

## **Wouter Deruytter: Cowboy Code**

by Wouter Deruytter (Photographer), John Wood

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Reviewer: **Nikos A. Leverenz** from Sacramento, CA USA

This volume of rodeo photographs presents young men engaged in a lifestyle that is desperately under-appreciated -- and often mocked -- by many academics and much of the American literati as unsophisticated drones of Western resource exploitation.

Far from being automatons, these men have no pretense regarding their communion with nature; it is their LIFE. Whether relaxing, preparing for an event, or nursing wounds, these gentlemen evince a stoic elegance that is all but absent in the trappings of modern urban life.

Like his mentor Bruce Weber, Mr. Deruytter has a great eye for demonstrating that even that which is ultra-masculine retains far more than a glint of delicacy.

A solid pick for those interested in rural western life, and for those who appreciate cowboys yet to have their faces etched by the natural elements.

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