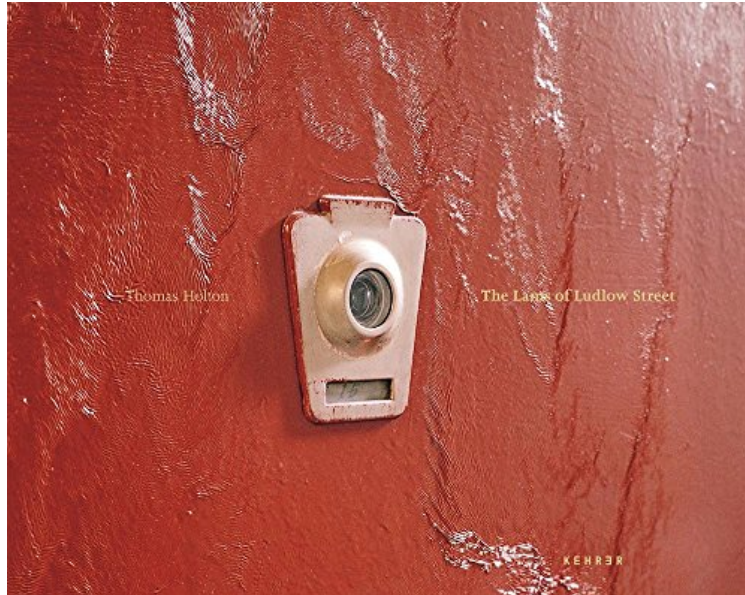


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The Lams of Ludlow Street

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From Ingramcontent : The Lams of Ludlow Street before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Lams of Ludlow Street:

3 of 3 people found the following review helpful. Excellent Photo JournalBy WayneExcellent photo journal of the Lam family, a real family from NYC's Chinatown. The book is so well made and the print quality is wonderful. I liked it so much that I bought 2 additional to give as gifts. I can only hope that the photographer Thomas Holton gives us more like this in the future.5 of 9 people found the following review helpful. Very disappointed in this bookBy WisshVery disappointed in this book. It looks to be assembled at home, the book glued into only the back cover. There was only one photo per double page and many pages were left blank. There were no captions. If the goal was for it to be high brow and artsy, it possibly succeeded, but it just left me with a bad taste. Perhaps if I'd only spent half as much...0 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Brilliant photo essay.By B. WolinskyI remember this photo series from the New York Times way back in 2003. A Chinese immigrant family were raising their kids in a tiny, cramped, Chinatown apartment, and you can tell how cramped and crammed it was by the coats hanging over the table. Photographer Thomas Holton is half-Chinese, and he says that he felt like a visiting stranger when he went to his maternal grandparents home in Chinatown. Maybe this project was a way of reconnecting? The photos arent interesting at all; the kids ignore the camera (typical American kids whod say whatever) and the parents are always preoccupied. Nobody seems happy at all, the mother looks worn out and the father looks depressed. In the text we learn that the father went through periods where he lost his job, and perhaps his standing too. With succeeding entries, the kids get older, the parents separate, the father visits when he can, the kids become teenagers, the older ones go off to upstate colleges. Hopefully the apartment gets roomier. Lack of privacy must have pissed off their daughter. There is one photo that got me thinking about what the Lams lack. In it, Mrs. Lam cares for an elderly Chinese woman while her kids sit by themselves doing their homework. I wondered if lack of extended family was part of the problem, seeing as theres no mention of the Lams having any relatives in New York. I see lots of immigrant families where the

older relatives care for the kids while the parents work, but why is that not the case here? Were the Lams here with no other family? I also wonder why they stayed in that tiny apartment in the Lower East Side, when there must have been better options. They couldve had a bigger place in Queens for the same price, and the husband left to work in New Jersey, so they couldve lived there. The Jews who lived in their building 80 years earlier had no desire to stay, in fact they left as soon as they could, leaving the neighborhood half-empty by the 1930s. The Lams look less like a family and more like a depressed group of people trapped in place. I would like to have read what the kids had to say about their lives. How did they like being crammed in there? Whats the secret to them getting along so well? What kind of schools did the kids attend, and did they ever visit kids who lived outside of the neighborhood? If so, did they notice the contrast? I will give this book high marks, but I think the author still has work ahead of him. His own life story, of being an outsider to his mothers ethnic group, would make a great premise for a book. As for the Lams, it would be interesting to see what happens to them as the children leave the nest. It remains to be seen if things will improve, or whether the kids flee the city.

The Lams of Ludlow Street is an in-depth look at a family living in New York City's Chinatown. In an attempt to better understand his own Chinese heritage, Thomas Holton began photographing the streets and the daily rituals of the neighborhood. However, what began as a more traditional documentary project in the "street photography" genre developed into a much more intimate exploration of a single family's life spanning a decade. It shows the Asian American immigrant experience as well as it is the exploration of a family's turbulent history, which everyone can relate to regardless of race or religion. DAS AUF AMAZON.DE ANGELEGEBENE ERSCHINUNGSDATUM BEZIEHT SICH NUR AUF USA. DER TITEL IST IN EUROPA BEREITS LIEFERBAR, AUCH DURCH AMAZON.DE /THE PUBLICATION DATE INDICATED HERE IS ONLY FOR USA. THIS TITLE IS ALREADY AVAILABLE IN EUROPE, ALSO ON AMAZON.DE

About the Author Thomas Holton received his MFA from The School of Visual Arts in New York City in 2005. His work has been exhibited widely, in venues such as the New York Public Library, The Museum of the City of New York, the Griffen Museum of Photography; and at the Lishui Museum of Photography in China. In 2005 he was one of the twenty four photographers chosen by the Art + Commerce Festival for Emerging Photographers, and in 2006, American Photo magazine named him one of the countrys ten best Young Photographers in the United States. His work, The Lams of Ludlow Street, was featured twice by The New York Times, as well as Aperture Magazine. Charles Traub: Currently Charles Traub is chair of the MFA Photography, Video, and Related Media Department at the School of Visual Arts in New York. Bonnie Yochelson was curator of prints and photographs at the Museum of the City of New York and teaches in the MFA Photography, Video, and Related Media Department at the School of Visual Arts in Manhattan. She is the author, among others, of Alfred Stieglitz New York.