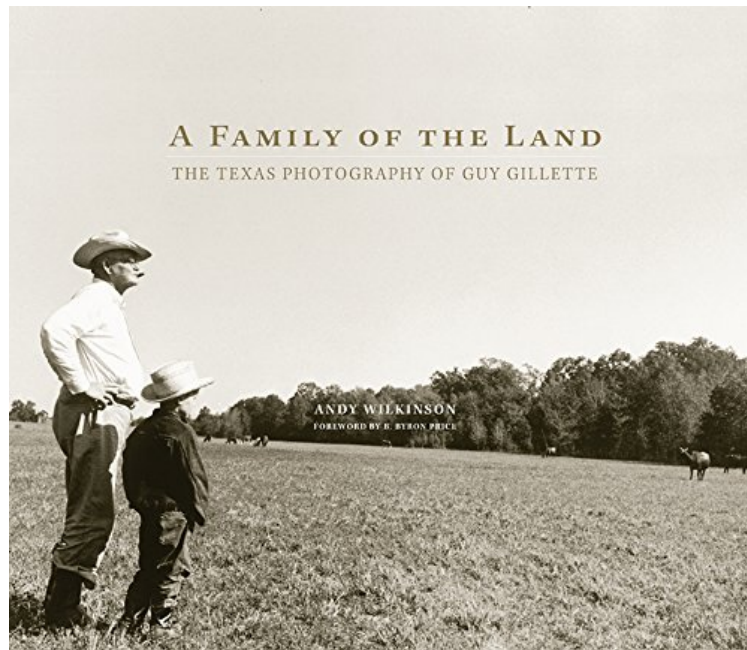


[Ebook free] A Family of the Land: The Texas Photography of Guy Gillette (The Charles M. Russell Center Series on Art and Photography of the American West Series)

## A Family of the Land: The Texas Photography of Guy Gillette (The Charles M. Russell Center Series on Art and Photography of the American West Series)

Andy Wilkinson

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**Andy Wilkinson : A Family of the Land: The Texas Photography of Guy Gillette (The Charles M. Russell Center Series on Art and Photography of the American West Series)** before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised A Family of the Land: The Texas Photography of Guy Gillette (The Charles M. Russell Center Series on Art and Photography of the American West Series):

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0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. BUY THIS BOOK By Lorraine A. Davis Guy Gillette should have been more famous in his life time considering the photographs he took. He didn't want to join Magnum because he was always "outside the outsiders" - plus, as another photographer said, "I'd have to work twice as hard because they would get 1/2 my fee!"

Since he first dreamed of a career in photography, Guy Gillette has traveled regularly to his wife's family's ranch, located outside the small town of Crockett, Texas. When Gillette first came to the Porter Place, as the ranch has always been known, he began to photograph the Porter family and their land. Thanks to Gillette's sense of composition, these wonderful black-and-white photographs, dating from the 1940s, led to his career as a magazine photographer. Collected here for the first time, they document small-town life in East Texas, where Guy Gillette's sons, the musical duo the Gillette Brothers, still run cattle. *A Family of the Land* offers a portrait of a community over a half century during which remarkably little has changed. Midway between Dallas and Houston, the Porter Place is where the South meets the West. The pastures began as cotton fields carved out of piney woods, and the cowboys use southern curs to control the cattle. One of the photographs presented here, of a boy and his dog at the veterinarian's office, is said to have moved Museum of Modern Art curator Edward Steichen to tears. Gillette also captures cowboys at work and at play, branding and marketing their animals, enjoying a game of dominoes, driving trucks with two windows down, fifty miles an hour. Though photography is often called art, says Gillette, I have wanted to be artless: to be a documentarian, not an artist. . . . Telling a story was always the attraction of photography for me. The story ends with the outdoor wedding of Guy Porter, one of the Gillette Brothers, at the Porter Place. Family, labor, and land remain, inseparable.

A poetic and visual feast . . . *A Family of the Land* introduces readers to three generations of the Porter family on a century-old East Texas ranch as seen through the eyes of photographer Guy Gillette. Gillette married into the family in the 1940s and has documented the family, the ranch, and the community ever since. Ron C. Tyler, author of *The Big Bend: A History of the Last Texas Frontier*