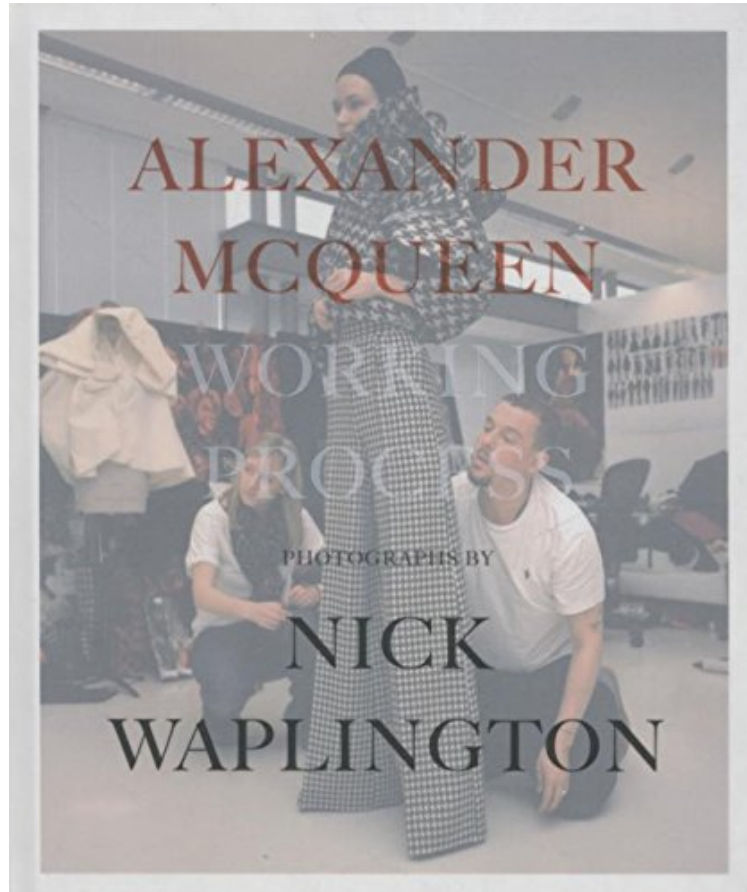


(Library ebook) Alexander McQueen: Working Process: Photographs by Nick Waplington

Alexander McQueen: Working Process: Photographs by Nick Waplington

Susannah Frankel

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Susannah Frankel : Alexander McQueen: Working Process: Photographs by Nick Waplington before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Alexander McQueen: Working Process: Photographs by Nick Waplington:

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In 2008 Alexander McQueen commissioned photographer Nick Waplington to document the creation of his Fall 2009 collection--all the way from inception to runway showing. Unfortunately, it was to be the last Fall/Winter collection that McQueen would stage before his untimely death. This show, which he titled *The Horn of Plenty*, found McQueen revisiting his 15-year archive of work and recycling it into a new collection. In effect, it was his personal survey of his work to date. The set was composed of broken mirrors and a giant trash heap made up of all the sets from his previous shows; critics have commented that this reflected McQueen's feelings towards the fashion system and how it pressures designers to be creative geniuses while relegating each collection to the garbage bin of history as soon as its sold. Waplington was given unprecedented access to McQueen and his staff, which included the current Creative Director of the brand, Sarah Burton. Every step of the creative process is documented in fascinating detail and readers receive a rare insight into the inner workings of McQueen's creative process. Most notably, McQueen himself placed the books layout, picture by picture, on storyboards. The book was ready for publication when McQueen died, then was put on hold--until now. This substantial overview, with more than 120 photographs, is published just as McQueen edited it, commemorating the most personal of his collections. It includes an essay by Susannah Frankel, Fashion Editor at *Grazia* (U.K.).

Lee Alexander McQueen (1969-2010), CBE, was one of the most important fashion designers of the last two decades. He was the recipient of four British Designer of the Year awards, as well as the CFDA's International Designer of the Year award, 2003. In 2011, following his death, the Costume Institute in New York organized an enormously successful retrospective of his work at the Metropolitan Museum of Art. Artist and photographer Nick Waplington (born 1970) has published several monographs including *Living Room* and *The Wedding (Aperture)*, *Safety in Numbers* (Booth Clibborn) and *Truth of Consequence* (Phaidon). He lives in London and New York.

Nearly four years after the sudden death of Alexander McQueen rocked the fashion world, the new book *Alexander McQueen: Working Process* documents the designer's fall-winter 2009 collection, which McQueen intended as a culmination of 15 years of his work to that point. The images show the designer in moments of joy, grief and strife. They present a haunting portrait of a designer at work. (Malina Joseph Gilchrist *T: The New York Times Style Magazine*, Arena) The resulting book, dubbed *Alexander McQueen: Working Process*, provides an intimate look at McQueen, his team (including Sarah Burton), and his methods -its pages depicting everything from moments of pain and anxiety to bursts of joy and laughter. " This project offers unprecedented insight into the mind of a notoriously private and at times willfully impenetrable man", writes journalist Susannah Fenkel, who worked closely with the designer, in the tome's introduction. (Katharine K. Zarrella *Style.com*) Waplington and Frankel were invited by McQueen to document the making of his fall 2009 ready-to-wear collection, called *The Horn of Plenty*, from start to finish. They did so, and the designer edited the resulting pictures. Then he died, and the project was put on hold. Now it's being published, and it shows everything from sketches and mood boards to meetings with editors such as Anna Wintour and Camilla Nickerson to the models with their giant, clownlike lips backstage at the presentation itself. (Lorna Koski *WWD*)

Seeing Ms. Williams made me think of Alexander McQueen. Not any specific collection, but perhaps the one he called *The Horn of Plenty!* is close to what I had in mind. As it happens, the making of this collection, from fall 2009, is the subject of Nick Waplington's splendid book of photos, with a forward by the journalist Susannah Frankel. Basically, Mr. McQueen was deconstructing the notion of consumption consumer products to cultural icons, like Audrey Hepburn and the women who posed for Irving Penn. All was trash, in his view, a point he imparted with plastic-sheeted hair and piles of junk on the runway. Of course, the clothes were exquisite. But his intent, as he told Ms. Frankel, was to produce discomfort. [...] By the way, the Waplington book is the best fashion book that I've seen so far this season. It's better than most documentaries at showing you the working process of a designer. (Cathy Horyn *The New York Times*)

When Alexander McQueen commissioned Nick Waplington to document the making of his fall 2009 collection, the photographer had no idea he would be capturing McQueen's final body of work. Titled *The Horn of Plenty*, the show was a history of the designer's career to date, as he revisited his fifteen years of provocative, groundbreaking clothes and recycled ideas in a new collection. In *Essence*, it was his swan song. Waplington's photos of McQueen and his staff, including current creative director Sarah Burton, are interspersed with images of landscapes -the waste grounds near McQueen's hometown, and landfills in the Negev desert in Israel - which make for additional commentary on the recycling theme of the collection. Because McQueen himself, and a tribute to the many important and lasting relationships he had with all those who worked alongside him. (Ally Betker *Vogue Daily*)