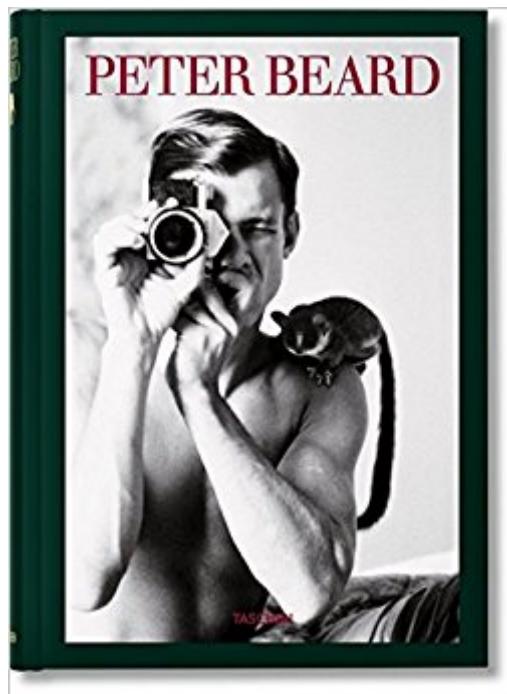


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# Peter Beard



## Synopsis

Into the wild: Journey into the world of Peter Beard   Photographer, collector, diarist, and writer of books Peter Beard has fashioned his life into a work of art; the illustrated diaries he kept from a young age evolved into a serious career as an artist and earned him a central position in the international art world. He was painted by Francis Bacon and painted on by Salvador Dalí, he made diaries with Andy Warhol and toured with Truman Capote and the Rolling Stones—all of whom are brought to life, literally and figuratively, in his work. As a fashion photographer, he took Vogue stars like Veruschka to Africa and brought new ones—most notably Iman—back to the U.S. with him.   After spending time in Kenya and striking up a friendship with the author Isak Dinesen (Karen Blixen) in the early 1960s, Beard bought a piece of land near hers. He witnessed the dawn of Kenya's population explosion, which challenged finite resources and stressed animal populations—including the starving elephants of Tsavo dying by the tens of thousands in a wasteland of eaten trees. So he documented what he saw—with diaries, photographs, and collages. He went against the wind in publishing unique and sometimes shocking books of these works. The corpses were laid bare; the facts carefully recorded, sometimes in type and often by hand. Beard uses his photographs as a canvas onto which he superimposes multi-layered contact sheets, ephemera, found objects, newspaper clippings that are elaborately embellished with meticulous handwriting, old-master inspired drawings and often swaths of animal blood used as paint.   In 2006 TASCHEN published the book that has come to define his oeuvre, signed by the artist and published in two volumes. It sold out instantly and became a highly sought after collector's item. Now the book you couldn't get your hands on is available in one volume, a handsome hardcover edition revised by Nejma Beard with new images never published before.   Text in English, French, and German

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

This extravagant and magnificent book is a work of art in itself.(L'EXPRESS, Paris) --L'EXPRESS, Paris

The artist: Born in New York City in 1938, Peter Beard began taking photographs and keeping diaries from early childhood. By the time he graduated from Yale University, he had developed a keen interest in Africa. Throughout the 1960s and '70s he worked in Tsavo Park, the Aberdares, and Lake Rudolf in Kenya's northern frontier. He is a constant creator, Beard the chronicler photographs, writes, draws, collages and assembles a history of his life experiences and our own. He lives in New York City, Long Island, and Kenya with his wife, Nejma, and daughter, Zara. Nejma Beard is Peter Beard's agent and Executive Director of the Peter Beard Studio. Her spirit and experience are synchronous with Beard's having been born and raised in Kenya. This deep familiarity and a devotion to a place and a people forms their unique collaborative relationship. Primary to her work is a deep concern for the future of the world and a commitment to ecologic efforts. She curates exhibitions, art-directs photo shoots, and edits and assists with all Beard publications. David Fahey is co-owner of the Fahey/Klein Gallery, Los Angeles. During his 31-year career in the field, he has collaborated on over 45 fine art photography books. He is the co-vice president of the Herb Ritts Foundation and serves on the Photography Advisory Council for the J. Paul Getty Museum. Owen Edwards has written about photography for 30 years, for the American Photographer, New York Times Magazine, New York magazine, The Village Voice, Saturday Review, Vogue, Smithsonian magazine, and many other publications.

