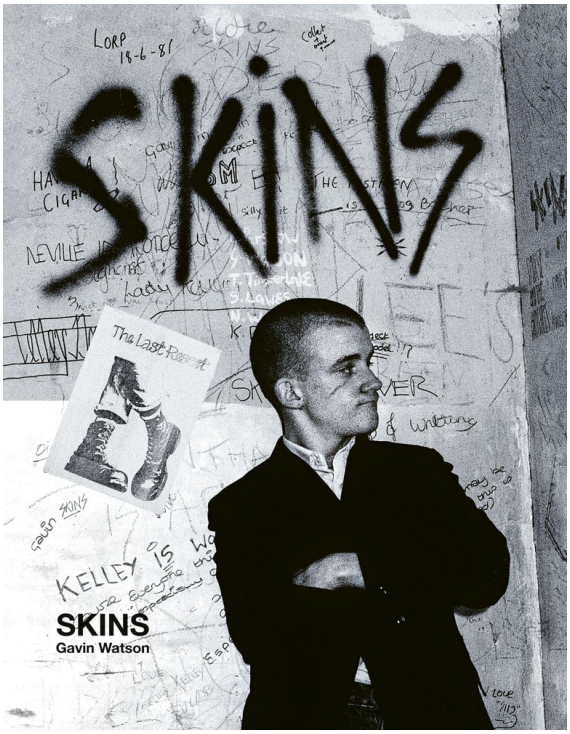
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Skins - Special Edition

Gavin Watson

Gavin Watson

ISBN	9781788842150
Publisher	ACC Art Books
Binding	Hardback
Territory	World
Size	250 mm x 200 mm
Pages	128 Pages
Illustrations	145 b&w
Name of series	ACC Collector's Editions
Price	£125.00

- A classic among photobooks
- The most important record of skinhead culture in Britain
- *"This book has become a cult itself"* – Observer Review
- This limited edition of 125 copies, is presented in a deluxe slip sleeve, with a hand-signed print
- Also available in a standard edition: *Skins*, 9781788842167, £30.00

Skins by Gavin Watson is arguably the single most important record of '70s skinhead culture in Britain. Rightly celebrated as a true classic of photobook publishing, the book is now reissued in a high-quality new edition under close supervision from the photographer.

The scores of black and white shots offer a fascinating glimpse into a skinhead community that was multi-cultural, tightly knit and, above all else, fiercely proud of its look. These are classic photographs of historical value.

"What makes Gavin's photos so special is that when you look at them, there's clearly trust from the subject towards the photographer, so it feels like you're in the photo rather than just observing." – Shane Meadows (Director of award-winning film *This Is England*).

The book, described by *The Times* as "a modern classic", forms an important visual record of its time and has attained cult status in the genre, alongside works by other eminent photographers such as Derek Ridgers and Nick Knight.

"Arguably one of the best and most important books about youth fashion and culture ever published." – Vice Magazine

Gavin Watson was born in London in 1965 and grew up on a council estate in High Wycombe, Buckinghamshire. He bought a Hanimex camera from Woolworths in his early teens and began to take photographs. Upon leaving school at the age of 16, Watson moved back to London and became a darkroom assistant at Camera Press. He continued to photograph his younger brother Neville and their group of skinhead friends in High Wycombe.

The 'Wycombe Skins' were part of the working-class skinhead subculture brought together by a love of ska music and fashion. Although skinhead style had become associated with the right-wing extremism of political groups like the National Front in the 1970s, Watson's photographs document a time and place where the subculture was racially mixed and inclusive. Director Shane Meadows has cited Watson's photographs as an inspiration for his film *This is England* (2006).

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