



# The London Youth Portraits

**Derek Ridgers**

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DEREK RIDGERS · THE LONDON YOUTH PORTRAITS

- The definitive collection of London youth portraits
- A stunning archive of style and subculture in 1980s England
- Completely new edit of a critically acclaimed masterpiece
- Special edition limited to 50 copies, print signed and numbered by Derek Ridgers, bookplate signed by Derek Ridgers

Between 1978 and 1987, renowned British photographer Derek Ridgers captured London youth culture in all its glory. With skinheads, punks and new romantics, in clubs and on the street, his images have come to define a seminal decade of British subculture.

This completely reimagined edition of *78/87 London Youth* showcases a fresh selection of those images from the depths of Ridgers' exceptional archive – including several previously unseen – beautifully printed and bound in an oversized volume.

Each picture is a tribute to the trials and triumphs of youth, and a precious document of style and culture in 1980s England, from the height of punk to the birth of acid house. Several have been exhibited internationally in cities as far-ranging as Moscow, Adelaide and Beverly Hills, in the National Portrait Gallery, Tate Britain and Somerset House. Ridgers has also collaborated with a number of major fashion houses, including Saint Laurent and Gucci, and his images continue to inspire photographers, artists and fashion designers around the world.

*'As time passes, this kind of observational photography attains a new importance'* – **Sean O'Hagan, The Observer**

*'Ridgers' portraits of young boys and girls are weighted with a raw poetry and beauty'* – **Cory Reynolds, artbook.com**

**Derek Ridgers** is an English photographer with a career spanning over thirty years. He is best known for his photography of music, film and club/street culture - photographing everyone from James Brown to The Spice Girls, from Clint Eastwood to Johnny Depp - as well as photographing politicians (Tony Blair), gangsters ('Mad' Frankie Fraser), artists (Julian Schnabel), writers (Martin Amis), fashion designers (Vivien Westwood) and sportsmen (Tiger Woods). He has also photographed famous and sometimes influential British social scenes such as skinhead, fetish, club, punk and the New Romantics. Derek Ridgers's work has been exhibited internationally since the seventies in cities as far ranging as London, Paris, Moscow, Adelaide and Los Angeles, and in venues such as the Institute of Contemporary Arts, Museum of Modern Art, National Portrait Gallery, Tate Modern, Tate Britain, Museum of London, Britart Gallery, Selfridges and the Victoria and Albert Museum.

