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Review of Fashion's Front Line: Fashion Show Photography from the Runway to Backstage

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[Fashion's front line : fashion show photography from the runway to backstage](#)



[McInerney, Niall.](#) photographs by Niall McInerney; written by Nilgin Yusuf
Bloomsbury, 2016

196p index, 9781472596598 \$40.00, 9781472596611

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This volume collects the life's work of fashion photographer Niall McInerney, including rare images previously only glimpsed by fashion insiders. Among these images are iconic moments on the runway as well as off-runway; McInerney captured famous faces in the front row at shows and scenes backstage documenting the frenzy of work that goes into these events. Besides the high-quality images, the work contains commentary from McInerney and interviews with top international fashion insiders. Both commentary and interviews demonstrate the variety of perspectives on the fashion world and document the state of constant change characterizing the industry. Twelve chapters organize the narrative and accompanying photos spanning three decades and shows in London, Paris, Milan, and New York. The focus is on the "runway as a culture and construct," not so much about changing hemlines, proportions, and fashion trends. Essays touch on the effects that digital technology and culture's changing ideas about beauty ideals have wrought upon fashion and photography, and the extent to which they have altered the concept of runway shows from the staid walk of one model coming down the catwalk to today's high-concept shows more aligned with art installation or performance. Images included are part of Bloomsbury's Fashion Photography Archive, launching in 2016.

Summing Up: Recommended. General readers, two-year technical program students, and professionals/practitioners.

Reviewer: [R. Tolley-Stokes](#), East Tennessee State University

Recommendation: Recommended

Readership Level: General Readers, Lower-division Undergraduates, Two-Year Technical Program Students, Professionals/Practitioners

Interdisciplinary Subjects:

Subject: [Humanities - Art & Architecture - Photography](#)

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