Bailey at Bonhams O5 February 2010 | Classic Driver



It was a clever idea by Bonhams - asking David Bailey to put together an exhibition that sums up a decade of glamour and hedonism. The result is a fascinating slice of photographic social history, evoking the melting pot of talent - drawn from the worlds of music, fashion, literature and cinema - that gave birth to the edgy excitement of the 1960s.

'It was a time of change and spontaneity,' says**Bonhams**, 'brilliantly captured by **Bailey** in the photographs he took.'

The world-famous photographer started work at **Vogue** in July 1960 and was quoted as saying, "When **Vogue** offered to pay me to photograph beautiful women all day I thought I was on a dreamboat." The beautiful women included **Jean Shrimpton**, **Penelope Tree**, **Catherine Deneuve**, **Brigitte Bardot**, **Raquel Welch**... too many to list.





But it wasn't just women whose faces he captured. From**The Rolling Stones** to **Andy Warhol**, Michael Caine to **The Krays**, his photographs depicted the headline-makers of their day, often in very direct, closely cropped portraits. "My selection for the exhibition is based on 60s icons… you know, all the usual suspects," says **Bailey**, now aged 72 but working as hard as ever.

The 'Pure Sixties. Pure Bailey' exhibition will be on view atBonhams, 101 New Bond Street, from 7 March - 7 April, 2010.

Forfurther information, visit **www.bonhams.com**.

Text: Charis Whitcombe

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