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**Schiaparelli and Prada: Impossible Conversations**

Written by Andrew Bolton and Harold Koda; \$29.70; Amazon.com

This elegant volume, published by the Metropolitan Museum of Art to accompany its exhibition by the same name running through August 19th, explores the "conceptual similarities" of Elsa Schiaparelli and Miuccia Prada, the two greatest female Italian fashion designers. From the 1920s through the '50s, Schiaparelli defined the avant-garde of women's fashion, just as Prada has done since the 1980s. Through more than 200 illustrations and a series of illuminating essays, *Impossible Conversations* considers the ingenuity, inventiveness, and playfulness of these remarkable designers, while celebrating their legacy of courageous creativity.

**Tomboy Style: Beyond the Boundaries of Fashion**

Written by Lizzie Garrett Mettler; \$20.56; Amazon.com

In Lizzie Garrett Mettler's debut book, she documents 80 years of tomboys, those stylish women who've dared to defy established ideas of femininity. By creating seven categories—the Rebel, the Sophisticate, the Jock, the Prep, the Adventuress, the Girl Next Door, and the Naturalist—Mettler analyzes the tomboy's aesthetics and impact, while deeply considering the contributions of such women as Marlene Dietrich, Katharine Hepburn, and Diane Keaton to American culture. Based on Mettler's award-winning blog by the same name, *Tomboy Style* includes more than 100 color and black-and-white photographs.

**Sand Sea Sky: The Beaches of Sagaponack**

Written by Tria Giovan; \$30.40; Amazon.com

Author and photographer Tria Giovan, a longtime resident of Sag Harbor, New York, spent ten years taking pictures of the three-mile strip of private and protected beach outside her hometown. The result, compiled in the newly published *Sand Sea Sky: The Beaches of Sagaponack*, is a moving natural history of one of America's most beautiful and ecologically precarious locales, a place to gaze at, cherish, and protect. As she writes in her accompanying text, "these photographs of this vulnerable landscape invite a thoughtful concern about the environmental preservation of special places that engage our capacity for wonder." Giovan's work has appeared in such publications as *ELLE*, *Vogue*, and *Travel + Leisure* and is included in the permanent collection at the Museum of Modern Art.

**Claude and François-Xavier Lalanne: Art. Work. Life.**

Edited by Paul Kasmin; \$37.42; Amazon.com

The esteemed husband-and-wife creative team Claude and François-Xavier Lalanne, famous for their works of large-scale metal sculpture and their objects combining sculptural elements with fine home furnishings, are the subject of a new "visual biography" of their life and work. Edited by Paul Kasmin, this book offers intimate glimpses of their home and studio, alongside images of their finished works. Though the pair's creations have been praised by such design luminaries as Yves Saint Laurent, Jacques Grange, and Peter Marino, the Lalannes' private life is touchingly old-fashioned, tucked away in an ancient French village. With almost 250 pages of full-color photographs, this volume is a moving tribute to a long marriage and to the creative life.

**American Grown: The Story of the White House Kitchen Garden and Gardens Across America**

Written by Michelle Obama; \$18; Amazon.com

In the spring of 2009, First Lady Michelle Obama broke ground on an edible garden at the White House. Since then, thanks to the help of 23 Washington, DC, elementary school students, her garden has produced fruits and vegetables that have been served at State Dinners and White House lunches as well as fed the homeless at a local food kitchen. In *American Grown*, Obama's first book, she chronicles the progress of that garden, while also including helpful gardening tips, healthy recipes, and stories from community gardens across the country. All author proceeds go to the National Park Foundation.

**The Beverly Hills Hotel and Bungalows: The First 100 Years**

Written by Robert S. Anderson; \$100; The Beverly Hills Collection

As author Robert S. Anderson relates in this glowing tribute to Hollywood's most historic bastion of luxury and glamour, the Beverly Hills Hotel and Bungalows is more than a stylish retreat; it's the reason for Beverly Hills' very existence. In 1911, a group of investors hoping to lure the rich to the neighborhood enlisted the assistance of Margaret Anderson, a well-known local hotelier, to create a refuge so irresistible that the smart set couldn't stay away. As we all now know, the scheme worked beyond their wildest expectations. Written by Margaret Anderson's great-grandson, this loving history of the hotel is stocked with more than 500 photographs and illustrations, as well as unforgettable star-studded anecdotes.