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**Sante D'Orazio
Polaroids**

With an essay
by Glenn O'Brien
136 pages, 105 color panels
German /English/French
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January 23, 2016
60th birthday
Sante D'Orazio

*You don't get
good photos simply by
giving instructions,
you have to
let them develop.*
Sante D'Orazio

PRESS RELEASE

Stars from the worlds of fashion and show business stripped for him:

Sante D'Orazio – Polaroids

The master of seduction displays his erotic celebrity icons

Italian-American star fashion photographer Sante D'Orazio (born in Brooklyn, New York, in 1956) is regarded as one of *the* people who created the iconic images of the 1990s super models. It is not only the seductive beauties and cool stars undressing for his camera who are world famous, D'Orazio himself became a fashion photography icon who, with his lifestyle and way of working, embodied an entire era.

For the new Schirmer/Mosel book *Polaroids*, Sante D'Orazio dug deep in his photographic treasure chest and approved an exquisite selection of 105 Polaroid images, taken essentially as “preliminary studies” for the actual commissioned photos that appeared in such glossy magazines as *Vogue*, *Esquire* and *Vanity Fair*. D'Orazio, it seems, always managed to go that little bit further than others in the profession, and was privy to intimate moments in the lives of his sitters. A Who's Who of super models, actors, and show business stars is showcased here in unusually revealing poses (including Kate Moss, Cindy Crawford, Angelina Jolie, Cameron Diaz, Michelle Pfeiffer, and Carla Bruni, to name just a few) – incredibly beautiful, yet in casual, intimate settings.

Sante D'Orazio portrays the beauties, female and male alike, in a sexy, wanton manner. The erotic tension in front of and behind the camera is as natural as the models' nudity in the pictures. Every page of the new Schirmer/Mosel book *Polaroids* is an illustration of how good nude photography is more than just naked skin: D'Orazio celebrates the intuitive sex appeal of the women (and that of the men) by establishing a three-way relationship between beauty, glamour, and eroticism. The “making of” photos in *Polaroids* reveal the playful yet highly focused approach D'Orazio adopts with the models when creating his photographic themes.

Compared with his previous books of photographs, *Polaroids* is a consciously reduced, almost poetic publication – the visual quintessence of the decades of experience he gained in show business and the world of models; today, his large-format prints command high prices at auction. D'Orazio was the photographic chronicler of an era that no longer exists in this form today. As such, his Polaroid snaps are all the more significant: By virtue of the way they were produced technically they may be one-offs, but they are more, or, to quote Glenn O'Brien, “remarkable, unique side products of captured magical moments, which often outshine the actual (final) product.”

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