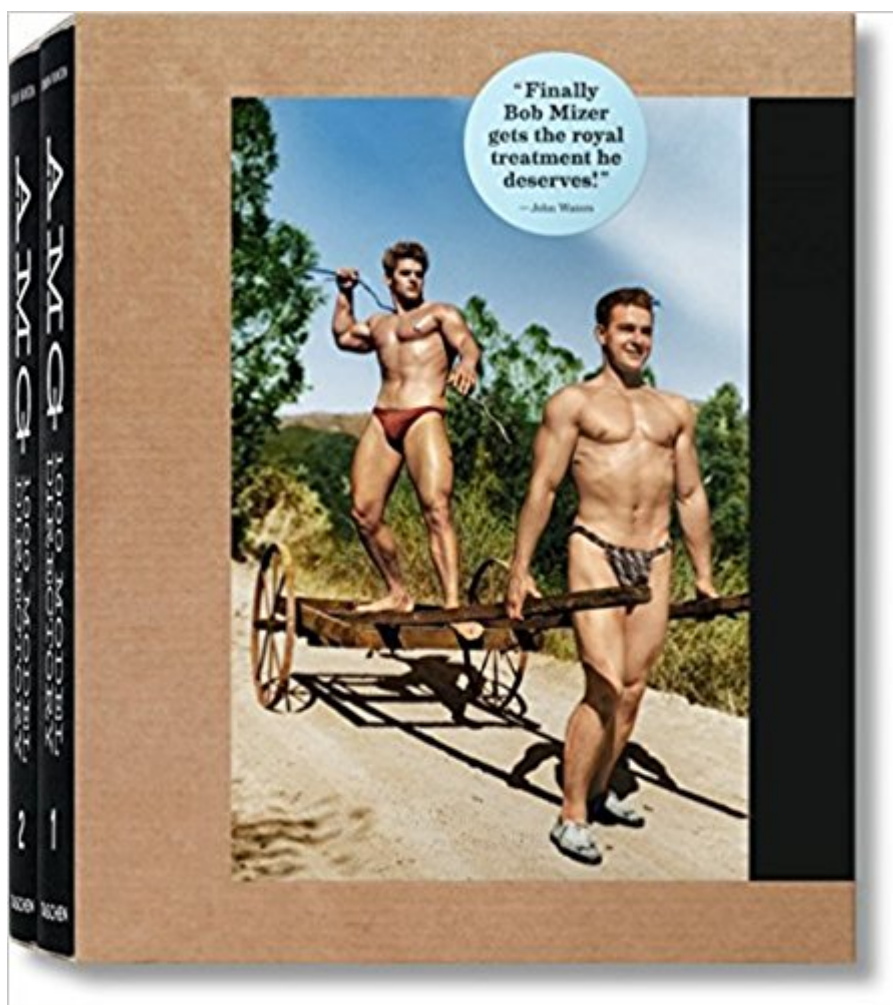


The book was found

Bob Mizer: AMG, 1000 Model Directory



Synopsis

It's Raining Men: Two volumes and two decades of top physique models. In 1945 Bob Mizer began taking photographs of strapping young men on Muscle Beach in Venice, California. In December of that year he formed the Athletic Model Guild to market his photos, and "physique photography" was born. Before Mizer there were body builders and men who photographed them, but AMG photos, even those of the same men, were different, subtly provocative, discretely aimed at a gay audience. They weren't nude, but showed as much as the law allowed in 1945. In 1951 Mizer launched Physique Pictorial, America's first indisputably gay magazine, bringing his photos of top straight body builders to grateful readers worldwide. By the late '50s Mizer had photographed over 1,000 men, moving from the beach to his quirky Los Angeles studio, where he introduced props including Greek columns, Roman headresses, rear projection, and famously, his mother's glassware, for theatrical Hollywood effect. In 1957 he published a catalog featuring all his men, titled 1000 Model Directory. In 1968 a second 1000 Model Directory followed, with the men photographed in the intervening years. The little 98-page books became instant collectibles, but the photos were so small, 12 to a page, that they were as frustrating to view as they were titillating. TASCHEN's two-volume edition of 1000 Model Directory contains prints from Mizer's original 4 x 5 negatives to present these handsome hunks in stunning clarity. Editor Dian Hanson trawled through a quarter million male nudes to select this lineup of top models, including movie stars Sammy Jackson, Richard Harrison, and Ed Fury. Glenn Corbett of TV's 77 Sunset Strip is also here, as well as Nick Adams, star of The Rebel, and top body builders Chris Dickerson, Dick Dubois, Vince Gironda, Bill Grant, Zabo Koszewski, Henry Lenz, Don Peters, Bob Shealy, Charles Stroeder, Armand Tanny, and John Tristram. An hour-long DVD is also included, containing 18 films made by Bob Mizer between 1954 and 1968, in black and white and color, all edited specifically for this book. They range from simple posing routines by bodybuilding stars Keith Stephan and AMG favorites Forrester Millard, John Davidson and Steve Buono, to sword and sandal star Ed Fury's first physique film, to gladiator extravaganzas, wrestling adventures, crime dramas, and a Bob specialty—humorous morality tales, starring Jim Paris, John Tristram, Monte Hanson and other models featured in the book. Mizer's take on Dr. Frankenstein's Monster, in posing straps, is a stand-out. Text in English, French, and German

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

There is a lot of classical definition of masculine beauty here. But a thorough look through reveals a little bit of something for just about everyone.

