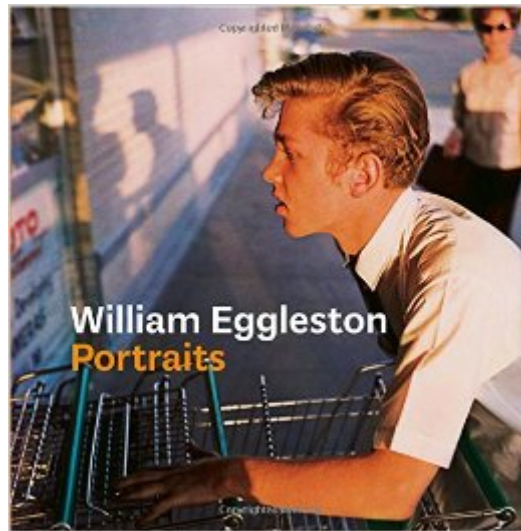


The book was found

William Eggleston Portraits



Synopsis

“So many people take those simple snapshots of life, but there’s something about Eggleston that no one can match.” —Sofia Coppola

The eminent American photographer William Eggleston (b. 1939) was a pioneer in exploring the artistic potential of color photography. Eggleston made a name for himself with his eccentric, unexpected compositions of everyday life that were nonetheless rife with implied narrative, elevating the commonplace to art. This sumptuously illustrated book features Eggleston’s masterful portraits, including many familiar and beloved images as well as some previously unseen photographs from his long and productive career. Many of Eggleston’s poetic photographs portray life in his home state of Tennessee, and the people he encountered there. Eggleston frequented the 1970s Memphis club scene, where he met, befriended, and photographed musicians such as fellow Southerners Alex Chilton and Ike Turner. He also photographed celebrities including Dennis Hopper, Walter Hopps, and Eudora Welty, and became a fixture of Andy Warhol’s Factory scene, dating the Warhol protAG©g© Viva. Over the past half century, he has created a powerful and enduring body of work featuring friends and family, musicians, artists, and strangers. In addition to the lavish reproductions of Eggleston’s portraits, this volume includes an essay and chronology, plus an interview with Eggleston and his close family members that gives new insights into his images and artistic process.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

I was extremely surprised recently when I saw this book listed as "In Stock" on . I was under the

impression it was not set for publication until September. But there it was, listed as currently available. So I immediately ordered a copy. I am very pleased with the purchase. Not your typical book of portraits. Eggleston's work has never quite been able to fit within the margins of any particular label. His portraits are not formal, Karsh-style pictures but candid glimpses of family, friends, strangers and a few celebrities. Many of these photos have been published before but some I have not previously seen. Unlike the "Eggleston 5x7" book (a book mostly of typical portraits) which had few shots that interested me, "Portraits" is Eggleston in his element, mostly shooting quickly and catching just the right non-moment. I've found the text that accompanies most photography and art books is usually claptrap from self-proclaimed experts who want to show off their intellectual blather. This is different. The opening essay and the interview with Eggleston at the end of the book are mostly superb and provide insight into the artist and his work. The reproduction is mostly fine. I do want to note that the photo of Eggleston's son William III on page 148 does have a defect in the reproduction. In my copy of the book, the photo has a fuzzy gray spot in the lower center (on William's right shoulder). I'm not sure if this appears in every copy of the book but it is distracting. It's made even more obvious when this photograph is referenced early on by Phillip Prodger in his opening essay. William Eggleston's photographs are something of an acquired taste. Some people just don't "get" him while others worship his every photograph. I've been a longtime admirer of Eggleston's work although I've been critical of some relatively recent works. However, there is nothing in this book that I can fault.

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