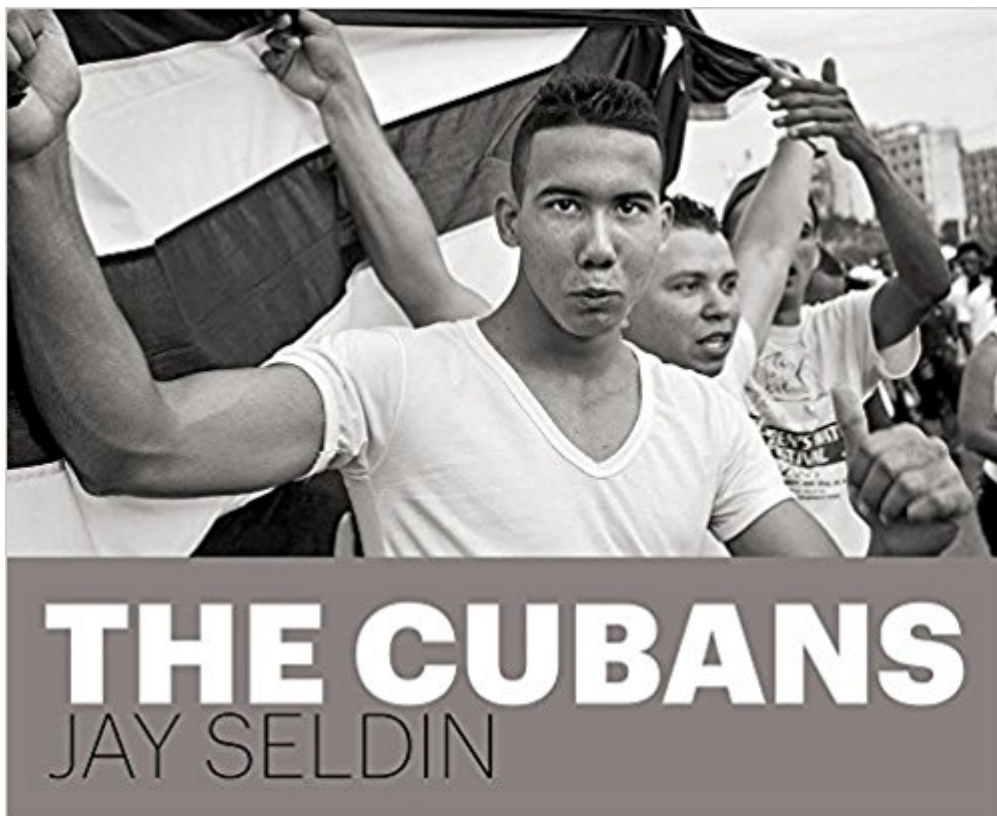


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# The Cubans



## Synopsis

Full of extraordinary beauty and survival, *The Cubans* paints an intimate view of everyday life in Cuba, an island where time has been standing still. Breathtaking images from the streets and inside of homes, schools, cafes, dance halls, and more, offer readers an up-close and personal look at a culture and locale we've been unable to explore, until now. The photographs in *The Cubans* reveal Cubans as they are, far beyond the clichés and American historic cars. The images bring a strong sense of reality and character to the people Seldin photographs. It is about families and cultures, spirit and grace, and how they must learn to be creative and inventive just to survive. A transformative and captivating collection of art that lets the reader feel the same adoration for the Cuba Seldin knows, *The Cubans* is a dazzling collection of photographs from one of today's most impressive voices in social documentary photography, and not to be missed by any lover of great storytelling without words.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

I am a teacher, photographer, adventurer and world citizen. I am a student of observation. The photographs in my portfolios tend to demonstrate my talent for social documentary work. Not just to photograph a person, but to make that person important and empowered. It's true, I am a teller of tales, the images I make are my words that tell the story of the people, their challenges, their love and their hope that I see through my lens. I have a bachelor's degree in art and psychology, and a master's degree in visual art and photography. And I think more

importantly then any degrees that one can have are real life experiences in your field of studies. I'm pretty sure that's been more important to me than both those degrees..I have spent the better half of my life in the classrooms as an educator in art, photography and digital design. I am a practitioner of composition, natural light and form found in all my photographs.I am sponsored by Canson digital papers as one of their ambassadors in photography and I own and operate a photo travel workshop company based in the NY metro area. My photographs have been exhibited nationally and internationally as well as my work being collected in corporations, museums and with private clients.

