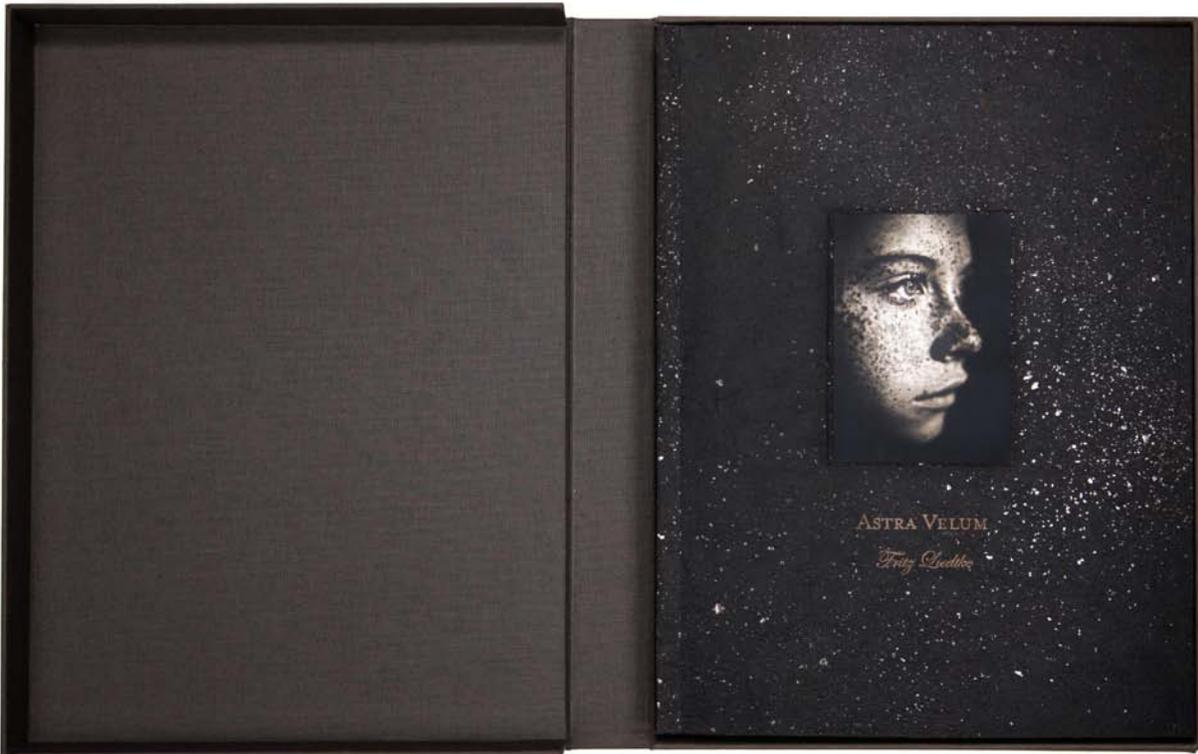


ASTRA VELUM

Limited Edition Artist Book

FRITZ LIEDTKE

www.fritzliedtke.com



April, a freckled woman in this series, told me a story from her childhood: One day after playing outside, her grandmother asked her to go wash up. She went to the bathroom and did so, but grandma wasn't satisfied. "Your face isn't clean! Go scrub it some more!" The young girl was distraught, for all that was left on her skin were her freckles, and no amount of scrubbing would make them go away.

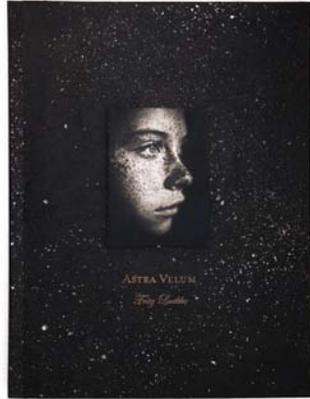
In a world that flaunts flawlessness as the ideal, can we find real beauty in the blemishes? More than once, while photographing for this series, women thanked me for making something beautiful out of what they often viewed as an imperfection.

At its essence, *Astra Velum* explores the beauty of flawed human skin, with its freckles and scars, overlaid upon us like a thin veil of stars.

~From the introduction by Fritz Liedtke.

ABOUT THE BOOK

The *Astra Velum* limited edition artist book combines superb archival prints of 19 *Astra Velum* images, with an essay by award-winning author Gina Ochsner. It is hardbound in custom Cave paper reflecting the celestial theme of the series. Designed by the artist, the book is lovingly handcrafted by acclaimed bookmaker Rory Sparks. It is available alone, or with the addition of a custom clamshell box, and original prints.



Picking up the book, and the first thing a viewer notices is the cover's rich handmade paper embedded with mica, which shimmers like stars in the night sky as it turns in the hand. The book's substantial thickness and heft harken back to old world craftsmanship.

