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# Julie Blackmon: Homegrown



## Synopsis

Julie Blackmon has transfixed the contemporary art world with images of her children, nieces, nephews and friends (and their children). Following the success of the bestselling volume *Domestic Variations* (2009), *Homegrown* shows how Blackmon's style has evolved, as she continues to capture the tensions between the harmony and disarray of everyday domestic life. Though her photographs continue to be undeniably contemporary, references to classic painting and portraiture can be detected: the influence of seventeenth-century Dutch painter Jan Steen mixes with more contemporary figures, such as Balthus, Edward Gorey, Tim Burton and Federico Fellini. Included in this new volume are 45 works made from 2009-2014, along with an introduction by renowned poet Billy Collins and an interview by the actress Reese Witherspoon. Julie Blackmon (born 1966) is a Missouri-based photographer who has amassed many honors since beginning her career just a few years ago. Her work has appeared in such publications as *The New York Times Magazine*, *The New Yorker* and *Vanity Fair*, and can be found in the collections of the Kemper Museum of Art in Kansas City, the Toledo Museum of Art, the Portland Museum of Art in Oregon and the Museum of Fine Arts in Houston, among others.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

Blackmon's world exists in a somewhat contemporary, yet timeless-seeming suburban America that is saturated with color, in both the brightly lit and deeply shadowed scenes. If Loretta Lux, Wes Anderson, and Tim Burton decided to collaborate on a film, these are the sets they might create.

The photographs themselves are cinematic in scope and painterly in detail, satirical and precise, full of pop-cultural and art historical references. -- These scenes are witty and playful, and occupy a realm between the fantastical and the familiar. -- by Lauren Greenwald FRACTION MAGAZINE Blackmon presents us with the timelessness of family dynamics in photos that look decades old, but are current. She makes us feel nostalgic about the past without idealizing it. She positions children in fantastical yet plausible situations. Every subject, every headless doll, is expertly placed. (Melanie Stetson Freeman Christian Science Monitor) Continuing her photographic exploration of domestic life, Julie Blackmon casts her subjects in a more painterly light, creating scenes that appear both timeless and contemporary. (Phil Bicker TIME Lightbox) The US photographer explores the harmony and disarray of everyday life in America in spooky, charming images. (The Editors The Guardian) Photographer Blackmon returned to everyday family scenes for her new book, 'Homegrown,' a collection of 40 photographs from the last five years that will be released in October. (The Editors The Wall Street Journal)

I love Julie Blackmon's work and I wanted to love this book. She has made some of the best photos (in terms of the originals) I've seen in a very long time. The tragedy is printing images across the gutter (or center) of the book, which destroys the integrity of the images for the sake of making them larger. Knowing what they should look like and seeing how they look in this book, I had no choice but to return it.

This is the first time I write a review, and I started with this book because it is just amazing! First, the photos are prepared with great sense of composition, beautiful color palette, and the moments captured there are more than unique, the photography here is crafted with love. Second, because the book itself is great, the quality of the paper, the printing and the reproduction in general is 10 out of 10 (not to mention it is a big book :-). If you like photography you cannot go wrong with this book.

I love Ms. Blackmon's humor. Each photo is delightful.

Got this book for Christmas to keep as my own! I've given away each one I've bought just for the kick of seeing the response of the receiver. The close ups of the original shots are my fav-like a private viewing.

Loved the interview at the end! Was also really pleased to see how much my children loved this

book, studying the pictures to see all the interesting little details, kids peeking around corners, toys that showed up in several different shots, etc

I love this photographer. Gorgeous pictures and fantastic interview included.

It's a beautiful book. The photographs are rich with color and the book is large so that one can enjoy the images

great book great artist

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