

MEDIA/PUBLISHING

Meghan, Duchess of Sussex turns magazine editor for British Vogue

July 29, 2019



British Vogue's September 2019 cover. Image credit: British Vogue

By STAFF REPORTS

Cond Nast-owned *British Vogue* is giving its September issue the royal treatment through a collaboration with HRH The Duchess of Sussex.

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The duchess worked with editor in chief Edward Enninful to showcase 15 "Forces for Change," focusing on women who are paving the way forward. Since her engagement and marriage to Prince Harry, Meghan, Duchess of Sussex has been a force of change herself, making the high-profile royal a fitting choice for the issue's guest editor.

Royal editor

For the issue, which is on newsstands Aug. 2, the duchess chose 15 women who inspire her.

Among the featured are models and actors who use their platform to campaign for causes, such as model and mental health advocate Adwoa Aboah and actor and LGBTQIA+ supporter Laverne Cox. Actors Jane Fonda, Salma Hayek Pinault, Jameela Jamil, Yara Shahidi and Gemma Chan are also featured, as is model-activist Christy Turlington Burns.

Adut Akech and Ramla Ali are both former refugees who have respectively become a model and a boxer.

The duchess was also inspired by New Zealand Prime Minister Jacinda Ardern, diversity advocate Sinad Burke, Royal Ballet principal dancer Francesca Hayward, author Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie and climate change activist Greta Thunberg.

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What changes do you want to see in the world? That's the question HRH The Duchess of Sussex @SussexRoyal and #BritishVogue posed to 15 women with 15 unique causes in the September 2019 #ForcesForChange issue. Meet the September issue cover stars as they discuss who and what is inspiring change today. Watch the full film from 4pm today via the link in bio and on Vogue.co.uk/video. Directed and edited by @Kloss_Films. Starring: @AdwoaAboah @AdutAkech @SomaliBoxer @JacindaArdem @TheSineadBurke @Gemma_Chan @LaverneCox @JaneFonda @SalmaHayek @FrankieGoesToHayward @JameelaJamilOfficial @Chimamanda_Adichie @YaraShahidi @GretaThunberg @CTurlington

A post shared by British Vogue (@britishvogue) on Jul 29, 2019 at 12:27am PDT

Instagram post from British Vogue

Each of the women was photographed by Peter Lindbergh. Rather than appearing on the cover herself, the duchess instead chose to fill the cover with the faces of these women she admires.

"As you will see from [the duchess'] selections throughout this magazine, she is willing to wade into more complex and nuanced areas, whether they concern female empowerment, mental health, race or privilege," Mr. Enniful told *British Vogue*. "From the very beginning, we talked about the cover whether she would be on it or not.

"In the end, she felt that it would be in some ways a boastful thing to do for this particular project," he said. "She wanted, instead, to focus on the women she admires."

The issue also aims to inspire *British Vogue's* audience to get involved. A mirror within the magazine turns the reader into the 16th Force for Change.

"More than anything, this issue is about the power of the collective," the duchess wrote in her editor's letter. "In identifying our personal strengths, it is anchored in the knowledge that we are even stronger together."

Along with Forces for Change, the issue includes an interview that the duchess conducted with former First Lady Michelle Obama.

British Vogue has previously delved into the leaders of change. For instance, the title introduced readers to the

Suffragettes of today in its February 2018 issue.

The women featured in *British Vogue's* "Women of Influence" editorial spread are continuing the fight for equality, a century after the original Suffragettes movement marched for gender equality. From advertising campaigns to #MeToo and red-carpet dressing, female empowerment has been on the minds of influencers and consumers alike as gender-related societal issues come to the front ([see story](#)).

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