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# LA Portraits



## Synopsis

In *LA Portraits*, the internationally celebrated photographer, Estevan Oriol, explores the vibrant gang culture pervading the City of Angels. The book follows its immensely popular predecessor, *LA Woman* in its ability to capture an authentic view of the people of Los Angeles. "They are not all monsters," says Oriol, "you got cool guys, crazy guys, assholes. Most people are cool that's why I hang out with them. It's more a brotherhood, a family. Got the barbecue, low riding, hanging out, school days, guns, drugs, a little bit of everything." The collection comprises over one hundred iconic images sourced from Oriol's fascinating and extensive archive that spans over 20 years. Every photograph is shot on film, presenting the viewer with a unique and insightful journey into the LA gangland. *Oriel De La Photographie* recognises this journey, calling Oriol's work "an unforgettable voyage to another time and place where your boys just becoming men visit tattoo parlors and begin to get their bodies inked. Of men with guns and sunglasses and masks, of makeshift memorials on the sidewalk where something terrible happened. Of colors, certain colors, and lots of plaid. Of bandanas, baseball caps, of low riders cruising up along, dudes posted up, uniform of the streets." —Miss Rosen.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

This collection of pictures were taken throughout the past 20 years. It started out with taking photos of my friends and people I was meeting in the lowriding scene. Once some magazines saw some of

them, they would have me do special assignments on some of the gang culture here in Los Angeles.

Estevan Oriol is an internationally celebrated professional photographer, director and urban lifestyle entrepreneur. Beginning his career as a hip-hop club bouncer turned tour manager for popular Los Angeles-based rap groups Cypress Hill and House of Pain, Estevan's passion for photography developed while traveling the world. With an influential nudge and old camera from his father, renowned photographer Eriberto Oriol, Estevan began documenting life on the road and established a name for himself amid the emerging hip-hop scene. Nearly 20 years later, Oriol's extensive portfolio juxtaposes the glamorous and gritty planes of LA culture, featuring portraits of famous athletes, artists, celebrities and musicians as well as Latino, urban, gang, and tattoo counterculture lifestyles. He has photographed Al Pacino, Robert De Niro, Dennis Hopper, Marissa Miller, Kim Kardashian, Kanye West, Snoop Dogg, Floyd Mayweather, and Lance Armstrong amongst others. He has also produced shoots for internationally-acclaimed photographers such as Ellen von Unwerth for Sang Bleu and Luca Babini for GQ Italy. In addition to shooting campaigns for companies including Cadillac, Nike and Rockford Fosgate and directing new media projects for My Cadillac Stories, MetroPCS, MTV and Apple, Estevan has designed album covers and directed music videos for artists including Eminem, Cypress Hill, Blink 182, Snoop Dogg and Xzibit. His work has been showcased in select galleries and institutions such as Smithsonian Center for Latino Initiatives, Mesa Contemporary Art Center, Petersen Automotive Museum, and The Museum of Contemporary Art, Los Angeles. "Art in the Streets" exhibit concluding with a best-selling book of his work: LA Woman, capturing the dangerous and alluring beauty of women shot in his uniquely provocative and raw style. His photography has been featured in Complex, FHM, Juxtapoz, GQ, Vibe, Rolling Stone and other publications, with appearances on popular television shows such as, HBO's Entourage and Last Call With Carson Daly.

Gang members and tattoos....it might sound simplistic to say those comprise the vast majority of photos in this book, but the photos are \*powerful\*! The photographer had extraordinary access to the people portrayed in this book and he did a superb job. Also, the colors and the printing are of excellent quality.

My brother-in-law was featured in this book, and has subsequently passed away. The photograph

that was taken of him was used during his services. Estevan is so talented photographer who is also a very kind man. I would recommend this book since it depicts the raw and wonderful images.

I pre-purchased this item and it took over a year to be delivered! To this day, I have no idea what the hold up was. After enjoying L.A. Woman so much I couldn't wait to get ahold of Estevan Oriol's new book. While it is good, it just doesn't have the same feel as his previous work. With that said, I'm still a loyal collector. Same decent quality from Drago. Nice glossy pics.

Another great book to add to the coffee table. The book is just what I expected from Estevan Oriol. Raw, straight from the streets material in well done black & white photography. This is a glimpse of what everyday life is like if you come from L.A. Coming from this lifestyle. If you haven't already, pick up L.A. Woman from Mr. Oriol.

Awesome

Beautiful photos of people who inhabit the grey area of a pseudo black and white world.

This is exactly what I expected from Estevan. Great lifestyle, coffee table book. I highly recommend this book if you grew up in the 90s.

Got this book for my son for his birthday really awesome pictures highly recommended can't wait for the next one to come out

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