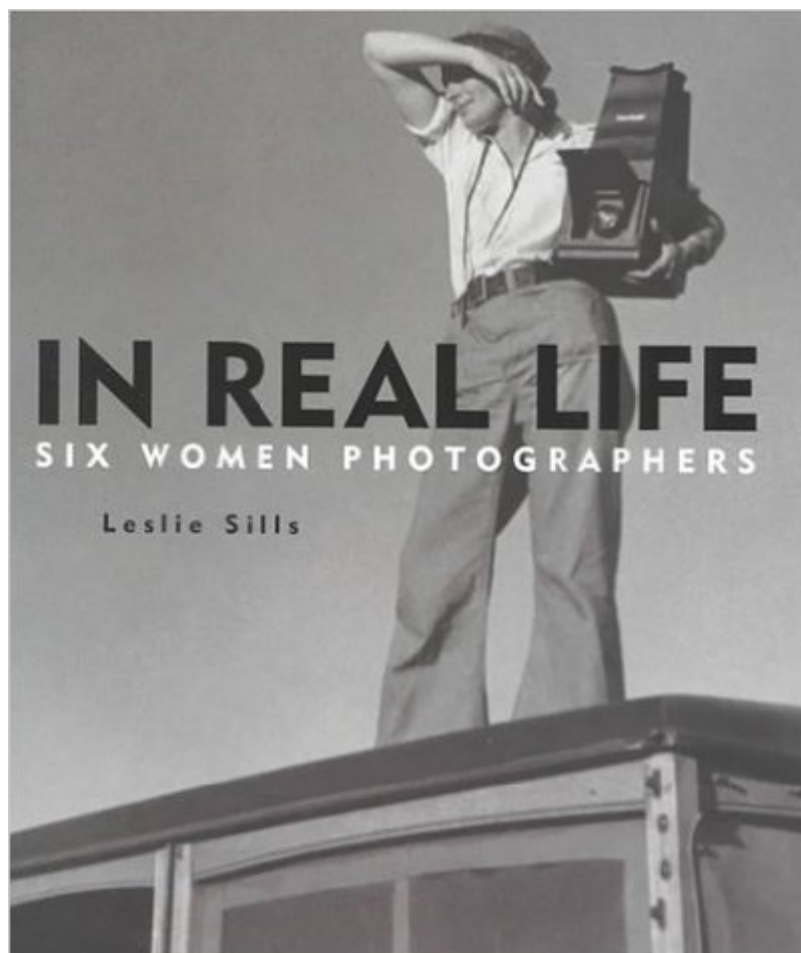


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# In Real Life: Six Women Photographers



## Synopsis

The lives and works of Imogene Cunningham, Dorothea Lange, Lola Alvarez Bravo, Carrie Mae Weems, Elsa Dorfman and Cindy Sherman.

## Book Information

Hardcover: 80 pages

Publisher: Holiday House; 1st edition (October 1, 2000)

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Average Customer Review: 4.3 out of 5 stars [See all reviews](#) (6 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #577,978 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #72 in [Books > Children's Books > Arts, Music & Photography > Photography](#) #241 in [Books > Children's Books > Biographies > Art](#) #3151 in [Books > Children's Books > Growing Up & Facts of Life > Friendship, Social Skills & School Life > Girls & Women](#)

Age Range: 10 and up

Grade Level: 5 and up

## Customer Reviews

Knowing that women artists in all fields tend to suffer from a lack of public exposure, I took a look at this volume hoping to find some good work that I had not seen before. My hopes were rewarded when all six photographers proved to be talented, interesting, and stylistically different from each other . . . and four of them were new to me. With the two artists I knew before, the biographical essays added to my knowledge, making every aspect of the book a pleasant surprise. The book is organized around the concept that "cameras do copy which is front of the lens . . . [but these images are also] creations of the artist's intention and unconscious mind." The essays are especially rewarding for their balance in explaining the artists' family lives, their relationships with the men in their lives, how they started into photography, their technique, and descriptions of their aesthetic values. Leslie Sills is pleasantly succinct: Imogen Cunningham: "liked to examine life closely" and focused on "shapes, textures, patterns" in nature. She also captured the "essence" of people. Dorothea Lange: The camera was an "activist tool" which "revealed the suffering of thousands and motivated others to help" during the Depression. Lola Alvarez Bravo: Captured the

real "Mexico after the Mexican Revolution" occurred there. Carrie Mae Weems: Showed the "complexities of being human" especially in "squelching stereotypes" and "honoring African-American culture." Elsa Dorfman: "Celebrates humanity" with her oversized camera that captures people to look more naturally like themselves than photographs normally do.

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