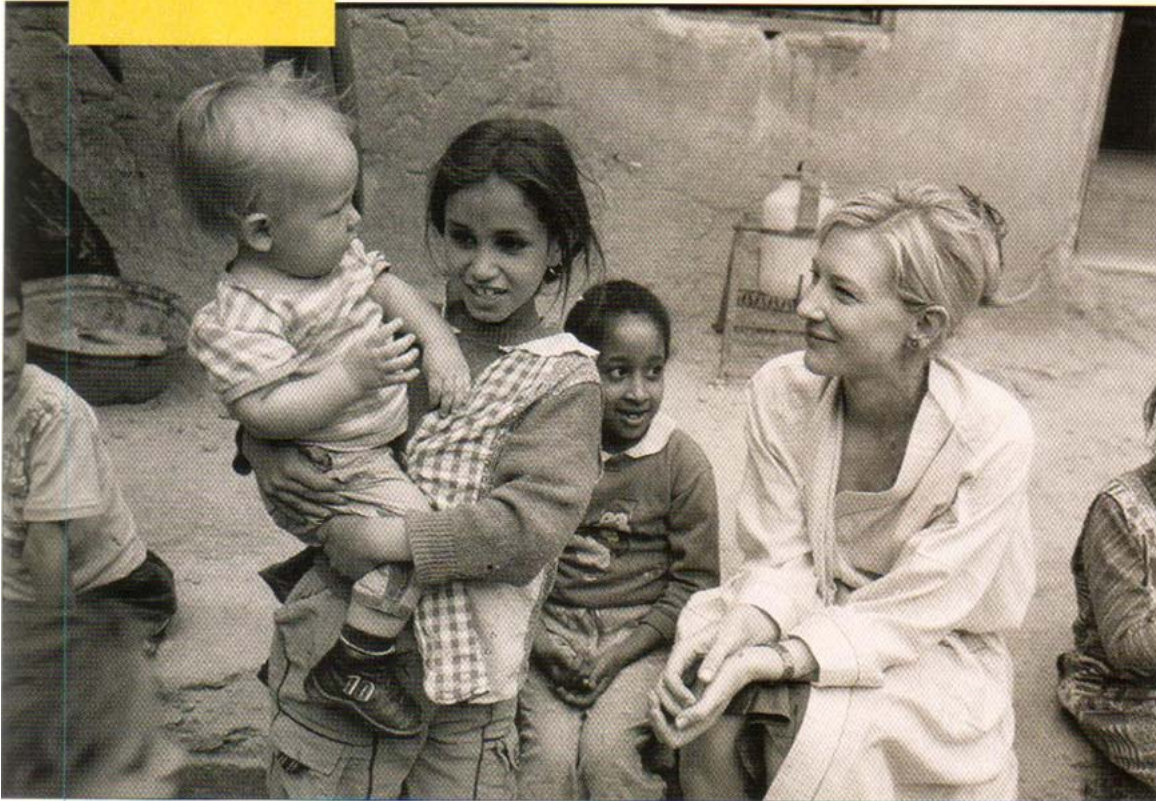


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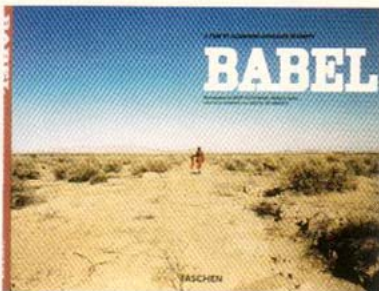


While on location in Morocco, Blanchett's 1-year-old son Roman suffered a second-degree burn on both legs, necessitating an immediate flight to a hospital in London. Roman recovered, and Blanchett was back on set within days. Here, a healthy Roman makes friends with some native Moroccan children while mom looks on.

PHOTO BY MARY ELLEN MARK

On the Set With *Babel*

The third film in director Alejandro González Iñárritu's "trilogy" exploring parents, children and the struggle for human connection, *Babel* broadens the scope of his previous two efforts, *21*



Grams and Amores Perros. In this continent-spanning story starring Brad Pitt and Cate Blanchett, a shooting in Morocco sets off events around the world. With the stunning locales of Morocco, Tijuana and Tokyo as backdrops,

Taschen has produced a unique book of photos from the set, proving that no matter what your language, a picture really is worth a thousand words.



ALL PHOTOS COURTESY OF TASCHEN

Elle Fanning (sister of Dakota), who plays Pitt and Blanchett's daughter, dances with Gael García Bernal at a wedding scene shot in Mexico.



PHOTO BY GRACIELA ITURBIDE

"Richard and Susan's story," says Iñárritu of the characters portrayed by Pitt and Blanchett, "is the story of two people lost with respect to one another who come to the desert to find each other."

