

Avedon at Work: In the American West (Harry Ransom Humanities Research Center Imprint Series)

By Laura Wilson

Download now

Read Online ➔


Avedon at Work: In the American West (Harry Ransom Humanities Research Center Imprint Series) By Laura Wilson

Internationally acclaimed for his portraits of powerful and accomplished people and women of great beauty, Richard Avedon was one of the twentieth century's greatest photographers—but perhaps not the most obvious choice to create a portrait of ordinary people of the American West. Yet in 1979, the Amon Carter Museum of Fort Worth, Texas, daringly commissioned him to do just that.

The resulting 1985 exhibition and book, *In the American West*, was a milestone in American photography and Avedon's most important body of work. His unflinching portraits of oilfield and slaughterhouse workers, miners, waitresses, drifters, mental patients, teenagers, and others captured the unknown and often-ignored people who work at hard, uncelebrated jobs. Making no apologies for shattering stereotypes of the West and Westerners, Avedon said, "I'm looking for a new definition of a photographic portrait. I'm looking for people who are surprising—heartbreaking—or beautiful in a terrifying way. Beauty that might scare you to death until you acknowledge it as part of yourself."

Photographer Laura Wilson worked with Avedon during the six years he was making *In the American West*. In *Avedon at Work*, she presents a unique photographic record of his creation of this masterwork—the first time a major photographer has been documented in great depth over an extended period of time. She combines images she made during the photographic sessions with entries from her journal to show Avedon's working methods, his choice of subjects, his creative process, and even his experiments and failures. Also included are a number of Avedon's finished portraits, as well as his own comments and letters from some of the subjects.

Avedon at Work adds a new dimension to our understanding of one of the twentieth century's most significant series of portraits. For everyone interested in the creative process it confirms that, in Laura Wilson's words, "much as all these photographs may appear to be moments that just occurred, they are finally, in varying degrees, works of the imagination."

 [**Download** Avedon at Work: In the American West \(Harry Ransom ...pdf](#)

 [**Read Online** Avedon at Work: In the American West \(Harry Rans ...pdf](#)

Avedon at Work: In the American West (Harry Ransom Humanities Research Center Imprint Series)

By Laura Wilson

Avedon at Work: In the American West (Harry Ransom Humanities Research Center Imprint Series)
By Laura Wilson

Internationally acclaimed for his portraits of powerful and accomplished people and women of great beauty, Richard Avedon was one of the twentieth century's greatest photographers—but perhaps not the most obvious choice to create a portrait of ordinary people of the American West. Yet in 1979, the Amon Carter Museum of Fort Worth, Texas, daringly commissioned him to do just that.

The resulting 1985 exhibition and book, *In the American West*, was a milestone in American photography and Avedon's most important body of work. His unflinching portraits of oilfield and slaughterhouse workers, miners, waitresses, drifters, mental patients, teenagers, and others captured the unknown and often-ignored people who work at hard, uncelebrated jobs. Making no apologies for shattering stereotypes of the West and Westerners, Avedon said, "I'm looking for a new definition of a photographic portrait. I'm looking for people who are surprising—heartbreaking—or beautiful in a terrifying way. Beauty that might scare you to death until you acknowledge it as part of yourself."


Photographer Laura Wilson worked with Avedon during the six years he was making *In the American West*. In *Avedon at Work*, she presents a unique photographic record of his creation of this masterwork—the first time a major photographer has been documented in great depth over an extended period of time. She combines images she made during the photographic sessions with entries from her journal to show Avedon's working methods, his choice of subjects, his creative process, and even his experiments and failures. Also included are a number of Avedon's finished portraits, as well as his own comments and letters from some of the subjects.

Avedon at Work adds a new dimension to our understanding of one of the twentieth century's most significant series of portraits. For everyone interested in the creative process it confirms that, in Laura Wilson's words, "much as all these photographs may appear to be moments that just occurred, they are finally, in varying degrees, works of the imagination."

