Give: Monroe by Mailer and Stern

Three legends unite in one beautiful collector's book

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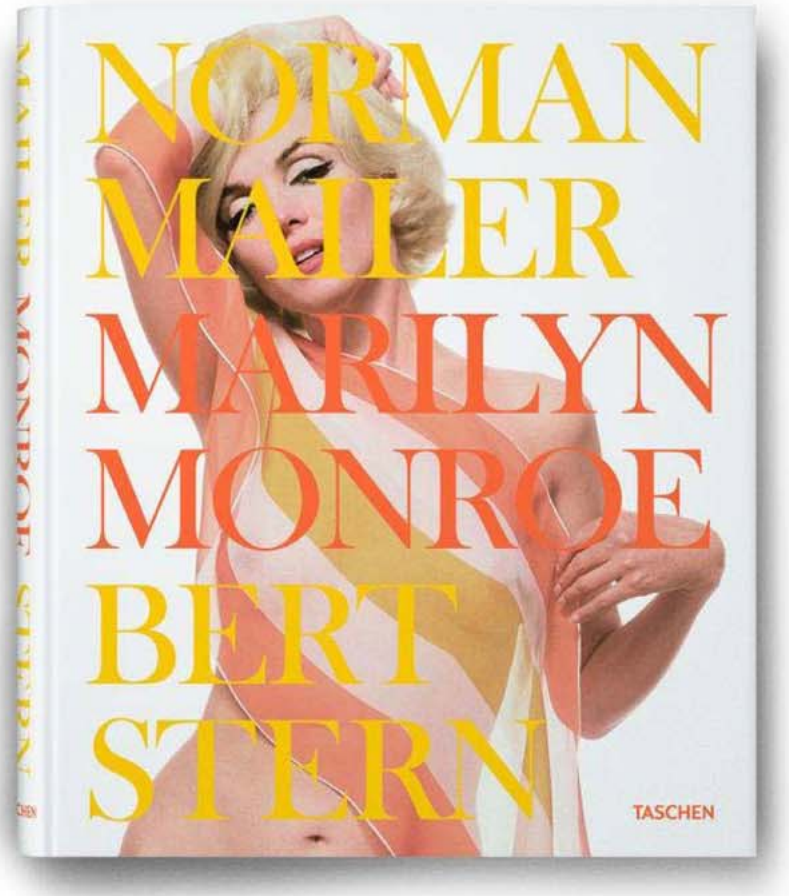

The author. The photographer. The silver screen icon.

In one incredible book, Taschen has brought together three icons. The text from Norman Mailer's 1973 biography, Marilyn, has been paired with Bert Stern's intimate photographs of the actress to create a fitting tribute to one of the world's most famous symbols of glamour and eroticism: Marilyn Monroe.

Conceived by Lawrence Schiller, Mailer's collaborator on five works, this book combines the author's masterful text with Stern's extraordinary images of the 36-year-old actress. Photographed for Vogue over three days at the Bel-Air Hotel in 1962, Monroe had never granted such unfettered access to a photographer. The results are some of the most beautiful, iconic images of the actress. Six weeks later, mysteriously, she was dead.

In this bold synthesis of literary classic and legendary portrait sitting, Mailer and Stern lift the veils of confusion surrounding Monroe - the woman, the star, the sex symbol - and offer profound insight into an iconic figure whose true personality remains an enigma even today.

Limited to 1,962 numbered copies, signed by Bert Stern, the book is available as a Collector's Edition and two Art Editions of 125 copies each. $1,000-$2,500, www.taschen.com