

NOTED

BY AMANDA QUINTENZ-FIEDLER

TAKE ME TO THE RIVER: PHOTOGRAPHS OF ATLANTIC RIVERS

By Michael Kolster. George F. Thompson Publishing. 240 pp. \$60 hardcover.

There is perhaps no better way to photograph a river than with wet plate ambrotypes — not because one is water and the other coated in liquid, but because both belie complicated histories, fluid motion and a transient nature within a scene. Photographer Michael Kolster uses these wet plates to set up grand vistas of four rivers that flow into the Atlantic Ocean, rivers that suffered greatly following the Industrial Revolution. After generations of pollution and neglect, something extraordinary happened: the Clean Water Act was enacted, and years of degradation began to drift away, slowly, down the riverbanks. Due to the long exposures necessary to capture an ambrotype, Kolster has created a juxtaposition between solid elements — bridges, trees and factories — and the soft fluidity of rivers, always moving and changing. This book is a magical representation of how something thought lost or ruined can be renewed, how even flaws and rough edges can be beautiful.

A PORTRAIT OF BOWIE: A TRIBUTE TO BOWIE BY HIS ARTISTIC COLLABORATORS AND CONTEMPORARIES

Edited by Brian Hiatt. Cassell. 224 pp. \$34.99 hardcover.

Any fan of David Bowie knows he collaborated with artists and musicians alike and strove to break boundaries. This collection is a tribute to his artistic genius. Within the book are 40 portraits of Bowie from a variety of artists, including promotional images of a 17-year-old Bowie as lead vocalist for the King Bees and a haunting painting of him completed by

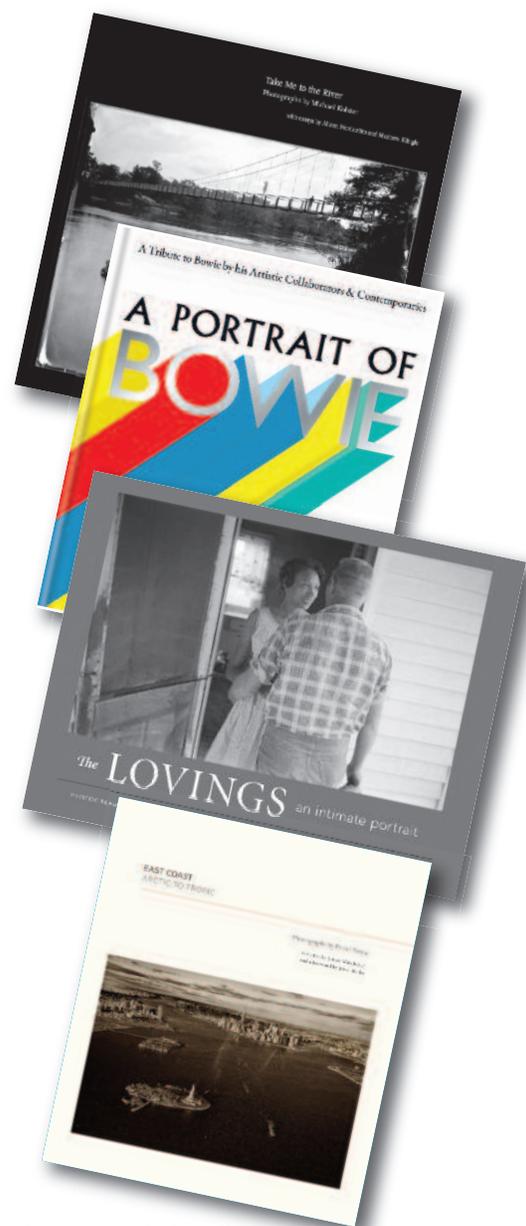
Chuck Connelly 33 years after Bowie visited the artist's studio. Also featured are personal stories from artists and musicians who worked with or were inspired by Bowie. Needless to say, the book could be infinitely longer based on those criteria, but the stories, photographs and paintings that were chosen are full and rich — offering a glimpse of Bowie's impact on society, music and art — and on all who were touched by his music.

THE LOVINGS: AN INTIMATE PORTRAIT *Written by Barbara Villet with photography by Grey Villet. Princeton Architectural Press. 128 pp. \$24.95 hardcover.*

Photographer Grey Villet was a renowned *LIFE* magazine photo essayist in the 1960s. In this capacity, he witnessed the remarkable story of Mildred and Richard Loving, an interracial couple who fought for the freedom to be married in a state that banned mixed-race unions. While the story is more familiar now with the release of the 2016 film *Loving*, nothing is quite as moving as the depiction of their real interactions. This story of two people in love is so beautifully rendered and honestly lived that one can't help but see the power of their dedication. Villet's photos are quietly resilient as they capture an ordinary couple's everyday moments — the kinds of moments that others were allowed to experience without scrutiny. The photo essay appears in its entirety for the first time in this book, with text by Barbara Villet providing context and chronology. But the real power is in the images and the love story they tell.

EAST COAST: ARCTIC TO TROPIC *By David Freese with foreword by Jenna Butler. George F. Thompson Publishing. 320 pp. \$65 hardcover.*

In this collection, David Freese shares



images depicting his incredible journey from the top of the Arctic down through the Florida Keys. Exploring the jagged eastern coastline of North America with a mixture of aerial and land-based photography, Freese demonstrates the interconnectivity of land and sea, muting cityscapes and cultures to intensify the correlation between water and land. He captures great fjords carved by ice and cities on the edge of a rising waterline, threatened by encroaching waves — all in a rich, monochromatic palette, unifying the entire coastline. With these elegant reproductions, Freese has expertly documented the ageless and seemingly impermeable elements of the coast, as well as a threatened landscape facing the perils of climate change. ▲