



IZIS BIDERMANAS

Paris Bound

WEIGHING in at 10 pounds and more than 550 pages, "Paris: Portrait of a City" (Taschen, \$69.99) is a photographic study of more than 160 years through the eyes of Jean Claude Gautrand, one of France's most eminent experts on photography. He spent three and a half years deep in the city's archives, libraries and private collections, searching for unknown images by anonymous photographers to pair with what he calls "the greats" (like this image of a 1950s carousel by Izis Bidermanas). The 500 photos, most of them black-and-white, show the transformation of the Paris landscape and the monumental events of the city's past, from the building of the Eiffel Tower to the riots of May 1968. It also captures more intimate moments: scenes of everyday pleasure and routine, in cafes, nightclubs and artists' ateliers. As Mr. Gautrand says, "Paris happens to be the first city in the world to acquire a photographic record of itself."

ELAINE SCIOLINO

Elaine Sciolino writes *The Moment's Lumière* column from Paris.