Avedon at Work: In the American West (Harry Ransom Humanities Research Center Imprint Series)
By Laura Wilson Bibliography

- Sales Rank: #400204 in Books
- Brand: University of Texas Press
- Published on: 2003-11-01
- Original language: English
- Number of items: 1
- Dimensions: 11.00" h x .50" w x 9.00" l, 2.36 pounds
- Binding: Hardcover
- 132 pages

 [**Download** Avedon at Work: In the American West \(Harry Ransom ...pdf](#)

 [**Read Online** Avedon at Work: In the American West \(Harry Rans ...pdf](#)

Editorial Review

Review

Reviewed in the 23 April 2004 Times Literary Supplement (nothing quotable).

About the Author

Laura Wilson is a photographer whose previous books are *Hutterites of Montana* and *Watt Matthews of Lambshead*. Her work has also appeared in the *New York Times Magazine*, the *New Yorker*, the *Washington Post Magazine*, and London's *Sunday Times Magazine*. She lives in Dallas.

Users Review

From reader reviews:

Darius Cramer:

Book is actually written, printed, or descriptive for everything. You can know everything you want by a reserve. Book has a different type. As you may know that book is important issue to bring us around the world. Beside that you can your reading expertise was fluently. A book *Avedon at Work: In the American West (Harry Ransom Humanities Research Center Imprint Series)* will make you to possibly be smarter. You can feel much more confidence if you can know about every little thing. But some of you think that will open or reading any book make you bored. It is far from make you fun. Why they may be thought like that? Have you in search of best book or suited book with you?

Jeremy Bryant:

The particular book *Avedon at Work: In the American West (Harry Ransom Humanities Research Center Imprint Series)* will bring you to definitely the new experience of reading any book. The author style to elucidate the idea is very unique. In the event you try to find new book to study, this book very suitable to you. The book *Avedon at Work: In the American West (Harry Ransom Humanities Research Center Imprint Series)* is much recommended to you to read. You can also get the e-book from official web site, so you can more readily to read the book.

Paul Smith:

Is it an individual who having spare time subsequently spend it whole day through watching television programs or just lying on the bed? Do you need something totally new? This *Avedon at Work: In the American West (Harry Ransom Humanities Research Center Imprint Series)* can be the reply, oh how comes? The new book you know. You are thus out of date, spending your spare time by reading in this brand-new era is common not a nerd activity. So what these guides have than the others?

Phillip Elliott:

Some people said that they feel uninterested when they reading a publication. They are directly felt that when they get a half portions of the book. You can choose the book Avedon at Work: In the American West (Harry Ransom Humanities Research Center Imprint Series) to make your reading is interesting. Your current skill of reading talent is developing when you just like reading. Try to choose simple book to make you enjoy to learn it and mingle the sensation about book and examining especially. It is to be first opinion for you to like to open a book and learn it. Beside that the e-book Avedon at Work: In the American West (Harry Ransom Humanities Research Center Imprint Series) can to be your new friend when you're feel alone and confuse using what must you're doing of that time.

Download and Read Online Avedon at Work: In the American West (Harry Ransom Humanities Research Center Imprint Series) By Laura Wilson #CGBK03EIW7X

Read Avedon at Work: In the American West (Harry Ransom Humanities Research Center Imprint Series) By Laura Wilson for online ebook

Avedon at Work: In the American West (Harry Ransom Humanities Research Center Imprint Series) By Laura Wilson Free PDF d0wnl0ad, audio books, books to read, good books to read, cheap books, good books, online books, books online, book reviews epub, read books online, books to read online, online library, greatbooks to read, PDF best books to read, top books to read Avedon at Work: In the American West (Harry Ransom Humanities Research Center Imprint Series) By Laura Wilson books to read online.

Online Avedon at Work: In the American West (Harry Ransom Humanities Research Center Imprint Series) By Laura Wilson ebook PDF download

Avedon at Work: In the American West (Harry Ransom Humanities Research Center Imprint Series) By Laura Wilson Doc

Avedon at Work: In the American West (Harry Ransom Humanities Research Center Imprint Series) By Laura Wilson Mobipocket

Avedon at Work: In the American West (Harry Ransom Humanities Research Center Imprint Series) By Laura Wilson EPub