

SKATEISTAN

—
The Tale of Skateboarding
in Afghanistan
—

Book Release



PRESS RELEASE

May 8, 2012



SKATEISTAN RELEASING 1ST BOOK IN SUMMER 2012

"A skateboard park and school surrounded by war makes perfect sense in a senseless world, doesn't it?"

– C.R. Stecyk III

What's it like to grow up working on the streets in a warzone, or to spend the first 15 years of your life pretending to be a boy? How does it feel to be one of the first skateboarders in a country, and at the same time a girl in a conservative Muslim society? In a nation divided along ethnic and gender lines, how do art, education and skateboarding create change?

After years of interviews, documentation and hard work, the NGO Skateistan is excited to announce the release of its very first book, revealing how a grassroots skateboarding project has made a lasting impact on the lives of Afghan youth.

Skateistan: The Tale of Skateboarding in Afghanistan shares the strange and beautiful intersection of traditional Afghan society and a new generation of Afghan skateboarders and artists. Through a balanced mix of words and photographs, the book tells the tale of *Skateistan*, which since 2007 has taught skateboarding and creative arts to girls and boys in Kabul, Afghanistan.

Skateistan gives a rare, in-depth look into the lives of exceptional young Afghans facing incredible challenges and giving new life to a city that has been ravaged by war.

This 320-page color book features stunning, previously unpublished photographs accompanied by essays, interviews and personal stories from Skateistan's founder Oliver Percovich and the young Afghans that have gone from being streetworking kids to teachers in the skatepark and classrooms. Full of hope, beauty, brutal honesty – and skateboards – this is a story about Afghanistan that you won't find anywhere else.

The book's official release date is set for June 9th 2012 in Berlin, Germany, with purchase available soon through Amazon US, the Skateistan online store, and local skateboard shops.

100% of proceeds will go towards Skateistan's activities. Check out the "Making of the Skateistan Book" video and more info here: www.skateistan.org/book

For sample spreads and more info:
media@skateistan.org



Softcover
320 pages
English

The History of

SKATEBOARDING

Skateboarding has been a part of American culture since the 1950s. It was born in the streets of California, where young people would ride their wooden sleds down the beach. Over time, the sport evolved into a more complex and dangerous activity, with riders performing tricks and stunts. Today, skateboarding is a global phenomenon, with millions of people riding every day.

Skateboarding is a sport that has grown in popularity over the years. It is a sport that is enjoyed by people of all ages and backgrounds. It is a sport that is easy to learn and difficult to master. It is a sport that is full of excitement and adventure.

Maybe I could make some skateboard buddies by having some more skateboards with me.

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"During the [civil] war time there wasn't, like, two minutes or three minutes break, just all the time there were bullets coming and rockets crashing somewhere..."

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Skating Darul Aman



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Where it all Began:

Mekroyan Fountain

