

BUZZ



LONG LENS, LONG BOARD

LA MOMENT

DOCTOR'S ORDERS SENT LEROY GRANNIS in search of a relaxing hobby. In 1959, the middle-aged air force vet and sidelined surfer from Hermosa Beach was installing switchboards for Pacific Bell and suffering from ulcers. With the help of a rubber-lined, suction-cupped, waterproof Calypso camera developed by Jacques Cousteau, Grannis got back to the beach and began documenting a South Bay surf scene that would become the subject of feature films and a nationwide teen industry. Some of his more than 30,000 images of woody wagons, grass shacks, and sandy feet appear in a new \$400 coffee-table book called *LeRoy Grannis: Surf Photography of the 1960s and 1970s*, published by Taschen. Grannis's work, writes Steve Barilotti in an introductory essay, "captured an authentic youth culture, complete with its own language, music, fashion, media, cars and code of honor." Clockwise from top left: Marsha Bainer, a favored surfboard advertising model, strikes a pose on Torrance Beach in 1964; the shore at San Onofre in 1963, then heralded as "California's Waikiki"; one of master board shaper Herbert "Bing" Copeland's dune buggies at Hermosa Beach in 1966; a trio of surf "sisters" riding the pavement at Laguna Beach in 1964