

HUNKY HOLIDAY

The hard-bodied hardcovers that are sure to make perfect seasonal gifts

"Jazz Life" (Taschen, \$200) by William Claxton is a massive and immediately stunning title. Two years ago, Taschen began reassembling all the details that made the original version of this book a collector's edition in the jazz community — the tale of photographer Claxton and musicologist Joachim Berendt chasing across America in search of jazz in 1960.



Along with the photographs of

unknown musicians come beautifully unguarded portraits of every legend imaginable, including Billie Holiday, Miles Davis, Duke Ellington, Count Basie, John Coltrane and Ella Fitzgerald. Claxton also provides an introduction and, finally, as if 685 enormous, lovingly compiled pages weren't enough, tucked into the back is a remastered CD of original recordings. An overwhelming and sublime volume.