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The images in 'Endurance' are more than mere moto-photos. They are works of art

If you're like me then you are a motorcycle book junkie. Magazines are cool, sure enough. Paperbacks are fine too. Nothing, however, beats a good shiny coffee table book for clearing away those 'end of the riding season' blues.

Theresa Ortolani's *Endurance* is the kind of book that makes you stare at a photo and go 'holy crap!' for five minutes. The book, to be released this November, is preceded by the *Endurance* website launch at www.theresaortolani.com/endurance

Such is the power of the press that I got a sneak peak at *Endurance*, but before I talk about the book an introduction to the author is in order. Ortolani is a photographer with a BFA from the School of Visual Arts at Boston U. She has developed and directed photography programs with the Ansel Adams Center, the San Francisco Art Institute, NYU and SUNY. Needless to say, she's got huge credibility as professional photographer. Ortolani has so much cred that you have to wonder just what the hell a person with her talent is doing tromping through the mud chasing off-road racers...not that there is anything wrong with that!







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Nathan Kanney inspired Ortolani to photograph off-road racing

Ortolani became hooked on the sport after watching and photographing the Unadilla GNCC in 2006. There to support Nathan Kanney and his friends at the race, she explains, "I brought my camera, because I thought I'd otherwise be bored spending two days at a race I knew nothing about." Her book spans three years of Off-Road racing, with American GNCC and WEC star Kanney as the main subject. The photos, 155 of them in the 160-page book, are awesome and were taken from an artist's point of view. That's enough to make them stand out from 'normal' moto-photos, but Ortolani's photos also tell a story here. A story not just about dirt bikes but also about dirt bike people. The same experiences we've poured out of our boots and tried in vain to relate to concerned family members come alive on the pages of *Endurance*, making it like no other moto-photo book I've seen. The freezing cold, grey skies and bloodshot eyes that are so much a part of our sport are captured brilliantly through Ortolani's images.



Any off-road racer knows exactly how he feels

Anyway, you'll find your houseguests, (you know, the ones who have no interest in motorcycles) thumbing through *Endurance* and going 'wow...this really *is* cool!' *Endurance* is just that kind of book; a neat bridge between motoheads and the outside world.

Aside from Kanney, *Endurance* stars off-road royalty like David Knight, Kailub Russell, Corey Buttrick, Homero Diaz, Ryan Mills, Anders Eriksson, Bartosz Oblucki and even Travis Pastrana. Backing up the photographs are written contributions by a collection of authors familiar to anyone involved in dirt bike racing.

So, you know Christmas is coming, right? There is a pre-launch promotion through the official website for a signed copy of Endurance plus a Glicee print for \$33 U.S. Ortolani will also be hanging around the Montreal Supercross Oct 3 to promote her book, plus DMX is working on having her do a book launch at the Loose Moose party at the Toronto Supercross party March 13.

The vital specs on *Endurance* are:

Endurance Theresa Ortolani Powerhouse books Hardcover, 8.5x11 160 pages \$39.95 U.S ISBN 978-1-57687-517-9 endurance@theresaortolani.com www.theresaortolani.com/endurance





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