

Wednesday, July 6, 2016

## What you might have missed

**What you might have missed.** A little more than a week ago, there was a book signing party for Michael Gross and his new book "FOCUS; The Secret, Sexy, Sometimes Sordid World of Fashion" at The Schumacher, Penthouse A on 36 Bleecker Street. Michael, who has unmasked or deconstructed the Modeling industry as well as 740 Park Avenue and the life of Ralph Lauren, not to mention only some of his nitty-gritty city oeuvres, has turned his eagle eye on the the flip side of the Modeling industry, namely the photographers.

This is a most interesting subject long neglected by the purveyors of city folk life. After all, it all began with the camera. Back in the 1960s when Advertising was the hot industry for college grads to migrate toward (rather than Wall Street today), the men (and occasionally women) behind the camera were a society unto themselves. They dominated their world. Glamorous, celebrated, raking in the dough, the photographer class had it all at their feet.

Wine, women and song. Boys too, if required. Not to mention drugs. Cool dudes, flashy cars, psycho-temper, and sex everywhere to choose from. Work junkets all over the world and surrounded by beautiful people looking up at them rather than vice versa, The photographers were the real story.



Michael Gross

None of this was lost on Michael of course, and now it will not be lost on you. **Peter Rogers**, who was one of the movers and shakers as well as creative guru in that industry, read the book and said he couldn't-put-it-down. He thought he knew *everything* about all the people he worked with and knew. Michael Gross educated him. Wow, was the word.

So, the booksigning on a perfect June night drew a big crowd of friends and followers including **Debbie Bancroft, Nicole Miller, Frederique Van der Wal, Barry Kieselstein-Cord** and *Bravo TV's Fredrik Eklund, Antony Haden-Guest, Christopher Mason, Sara Vass and Richard Mauro, Felicia Taylor, Leslie Stevens, Roy Kean.*



Patrick McDonald, Lauren Ezersky, and Barry Kieselstein-Cord

Karen Mansour



Kristina Tsirekidze, Michael Gross, Coco Mitchell, and Tony Spinelli



Fredrik Eklund and John Gomes

Barbara and Roger de Cabrol



Dan Strone, Tiffany Dubin, Bill Stadiem, and Carol Strone



Pauline Steenkamer, Beatrix Ost, and Frederique van der Wal



Susan Blond and Joshua Plant



Barbara Camp, Christopher Mason, and Mariana Verkerk



Julie Dannenberg and Michael Gross



Anthony Haden Guest, Leslie Monsky, and Mel Parker



Susan Blond, Nicole Miller, and Debbie Bancroft



Patty Owen and Dustin Pittman



John Gomes

Photographs by Rob Rich (Play for Pink); Liam McMullan/PMC & snowflakenyc (Focus); Andrew Werner (Pratt)

<http://bit.ly/29hPOMm>