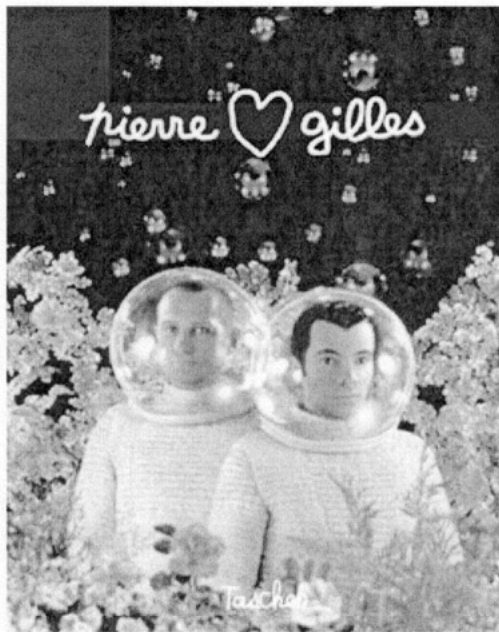


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"Pierre & Gilles: Double Je, 1976-2007" by Pierre et Gilles

by Jason Salzenstein
EDGE National Style & Travel Editor
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Whether or not you know the names **Pierre et Gilles**, you'll recognize their art immediately, for it has a style that's both truly unique and unusual enough to stand out among all other contemporary artists today. Having reached immense fame in the 30 years they've been together (professionally and personally), Pierre et Gilles have become highly sought after, working with some of the hottest celebrities and biggest brands for advertising campaigns, brand re-positioning, and simply out of vanity and desire.

Perhaps most impressive (and somewhat surprising) is the breadth and scope of their themes and subjects. Pierre et Gilles combine photography, graphic arts, painting, set design and just plain brilliance to create complex images of seemingly impossible depth that take viewers into a magical world. A place of fairies and fantasies, dreams and desires, their themes run the gamut from innocent to hardcore, mingling camp, pop, burlesque and eroticism seamlessly.

Their models are also just as diverse. Madonna, Catherine Deneuve, Marilyn Manson, Aiden Shaw (at "full mast"), Siouxsie Sioux, Naomi Campbell, Kylie Minogue... they've all posed for them, as well as hundreds of models and everyday people from around the world.

Exploring- indeed, exposing- there work perfectly, *Double Je* was released to coincide with a retrospective of their work that ran in Paris this summer for their 30th anniversary. This is hardly just an exhibition catalog however. Rather, it's an incredibly beautiful, lush exploration of both the works in the exhibition, as well as an additional 170 pieces focusing on the past ten years. Finally, a brilliantly tribute by the artist Jeff Koons explores the creative minds of Pierre et Gilles, their history together, the process of creation, and their take on art, advertising, and celebrity today.

As a coffee table book, **Double Je** sits at the top of the stack. As a retrospective of two fabulous artists, it's perfection.

Taschen, 460 pages, \$49.99

Jason Salzenstein is the National Style & Travel Editor for EDGE Publications. In addition to writing, he's a design consultant, professional shopper, and has contributed