

COLLECTOR'S EDITION

Focus

FINE ART PHOTOGRAPHY MAGAZINE

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CAPONIGRO

VINTAGE
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EUGÈNE
ATGET

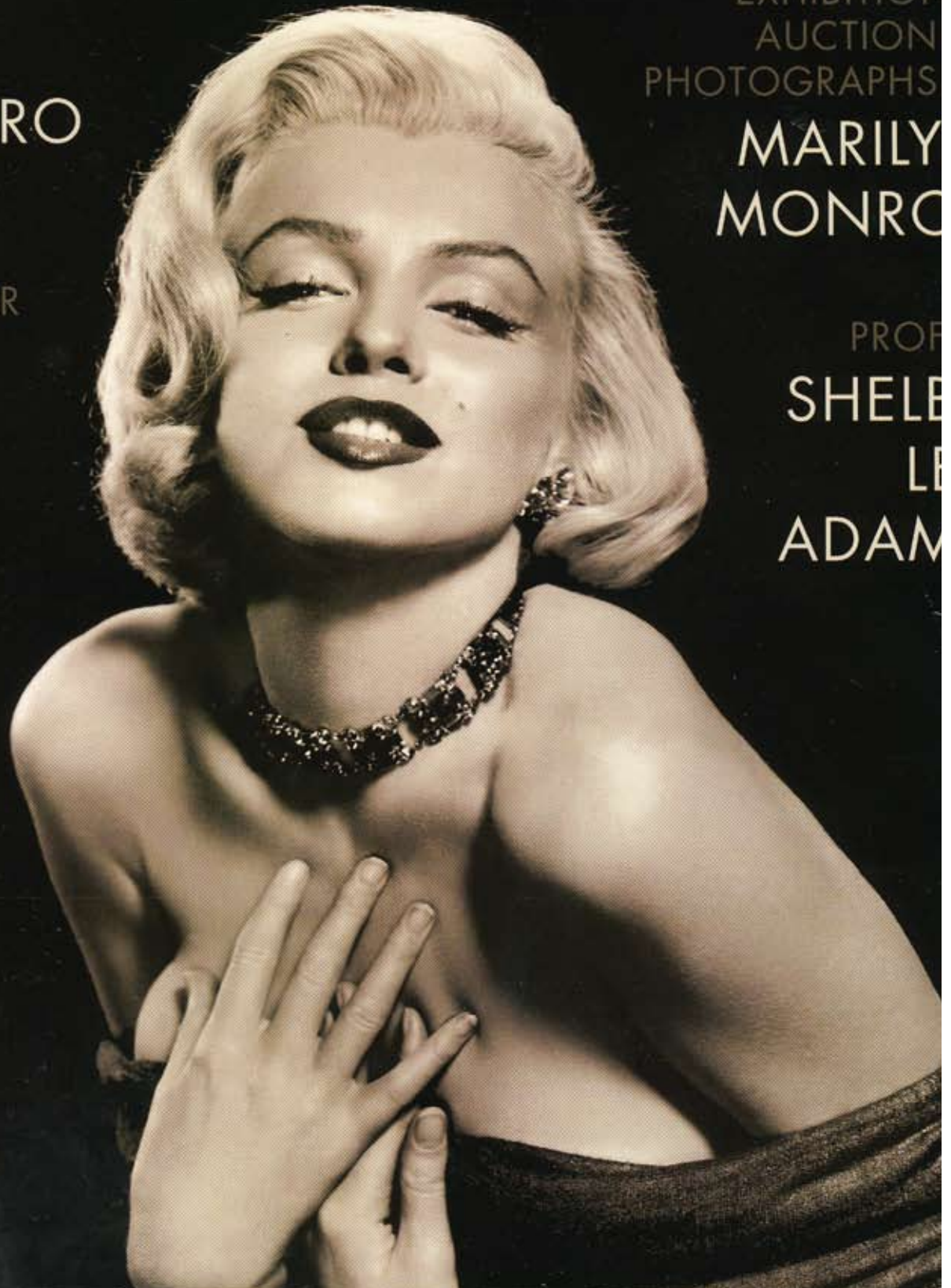
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Viva Colores!

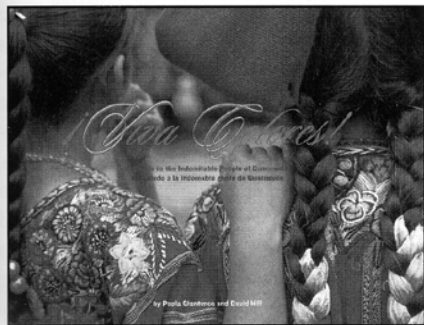
Paola Gianturco

Text by David Hill

11.5" x 9.25" hardcover; 230 color images;

144 pages

\$39.95



The role of documentary photography is as vital during times of peace as during times of upheaval. Through images of the human condition we, as people, find a common ground and perhaps the personal courage to help one another. During the 36-year civil war that disrupted more than a million lives in Guatemala, images of death and despair were all that the small Central American country could offer. Now, under the skillful eye of Paola Gianturco, we can come to know the indomitable people of Guatemala, a people who maintained their dignity and their traditions under horrific circumstances.

Accompanied with text by David Hill, portraits of rebels, entrepreneurs, weavers, politicians, priests, and peasants bring a sense of familiarity, a sense of family to the viewer. The luminous colors of textiles, flowers, and food allow the viewer to feel the vibrancy of this small country, its bounty, and its ability to endure. The stories and portraits of individuals fit nicely with the color-filled

scenes of markets, carnivals, and town life. The ingenuity of a people to overcome the devastation they suffered is given due credit. And the people themselves give credit to their verdant land and to their traditions that saved their families and their lives.

Now that the fighting has stopped, one can witness the lushness of the land and the true strength of the Guatemalan people. And yet the future is still not certain. With poverty and illiteracy rampant, it is imperative for other nations and peoples to offer assistance in the task of rebuilding and restructuring the foundations of village and city life.

Through Gianturco's images, the viewer can hopefully find the impetus to support those agencies that work with Guatemalans to rebuild their country, while maintaining their unique and color-filled traditions. A beautiful work of art, *Viva Colores!* is both a coffee-table book and a documentary about a country and a people who have endured tragedy to emerge resilient and vibrant.