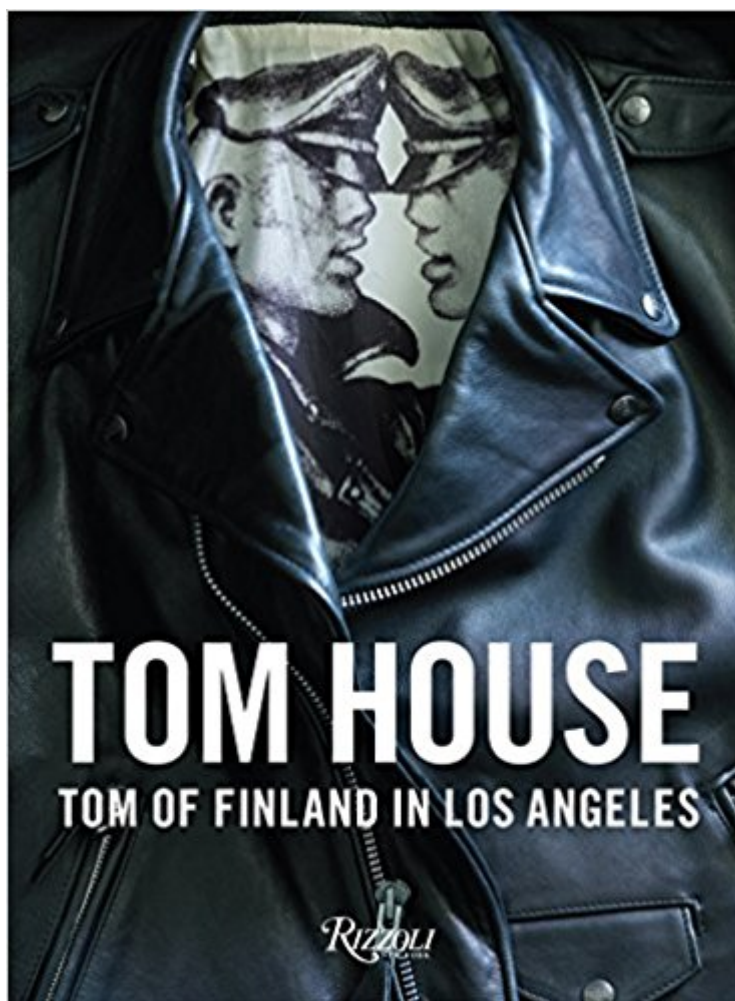


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Tom House: Tom Of Finland In Los Angeles



Synopsis

An immersive glimpse into the private, domestic world of one of the twentieth century's most revolutionary artists. Nestled in a leafy, residential section of Los Angeles is the house where Tom of Finland (Touko Laaksonen, 1920–1991) lived and worked during the last decade of his life. It is an extraordinary place—part shrine, part haven, part art-historical archive, and part utopian collective. Still occupied by the men who resided there with Tom and dedicated themselves to preserving his legacy, the house serves as a living tribute to the artist's astonishing oeuvre and his radical vision of unapologetic homoerotic sexuality. Offered to the reader as an intimate view of the man behind the hypermasculine imagery, the book moves from art-filled room to art-filled room, dining room to dungeon. Almost every surface of the house is covered in work made by Tom himself, or by those he influenced and inspired. For additional insight, Martyn Thompson's revelatory photographs are paired with rarely seen preparatory sketches and unfinished drawings. Together, the compelling images place Tom's work in an entirely new light, inviting readers to explore a hidden world of dreams and desire—the world of Tom of Finland.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

"Tom of Finland's artistic legacy is global. Yet it's undeniably his energy is the most present in his L.A. home, known affectionately as Tom House. . . Tom House: Tom of Finland in Los Angeles reveals the uninhibited mind of Tom to the masses, and gives us a

