



## THE BIG PICTURE

Our salacious, celebrity-besotted age devours candid snaps of modern-day icons; we want to imagine our stars are perfect and then knock them down a peg or two. Alison Jackson's infamous 'spoof' images, collected in *Confidential* (Taschen, £24.99), play with this phenomenon: lookalikes act out imagined scenarios and are 'caught in the act' in Jackson's grainy, semi-obsured shots. The photos, such as the one of a Nicole Kidman lookalike flossing her teeth, left, can be shockingly graphic and often tremendously funny. But her clever reconstructions of the ubiquitous celebrity pap shot remind us how easily reality is manipulated and, as much as they mock these stars, ask us to examine our own unhealthy obsession with them.