

Do I Look Like A Slut?

New book lays bare Latina porn star Vanessa del Rio

by Igor Guinau

Self-proclaimed "Goddess of Lust" Vanessa del Rio, 55, became America's first Latina porn star when she was 22. Del Rio reportedly did it more for the sex than the money. (She was apparently paid a paltry \$150 for her appearance in 1974's 'China Doll,' her first movie.) Del Rio's ferocious on-screen sexuality made her a top box office draw during the heyday of the sexual revolution. She was well-known for her extremely large clitoris and was dubbed the "anal queen" for being the first adult star to regularly do the backdoor boogie.

Over the course of her career, del Rio has appeared in more than 200 porn films, including cult classics such as 'Babylon Pink' (1979), 'Dracula Exotica' (1981), and 'Maid in Manhattan' (1984). Shortly after completing her last movie 'Doctor Lust' (1987), she was arrested and convicted for drug possession and sentenced to jail. During her incarceration, she says she had time to "rethink" her life. Upon her release, del Rio quit the adult movie industry, partly for fear of AIDS.

Del Rio, however, remains active in the XXX industry through her website, where she sells her old merchandise and regularly hosts *Live 4U Cam Shows*. She also appeared in a couple of music videos, notably 'Get Money' by American hip hop group Junior M.A.F.I.A., which features Lil' "How Many Licks?" Kim. In 1996, she appeared on the police drama *NYPD Blue*, playing a retired porn actress being pursued by a dangerous stalker.

Del Rio, currently ranked #45 on the list of Hottest Female Porn Stars of All Time, is a sexual icon *pur sang*. Rapper Snoop Dogg, who directed



a couple of hardcore porn movies himself, once said that she was "a person I dreamed about having sex with. She should go in the Hall of Fame for best sex scenes in the '80s."

For the fans of this Hispanic porn star, German art book publisher TASCHEN will release a limited edition (1500 signed and numbered copies) tome this fall. It's titled 'Vanessa del Rio: 50 Years of Slightly Slutty Behavior.' The hardback book will celebrate a remarkably candid, confident and exuberantly sexual woman, presented through del Rio's own archive, and in her own words.

There will also be a special bonus for one lucky purchaser: one of the 1500 copies contains Golden Ticket, good for an all-expenses paid

evening with del Rio herself, an event that will be documented by a world famous photographer.

Vanessa del Rio—Collector's Edition
Dian Hanson
Hardcover + Box + DVD, 396 pages
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www.taschen.com
www.vanessadelrio.com
www.myspace.com/viva_vanessadelrio

Top

Babylon Pink, 1979, courtesy of Cecil Howard and Command Video, © 1981 CCC

Righthand page

With real-life lover George Payne in a late '70s loop for LBO Entertainment.