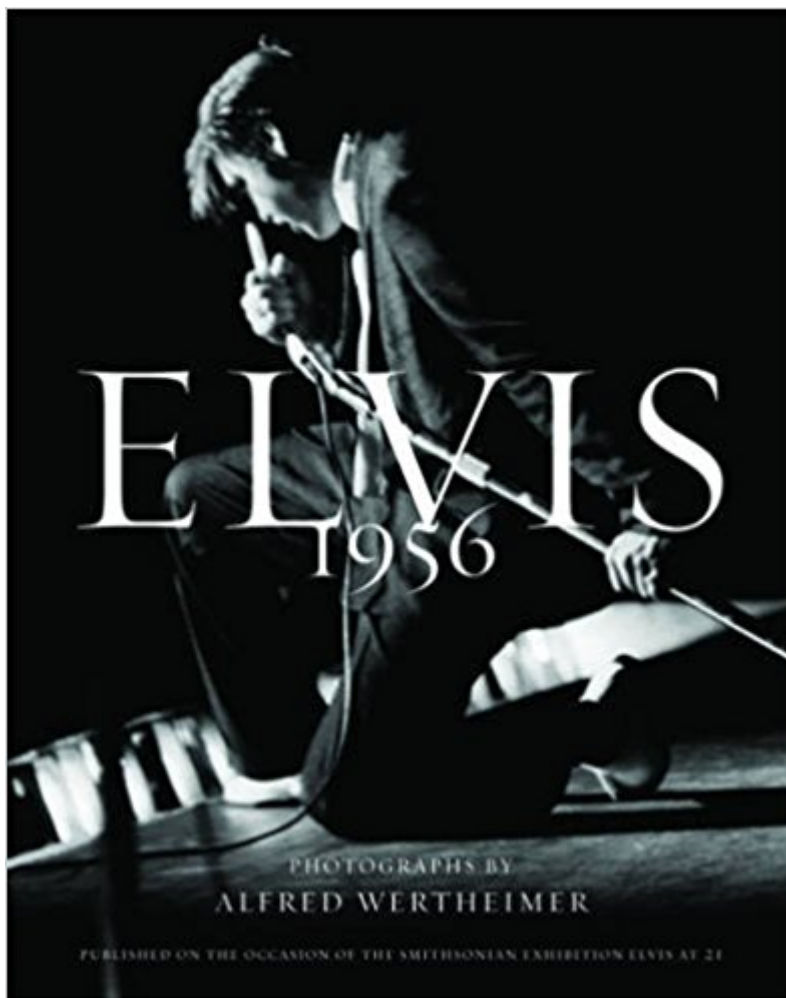


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# Elvis 1956



## Synopsis

1956 was the year Elvis released his first record, made his first television appearance, and started his movie career. It was the year he became a star. Alfred Wertheimer, then a young freelance photojournalist, was there to document the extraordinary transition. *Elvis 1956* features images that are a national treasure, including photographs of Elvis never before published: a unique visual record of one of the most exciting performers of his time, one of the most influential of all time, the first true icon of rock 'n' roll. Here is the first and last unguarded look at Elvis, featuring images of him in every aspect of his life - from performance and with the fans, to the recording studio and at home with his family. *Elvis 1956* serves as the catalogue for a nationally traveling exhibition developed collaboratively by the Smithsonian Institution Traveling Exhibition Service, the Smithsonian's National Portrait Gallery, and the Govinda Gallery to celebrate the 75th anniversary of the legendary rock star's birthday. Lavishly illustrated with 72 tri-tone photographs and with an introduction by curator Chris Murray, essays by E. Warren Perry, Jr. and National Portrait Gallery historian Amy Henderson, *Elvis 1956* is a remarkable window into a defining time for rock 'n' roll's most enduring presence.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

These pictures look familiar not just because they're a subset of Wertheimer's album *Elvis at 21* (2006). Several are among the most famous photos of anyone ever taken, which should ensure crowds for the traveling exhibition this book catalogs wherever it goes. The exhibition launches in

