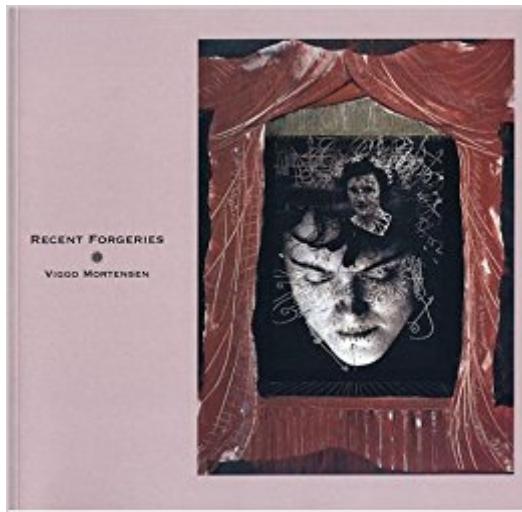


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# Recent Forgeries (Book & CD-ROM)



## **Synopsis**

Poems are layered in paintings-obsured, written over, then painted again. Found objects are treated lovingly and elevated above their humble throwaway status. Old and new rub against each other in textured works that suggest a fractured narrative composed of the artist's visual and emotional memories. This volume is an extraordinary look into the process and mind of an artist whose boundless creative output touches a myriad of media and modes of expression. Included in the book are writings, paintings, collages, assemblages, found objects, and photographs that point to the fluidity of meaning of a world in flux, as well as a special spoken-word and music CD by Mortensen. Mortensen is best known for his outstanding performances in films such as *A Perfect Murder*, *GI Jane*, and *Portrait of A Lady*, and Gus Van Sant's *Psycho*. He is also the author of several books of poetry and other writings.

## **Book Information**

Paperback: 110 pages

Publisher: Smart Art Press; 1st edition (December 1998)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 1889195324

ISBN-13: 978-1889195322

Product Dimensions: 0.2 x 8 x 8 inches

Shipping Weight: 14.9 ounces

Average Customer Review: 4.5 out of 5 stars 28 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #630,430 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #172 in Books > Arts & Photography > Other Media > Conceptual #368 in Books > Arts & Photography > Other Media > Mixed Media #671 in Books > Arts & Photography > Individual Artists > Monographs

## **Customer Reviews**

This is a fantastic compilation of photography, poetry and mixed media art from a talented artist and actor. I bought it initially because I am a big fan of Viggo Mortensen's acting, but quickly found that his other art is even better than his acting. More abstract work that really takes you inside each piece and lets you experience it with all your senses. I have it displayed in my bookshelf at home, and take it down often to get bursts of inspiration for my own work. Initially purchased as a fan-girl coffee table book, I've found that the book itself is a piece of art in my home, it's a great conversation piece, and a never-ending source of inspiration.

...I will state again for the record that Mortensen's work concerning his poetry is very good. His ability to craft a small story from a few stark and glib lines of language is commendable. However, the photography is non-impressive and is heavily reminiscent of a high school photo class, but lacking the variety of standard student submission. On the other side of the critical arena however, the montage's and art work that he included are wonderful. Red Minerva is one that definitely will catch your eye. I recently took this book with me on vacation to Altoona, Pennsylvania and had the opportunity to ingest it over a long, graduated period of abandon. Several people who knew not of Mortensen also relished it for the montage work and the prose. I will give fair warning though about the CD that was enclosed on the back cover. Much of his reading is engrossing. The man's voice is worthy of CNN commercials. His guitar playing/reading though is something entirely different. I have the feeling that pretension is no stranger to this man, but I love him all the same. The acoustic journey was a detraction to the ear, rendering some of the last few tracks almost unlistenable. Should I mention the hand-edited typo toward the back of the book? Was this the mad scribbling of Mortensen himself? I gave the book 4 stars, but with the actor included, it makes 5.

this book challenges you to do just that. It leads you from one emotion to another from the funny photo "Cheating" to the warm, and cozy "Home". From the poem "Cuttings" that is endearing and calming to "Second Opinion" that resonates with anguish, anger and regret. Viggo leaves you hungry and wanting to know more. If you are buying this book just because you are a Lord of the Rings/Aragorn fan, then you will be disappointed, this book has nothing to do with the actor and everything to do with the artist...the man. However, you won't learn much about Viggo, for like the Loch Ness monster he stays shrouded in mist, elusive, always just out of reach to the reader. If you keep an open mind, tho you may just learn something unexpected about yourself. P.S. the CD that comes with it is just icing on a very sweet cake.

This is a great gift or buy it for your own collection, you or the receiver will not be disappointed. Viggo Mortensen is a very great actor, a fine writer of poems, and a fair singer & musician. He is very very nice to gaze upon too! ;-) You will enjoy this book/CD-Rom and see a different side to this gifted actor!

Viggo. Wow. Not only is he a wonderful actor, who brings his character to life. He's a painter and a poet with such amazing insight and passion. This man has the ability to pull you into his world when he writes. Not only is this a book of some of Viggo's work, it also comes with a CD with Viggo

reading some of his work and it just adds to the wonder of this man. I highly suggest this book to those who have an open mind and who wish to experience something fresh and new.

I had never heard of Viggo until Lord of the Rings. I was delighted there was more to the man than the Aragorn I had seen on the screen. The CD was a bonus. I had forgotten how nice and comforting it is to have poetry spoken. The music different, but am waiting for more. If you appreciate this book you must have Sign Language, you will not be disappointed.

This is a jewel, and the Cd is wonderful two of the tracks 6 and 12 included soft romantic songs. A treat for fans of the actor, more than poet. The poet is closer to the real thing.

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