Classic Posters - Sex, Rock, & Optical Illusions, Victor Moscoso

A book by Victor Moscoso
Reviewed by Michael Erlewine
Michael@Erlewine.net
Printed on a Xerox Docucolor 12 copier, from paper masters, gathered sewn, and bound by Victor Moscoso.
Preface by Milton Glaser
Introduction by Steven Heller
8-1/8 x 10-5/8"
143 pages

The book is well done and in full color. It has a varnished cover and is sewn and glued. While the color is not as good as if it were offset-printed, it is quite adequate, in particular since quite a lot of the book contains drawings and rough sketches. What is in it?

This book was designed, printed, put together, and published by Victor Moscoso. This first limited edition of 24 copies was available for $1000 each, personally numbered and signed by the artist. Being a huge fan of Moscoso, I just had to put my money down on a copy, and in advance. I must confess that there were questions in my mind what it would be like, so for those of you who may never see a copy, I am writing this.

You will find most of the major Moscoso images in the book, such as those he did for the Family Dog and the Neon Rose series, plus a lot I had never seen before. In some cases, like the "Man with the Spiral Eyes," FD-38 (Family Dog Series), pages of preliminary
sketches are reproduced, to great effect. There is considerable attention given to Moscoso’s comix, both in single frames and running strips.

*Portrait of the Artist’s Wife*

In addition are paintings, abstract art, innovative lettering, collage, and what-not - most things I have never seen. As an archivist I was pleasantly surprised to find a complete annotated list of each image in the back of the book, complete with dates, sized, printing info, and so on. That is unusual.

*Summer of Love, Memorabilia Auction 1997*

It is obvious, this is a special book. I applaud Moscoso for making himself, the book we should have made for him. He has a sense of humor, that is for sure. It is certain these books, in such a limited edition, will be much collected.