

02/2018

Karl Lagerfeld

Cassina as seen by Karl

Main description

In 2013 the distinguished Italian furniture manufacturing company Cassina invited Karl Lagerfeld to choose his favorite pieces of furniture for an unusual photographic mise-en-scène: “I had never ‘worked’ on a project like this before. To visually reinterpret examples of perfect design is completely new for me, and therefore stimulating, exciting even.”

Before Lagerfeld’s lens, iconic chairs, tables and chaise longues by Modernist legends such as Le Corbusier, Rietveld and Perriand condense to their absolute, abstract essence. In his inimitably sleek and sophisticated photographs, Lagerfeld reveals the form in Formalism. Here furniture is seen in an atypical, decontextualized mode of presentation, detached from its usual environment, isolated and dramatically lit like a sculpture. The result is a tenderly chosen compendium of twenty-one images that respects the artistic intentions of the designers while simultaneously creating a new aesthetic.

Printed on Somerset Book Paper. 21 high-glossy photographs tipped-in by hand.

Biography

Karl Lagerfeld, fashion designer, publisher and book dealer, began working as a photographer in 1987. Lagerfeld has since received the Lucky Strike Design Award from the Raymond Loewy Foundation, the cultural prize from the German Photographic Society and the ICP Trustees Award from the International Center of Photography. Steidl has published most of Lagerfeld’s books, including *A Portrait of Dorian Gray* (2004), *Room Service* (2006), *The Beauty of Violence* (2010), *The Little Black Jacket* (2012) and *Villa Noailles, Hyères–Été 1995* (2015).

Bibliography

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English

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21 photographs

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