

## Book Reviews

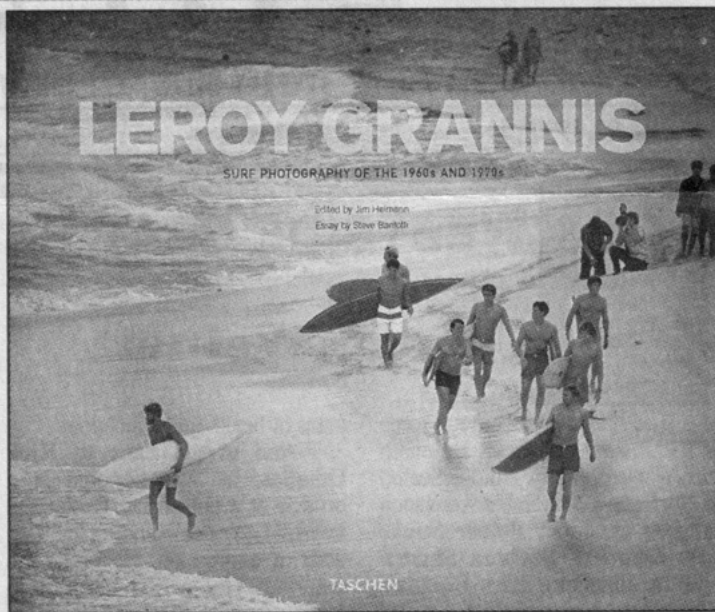
By Eve Lichtgarn

### *Leroy Grannis: Surf Photography of the 1960s and 1970s*

Edited by  
Jim Heimann Taschen,  
276 pages, \$40

Taschen is a publishing house with a reputation for excess and exclusivity. When Taschen first issued this lush book of surfing photographs by pioneer Leroy Grannis, it had the additional subtitle "Birth of a Culture" and it was boxed in a deluxe signed, numbered and limited edition. To get one of those today, you'd have to spend about \$2,000. For those of us not likely to pay two grand for anything that can't be programmed, plugged in or driven, here is an equally beautiful edition at a much more affordable price.

Between the covers are superb photos of the golden age of



surfing, before the sport became bloated from corporate sponsorship. Grannis captured bronze gods in jams shooting the pier at Huntington Beach, board-laden vintage woodies trucking down the Pacific Coast Highway, the young Miki Dora hanging ten in Malibu,

Greg Noll's modest shop in Hermosa, Eddie Aikau jousting impossibly huge waves at the Duke Kahanamoku Classic in Waimea and spectacular wipe-outs at Pipeline. This book stirs your blood and makes you want to run to the beach.