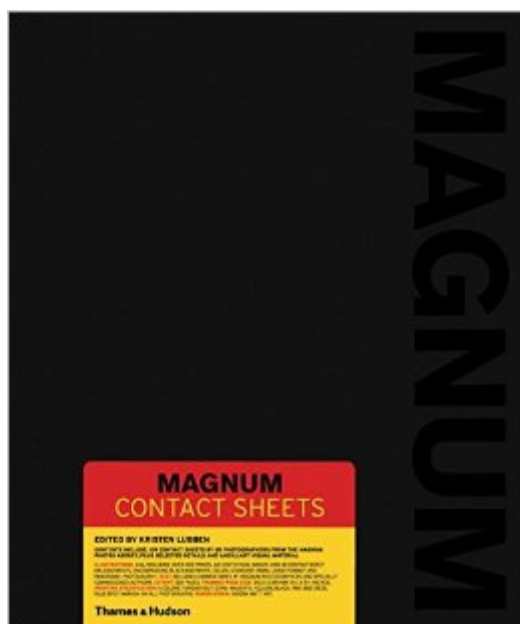


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Magnum Contact Sheets



Synopsis

• Offers unique insight into the working progress of the celebrated agency's photographers over the past seven decades • their approach to taking and editing their pictures as well as their idiosyncratic relationships with the contact sheet. • Available for the first time in a compact edition, this groundbreaking book presents a remarkable selection of contact sheets and ancillary material, revealing for the first time how the most celebrated Magnum photographers capture and edit the very best shots. Addressing key questions of photographic practice, the book illuminates the creative methods, strategies, and editing processes behind some of the world's most iconic images. Featured are 139 contact sheets from sixty-nine photographers, as well as zoom-in details, selected photographs, press cards, notebooks, and spreads from contemporary publications including Life magazine and Picture Post. Further insight into each contact sheet is provided by texts written by the photographers themselves or by experts chosen by the members' estates. Many of the acknowledged greats of photography are featured, including Henri Cartier-Bresson, Elliott Erwitt, and Inge Morath, as well as such members of Magnum's latest generation as Jonas Bendixsen, Alessandra Sanguinetti, and Alec Soth. The contact sheets cover over seventy years of history, from Robert Capa's Normandy landings and the Paris riots of 1968 via Bruno Barbey, to images of Che Guevara by Ren  Burri, Malcolm X by Eve Arnold, and portraits of classic New Yorkers by Bruce Gilden. 446 illustrations, 240 in color

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Customer Reviews

Length: 3:03 Mins

I purchased this book in Feb. 2012 and have read the negative reviews regarding the condition that the book was shipping in from and also about the bad binding from the publisher. The book came in pretty good packaging but one corner of the book was slightly bent but the damage is so minimal that it does not affect the book nor the pages. As far as the binding; the book is very heavy so I would recommend viewing it on a flat surface and not on a bed, etc. I recorded a video of me opening the package just in case the book came all messed up but it didn't. The content of the book is amazing and a treat for photography nerds like myself.

Magnum Contact Sheets is truly a masterpiece in terms of content. The reproductions of the photographs in this book are of outstanding quality. This is an iconic book that will be highly sought after in the future. I would expect prices to skyrocket once it is out of print. In my opinion, this is a book that every serious photographer, student of photography and connoisseur of fine photography books should own. And now for the bad news: Due to a combination of marginal binding strength by Thames & Hudson and improper packing for shipment by , I had to return the book repeatedly to get an undamaged and/or non-defective copy. When copy #4 arrived, I at long last had an acceptable copy of this outstanding book. There are two threads on this book and the trials and tribulations associated with it at L-Camera-Forum (Google it). I would rate the book at five stars (or an "A") for content and quality of photographic reproduction. However, in terms of the binding I would have to rate it at two stars (or a "D"). It is truly unfortunate that the marginal binding has flawed an iconic book that is in all other ways a masterpiece.

What an amazing book. It is an amazing source for any and all amateur photographer, photojournalist, or anyone wishing to know about the stories behind an image. I also own Magnum stories which is great, and I would highly recommend. Unfortunately, there is a huge problem with this book. I've ordered it twice here on , and the other bookseller only to have to send it back. I don't know if it's the sheer weight of the book, improper packaging, or poor manufacturing, but both books had a detached spine. I actually considered going to my local paper source or bookbinder to have it fixed, but I shouldn't have to pay more money just to fix an obvious issue. I would say order the book, but inspect it as you get it. Hopefully it was just a few bad batches, and you will be spared the disappointment of having to return it.

Yes, my book arrived slightly damaged. It wasn't the shipper's fault, I blame the carrier. The thing is, I'm not looking for a museum piece. My reason for buying this book is because I'm a photographer and I want to learn and be inspired by the best. When I got the book and unpacked it, I turned a few pages and checked the first image. Tears came to my eyes. I paged through in a haphazard manner and landed on various pages of raw history - unedited. It's simply amazing. Everything from a mother breast feeding her child during a propaganda rally to people in New Jersey sitting along the shore watching the burning World Trade Center. This book will give you an appreciation for photography. It will touch you emotionally and it will serve as inspiration to any photographer of any genre out there. I will treasure this book for years to come.

I bought this book, concerned about several prior reviews stating it arrived damaged or that the binding was poor on the book. I was still going to get it. I really wanted to study it more than have it as a collector's piece. I went to place my order and saw that had temporarily halted new orders of the book, pending review of reported problems. A couple days later the book was again available for order. I placed my order and the book arrived extremely well packaged. The book was tightly wrapped in thin bubble wrap and tightly bound with tape. The wrapping worked to keep the book as a very solid piece and probably stopped the heavy pages from pulling and shifting against the binding during shipment. The book is excellent and I'm enjoying studying it slowly.

A brilliant book I would recommend any aspiring photographer or photojournalist to have in their collection as it talks about not just the trials or work of the great ones before them, but it shows them how the photographers of the past had worked. I particularly love this book as it shows how much the final printed out shoot differs from the ones shown in the contact sheet indicating that some degree of printing skills was involved to make the photo work very well. As well as that exposure is not always spot on when they took the photos in the hectic situation. I also love the stories associated with each of the winning shots from each contact sheet taken over the years. Keep in mind, this isn't just for film enthusiasts (but it helps to have a better understanding of the work presented here) as later chapters show digital contact sheets as well.

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