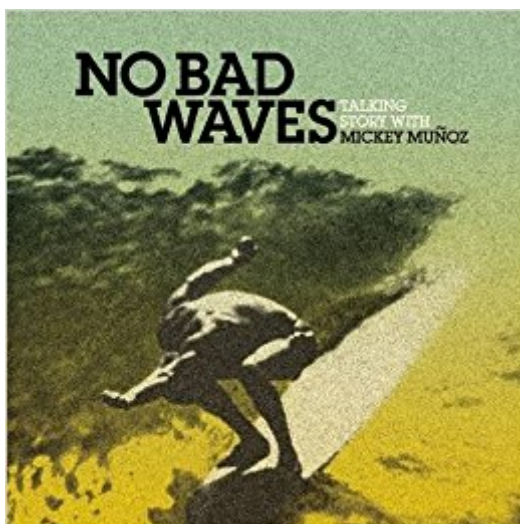


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# No Bad Waves: Talking Story With Mickey Munoz



## Synopsis

Mickey Muñoz has been called the "surfer's surfer" and is loved and respected among the cognoscenti for his contributions to surfing and the surfing life for the past 60 years as a surfer, a pioneer of Waimea Bay, a stuntman (stand-in for Gidget), a board shaper and designer, and as a sailor and boatbuilder (America's Cup). Mentored by the Malibu greats of the '40s, and an influence on generations of surfers since, Mickey weaves the story of a California waterman using his own life and that of his friends.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

Mickey Muñoz was instrumental in the development of big-wave surfing in California and Hawaii and in the progression of surfboard design. He was also involved in building P-Cats and Hobie Cats and the early design, development and racing of beach cats. He was featured in the popular surf documentary *Riding Giants* (2004). His resume ranges from underwater demolition work to stunt doubling for Sandra Dee and Mickey Rooney, to helping build the America's Cup catamaran *Stars & Stripes*.

At first I thought I would be disappointed after reading Gerry Lopez's "Surf Is Where You Find It". "No Bad Waves" started slow and eventually arced into a hopeful, inspirational and warm story of Mr. Muñoz's adventures on and in the water. I wasn't interested in reading about someone's youthful pranks and coming of age. I wanted tips and tricks for an older wanna be surfer. However, Mr. Muñoz aged beautifully, as I turned the pages, showing a maturity that comes only with years of

experience all the while retaining his exuberance for whatever he found himself doing. He reminded me of what a life well lived could be like while doing something one loves to do. That if there's a way to do it can be done. The lesson struck me as needing to be present to the moment we're all in and not off in a far corner of our minds. (A lesson also in Mr. Lopez's "Surf is Where You Find It".) By the way, there's plenty of advice, tips and things to be aware of. I also liked that he pointed out the idea of being part of the ocean no matter if on a surfboard, a boat or paddle board. The important thing is just being there.

I missed a lecture that Mickey gave recently to the Dana Point historical society. So I bought this book to learn more about a true legend in surfing culture. Since I spend a lot of time in Dana Point, I was interested in how this little town 60 miles from L.A. in Orange County became the epicenter of the surf "business" with Hobie Alter, John Severson and Bruce Brown all being based here. Mickey's stories are highly entertaining, from his days in Malibu working on the "Gidget" movies to his time with Hobie sailing catamarans. My only criticism about an otherwise excellent book is the lack of date information on the photos. Sometimes you can get an idea of the year from the cars in the background, but that is not always the case. Also, Orange County folks will know where "Poche" is (Capistrano Beach) but for folks elsewhere it might be helpful to say where it's at. All in all, a great read! I finished it in one sitting. Thank you Mickey Munoz for sharing your life experiences, and I wish I had a fraction of your skill and daring.

This is a great read about Mickey's lifetime of epic adventures and contributions. Of all the surfer bios I've read this ranks among my favorites. Where a lot of the greats moved on from surfing for one reason or another Mickey continues to embrace the lifestyle going on in his 8th decade, and that is inspiring. The stories are all great and you almost get the feeling you were there.

Awesome book! Great stories...I read it to my daughter before bed (edit some of the text of course :).

Somewhat simplistic, somewhat self indulgent, but I feel like I know Mickey better than I did before the book. Additionally, I wished he would have described his surfing adventures in as much detail as he did his sailing adventures. I loved the early Hawaii stories

Up there with my favorite books. Good stories and history.

Great book! Not your typical nostalgic "remember when" surf book, but a real off-the-cuff conversation with one of the most authentic surfers and goodwill ambassadors of the sport. Reads like you and The Mongoose are just shootin' the breeze..."talking story"...over a few cold ones! A refreshing and positive collection of anecdotes about gathering a lifetime of lessons from the water and applying them to the the art of living NOW! I HIGHLY RECOMMEND IT!

I've always looked up to Mickey Munoz. He was one of the guys I followed when I started surfing back in 1962. This book really shows his thinking and what he accomplished. His innovation to surfboard design, and catamaran design have are instrumental. I thoroughly enjoyed this book. It brought back my early days of surfing.

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