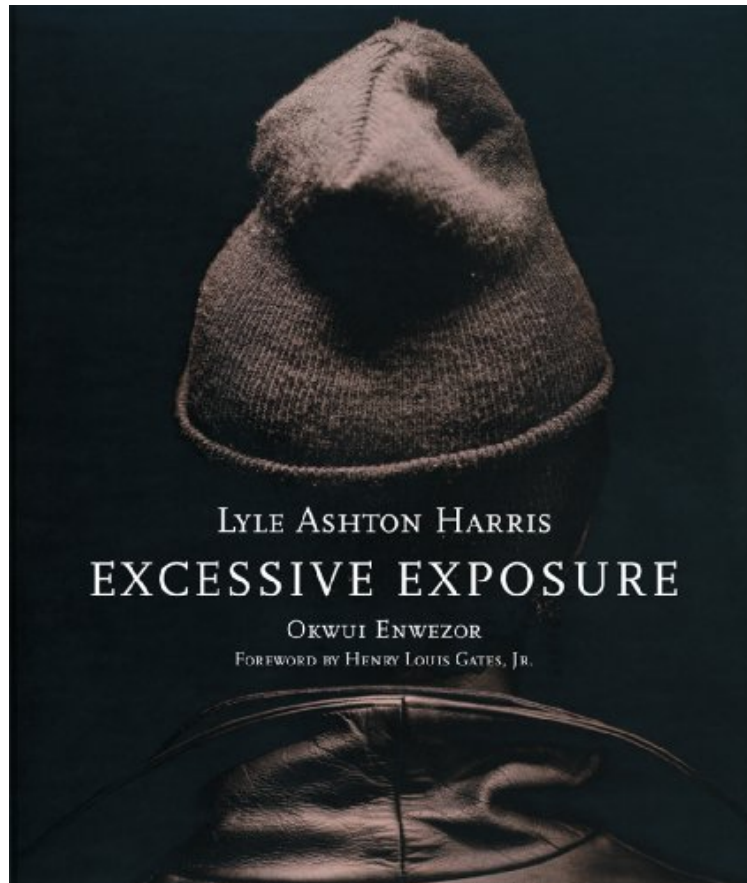


Lyle Ashton Harris: Excessive Exposure: The Complete Chocolate Portraits

Okwui Enwezor

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#2733494 in Books Gregory R. Miller Co. 2010-03-31 Original language: English PDF # 1 12.00 x 1.40 x 10.201, 6.25 #File Name: 0974364878344 pages | File size: 35.Mb

Okwui Enwezor : Lyle Ashton Harris: Excessive Exposure: The Complete Chocolate Portraits before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Lyle Ashton Harris: Excessive Exposure: The Complete Chocolate Portraits:

1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Another Set of Observations by Lyle Ashton Harris By Grady Harp Lyle Ashton Harris has always been a controversial photographer - as well as one of the more talented and imaginative photographic artists working today. This particular monograph EXCESSIVE EXPOSURE is a fascinating one, a collection of portraits of some of the more important figures in front of the public today as well as many of his friends and family. Harris calls these 'chocolate portraits' to describe the cross-processing technique resulting in a sepia tint. His subjects are posed in front of a stark black background, stare directly into the lens and are captured by Harris' well known 'of the moment' technique. According to the artist 'It's about beauty, mapping. It's about looking. It's about collecting.' Among those faces we will recognize are Anna Deveare Smith, artist Kara Walker, Rev. Al Sharpton, artists Kehinde Wiley and Cindy Sherman, Chuck Close, Tony Kushner, and Henry Louis Gates, Jr who contributes

the Foreword to this book. Okwui Enwezor, Nigerian-born American educator, poet, writer, art critic, and curator specializing in art history, offers a well-written essay that analyzes the approach and the significance of Harris' portraits. In all there are some 200 portraits, each intense and memorable. This appears to be one of the more important collections of portrait photography making news right now. Grady Harp, November 10 of 1 people found the following review helpful. elegant, frightening, like light caught in an abyss By A Room With A Review Lyle Ashton Harris' signature deep black furiously exposed cocoa coated large format polaroids are like profusions of light caught in an abyss. His subjects peer into voids like ghosts and I am left haunted, questioning the fascinating combination of formal portraiture and strange, photosensitive exploration. This book is one of the best photographic compilations of the first fifteen years of the new 21st century.

Excessive Exposure documents all the chocolate-colored portraits that Bronx-born artist Lyle Ashton Harris made with a large-format Polaroid camera over the past ten years. This sequence of approximately 200 paired front and back portraits, for which Harris has become so well known, has now come to a close, making this volume the definitive publication on the series. The portraits' subjects include Harris' family and friends, art-world personalities, noted cultural figures, celebrities and politicians. These images are further distinguished by a strategic blurring of conventional gender roles, sexual identities and racial categories, and by a refined use of light and shade. Okwui Enwezor contributes an essay analyzing Harris' portraits, situating these works in the context of the artist's work of the past 20 years, as well as in the broader history of the genre. The book also includes a conversation between Harris and artist Chuck Close that took place in 1999, when Harris was beginning the series. With a penetrating foreword by Henry Louis Gates, Jr., Excessive Exposure offers a wealth of superb portraiture and is destined to become a touchstone volume among photo-books.