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Tel: +44 (0) 1394 389950
Email: uksales@accartbooks.com
Web: https://www.accartbooks.com/uk



Grey Crawford, The Complete Chroma, 1978–85

Special Edition Vol 1 & 2

By (photographer) Grey Crawford

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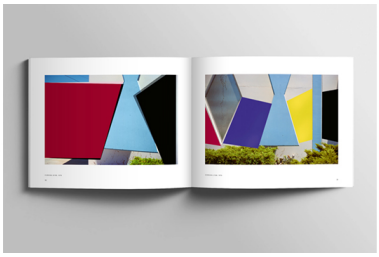
Contributions by Jonathan Casciani

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- ***The Complete Chroma Vol 1&2,*** special slipcase edition. Between 1978–1985 Grey Crawford, a photographic artist in LA, developed a unique series of hand printed colour photographs using a complex system of masks and filters, creating a radical pre-digital aesthetic that was 20 years ahead of its time
- One of the most unique bodies of experimental photographic work to emerge from the 1970s and a pioneering approach to colour photographic printing
- A unique aesthetic that captures the essence of 21st century digital technology developed before digital technology existed

Volumes 01 and 02 of a comprehensive monograph documenting Grey Crawford's groundbreaking *Chroma* series. Created between 1978 and 1985, the work combines photography and geometric abstraction to transform views of Los Angeles into visionary compositions that anticipated digital image culture. Includes essays by leading writers and a detailed technical account by the artist.

Grey Crawford is an American artist and photographer whose visionary work stands among the most innovative achievements in the history of colour photography. For more than five decades, he has pushed the medium beyond its conventional boundaries, creating a remarkable body of work that sits at the intersection of photography, abstraction, architecture and light. Developed in Southern California during the late 1970s and early 1980s, Crawford's photographs anticipated the visual language of the digital age while remaining entirely rooted in analogue photographic processes. Working exclusively in the darkroom, Crawford developed a groundbreaking technique that transformed the geometry of the Los Angeles landscape into luminous, architectonic compositions of extraordinary precision and intensity. Created decades before digital image manipulation, his photographs possess a striking visual language that appears astonishingly contemporary today. Drawing upon the artistic currents of the Light and Space movement, Minimalism and Southern Californian modernism, Crawford forged a photographic practice unlike any of his contemporaries. Long admired by artists, curators and collectors, Crawford is now being recognised as one of the overlooked pioneers of post-war American photography. Recent scholarship has repositioned his work as a vital missing chapter in the evolution of colour photography, demonstrating how his analogue experiments anticipated many of the aesthetic possibilities later associated with digital imaging. Today, Crawford's photographs are held in the permanent collections of the Getty Museum and the Los Angeles County Museum of Art (LACMA), confirming his place within the canon of American photography. As interest in experimental analogue practice and post-war Californian art continues to grow internationally, Grey Crawford's work is increasingly regarded as one of the most significant rediscoveries in contemporary photographic history.







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