Los Angeles on January 8, 2010, the day Elvis would have turned 75. Its organizer, Chris Murray, makes the most telling comment about it when he remarks that these pictures, starting with performance shots of Elvis on the Dorsey Brothersâ™ TV show and concluding with another of him in action at a homecoming show in a Memphis park attended by 14,000, capture the time during which Elvis became a celebrity. He walks New Yorkâ™s streets and travels in trains from Penn Station to Tennessee, and no one notices him except right before, during, and right after shows. Wertheimer didnâ™t know that was what he was immortalizing, but he intuited something, because he went on his own dime to track Elvis. Presented full-page and larger, these images are history.

--Ray Olson

"Elvis 1956 offers black and white photos by Alfred Wertheimer taken during the year Elvis turned 21, and offer a fine visual record of a defining time for rock and roll. It was the year Elvis released his first record, made his first TV appearance, and more - and it offers a definitive visual portrait unavailable elsewhere.Â Any music library strong in rock and roll history needs this, which pairs Alfred Wertheimer's photo with essays by E. Warren Perry, Jr. and Amy Henderson."California Bookwatch"This book features a beautiful collection of 72 tri-tone shots that expertly capture Presley's dramatic and electrifying journey to stardom." Foreword Magazine "Elvis 1956 vividly captures the year Elvis meteorically rose from obscurity to superstardom featuring Alfred Wertheimer's iconic photographs of Elvis - some never-before published or rarely seen - and his recollections...For a new generation of Elvis fans, the book provides an inexpensive edition of Wertheimer's memorable photos with spectacular tritone printing of the king's sensational impact in 1956 on the emerging popularity of rock and roll."Elvis.com"...In many way the most exciting and intimate portrait of the legendary entertainer...You don't have to be an Elvis fanatic to recognize the importance of this book.Â It sheds significant light on the early days of one of the true legends of show business."- Cinema Metro"Remarkable...The times, they were a-changing, and changing quickly. Elvis and his music were both part of and a cause of that change. Collectively, Wetheimer's photos capture that time as if the photographer and his subject knew that the moment would not last. Elvis 1956 will appeal to a broad segment of reader, including those who still carry a torch for Elvis, those interested in photography, and those with an interest in 1950s America."-John Michael Senger, Foreword Reviews "Wertheimer's photographs show Elvis in every aspect of his life â in performance, with his fans, in the recording studio, and at home with his family. The book is lavishly illustrated with 72 tri-tone photographs, and features an introduction by curator Chris Murray, along with essays by E. Warren Perry, Jr. and National Portrait Gallery historian Amy Henderson." -THE

Magazine"Elvis 1956 is truly The King before he was The King, and the images are both insightful and stunning. Recollections by Wertheimer regarding time, place, and circumstances of each photograph offer further revelation into the daily events that paved the way for this true American idol."Her Nashville Magazine.

Very nice pictures! I love seeing these 1956, 57 photos even the background is amazing.

STUNNING photos of an era and gifted man that will never be again.

This is great. We recommend it for any true Elvis fan. Frankly we can not get enough good Elvis material. For those who don't know about it, we recommend the Elvis channel on Sirius XM Satellite Radio.

Love the Book !! Beautiful black and white pictures of Elvis documented in 1956 (his first big year) by brilliant photographer , "Alfred Wertheimer ".

Very good book. Great pictures. Brings back 1956 and the start of real "Rock'N'Roll"

as a total elvis fan i was more than pleased to read something positive(as alfred always is) not only about elvis but the simpler times of the 50's and the prices of the items in the diner was really an education.great to see when ELVIS became KING.

LOVE the book!! STUNNING photography!! BEAUTIFUL tribute to the king!!

This has got to be one of my most favorite Elvis books, the photos are great, they really capture Elvis as he was just beginning to become a star. I took my copy to have it autographed by the photographer.

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