



Bare Strength

By Michael Stokes

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Bare Strength By Michael Stokes

Bare Strength is a photo book, a modern figure study of the male form - an edgy, artistic approach to the male nude with one chapter dedicated to United States Marine Veterans who lost limbs in the Middle East wars. This is Photographer Michael Stokes' second monogram followed by the success of his first photo book, Masculinity. With a social media following of over 250,000, his images have been shared and blogged by thousands of people around the world. His photos have appeared on The Today Show, Good Morning America, The View and The Tonight Show. He is best known for his work with nude, American soldier amputees, photos that have been banned by social media sites like Facebook and Instagram.

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Bare Strength By Michael Stokes Bibliography

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Editorial Review

From the Author

Using traditional darkroom techniques, Michael Stokes first studied photography and filmmaking at university in the late 1980's. He graduated first in his class and Phi Beta Kappa, but instead of pursuing photography, he went on to sell real estate. After a successful career as an agent, he returned to photography in 2006. Since then he has been published in many book anthologies, magazines and his work has been featured on TV talk shows like Good Morning America and The Tonight Show. As a competitive swimmer for most of his life, his admiration for athletes and the male form is evident in almost every images he creates. His first monogram, Masculinity was published in 2012. Bare Strength is the second book dedicated solely to his work.

About the Author

Raised in Berkeley, California, Michael Stokes is now a Los Angeles-based photographer. He graduated first in his class and Phi Beta Kappa with a Fine Art degree through the film department at California State University, Long Beach. Before changing his career path to filmmaking, he was a photography major, learning pre-digital photographic techniques and using darkrooms and silver gelatin film. In film school, he wrote and directed a short film, Alien, that screened in film festivals around the world. Michael's first coffee table book, Masculinity (2012), was a glamour-styled, photographic male figure study book that is currently out of print. In the same style as his first, his second book, Bare Strength (2014), is already in its third printing and is available on Amazon. It features a chapter on wounded veterans of war, specifically amputees. From the sales of this book, he has donated \$10,000 to the Semper Fi Fund, a charity that benefits veterans of war and their families. Also in 2014, Michael collaborated with the publisher Taschen to produce My Buddy, supplying the publisher with his collection of vintage photos of nude WWII soldiers. Michael's third and fourth books, Exhibition and Always Loyal release November 1, 2015. Exhibition continues the exploration and celebration of the male figure, while Always Loyal is dedicated exclusively to wounded United States veterans. Before the end of 2015, from pre-sales of both books, Michael will donate \$20,000 to the Semper Fi Fund. Michael's photos of wounded veterans have been shared around the world and have been featured on television: Good Morning America, The Today Show, The Tonight Show, The View, and The Talk. They have been featured in several major newspapers and online periodicals around the world.

Users Review

From reader reviews:

Angela Smith:

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Phil Garcia:

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Yolanda Powers:

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