

# Guardian Live: Guy Bourdin – the most influential fashion photographer of all time

In the final weeks of the Somerset House exhibition *Guy Bourdin: Image Maker*, the Guardian's fashion editor, Jess Cartner-Morley, is hosting a conversation with the exhibition's creator, Alistair O'Neill, about the photographer's extraordinary legacy



Charles Jourdan, autumn 1979 Photograph: © The Guy Bourdin Estate/Courtesy A+C

## Guardian fashion

Thursday 26 February 2015 21.30 AEDT

French photographer Guy Bourdin's fashion photography was one of the genre's most pioneering. From his 1950s heyday at Paris Vogue in the 1950s through to the 1980s, he was arguably responsible for much of what contemporary fashion produces now, inspiring everyone from Tim Walker to Nick Knight. With a focus on the concept that the product is secondary to the image, he was able to turn the ordinary and functional into the extraordinary.

Much of his work is currently in a giant exhibition at Somerset House featuring 200 works, from black and white shots to Polaroid test shots, contact sheets and transparencies and previously unseen material from his estate. As the exhibition draws to an end, the Guardian's fashion editor, Jess Cartner-Morley, will be in conversation with Alistair O'Neill,

curator of the exhibition, next week at Somerset House.

*The event is taking place at Somerset House on Wednesday 4 March 2015 at 7pm. Book tickets here*

### **Since you're here ...**

... we've got a small favour to ask. More people are reading the Guardian than ever, but far fewer are paying for it. Advertising revenues across the media are falling fast. And unlike some other news organisations, we haven't put up a paywall - we want to keep our journalism open to all. So you can see why we need to ask for your help. The Guardian's independent, investigative journalism takes a lot of time, money and hard work to produce. But we do it because we believe our perspective matters - because it might well be your perspective, too.

If everyone who reads our reporting, who likes it, helps to support it, our future would be much more secure.

**Become a supporter** →

**Make a contribution** →

Topics

**Fashion photography**

**Photography features**