

APPAREL AND ACCESSORIES

Versace's new book speaks to Donatella Versace's forward-looking contributions

October 25, 2016



Versace by Donatella Versace, published by Rizzoli

By STAFF REPORTS

Italian fashion house Versace is telling its recent history through visual storytelling in a soon-to-be published tome.

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Written by Donatella Versace, Maria Luisa Frisa and Stefano Tonchi, the retrospective hardcover illustrates the Versace brand under the creative direction of Ms. Versace. In 1997, after the murder of her brother, Gianni Versace, the founding designer of the house, Ms. Versace took over the creative reigns to ensure the preservation of Mr. Versace's legacy.

Donatella's story

Ms. Versace's long-awaited memoir chronicles her interpretation of the brand, bringing it into the 21st century.

Published by Rizzoli, the tome includes exclusive contemporary and archival imagery of the Versace runway and behind-the-scenes at its atelier in Milan. Textual contributions include original essays penned by friends of the brand as well as photography by Richard Avedon, Irving Penn and Steven Meisel, among others.

The book also includes images of Versace collections modeled by the "original supers," such as Christy Turlington-Burns, Naomi Campbell and Linda Evangelista. Additional images reflect Versace's red carpet dressing of Hollywood's A-list celebrities.



Donatella Versace

"For me fashion cannot just be confined to one enclosed space," Ms. Versace is quoted saying in the book. "Fashion is part of pop culture, speaks the language of rock and is closely related to art and technology.

"It is thanks to clothing that contemporary icons create their unforgettable images," she said.

Rizzoli has released the \$95 book for European consumers. The title will launch in the United States Nov. 1.

The publishing of Ms. Versace's book comes at a time when her brother's death has been headline news as Hollywood seeks to tell a dramatized retelling of his life.

Announced last week, the murder Mr. Versace will be serialized in an upcoming television drama. The television retelling of Mr. Versace's untimely death will be part of Ryan Murphy's "American Crime Story" series, which debuted with the murder trial of O.J. Simpson.

Tentatively titled "Versace/Cunanan: American Crime Story," the FX network show will concentrate on Mr. Versace's murder, as well as the four other victims of Mr. Cunanan over the course of three months.

Ms. Versace and her family have not authorized the project, or any other ([see story](#)).

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