such as LAX or the Capitol Records building, as well as just mundane suburban homes. Really captures the city.

Amazing book

Great range of work and visual styles and intentions

Book looses its allure near the end

As a LA native, I can say without a doubt that this book is the perfect encapsulation of the Los Angeles I know and love and yet canÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã â„¢t really explain. Both Ed Ruscha and David UlinÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã â„¢s essays that eloquently describe the indefinability and paradoxical nature of LA foreground the beautifully printed images. Every picture has something different to say and the editing and placement of the images gives interesting juxtapositions and relationships that enrich the photographs.As the other reviews stated, the range of photographs is amazing ÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã â• such a wide birth of photographers, styles, time periods, techniques ÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã â• such an extensive (and well deserved) rumination on what Los Angeles is. Cannot overstate this enough!

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