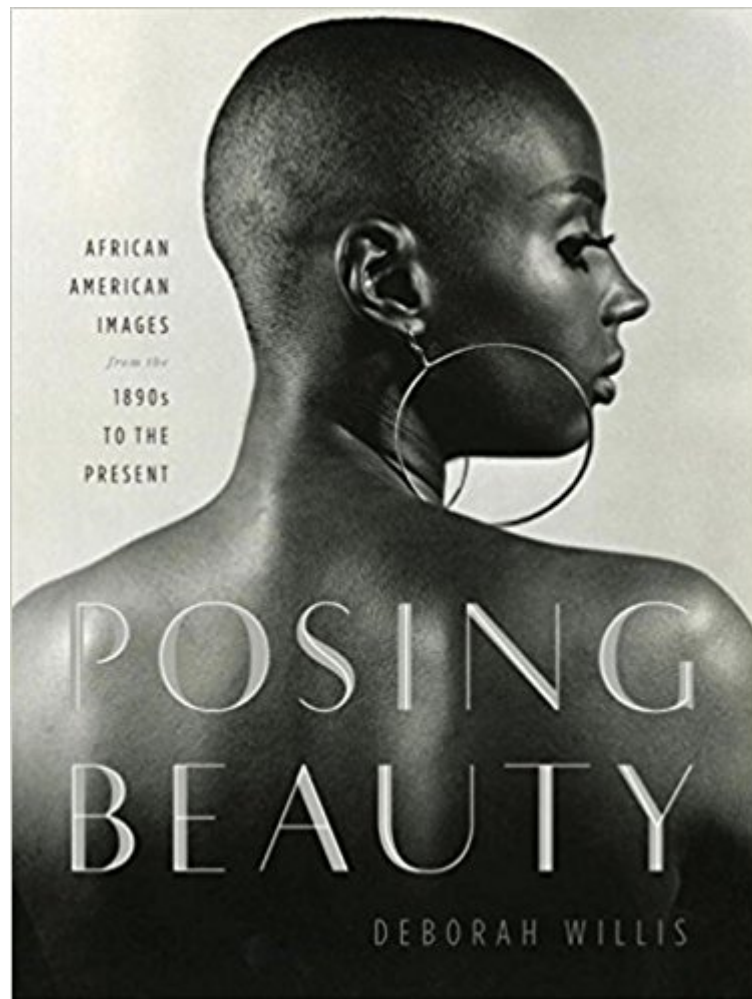


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# Posing Beauty: African American Images From The 1890s To The Present



## Synopsis

Long overlooked in American culture, African American beauty finally get its due in this landmark work. As a student in the 1970s, Deborah Willis came to the realization that images of black beauty, female and male, simply did not exist in the larger culture. Determined to redress this imbalance, Willis examined everything from vintage ladiesâ™ journals to black newspapers, and started what would become a lifelong quest. With more than two hundred arresting images, many previously unpublished, *Posing Beauty* recovers a world many never knew existed. Historical subjects such as Billie Holiday and Josephine Baker illuminate the past; Angela Davis and Muhammad Ali take us to the civil rights era; Denzel Washington, Lilâ™ Kim, and Michelle Obama celebrate the present. Featuring the works of more than one hundred photographers, including Carl van Vechten, Eve Arnold, Lee Friedlander, and Carrie Mae Weems, Willisâ™s book not only celebrates the lives of the famous but also captures the barber shop, the bodybuilding contest, and prom night. *Posing Beauty* challenges our most fundamental assumptions about what it means to be beautiful. • 242 duotone photographs; 40 pages of five-color photographs

## Book Information

Hardcover: 280 pages

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Average Customer Review: 4.8 out of 5 starsÂ Â See all reviewsÂ (26 customer reviews)

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## Customer Reviews

*Posing Beauty* is an interesting perspective of African-American beauty from the photographer's point of view. It presented African-American beauty from different genders, genres and generations. Media today feeds the masses with a certain beauty that is not reflective of the African-American community. As a proud Black woman I appreciate the photos of the women in this book which

showcases the beautiful complexions and features that exist within my race. Black IS beautiful!

IT HAS SO MANY GEORGIOUS SNAP SHOTS OF THE BLACK EXPERIENCE. IT REALLY EXCEEDS THE VAN DER ZEE BOOK WHICH IS QUITE GOOD.

The best deal in a long time. Great book, great price for a used book & excellent condition. I'm all around pleased Many images from photographers I have not seen before. The book chronicled more contemporary photos than I expected. Great images from the 70's.

Anything Deb Willis touches turns to historical gold! She does not dissappoint in "Posing Beauty." This book follows a repertoire of the history of Black photography in the United States that Willis has showcased via her collegiate teaching career, books and exhibitions. If you have not seen the exhibit of the same name, the book "Posing Beauty" is a must have.

Excellent book, scholarly author, beautiful images and wonderful treatise documenting African American culture from around the turn of the century until now. I am proud to have this book in my collection. G. Williams

16X20 Broken up into four parts first three are b&w: construct a pose- each photo includes an explanation of where the photo came from. Easter is a topic, includes Josephine Baker, Malcom X, Rosa parks, Ali, Body and Image some 1920's areola, James Brown and Ali, cover model, and Marvin Hagler. Beauty Contests- Joe Louis, Jim Brown, Sean Combs. Color Plates are in color-Condoleezza Rice, some bare backsides, Ray Charles, President and wife, Serena Williams, and Miss Olympia. Printed in Italy.

A member of my book club gave me a gift card, and I wanted to purchase something memorable. This tabletop book was the perfect gift because it captures history in a pictorial. I could not believe the emotion and passion in some of the photos. They were simply artistically breathtaking!! History buffs and inspiring photographers will also find this book educational. This is a true untapped treasure. (Thanks Roz!!)..buy it today; you will not regret your investment

Just started purchasing table top books. This is one of four in my very small collection. These picture books will give my family a glimpse into a part of history.

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