

## Inez and Vinoodh Won't Shoot Models Under 18 Because They Think It's 'Unethical'



Kate Moss by Inez & Vinoodh for V, 1999

Inez van Lamsweerde & Vinoodh Matadin have quietly put together a coffee table book of unforgettable photographs spanning the couple's 26-year career and romantic relationship. *Pretty Much Everything* (Taschen) will pretty much cost you an arm and a leg with a price tag of \$700 for the 342-page limited edition tome, which includes contributions by Olivier Zahm, Penny Martin, Michael Bracewell and Bruce Sterling.

If that seems worth it, [Amazon](#) appears to have two copies available to get in time for Christmas. If not, [Style.com](#) has a slideshow of 15 of their most memorable photographs, with insightful commentary from Inez and Vinoodh about their shoots and subjects like Kate Moss (the above photo is their favorite they've taken of her).

Meenal Mistry also did an in-depth interview with the couple for [Style.com's](#) "Image Makers" series. Click through for the most interesting tidbits about them, putting flowers in Bill Murray's hair, their favorite models, their stance on under-18 models and making Lady Gaga cry.

### Karl Lagerfeld suggested they do the book:

Vinoodh Matadin: This actually started nine years ago when Inez was pregnant. Karl Lagerfeld said, "Oh, you're pregnant. You should do a book."

Inez van Lamsweerde: He said, "Oh, you have to have a project while you're pregnant." Which is very cute.

### On deciding not to shoot models under the age of 18:

IVL: They start at 14 and everyone says to them, "Wow, you're incredible. You're so skinny. You look like a boy." And once that girl is 18 and her body is finished growing, all of a sudden it was like, "Oh, she's fat." The poor girl. She's just growing. We felt it was unethical to support that. You get judged anyway and it's not easy. You have to really know who you are first. And at such a tender age—between 14 and 18—you're figuring out who you are.

### There's going to be a Daria Werbowy-focused issue of French Vogue:

IVL: I could shoot [Christy Turlington] every day of my life. The same goes for Daria. We're shooting a whole issue on her for French Vogue for February.

### Bill Murray is hilarious:

VM: Also we like to show a different side of a celebrity. Most of the people are thankful. They say, "Oh my God, I never saw myself like this." Bill Murray was funny because when Inez put the flowers in his beard he said, "Do people ever ask why?" him, "No." He said, "OK." And that was that. No discussion.

### On what it's like working with Lady Gaga and making her see her self as beautiful for the first time:

IVL: It's interesting because she has literally 400 ideas a minute. And they're all great. We're very similar in our inspiration and she reminds me a lot of when we were young and starting out in the types of things that she's fascinated by, and having so many ideas and wanting to put them all in one thing. We have learned in the last 25 years not to do that.

VM: When we took her picture for the first time, she said, "This is the first time I see myself as the pure me."

IVL: The V cover (left). She cried when she saw it. She never really considered herself a beauty. And we think she's incredibly beautiful and I think that was a big thing for her to sort of accept that she is really beautiful. That purity in her is what is exciting. She's an incredible human being and she knows exactly why she's here. It's an amazing exchange.