



**VALENTINO GARAVANI:
A GRAND ITALIAN EPIC**

armando chitolina, matt tyrnauer
(taschen)

Just like the house of Valentino, this book oozes luxury and glamour, but you don't have to know anything about fashion in order to be able to enjoy this coffee table tomb about the grand designer's life and career. You will drool over the photos documenting the style of every decade from the 60s to the 2000s, shot by photographers like Helmut Newton that capture the feel and general essence of the parties and craziness that surround those living the 'good life.' There is also a section of the book devoted to pages of his illustrations complete with notes and swatches that are a great look into the creative process that went into his designs. And, if you can manage to actually pick the book up and fling it onto your lap, you'll be able to read all about his small town beginnings and his path to becoming one of the world's greatest names in design. —*jennifer macleod*



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