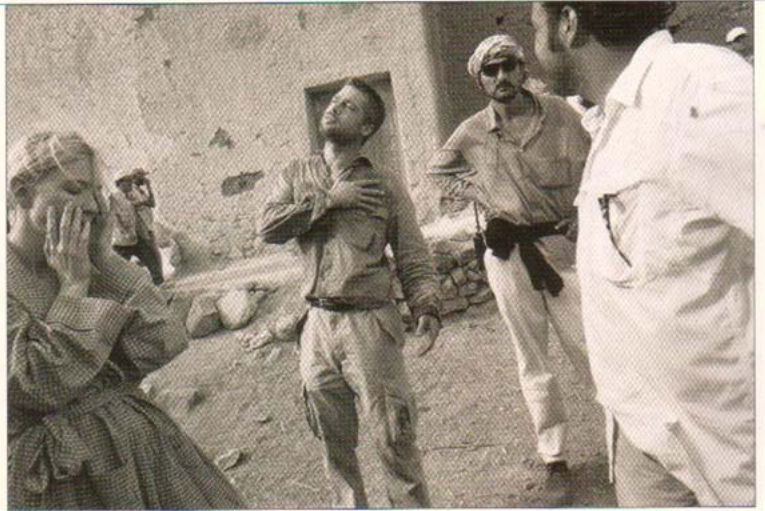


PHOTO BY MARY ELLEN MARK



A bloodstained Blanchett strikes a pensive pose on location in Morocco. Her character gets shot while riding on a bus with her husband, played by Brad Pitt.

PHOTO BY MARY ELLEN MARK

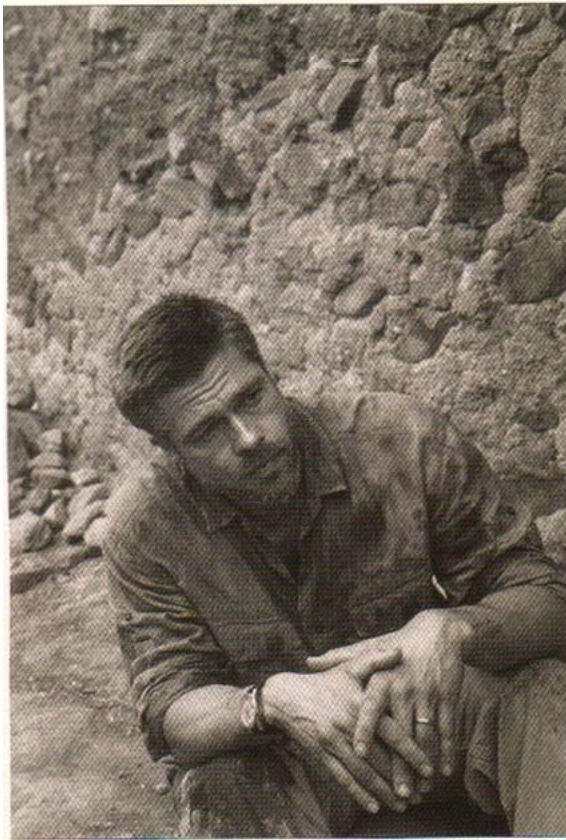
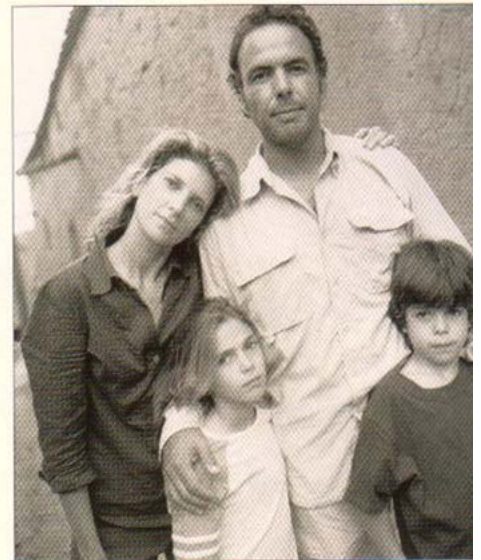


PHOTO BY MARY ELLEN MARK

Director Alejandro González Iñárritu with his wife (and the book's editor) Maria Eladia Hagerman and their two children, Maria Eladia and Eliseo. Iñárritu first traveled to Morocco when he was 18, an experience he describes as "enveloped in a cloud of existentialism and hashish."



"For me, the challenge was to get Brad Pitt, the celebrity, to disappear behind the character," says Iñárritu. This would give way not only to the actor but to the human being behind that image.