

## 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](#)

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

---

## **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:**

#### **Jeremy Scott:**

The book *Avedon at Work: In the American West* (Harry Ransom Humanities Research Center Imprint Series) can give more knowledge and information about everything you want. Why must we leave a very important thing like a book *Avedon at Work: In the American West* (Harry Ransom Humanities Research Center Imprint Series)? A few of you have a different opinion about book. But one aim in which book can give many information for us. It is absolutely right. Right now, try to closer together with your book. Knowledge or details that you take for that, it is possible to give for each other; you may share all of these. Book *Avedon at Work: In the American West* (Harry Ransom Humanities Research Center Imprint Series) has simple shape nevertheless, you know: it has great and large function for you. You can appear the enormous world by wide open and read a publication. So it is very wonderful.

#### **Melissa Peterson:**

Your reading sixth sense will not betray you actually, why because this *Avedon at Work: In the American West* (Harry Ransom Humanities Research Center Imprint Series) book written by well-known writer who knows well how to make book that can be understand by anyone who have read the book. Written in good manner for you, still dripping wet every ideas and publishing skill only for eliminate your own personal hunger then you still question *Avedon at Work: In the American West* (Harry Ransom Humanities Research Center Imprint Series) as good book not merely by the cover but also from the content. This is one book that can break don't evaluate book by its protect, so do you still needing an additional sixth sense to pick this kind of!? Oh come on your examining sixth sense already told you so why you have to listening to another sixth sense.

#### **Victoria Austin:**

The book untitled *Avedon at Work: In the American West* (Harry Ransom Humanities Research Center Imprint Series) contain a lot of information on this. The writer explains the girl idea with easy means. The language is very straightforward all the people, so do not necessarily worry, you can easy to read the idea.

The book was compiled by famous author. The author will take you in the new era of literary works. It is easy to read this book because you can continue reading your smart phone, or program, so you can read the book throughout anywhere and anytime. If you want to buy the e-book, you can wide open their official web-site as well as order it. Have a nice go through.

**Denise Wentzel:**

Reading a guide make you to get more knowledge from the jawhorse. You can take knowledge and information coming from a book. Book is created or printed or created from each source which filled update of news. In this particular modern era like currently, many ways to get information are available for you actually. From media social like newspaper, magazines, science reserve, encyclopedia, reference book, novel and comic. You can add your knowledge by that book. Ready to spend your spare time to spread out your book? Or just seeking the Avedon at Work: In the American West (Harry Ransom Humanities Research Center Imprint Series) when you required it?

**Download and Read Online Avedon at Work: In the American West (Harry Ransom Humanities Research Center Imprint Series) By Laura Wilson #KJ01UZPLS34**

## **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**

**KJ01UZPLS34: Avedon at Work: In the American West (Harry Ransom Humanities Research Center Imprint Series) By Laura Wilson**