## Photographer Michel Haddi launches 'Milano Centrale: Backstage the Italian Collections'



I may not be truly gifted from behind the camera lens, but I have had the opportunity to work with some very talented photographers. One such man is <u>Michel Haddi</u>, he's spent the better part of the past two decades behind the viewfinder taking stunning images of some pretty darn impressive (read: incredibly famous) people. Think Clint Eastwood, Nicholas Cage, Johnny Depp, Heath Ledger, Angelina Jolie, Jennifer Lopez and Cameron Diaz.

I worked with Michel Haddi early this year on a shoot with male supermodel (and judge of Britain & Ireland's Next Top Model) Tyson Beckford for SPASHION magazine. It was a joy working with Haddi; he's so enthusiastic, so full of life. And he just loves taking pictures — there's absolutely no denying the passion rumbling beneath when you see this photographer in action. So much so that, even as Tyson Beckford was leaving the studio, Haddi was still happily clicking away.

Michel asked me if I would edit the copy for his latest bookazine called *Milano Centrale Backstage the Italian Collections* and of course I jumped at the chance to work with him again.

Vanity Fair Italia asked Haddi to shoot backstage for the Milan shows and this book is the culmination of those seasons and collections working with the Italian magazine. Dressed in a Yves Saint Laurent suit and armed with only three small instamatic cameras ("so no one took me seriously. It was exactly the effect I wanted," Haddi says), Haddi went backstage to shoot the goings-on of shows such as Prada, Giorgio Armani, Versace and Alberta Ferretti. The

results were mesmerising, avant garde images that manage to capture the chaos and magic that happens behind the scenes at a fashion show.

It's a beautiful book with big names like Kanye West, Amber Rose, Rachel Bilson and Dean and Dan Caten from DSquared2. Of course backstage wouldn't be complete without models and Haddi's *Milano Centrale* pages are filled with the beautiful forms of models such as Constance Jablonski, Lindsay Wixson (on the cover above), Hanne Gaby Odiele, Nimue Smit, Karlie Kloss, Natasha Poly and Alice Dellal.

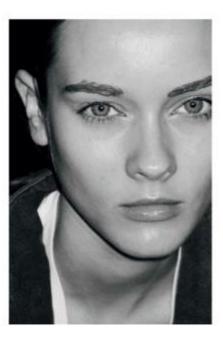
Here are a few pages from the book to feast your eyes on...











*Milano Centrale Backstage the Italian Collections* by Michel Haddi is available worldwide from selected retailers now.