(coolhunting.com) "This iconic artist photographed thousands of men and now they're all in one place." (Huffingtonpost.com) "By the time Mizer died, in 1992, at the age of seventy, he had produced more than a million negatives and some three thousand hours of film and video. He has been called a forerunner of Robert Mapplethorpe, with his high-contrast, often black-and-white renderings of the body's architecture. But there's just as much reason to consider Mizer the gay Hugh Hefner a tireless collector of physical specimens. In 1957, the photographer published a booklet celebrating his first batch of subjects, the *Thousand Model Directory*, which served as inspiration for a new two-volume set of Mizer's work from TASCHEN." (newyorker.com)

The photographer Robert Henry Mizer was born in Hailey, Idaho in 1922 and died in Los Angeles in 1992. He founded the photo agency Athletic Model Guild in Los Angeles in 1945; the magazine *Physique Pictorial* in 1951, and through his photos and films influenced the work of David Hockney, Gore Vidal and Robert Mapplethorpe. His photos are in the collections of New York's Museum of Modern Art and Los Angeles's Museum of Contemporary Art. Dian Hanson produced a variety of men's magazines from 1976 to 2001, including *Juggs*, *Outlaw Biker* and *Leg Show*, before becoming TASCHEN's *Sexy Book* editor. Her 60+ books for TASCHEN include *The Art of Pin-up* and *Psychedelic Sex*. She lives in Los Angeles.

This is an absolute must-have for any fan of vintage posing-pouch beefcake photography. Exceptionally high quality photos in two heavy volumes. Mine came today and I thought I would have to go get the car to carry it to the house because it was so heavy. It includes short biographies of at least most of the models, if not all (I haven't counted yet.) Also includes a DVD. Great product. I hope they put out more volumes of other photographer's work.

I'm with all the other 5* reviewers. This treasure is worth every penny and more!

A most fantastic collection. Shipment was prompt, and for a book so heavy, the packaging was very secure.

Beautifully designed books. The pictures are sumptuous. Much better than the AMG magazine itself. The text is also very interesting. Fascinating to read the bios of the various models. Really brings the era to life. Highly recommended.

If you appreciate vintage physique photography, you can buy this 2-volume set with complete confidence. I have never found another book that displays this genre with the degree of excellence that this edition provides. It is well worth your investment.

All that I expected and remembered from my youth. Wonderful collection.

A nice bit of gay history.

Way beyond my expectations, Bob would be proud!

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