



The Queen of Versailles

An American Allegory

Lauren Greenfield

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- “If this film is a portrait, it is also a mirror.” — A.O. Scott, *The New York Times* (on *The Queen of Versailles*)
- “(The Queen of Versailles is) perhaps the single best film on the Great Recession,” - Ezra Klein, *Washington Post*
- “A real-estate portrait that... emerges as a metaphor for the American Dream itself.” — *The New Yorker*
- “The loss of grotesque wealth has never been so entertaining – or weirdly moving.” — *The Guardian*

A century after Theodore Dreiser and F. Scott Fitzgerald mapped the American Dream’s promise and peril, Lauren Greenfield’s latest photographic monograph, ***The Queen of Versailles: An American Allegory***, arrives in bookstores to visually recapture the origin story behind her hit 2012 documentary film and the 2025 Broadway musical—collectively transforming a documentary mirror onto the national stage, where wealth, overreach, and reality-TV culture converge in one distinctly American aria. Named by *The New York Times* as “America’s foremost visual chronicler of the plutocracy,” and the best-selling author of four award-winning monographs that incisively deconstruct turn-of-the-century America (*Fast Forward*, *Girl Culture*, *Thin*, *Generation Wealth*), Greenfield now presents *The Queen of Versailles: An American Allegory*—the first publication of the complete photographic series from the iconic documentary, featuring essays by Greenfield and longtime collaborator and curator Trudy Wilner-Stack.

Emmy Award–winning filmmaker and photographer **Lauren Greenfield** has produced groundbreaking work on consumerism, youth culture, and gender in acclaimed documentary films, series, and commercials (*Social Studies*, *The Kingmaker*, *Generation Wealth*, *The Queen of Versailles*, *Thin*, *#LikeAGirl*) and photography books (*Generation Wealth*, *Fast Forward*, *Girl Culture*). *The Queen of Versailles* — named by *Vogue* as one of the best documentaries of all time — is now a Broadway musical with music by Stephen Schwartz, starring Kristin Chenoweth and F. Murray Abraham. A Harvard graduate, Greenfield’s work is exhibited in major museums worldwide, has earned top honors across photography, documentary, and commercial directing, and has been profiled in many publications such as *The New York Times*, *The New Yorker*, and *The Guardian*.