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Sounds Of Two Eyes Opening - Southern California Life : Skate/Beach/Punk 1969-1982



Synopsis

Spot landed in Hermosa Beach, CA in the mid-1970s. A serious musician, he helped build Media Art Recording Studio and stumbled into photojournalism via Easy Reader, the local news weekly. Hermosa proved to be a crossroads abounding with oddball roller skaters who were mostly overshadowed by Venice disco rollers and the Dogtown-inspired leaps into professional skateboarding (never mind that the first skateboard competition ever was in Hermosa in 1963). Then, in the late 70s, a cultural shift hit, fueled largely by music. This time the South Bay was in the vanguard. Spot became the in-house producer and engineer at SST Recordsâ the label founded in 1978 by Greg Ginn as a vehicle for Black Flag, the band that defined LA hardcore. Between 1979 and 1985, he recorded, mixed, produced or co-produced most of SSTâ s pivotal acts, working on all of Black Flagâ s greatest releases, and on classic albums by the Minutemen, Meat Puppets, Saint Vitus, Descendents, Big Boys, HÃsker DÃ , The Dicks, Subhumans and Misfits. Throughout this period, Spot remained a master photographer who documented various Los Angeles subcultures in intelligently composed black-and-white photographs. As this volume reveals, there was no distinction between the musical and the visualâ he heard what he saw; saw what he heardâ hence, the title of this collection. Spanning the late 1960s through the early 1980s, Sounds of Two Eyes Opening offers an amazing portrait of Southern California beach life, set against the dark clubs and rehearsal spaces of the burgeoning punk scene.

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Customer Reviews

Great collection of photos from legendary punk rock engineer/producer Spot. Captures the vibe and energy that was the South Bay/LA in the late 70's and early 80's. Plenty of punk rock and beach culture along with skateboarding but also includes all the roller skating going on at the time. If you are interested in youth culture from the 70's and 80's, then this book is a must have.

Amazing Photos! Made me free so good to see all of these old Hermosa Beach Pictures! Thank You so much for having the insight at the time to document life as we knew it!

Very cool pictures and so incredible to learn about the awesome punk history of the South Bay

Spot is an all around amazing guy. The pictures in this book are incredible!

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