

MEDIA/PUBLISHING

Vogue, fashion community remembers Franca Sozzani

December 22, 2016



Vogue Italia's Franca Sozzani, 1950-2016

By STAFF REPORTS

Vogue Italia's editor in chief Franca Sozzani has passed away at the age of 66 after a year-long illness.

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Ms. Sozzani started her career in magazine publishing at Vogue Bambini as an assistant, and by 1980 she was the editor of Lei, a title targeting young women and Per Lui, its male version by 1982. At the start and throughout her career, Ms. Sozzani championed emerging creative talent, booking names now known the world over, including Mario Testino, Peter Lindbergh, Bruce Weber and Steven Meisel, as they got their start.

Remembering Franca

Ms. Sozzani passed away Dec. 22 in Milan after battling an undisclosed illness for a year. Born in Mantua in 1950, the fashion personality leaves behind a son, Francesco Carrozzini, who recently directed a film based on his mother's life.

After her stints at Lei and Per Lui, Ms. Sozzani was appointed editor in chief of Italian Vogue in 1988.



Franca Sozzani, 1950-2016

That same month, Anna Wintour was made editor in chief of American Vogue. The two have been dear friends for 30 years, a relationship that Ms. Wintour said in a blog post published to [Vogue.com](#), she is "happy and honored to say sustained itself" for three decades.

In 1994, Ms. Sozzani was appointed editor in chief of Italian Cond Nast. In addition, Ms. Sozzani was the acting director of Vogue Italy since 2006, and was the editor in chief of L'Uomo Vogue.

Under her direction, Vogue Italia launched its Web site. The February 2010 launch was the first time a fashion magazine created an online portal.

Last year, Ms. Sozzani was appointed director of all Italian language periodicals published under the Vogue banner.

Across social media, Ms. Sozzani's peers and fans have expressed sadness over her passing.

The New York Times' Vanessa Friedman tweeted:

Farewell to Franca Sozzani, a woman who believed fashion could be more. "We can't always be writing about flowers," she said.

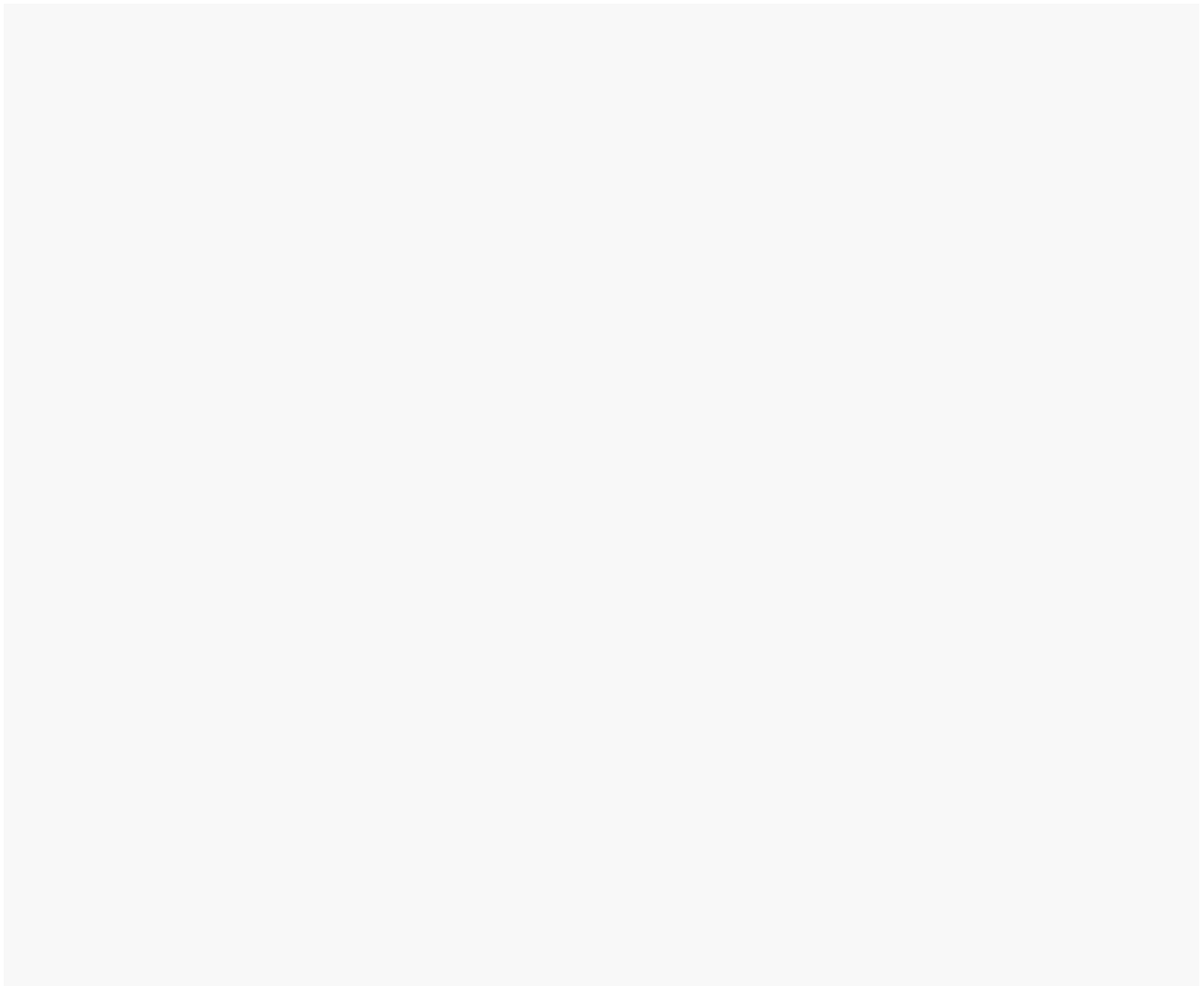
Vanessa Friedman (@VVFriedman) [December 22, 2016](#)

U.S. fashion designer Marc Jacobs wrote:

RIP [#FrancaSozzani](#) ? Her incredible contribution to fashion will be missed.
[pic.twitter.com/MnvA2jRb3c](#)

Marc Jacobs (@marcjacobs) [December 22, 2016](#)

Donatella Versace posted to her personal Instagram account to remember her friend.



Ciao Franca, my dearest friend. You will be in my heart forever.

A photo posted by Donatella Versace (@donatella_versace) on Dec 22, 2016 at 8:29am PST

Vogue titles across the world have also shared memories and thoughts of Ms. Sozzani in reaction to her death.

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