

Lost Cover, Re-Edition #5, 2016, by Collier Schorr

The artist's muse

A creative collaboration is at the heart of this work

PAUL'S BOOK

Collier Schorr
MACK (£35)

▶ A 19-year-old French model and actor, Paul Hammeline, showed up at Collier Schorr's Brooklyn home in 2015 for what is known in the fashion industry as a 'go see' – a chance for a photographer to see how a model looks in front of a camera.

So began an artist-muse relationship which resulted in this book from the New York-born Schorr, who won the 2019 RPS Award for Editorial, Advertising and Fashion Photography.

Schorr is noted for portraits of young people that explore gender and androgyny, and *Paul's Book* is focused primarily on one young man, recalling her 2005 project Jens F.

Paul's Book gives a behind-the-scenes insight into how a creative collaboration unfolds. Schorr would meet Hammeline at his parents'

house whenever she was in Paris to take pictures. Like a dance, the images capture a shifting dynamic which can leave us half-intrigued, half-uncomfortable, questioning the assumptions behind the categories that separate Schorr and Hammeline – older, younger; female, male; photographer, subject.

In one we see a shaven-headed Paul staring into the lens, bathed in golden light; in others he is stretched out on the bed like a classical nude.

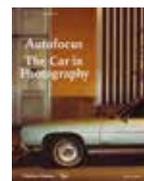
In a way this is a kind of sketchbook. Photographer and model each explore the possibilities of portraiture, conscious of its history, sometimes drawing on a documentary tradition, sometimes more experimental, using layering, collage and text.

As Schorr put it to *Interview Magazine*: 'Paul's body [is] a way to talk about different kinds of pictures, both seductive and a little bit terrifying, evidence versus intimacy.'

AUTOFOCUS: THE CAR IN PHOTOGRAPHY Marta Weiss (Ed) INTO THE WOODS: TREES IN PHOTOGRAPHY

Martin Barnes (Ed)
THAMES & HUDSON (£24.95)

This delightful series from the V&A Photography Library presents a curator's selection of pictures from the museum's wonderful collection on a theme, often tied to a current exhibition, as in the case of *Cars: Accelerating the Modern World*, on show until 19 April.



FREEDOM OR DEATH

Gideon Mendel
GOST (£35)

Discovering a box of transparencies and negatives he had left in a friend's Johannesburg garage sparked photojournalist Gideon Mendel to revisit his work from the end of apartheid. Poignant, water-damaged pictures speak of memory, while images overlaid with colourful drawings by Marcelo Brodsky and original press prints offer new insights into historical narratives.



ON PHOTOGRAPHING PEOPLE AND COMMUNITIES

Dawoud Bey
APERTURE (£22)

The interest in socially engaged photography has been growing in recent years, but Dawoud Bey has been doing this since the 1960s, making large-scale, long-term projects with youth and other marginalised groups. Those new to the field will have plenty to learn from the American's insights into his approach, which is always based on empathy and respect for those he photographs.



COLLIER SCHORR: HORTFRPS / MACK