The optional clamshell case is covered in Italian book cloth and inlaid with a letterpress-printed title on custom Cave paper, matching the cover of the book. A beautiful way to protect and present the book.

Opening the book, one notices the double-thickness pages, which open to lay flat. Each spread features one of the award-winning images from the *Astra Velum* series, stunningly printed on archival cotton-rag paper.

Award-winning author Gina Ochsner's essay *In Praise of Pigmentation* opens the book. It's a poignant accompaniment to the work, written by someone with her own long history with freckled and flawed skin. Letterpress printed, the essay is deeply embossed into the thick Crane paper.

The book also includes an introduction by the artist, and a colophon numbered and signed by the artist.

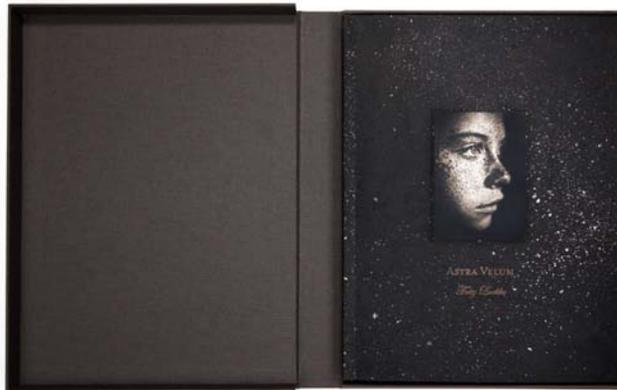
FOR YOUR COLLECTION

Add the *Astra Velum* limited edition artist book to your collection, with your choice of additional options:



The book, limited to an edition of 25.

Offered at \$395.



The limited edition book,
accompanied by the custom clamshell case.

Offered at \$585.



The limited edition book,
accompanied by your choice of a limited-edition
photogravure print of your choice.

(Please contact us for prints currently available.)

Offered at \$995.

To place your order, simply contact us at (503) 267-5078, or fritz@fritzphoto.com.

Educational institutions are offered a 10% discount on their purchase.

Receive the book free with your purchase of the limited edition *Astra Velum Portfolio* of original photogravure prints. These prints have been described by Melanie McWhorter of Photo-Eye Books as “lovely, luminescent, one-of-a-kind prints [which] must be seen to be appreciated.” Susan Burnstine, in *Black & White Magazine* says, “Fritz Liedtke’s stunning photogravure portfolio *Astra Velum* is a remarkable achievement.” Please inquire for more information.

ARTIST BIOGRAPHIES

Artist Fritz Liedtke

Fritz Liedtke began photographing as a teen. He carried his Kodak 110 Instamatic around on a US tour with his father at age 14, documenting their travels in their little blue Datsun B210. Twenty-five years later, he continues to explore the world, camera in hand.

Fritz holds a BFA in Photography and Fine Arts. His work has won numerous awards, grants and residencies, and has been published, collected, and shown in galleries and museums. He writes and teaches on photography and the artistic life, and loves to travel. He is constantly looking for new ways to approach the world through art.

The *Astra Velum* series has been awarded the Critical Mass Top 50 award, published in numerous magazines, shown internationally, and the portfolio of original photogravure prints has been collected into national collections.

Portland, Oregon is his home, along with his wife and their bright orange house. See more at www.fritzliedtke.com.

Author Gina Ochsner

Gina Ochsner's writing has been awarded a John L. Simon Guggenheim grant and a grant from the National Endowment of Arts. Her stories have appeared in *The New Yorker*, *Tin House*, *Glimmertrain* and the *Kenyon Review*.

She is the author of the short story collection *The Necessary Grace to Fall*, which received the Flannery O'Connor Award for Short Fiction, and the story collection *People I Wanted to Be*. Both books received the Oregon Book Award. Her most recent work is the novel *The Russian Dreambook of Colour and Flight* published by Houghton-Mifflin-Harcourt.

Ochsner lives in Keizer, Oregon and divides her time between writing and teaching with the Seattle Pacific Low-Residency MFA program. Learn more at www.ginaochsner.com.

BOOK DETAILS AND SPECIFICATIONS



Artist: Fritz Liedtke

Author: Gina Ochsner

Book Bound by: Rory Sparks

Place of Publication: Portland, Oregon

Text Printing Process: Letterpress

Image/Illustration Process: Archival photographs

Number of Images/Illustrations: 19

Book Structure/Binding Method: Drum leaf binding, hard cover.

Paper Stock:

- Cover paper: custom handmade paper by Cave Papers

- Interior text: Crane Lettra

- Photographs: Red River Aurora Natural, 100% cotton rag

Number of Pages: 42

Dimensions Closed: 9.5 x 12.5 x 1 inch

Dimensions Opened: 19 x 12.5

Publication Year: 2012

Edition Size: 25, signed and numbered.

Questions and purchases: Fritz Liedtke | (503) 267-5078 | fritz@fritzphoto.com