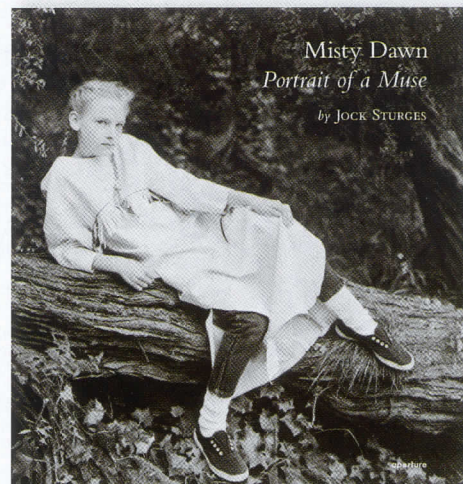




Anyone who thinks Jock Sturges's photographs are pornographic just isn't looking close enough, as strange as that may sound. The more you look, the clearer it is that his gorgeously rendered environmental portraits of mainly unclothed, mainly young, mainly female subjects are not meant to titillate but rather to address the issue of comfort in one's own skin. (Whether someone, somewhere might be titillated is not a good reason to condemn or suppress the work.) That purpose impels *Misty Dawn: Portrait of a Muse*, a 25-year study of the title subject's physical and psychological transition from small child to married adult. No classic beauty, Misty Dawn is often graceful yet sometimes awkward, and seems more at ease naked than dressed. What will you look at most when you browse through this book? Misty Dawn's face, which reveals a trust that only time could engender. —R.H.



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**Misty Dawn: Portrait of a Muse**

By Jock Sturges

(Aperture, 168 pages, \$50)

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**BLOOM  
AND GROW**



Here: Misty  
Dawn in  
Montalivet,  
France,  
1995.  
Opposite: In  
California,  
1993.

