



ELLEN VON UNWERTH's femme fatales are the subject of a limited edition art book.

Ellen Von Unwerth has shot some of the most beautiful and seductive women on the planet. Whether a model provocatively sucking her finger, or a knicker clad beauty crawling along the floor on all fours, whoever Ellen points her camera at transforms into a red hot minx. "I love to shoot people with personality," says Ellen, who captures her subjects at their most intimate but also at their most playful. "People who can act and let loose in front of the camera and people I can have fun with." Her work is now the subject of the stunning tome, *Fräulein*. Translating as 'Little Woman', *Fräulein* features Ellen's favourite leading ladies from the last 15 years and some never been seen before exclusives. It comes complete with accompanying text by Ingrid Sischy, the former Editor-in-Chief of *Interview* magazine. Subjects include Kylie Minogue, Claudia Schiffer, Penelope Cruz, Kate Moss, Vanessa Paradis, Britney Spears and Eva Green. "I love woman with guts," says Ellen. "There are so many

women that are my favourites, from Sophia Loren to Beth Ditto." A former model herself, Ellen knows a thing or two about what makes a good photograph and insists, "sexuality is everywhere, especially in a good pair of high heels." Born in Germany in 1954, Ellen moved to Paris when she was 20 and worked as a model for 10 years. It wasn't long however before - she realised she wanted to be on the other side of the camera and began a career in photography. Her big break came photographing Claudia Schiffer for Guess Jeans and winning first prize at the International Festival of Fashion Photography in 1991. "Being a model myself certainly taught me what I don't like in pictures: to pose and be serious," she says. "That's why I ask my models to live in front of the camera and be silly." She continues, "I'm proud that I can make a living out of my passion. And when young people tell me that I inspired their lives and art." Although her photographs frequently

include such sexually charged objects as crumpled white bed sheets, razor sharp heels, leopard print, lingerie and rumpled hair, Ellen insists it is purely the women who create each image's electric charge. "Style is something you either have or you don't have," she confirms. "It is about the way you talk, the way you walk and the way you dress. A girl in Jamaica can be much more stylish than a millionaire in Paris."

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