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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 Featuring key works alongside previously unpublished photographs, "The Suffering of Light" provides the most thorough examination to date of this modern master's prolific, 30-year career.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

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Customer Reviews

Alex Webb is not only a master of color, as is widely known, but he's also equally a master of complex composition. His ability to find perfect compositional balance within highly chaotic situations is second to none. Couple these two overlapping skills, and you get extraordinary images that will leave you both awed and inspired. This book is full of them, and deserves repeated study. Highly recommended to anyone with eyes, especially those interested in street photography. A must have in any photography lover's library.

One of the best photographers ever. The color master, whom I was lucky enough to have worked beside and learn from as a young photographer in Haiti in 1986. Bought several copies of this book and also use it in the classes I teach. This book is a must. AA.

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.

for any serious photographer--street photographer or otherwise--this book is a must have. webb's pictures are so "other worldly" amazing it's hard to comprehend how he achieved them. stunning image reproductions and beautifully bound book.

If you're learning how to look, this book is probably just as valuable to you as a four-year art college education or any combination of pricey lenses. These are extraordinary photographs to be studied and savored, with retina-splicing color and intriguing composition. They are generally BUSY shots, with a tremendous amount of visual information, secrets, occasional old master painting references (a particularly heartbreaking one of Picasso's blue period comes to mind), and many visual puns. You'll see that photography isn't really about the camera, but about the photographer's skill, and you will gain a new appreciation for this art with Alex Webb's magnificent masterpieces. Don't think twice, it's alright to buy it.

The artful way Alex Webb combines locations, people, light and color surpasses what one would expect of a top-notch photographer. His work is more beautiful and emotive than I can adequately

describe. Each photograph is somehow painterly and some elicited a gasp of surprise and admiration as I turned the pages for the first time. After that first viewing, this book became one of my all-time favorite books of photography. You'll be thrilled to add this to your own library.

"The quality of the book is excellent. Good binding and beautiful color reproduction on high quality paper. As far as Webb's work is concerned... Breathtaking! I have been looking at work by Cartier-Bresson, Winogrand, Erwitt, Salgado, etc., none of them compare in terms of emotional impact. Webb's work is painstaking in its composition, bold and powerful in its use of color. As his work progressed, it became ever more complex, yet masterly." That was my first review some months ago. Now, I find myself drawn back to this book again and again. This fellow is my favorite photographer by far.

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".

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