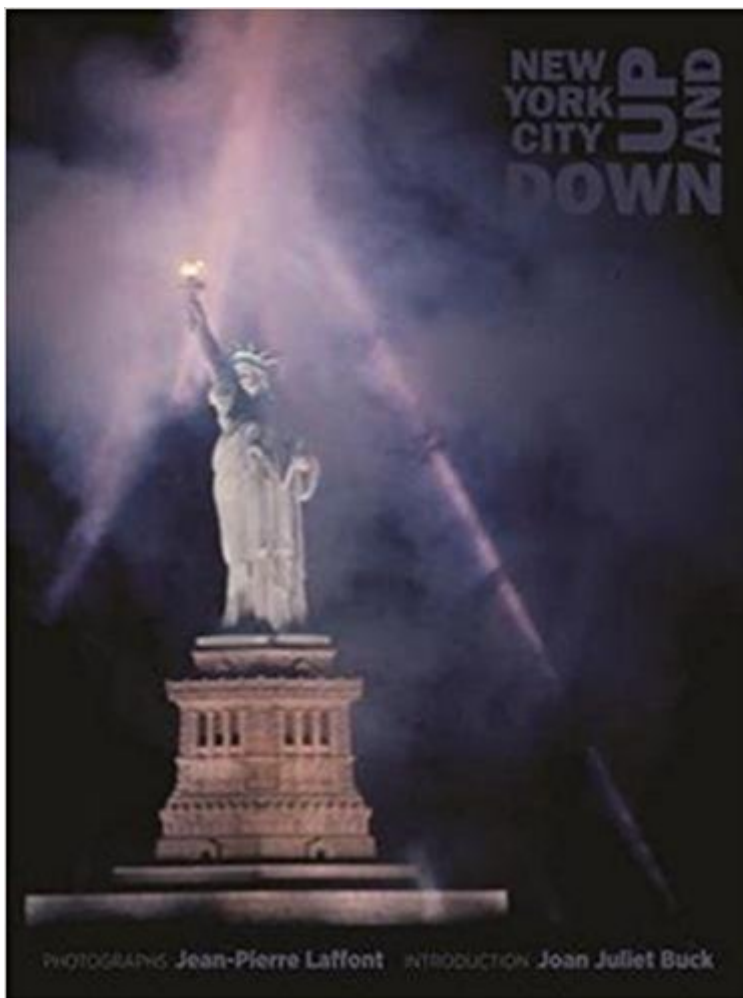


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# New York City Up And Down



## Synopsis

Renowned documentary photographer Jean-Pierre Laffont has been a transplanted resident from Paris to New York City since 1965 and in addition his travels that have documented the entirety of America and its social forces as well as those around the world from 1960 to 1990, he has also squarely focused his camera on his new "hometown" New York City. Demonstrating the people, places, and events with the same insight that he has the rest of the world, here is an elegant, incisive, and unexpected "review" of forty years of exploration by one of the most revered documentarians working today. Just as he explored the explosive, the calm, the social, the environment in his prize-winning book, *Photographer's Paradise*, this book is filled with the highs and lows of New York City life. Not a commentary on the high end versus the low end of lifestyles, it is instead a commentary on the ups and downs socially, politically, and visually that have taken place in the city he loves so much, with the eyes of a devoted viewer, over the past 40 years. As explained by Joan Juliet Buck, the foreword-writer who is no casual observer herself: "When the young Frenchman Jean-Pierre Laffont arrived at JFK airport in March of 1965, he was greeted by a smell of hot dogs and yellow mustard that he'd known as a child on the American army bases in Morocco, where he remembered smiling GIs giving him licorice-flavored chewing gum. He was ready to respond to New York with his heart; over the next fifty years, as he became one of the world's top photojournalists, he never stopped tracking the city's dream of itself. He captured the exhilaration it provokes, the disappointment it metes out. Each of the photographs in this remarkable book about the city Laffont made his home captures the longing, the bravado, the blatancy of New York, and its monumental mess." This is a book not to be missed by anyone who has ever visited, would like to visit, lived in or has any curiosity at all about the "real" New York City as seen through the eyes of a true visionary.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

"This is a book not to be missed by anyone who has ever visited, would like to visit, has lived in or has any curiosity at all about the "real" New York City as seen through the eyes of a true visionary." (Yahoo News, 7/28/17) And what's black and white and flashy all over? Famed photographer Jean-Pierre Laffont's *New York City Up and Down*. (Sloane Crosley *Vanity Fair*) "You want an evocative, personal look at New York during the good old bad days of New York in the '60s into the '80s, well, this is for you. A real treat." (Alex Belth *The Stacks*, 8/14/17 9:11am)

Jean-Pierre Laffont attended the School of Graphic Art in Vevey, Switzerland, where he received his Master's in Photography, prior to serving in the French Army during the Algerian War (for which he received an award for his humanitarian efforts). He is a founding member of the Gamma USA and Sygma Photo News agencies. For more than four decades, Laffont traveled the globe and created work that was published in the world's leading news magazines, including *Figaro*, *London Sunday Times*, *Newsweek*, *Paris Match*, *Stern*, and *Time*. Among the numerous awards Laffont has received are the Overseas Press Club of America's Madeline Dane Ross Award, the World Press Photo General Picture Award, University of Missouri's World Understanding Award, and an award from the New York Newspaper Guild. In 1996 he was honored with the National French Order of Chevalier des Arts et des Lettres (a Knight in the National French Order of Arts and Letters). He resides in New York City with his wife and editor, Eliane. Joan Juliet Buck is an American writer. She was the editor-in-chief of *French Vogue* from 1994 to 2001, the only American ever to have edited a French magazine. She writes for *W* magazine and *Harper's Bazaar* and was contributing editor to *Vogue* and *Vanity Fair* for many years. The author of two novels, she will release a memoir, *The Price of Illusion*, in March 2017. She lives in upstate New York.

Laffont's photographs are a valuable chronicle of New York City's recent history. For everything it covers, the transformation of Times Square, the rise of sky-scrapers, the celebration of triumphs like the first moon landing, the mourning of losses like Louis Armstrong, the fads and fashions that

change by the season, the photographer and the book retain a street-level view. History books will tell you what happened, this book will shows you how it felt to live it.

The perfect book for unconditional lovers of New York City, and (of course) photography amateurs. New York City Up and Down is a majestic invitation to discover NYC through JP Laffont's eyes, it seems like he's seen it all since he arrived in the city in '65, from the top notch celebrities to the edges of bankruptcy in the '70s. Each photo narrates a story, and each story is a part of this vibrant megalopolis. Thank you Mr. Laffont for offering us this travel in time and space, and I'm looking forward to see more of your work published.

Award-winning photojournalist Jean-Pierre Laffont has created a comprehensive document of his beloved adopted city, New York. From portraits of the powerful to the milieu of the city's many mean streets, Laffont's camera captured it all with wit and warmth, This book is a must-have for anyone who loves New York City - a veritable photographic tour-de-force.

Laffont is one of these photographers who can capture the heart and soul of places. His book about New York tells the stories of the city like no one else, its darkest side as the brightest and most enchanting aspects. New York is fascinating, complex, scary at times, exhilarating at others, I found all these feelings in Laffont's photographs of the big apple. It's a truly unique photo book!

Up and Down ...and Across. Incredible years packed in a saucy book.

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