In his book "The Cubans," Jay has managed to capture the heart and passion of the Cuban people. The revolution has managed to erase human dignity, ambition, incentive, and by way of serious indoctrination and repression, limited the people to a life of poverty mentality and limited life-resources, to struggle in securing basic living needs such as food and clothing, things we so take for granted in our lives here in the U.S. In other words, my opinion is that, in spite of the fact that the Cuban people have very little to work with, they seem to show a face of contentment and gratitude for the pictures. My family was blessed to have traveled to the United States in 1962, I was 11 years old. I walked some of the streets shown in Jay's pictures. I walked on the walls of the Malecón, looking for the spray of the surf to wet me. I still have family in Cuba, some I don't know, some killed or died. Jay's book is a moving experience for me. I look through it time after time. I cry, I smile, I love it, it's brilliant. I received my first book through the Kickstarter group, however, plan on purchasing more to give to my family and friends. Thank you Jay, for a truly remarkable piece of art. I encourage all to buy this book. Peace.

I've always wanted to visit Cuba, because my godparents told me wonderful tales of the time they spent visiting there in the 50's. It seemed magical to me, but I don't know if I'll get there any time soon. That's why I was curious about this particular view of Cuba. I have Jay Seldin's book about barbershops in India, and it is so beautiful and poignant and universal that I gave a copy to my mother, a teacher, to show her students. The Cubans takes that honesty and poignant view a few steps further. He manages to communicate to the viewer what it might feel like to live in Cuba, to absorb Cuban culture, to drink at a bar, and attend a dance production staged by Cuba's premier dancers. The book had an almost hypnotic effect on me. It's simply beautiful.

This book is a must have for your library! It's full of photos which are both windows into the everyday

lives of the people of Cuba and beautifully crafted photographs in their own right. Jay was a student of Ansel Adams in his younger days and brings an artist's eye to his subject. His many trips to Cuba have left him with thousands of amazing images. This book is a meticulously edited and thoughtfully sequenced series of images which reflect the best of his work. I find myself picking up the book frequently just to revisit small portions of the book at a time.

Jay's book is a vision and labor of love with origins in his respect for and love for the Cuban people. By applying his eye for people and place, Jay reveals the beauties and the realities of the lives of "The Cubans" today. Although I have had this book for a few months, I looked at it with more intrigue and awareness after being in Cuba with one of Jay's photo travel groups, knowing now that his images are created because of his connection to people and place.

AMAZING!!!! The powerful images that Jay Seldin offers in this beautifully packaged photo book provides a vicarious exploration of Cuba, her people and the island's history. The Cubans is a feast for the eyes of anyone who is curious or anxious to visit.

Incredible book. Seldin's clear love of Cuba and the people along with his sharp eye and killer skills makes for a compelling collection of photos that give a view of Cuba many of us might never see if though we can now travel there. This is a book that regardless of ones politics opens the door on an otherwise closed off society and reveals that we are indeed all human.

This is a superb visual narrative of today's Cuba at a critical point in our world history, deeply rooted in the author's love and knowledge of the place for years as this 'now Cuba' has been emerging. A wonderful gift ( I bought two) now that the US is invited to visit and as the current Cuba will likely change dramatically soon ...

The Cubans is an eye opener! Seeing the Cuban people up close as they work and play gave me a whole new appreciation of our neighbor to the south. I highly recommend this book for everyone, especially as our relations warm up and we have a new opportunity to get to know the Cuban people.

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