peek into the house – now the site of the Tom of Finland Foundation – that doubles as a museum of his work."-MUSEE MAGAZINE"Tom House, as it's become known, was the erstwhile home and workplace of renegade Finnish artist Touko Laaksonen, perhaps the most influential homoerotic artist of the 20th century . . . Lavish interior photographs by Martyn Thompson provide an intimate glimpse into the rambling 17-room house and its surrounds. . . At Tom House, pleasure is always a moral imperative and life itself is a form of activism."-WALLPAPER* MAGAZINE"The book explores each room in the house, all crammed with works and artefacts that explore every dimension of Touko's life, giving insight into what inspired him artistically, and, of course, carnally. Martyn's images are packed with detail and depth, and are juxtaposed on page with previously unpublished preparatory drawings and sketches to give an idea of process. . . [Tom House] provides context for a body of work that never fails to provoke a response."-ItsNiceThat.com"Tom House: Tom of Finland in Los Angeles offers an intimate perspective into the extraordinary world of one of the most revolutionary artists of the 20th century. . . Throughout the sleekly-designed monograph, Thompson's evocative images recreate the suggestive seductive atmosphere that fueled Tom of Finland's art."-Examiner.com"Gay men across America will recognize Tom of Finland's iconic illustrations . . . But few know about the radical life of Touko Laaksonen, the man behind the brand. Tom House: Tom of Finland in Los Angeles provides a window into Laaksonen's world, taking readers on a full-color tour of the late artist's home, from 'dining-room to dungeon.'" -SLATE MAGAZINE"Tom House: Tom of Finland in Los Angeles is a fascinating collection of photographs showcasing the works of Touko Laaksonen (aka Tom of Finland) and the house in which a large portion of his work was created. . . Fans of Tom's work will appreciate the showcasing of his production process, the images that inspired him, and the world he inspired." -EDGE MEDIA NETWORK "Tom House: Tom of Finland in Los Angeles, from the Rizzoli imprint, is a delicious peek inside the legendary former residence of Finnish erotic illustrator and painter of all your gay fantasies, Touko Laaksonen. . . Straight or gay, Tom's House is a must visit when you spend time in Los Angeles, and the book is an excellent way to visit if you can't actually be there. All in all, the book is also one of the best testaments to the legacy of Tom of Finland."-AUTRE MAGAZINE

Michael Reynolds is a New York-based creative director, editorial stylist, exhibition and set designer, advertising director, curator, and visual brand consultant. He helped to create Wallpaper* Magazine, for which he currently serves as U.S. editor. He also is a contributing editor for

Architectural Digest, among other publications. Mayer Rus is the West Coast editor of Architectural Digest. He has contributed to The New York Times, Vogue, Artforum, W, and Wallpaper.

Photographer Martyn Thompson's signature painterly images have made him a regular collaborator with the world's leading brands and publications. His New York-based multidisciplinary studio produces fine textiles and decorative art based on his photographs.

This book is heaven. The photographs are luscious and seductive, and the juxtapositions of the drawings with the spaces are genius. It's rare to get such an intimate look at how an iconic artist incorporated his love of his subject matter into his own spaces, and the pacing of the imagery tells that story masterfully. The design is clean and quiet and tonally spot on. It's the perfect gift for any homo on your list. I bought 2 and will no doubt be back for more. Bravo.

An absolutely superb collection of Tom's preliminary drawings juxtaposed to the details and rooms of Tom's House. Loved seeing all of the details from the books, to the phalluses, to the tchotchkes, etc. all amazingly photographed. I've been a fan of ToF for more than 25 years and was fortunate enough to see the exhibition in NY at The Artist's Space last June. Thank you to Mr. Reynolds, Durk Dehner, The ToF foundation, and everyone who made this book possible. I hope to visit this house some day in the future.

Terrific Book. Beautifully styled and edited. The pairings of interiors with preparatory drawings are inspiring!

Nicely done. Like all artists spaces, there are mixed reactions, genius, sad, brilliant, creepy. Very interesting visually.

It's the sexy masculine version of Architectural Digest; enjoyable shorts, inspiring photos, and new perspective on a gay Icons life and inspiration.

Great work, great design, great cause

Let it be said that this is not your average coffee table book, which makes it all the more compelling. The book is a hybrid: an interiors book (with sumptuous shots by photographer Martyn Thompson) a showcase for TOF's work (many of his drawings and sketches have been printed for the first time),

and a genuine insight into one of the world's most unique residences (not many associate Tom of Finland with Los Angeles). Not just for Tom of Finland fans, but anyone interest in erotic art and its influence on art, culture and politics. Snap it up!

Killing two birds with one stone - an interiors book celebrating the Los Angeles home and art of one of the 20th Century's most compelling and famous homoerotic artists - Tom of Finland. An eye opening glimpse into his home and world. Martyn Thompson's photography is sublime, the essay by Mayer Rus is both hilarious and brilliant and the juxtaposition of photography with drawings is genius. Bravo!!!

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