

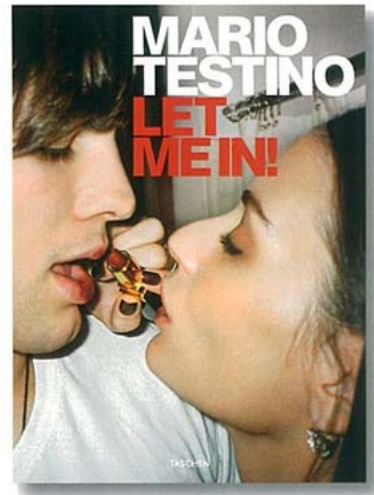
INSIDE THE_CIRCLE



BEHIND THE SCENES PHOTOS OF CELEBRITIES BY MARIO TESTINO <
WWW.TASCHEN.COM <

> BY JOHANNA ROSSI

There is no need to say that Mario Testino is one of fashion's most sought-after snappers. Born in 1954 in Lima, Peru, he came to London in 1976, where he took a flat in an abandoned hospital near Trafalgar Square and began selling portfolios to wannabe models. Today he is best known for his highly polished, exotically bright advertising campaigns and his exquisitely styled photographs of the couture scene all of which carry a deceptive air of nonchalance. Now at the top of his profession, Testino has shot Madonna for Versace as well as photographing the Princess of Wales for her famous *Vanity Fair* cover in 1997. Mario's popularity with designers and fashion editors stems from his professionalism and good nature and his unerring ability to take beautiful pictures which sell clothes. He is also credited with bringing to an end the reign of the übermodel: rather than pay the high fees demanded by Linda, Naomi etc... in the early 1990s, Testino championed a new breed of model, including Kate Moss, Stella Tennant and several other new Brit-pack beauties. As one of the 21st century's most travelled, acclaimed and influential fashion photographers, Mario Testino has unsurpassed access to the most magnetic stars of pop-culture. For many years he has been collecting a personal archive of off-screen poignant moments, often snatched spontaneously...



Mario Testino, Let Me In
Published by Taschen, Photos by Mario Testino
Hardcover, slipcase - 306 pages

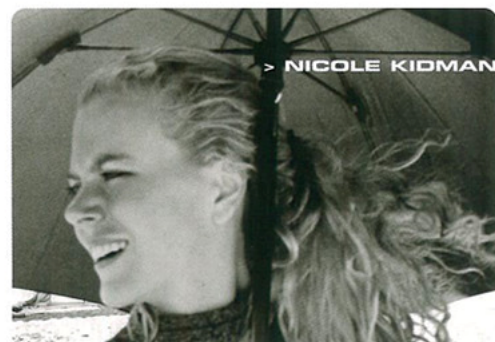


> JENNIFER LOPEZ



> ANJELICA HOUSTON MATT DILLON

The result is a portrait not just of a generation of the most wanted and talked-about celebrities, but an invitation to be part of the backstage parties and unstaged moments of Testino's professional and also private life. Sometimes offbeat, but always on the pulse, the publication *Let me in!*, with Testino's eye for a modern kind of elegance liberated from conventional polish, is a new chapter for the photographer. This magnificent collector's edition, published by Taschen, is limited to 1,000 copies each numbered and signed. It also has an introduction by Michael Roberts and foreword by Australian actress Nicole Kidman. The result is a magnificent and very intimate series of electrifying images from a coveted, secret, unaccessible, transgressive and closed world...



> NICOLE KIDMAN



> MR. VALENTINO CELEBRATES WITH HONOUR 45 YEARS IN THE FASHION ARENA
> WWW.VALENTINO.IT



MR. VALENTINO

...at the forefront of the made in italy wave that has elegantly swept the world

by Louisa Robertson
on the melody of "Grazie Roma" by Antonello Venditti

The 5th of September 2007 was a sad day for fashion... A common tear was shed by all the fashion savvy across the world, as the Valentino Fashion Group S.p.A confirmed Mr Valentino Garavanti's decision to step down in January 2008, after the two up coming shows of pret-a-porter in October and the haute couture collection in the new year. The undisputed *maestro* of Italian couture, a title he has held since the mid sixties, celebrated more than 45 years in fashion this past July with a three day star studded extravaganza in Rome. Valentino says of the event "...It would be impossible to equal the emotion and joy over the friendship and consideration that the world showed me on that occasion... As such, I have decided that this is the perfect moment to say *Addio* to the fashion world". Valentino first founded his fashion house in Rome nearly half a century ago and today Valentino is regarded as one of the most important and innovative designers in the world of fashion. To celebrate such a successful career and brand, Taschen have published a luxurious limited-edition book to render homage to this fashion genius through, as the publication states "a copious selection of images from his archives, including drawings, magazine shoots, advertisements, portraits of Valentino, and documentary photographs; presented chronologically the visual material is accompanied by a vast array of newspaper ad magazine articles about Valentino throughout the years". This exquisite and coffee table edition, titled *The glamorous life and work of Valentino Garavani*, is a collector's object of which only 2,000 copies were published and each with the signature of Valentino inside...! The book comes in a clamshell box finished in silk cloth, especially tinted in Valentino red. That signature red of the Valentino gowns have graced everybody from hollywood stars, royalty and international jet set all around the world will always be an homage to Valentino and his work... A work that will continue with the help of Alessandra Facchinetti, formerly at Gucci, who was named creative director of all womenswear collections, who is said to be able to interpret and continue the legacy of Valentino's core values. Facchinetti's first collection will be in March of next year. That said Valentino, the designer, will never be forgotten, his creative and entrepreneurial accomplishments encapsulate the very best that Italy has to offer... Imagination, elegance, modernity and beauty: *Thank you...!*