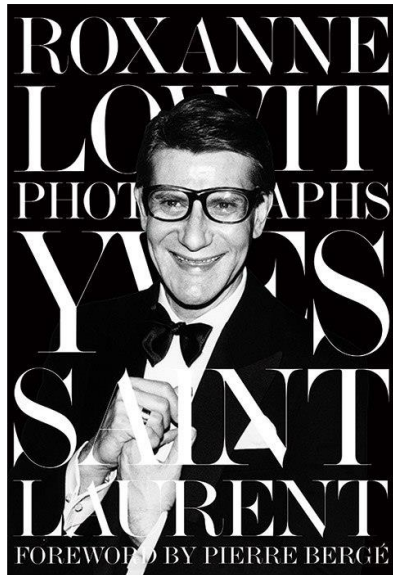


PHOTOGRAPHER ROXANNE LOWIT CAPTURES THE WORLD OF YVES SAINT LAURENT

Text by Elizabeth Stamp Photography © Roxanne Lowit. Courtesy of Roxanne Lowit
December 18, 2014



Photographer Roxanne Lowit's new book, *Yves Saint Laurent*. Photo courtesy of Thames & Hudson

While these days it may seem as if there are as many photographers as models backstage at a fashion show, this wasn't always the case. Years ago, when the focus was on the runway itself, photographer Roxanne Lowit headed into undocumented territory to capture preshow prep. Her partnership with designer Yves Saint Laurent began in 1978 and continued through the end of his career, yielding stunning photographs of his couture creations worn by the top models of the day. Nearly 150 of these are now collected in the new book *Yves Saint Laurent* (Thames & Hudson, \$50), accompanied by an foreword by the designer's partner, Pierre Bergé, and remembrances by friends, models, and clients, including Catherine Deneuve, Jerry Hall, Grace Jones, and Paloma Picasso.

Lowit also served as Saint Laurent's official photographer when he came to New York for the Metropolitan Museum of Art's exhibition "Yves Saint Laurent, 25 Years of Design," the first show done at the institution for a living designer. Bergé recalls that trip in his introduction: "Just as he was about to board the Concorde to return to Paris, Roxanne Lowit appeared out of nowhere, placed a big cardboard model of the Empire State Building into his arms, and took the picture that would become so well known." For Bergé, that moment seems to sum up the beauty of her work. "Roxanne is always there, even when she is not expected."