

GOSSIP CENTRAL:

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Albert Maysles for Real

Little Edie Bouvier Beale vamps on the cover photo of "A Maysles Scrapbook" (Steidl/Kasher), a coffee table volume with introduction by Martin Scorsese illustrating the depth and breadth of the legendary Albert Maysles' career from 1955 to the present. Edie is of course one half of the mother-daughter team celebrated on Broadway last year in "Grey Gardens," the musical based on the documentary by Albert and his brother David who died in 1987. With her signature shmatte tied around her head, her legs oh so posed to reveal the sexy curve of her hip, and beckoning with a come hither look, Edie stands for Albert Maysles himself inviting you into his world, featuring a behind-the-scenes glimpse into the making of his most famous works, among them "Salesman" and "Gimme Shelter." Images of Mick Jagger, Muhammed Ali, Marlon Brando, Frank Sinatra, Salvador Dali, and Charlotte Zwerin, peek out from these pages, as do pictures of people in Turkey, Russia and Poland from his travels in the late '50's.

All are currently exhibited in a retrospective of his work at the Steven Kasher Gallery. This is a boom time for Albert: HBO is airing the documentary he made about Christo and the Making of "The Gates," the closing night film of last year's Tribeca Film Festival. On Sunday, friends and family packed Film Forum for a special screening of his 1966 "With Love from Truman," a forty minute interview with Capote shot on location at Tiffany's and his home in the Hamptons. We may have had excellent feature biopics of the author of "In Cold Blood" in recent years, but as Albert Maysles said in his introduction about nonfiction films, "There's nothing like the real thing." Regina Weinreich

