

HAUTE COUTURE



THE POLAROIDS OF CATHLEEN NAUNDORF



« La fille en plâtre VIII »
Dior - HC summer 2007
Les ateliers du style, Paris

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Featuring striking couture images of renowned fashion photographer Cathleen Naundorf's work with Polaroid photography, Haute Couture represents a collection of six years of work with some of the world's most celebrated fashion designers. Gorgeous images of exquisite haute couture pieces by Chanel, Dior, Gaultier, Lacroix, Elie Saab, Philip Treacy, and Valentino, are captured with a large-format camera and collected in this book. Her distinctive technique, inspired by her mentor Horst P. Horst, which marries instant film's characteristic colors and plays with shadow and light, yields stunning, otherworldly images. The impressive work of this artist, a harmonious blend of fashion, art, and photography, is an attestation to her reputation as a rising force in the worlds of fashion and art.



« Secret times (Grand palais I) »
Chanel – HC summer 2010 – n°48 & 49
Grand Palais, Paris

Selected works by Cathleen Naundorf will be on display at the
Fahey/Klein Gallery in Los Angeles, from
September 4th to October 11th, 2014.

A reception in the presence of the artist will be held on
September 11th, 2014.

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« My little darling »
Dior – HC winter 2006 – n°30
Plaza Athénée Hotel, Paris



BIOGRAPHY

Cathleen Naundorf was born in Weissenfels an der Saale, Germany, and studied painting and photography in the 1980s.

In the 1990s, she was commissioned by several publishing houses to travel to destinations such as Mongolia, Siberia, the Gobi Desert and the upper reaches of the Amazon in Brazil to create photo reports of indigenous people.

It was around this time she met Horst P. Horst, one of the top fashion photographers of the twentieth century, who soon became Naundorf's mentor.

After moving to France, she began photographing backstage at the Paris fashion shows for Condé Nast in 1997.

From 2005 to 2011, Cathleen Naundorf worked on her haute-couture series called "Un rêve de mode", featuring creations by six couture houses: Chanel, Dior, Gaultier, Lacroix, Elie Saab, and Valentino. This collection of work was published in "Haute Couture: The Polaroids of Cathleen Naundorf", Prestel Editions, 2012.

Her unique style has garnered her the privilege of being able to personally choose gowns from the archives of the couturiers for her elaborate, almost cinematic photo shoots. Naundorf's production process not only includes the choice of models, location, and hair and make-up specialists, but each detail is discussed with the designers, and is coupled with intensive research, which she develops in delightful hand-produced storyboards, which include: archive photos of the couturiers, texts she or others have written, and sketches for the planned photos.

Since 2011, Cathleen Naundorf has been working privately with Valentino Garavani on several projects, including "An Italian Story", and on the photo-documentation of Mr. Garavani's collaboration with the New York City Ballet.

Her work has been published recently in magazines such as Harper's Bazaar and Condé Nast publications including Vogue Italia.

Cathleen Naundorf uses a large-format camera (Deardorff or Plaubel), and Polaroid film in 4 x 5 and 8 x 10 formats.

The artist's work is represented by internationally renowned galleries. She currently lives in Paris.



« La parisienne III »
Dior – HC winter 2009 – n°10
The artist's studio, rue Manin, Paris