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Surfing Photographs From The Seventies Taken By Jeff Divine



Synopsis

As a teenager taking pictures of fellow surfers in 1960s La Jolla, Jeff Divine got to know the original alternative sport before the X-Games were even a gleam in a producer's eye. Through this rare collection of photographs from the momentous decade that followed, he conveys the feeling of being on the beach in its most creative era, being present at the inception of a subculture too large and photogenic to stay down long. The style, the athleticism and the escapism in these images will be familiar to those with even a lazy eye on pop culture: surfing is on the rise again. Of its first time around, Divine says, "Yes, I had long hair. And Pendletons, Mexican wedding shirts, bell bottoms, Wallabies, Zig Zags and tuna, wheat bread, and sprouts in the fridge. Santana, The Dead, Jesse Colin Young, Steppenwolf, Moby Grape, The Stones, Beatles and Clifton Chenier on the stereo. Hippie seamstresses made us custom shirts with embroidered necks and coconut buttons. I had a beaded curtain through which you entered my den. No, I didn't have any black light posters, but I did have the Juan O. Gorman poster "Flores Imaginarias" and Ortnor at 3M's on the wall. Reading material? The Life Photography Series, The Tibetan Book of the Dead, M.C. Escher art books, Zap comics, or the Carlos Castaneda series. But our prize possessions were our garage-made surfboards all lined up in the side yard. They mattered the most."

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

this is an amazing book- some of the best surf pictures (in my opinion) during one of the most visually inspiring era's of surfing. the pages are arranged in such a way so as to not distract you

from their content, the printing is awesome and there's not a single shot not worthy of a poster size above your bed. this book will not harsh your mellow- it will make you want to move to lucadia, ride only a single fin & get a job wrapping surf wax for .25 cents per bar....

After my old friend Ron Stoner vanished into the mystic, Jeff Divine became my favorite surf photographer in the 70's. His shots were clean- and-green or sharply contrasted black-and-white. One of the reasons the islands became so popular in the 70's was Divine's photos in SURFER. Everybody saw them, got stoked, and jumped on a 707. Whenever I reminisce about the old days of soul arches, single fins, and big bottom turns I pick this book off the shelf. Divine's photographs reveal a stoke unique to the era. I saw Brad McCaul at my 30th high school reunion, and he's still looks fit.

As a stoked young kid, "Photo: Divine" was a credit I saw all the time as I flipped through my collection of surf magazines. The time was the 1970's and there were a handful of great photographers documenting the decade's revolutionary new approach to surfing. Guys like Larry "Flame" Moore, Ron Stoner, and Jeff Divine were at the peak of their powers as the previous decade's photo gods (folks like Leroy Grannis) passed the torch. Surfing Photographs From The Seventies By Jeff Divine collects some of the best images from Divine's prolific cache of photos. Unfortunately, while there are many great photos in the book, there isn't much in the way of story or narrative to help the reader navigate and engage with the images. In fact, descriptions of the photos themselves, e.g. Buttons at OTW, aren't included with the pictures in the book. Rather, they are provided at the end of the book along with thumbnails of every photo. Every time an editor decides to put the shot's corresponding title 50 pages away from the image, I get an unpleasant, disjointed feeling. Let's get real, there are no surf photos so precious that they can't be "marred" by a photo credit and/or shot title. As a result a book that could have been, like the photos themselves, great or very good, turned out to be merely fine instead. More reviews at The Waterman's Library.

This book is a timeless classic on a timeless age. Wow the seventies were great. Wish I could have experienced them. This book will take you in a wonderful time warp when surfing was pure. So, much love was put into this book. I am forever stoked on this book. Radical imagery, fantastical surfers purely magical.

I ordered this book and had high expectations, which it certainly lived up to! My boyfriend is the

surfer/photographer and we both thought the whole lay-out and design not to mention the photographs were wonderful. Definitely recommend this to any photography or surfer buff!

I never tire of looking at surfing photography. In each and every wave, I imagine me riding it and it stimulates me, gets the juices flowing and drives me to get out there. This book does that.

This is one of those rare "coffee-table books" that actually makes it to the coffee table of the recipient AND STAYS THERE, loved and appreciated!

Beautiful photos. Love the book.

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