

Models of Influence: 50 Women Who Reset the Course of Fashion

By Nigel Barker

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***New York Times* Bestseller**

Nigel Barker—fashion authority, photographer, and host of Oxygen's *The Face*—presents 50 of the most influential models from the 1940s to today through a wealth of full-color photographs from the world's most renowned fashion photographers and an anecdotal text that reveals each woman's indelible place in the pantheons of fashion and popular culture.


Interweaving 200 gorgeous photographs and informative and entertaining anecdotes, *Models of Influence* profiles 50 women who have made an unforgettable impression on fashion, the modeling industry, and our notions of beauty. Eight chronological chapters, each of which spotlight an era, feature the stories and images of women who made their mark.

These include Lisa Fonssagrives-Penn, Dovima, and Dorian Leigh, who reigned during modeling's golden age in the 1950s; Twiggy, Veruschka, and Jean Shrimpton, who embodied the free spirit of the 1960s; and Lauren Hutton, Iman, and Janice Dickinson, models who revolutionized the notion of beauty in the 1970s. Barker profiles those who've become the million-dollar faces of their time, such as Christie Brinkley and Elle Macpherson; revisits the age of the supermodel, when Christy Turlington, Linda Evangelista, and Naomi Campbell rose to global stardom; and spotlights eternal chameleons Kate Moss, Stella Tennant, and Amber Valletta, among others. Also included are models who brought us into the twenty-first century, and those who are leading the way into the future, from Gisele Bündchen, Daria Werbowy, Liya Kebede, and Coco Rocha to Cara Delevingne, Karlie Kloss, Lara Stone, Joan Smalls, and Kate Upton.

Nigel Barker showcases each model's incandescent style—that special something that sets her apart, whether it's her unique physicality, a daring approach to image-making, or a particular energy that reflects the zeitgeist. Here, too, are models who broke the mold in their respective eras and turned the standard notion of beauty on its head.

Stunning in its breadth and beauty, comprising some of the finest fashion images over the last 70 years, *Models of Influence* is a celebration of fashion and a group of unforgettable women who have helped shape and change modern culture.

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Editorial Review

Review

“Nigel Barker’s experience as a photographer, documentary filmmaker, and presence on America’s Next Top Model and The Face, with Naomi Campbell, allows him an exceptional historical view of the cultural impact of the world’s most legendary models. This elegant book is a must-read and must-have.” (Andre Leon Talley, contributing editor, Vogue)

“In citing and celebrating these bewitchingly photogenic women, we discover how our perception of beauty, our definition of femininity, and our objects of desire have changed over the last half century. Beauty is not eternal after all, and that’s what makes its allure—and this book—so endlessly fascinating.” (Hal Rubenstein, editor, author, and designer)

“The new beauty bible!” (Cynthia Rowley, designer)

“Nigel Barker has brought research, knowledge, and, above all, sensitivity, to *Models of Influence*. He gives the beauties of each era their rightful due and at the same time allows you to see the individual women who helped shape fashion history.” (Cathy Horyn, journalist and former New York Times fashion critic)

From the Back Cover

A Collectible Anthology of the 50 Most Influential Models in Fashion History

In *Models of Influence*, photographer, television host, and fashion authority Nigel Barker profiles fifty of the most noteworthy models from the 1940s to the present, revealing how their look or way of modeling not only made an indelible stamp on the industry but also influenced fashion design, the popular way of dress, and notions of female beauty worldwide.

Each of the book's eight chapters focuses on a distinct period, from the postwar modeling boom, which ushered in an era of models who communicated a return to glamour, to the present day, with the emergence of media-savvy models who understand the power of branding themselves to the world at large. Each entry highlights the model's background and career, exploring her unique qualities and the secret to her staying power, whether it's her physical characteristics, daring approach to image making, transformative abilities, or a particular energy that captured or even redefined the zeitgeist of fashion and culture of the time.

To complement the text, Barker has personally selected more than one hundred full-color and black-and-white photographs from the archives of the world's top fashion photographers—Richard Avedon, Irving Penn, David Bailey, Francesco Scavullo, Herb Ritts, and Mario Testino among them—to assemble a collectible anthology of many of the finest fashion images from the last seventy years.

With an engaging, informative text and a vivid collection of seminal photographs, *Models of Influence* is the definitive word on the subject.

With 110 full-color and black-and-white photographs

About the Author

Nigel Barker is a fashion photographer whose images have been printed in many major magazines. The host of Oxygen's *The Face*, Nigel was also a judge on *America's Next Top Model* for nine years. He directs and produces films and documentaries, many of which are devoted to his humanitarian work for organizations such as the Humane Society of the United States, the Make-A-Wish Foundation, and the Elizabeth Glaser Pediatric AIDS Foundation. He lives in New York City with his wife, Cristen, and their two children, Jack and Jasmine.

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George Marsh:

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Michael Proctor:

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