You are getting such a great deal with this price. Do not miss the opportunity. This is a very strange, dark masterpiece. A serious conversation-starter and looks perfect on anyones coffee table. I have dinner parties all the time, and there will always be someone who opens up the book and will be on the couch all night, enthralled by Beard's work. Book includes nudity, blood, dead animals, and

strong women. Amazing how the collages take you into Beard's odd mind. It's sort of creepy, and may give you nightmares...but wow, what a masterpiece. What a different perspective. You have discovered an artist, a different way of seeing things, if you will. You will not regret this purchase, trust me.

Peter Beard is an amazing adventurer and this book should be on the shelf of every photographer and anyone interested in the deplorable way that the natural wild in Africa is being plundered for the sake of profit. It's an amazing photographical journal of his experiences in Africa and the sad way it is being trampled over. He and his father witnessed the shrinking of elephant herds of hundreds running free whittled down to a few hundred fenced in by wild animal park fences. The open ranges in Africa became tourist parking lots. All in all however it is a fantastic photo journal that every serious photographer should have on his or her shelf or rather their coffee table.

I have been thinking about buying this book for sometime ÃƒÂ¢Ã  ¬Ã  œ but it's a big book and I didn't really have a place that I wanted to keep it ÃƒÂ¢Ã  ¬Ã  œ but now that I've bought it it's one of my greatest books and I keep returning to for all its history and such special moments ÃƒÂ¢Ã  ¬Ã  œ what an amazing life and what an amazing time to be in Africa  
ÃƒÂ¢Ã  ¬Ã  œ places change ÃƒÂ¢Ã  ¬Ã  œ and sometimes we have to be OK with that  
ÃƒÂ¢Ã  ¬Ã  œ what this book teaches us is a bit of history and a lot of passion around the subject matter that we will never really truly know

This photographer has been one of my heroes for decades first starting out in Africa morphing into Sports Illustrated swimsuit model photos on set then to big game. Totally creative and daring life and images to go with that life. Beard walked the walk and not just the society talk. Most of his images/negatives etc went up in flames in his Long Island house. What a terrible loss. This book is a must have for any serious shooters and lovers of great images!

This book is a throwback to the wonderful art books of the 60's and 70's: It is massive, very well written and the photography is truly excellent. Peter Beard has always been known as a great photographer, very much interested in the environment, specifically in Africa. The photography in this book shows the reader Beard's life-long commitment to our environment, decades before it became "chic" to do so. Taschen's books have always been known to be of excellent quality and taste, and this is no exception. This is a book to treasure.

I wonder if Dos Equis got the idea for its campaign from Peter Beard? This is an impressive tome. I love the work Taschen has done, as it must have been hard to put into a book something so schizophrenic and seemingly haphazard as Mr. Beard's diaries. The work is art and the book is art, perhaps there is no better praise than that. The printing and reproductions are all technically excellent to my, albeit untrained, eye. This is also a historical artifact regarding post colonialism in Africa. Kenya was a messed up place for quite a while, and conservation was put on hold for all but a few brave souls. There are people must search their soul for taking advantage of Africa, and this book touches me for its sympathetic understanding of the charismatic magafauna of the Mara, the Masai, and extremely beautiful African women. Recommended.

I love the book. A showcase for the talent, creativity, playfulness and love of live of a great Artist. Very inspiring.

An amazing gift. A must have for anyone that is into photography and art. Timeless.

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