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12 of This Spring's Best Art Books

Madison Reid, Allison Schaller : : 5/18/2022

Books

This season's most beautiful books include erudite exhibition catalogs, limited edition sculptural tomes, luxurious monographs, and more.

By [Madison Reid](#) and [Allison Schaller](#)

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This year's spring awakening is all about beautiful books, from first monographs by Native American artist **Wendy Red Star** and fashion photographer **Campbell Addy**, to a comprehensive catalog from veteran artist **Nick Cave**. Bodies of work from **Miranda July** and **David Hockney** made during the first waves of the COVID-19 pandemic show the prevailing power of creativity and artistic expression.

- Courtesy of the artist and Primary Information.

“William Wegman: Writing by Artist” edited by Andrew Lampert

This sweeping collection of work by William Wegman, the artist best known for his whimsical portraits of Weimaraner dogs, may come as a surprise to some. Early photographic works anchor the reader in familiarity throughout the 352 pages of wildly witty drawing, paintings, photographs and original prose. “child & huge adult” one pencil drawing is labeled, and above the light cursive writing two fingers are drawn, both wearing rings. They're evocative of “The Creation of Adam” in their closeness, however one is massive and the other thin and small. Another drawing asks “How many cucumbers can you eat before you cucumber”, which evokes a chuckle, but it is the page's self-awareness, two pencil-drawn silhouettes saying “what an odd drawing, mostly words!” that settles the prose into Wegmans humor. (This body of work is also the subject of an upcoming show at Sperone Westwater gallery in NY, opening in May 2022, and Marc Selwyn Fine art in Los Angeles opening in June 2022.) (*Primary Information, April 2022*)