

DIGITAL WORKFLOW Pt. IV

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MIKE MALONEY'S WORLD:

Grace Kelly: The Princess & the Photographer

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IF PERFECTION HAD A NAME IT WOULD BE 'GRACE KELLY'

GRACE KELLY by Mike Maloney O.B.E.

Throughout my privileged career over the last four decades, I have been fortunate to have met and photographed many of the most beautiful women in the world, from Elizabeth Taylor, Bridget Bardot, Sophia Loren and Ava Gardner to modern day beauties such as Princess Diana, Cheryl Cole, the model Dodo and hundreds of others over the years.

But the first prize has to go to Grace Kelly.

I pinch myself when I remember the wonderful times in her company. Grace was in my opinion the only woman who didn't have a bad photographic side. She was literally completely photogenic. Many photographers said that about Princess Diana but I have deleted many images that

didn't do her justice – she could be caught at a very unflattering angle. Not so with Grace.

The first time I met Grace Kelly was in 1974 when I was working for the *London Evening News*. Grace and Rainier were presenting awards at the annual London Evening News Film Awards. I found her to be one of the most glamorous and charismatic women I have ever had the good fortune to meet. She also had a glint in her eye which seemed to indicate that she could be a lot of fun.

In 1975 I was invited by the Monte Carlo Tourism Board to cover Prince Rainier's favourite subject – circus clowns. The Monaco Circus Festival was definitely the highlight of the prince's year.

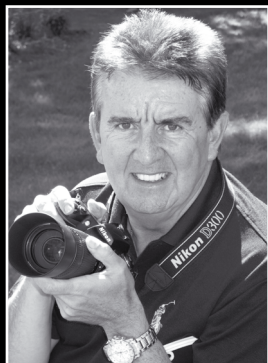
It was during this festival that I had the pleasure of again being introduced to Grace; I felt after the meeting that I had known her for years. There was definitely a rapport between us that you don't experience very often. And to confirm, hopefully, that mutual feeling, it was Grace who gave me a world-exclusive for my newspaper the *Daily Mirror*.

"Princess Caroline will be dressed as a clown tonight at the after-show party at JIMMYZ Night Club," she told me. "You are the only person outside of the family to know." What an exclusive!



Grace Kelly

**Mike Maloney
O.B.E.**



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The next time I 'bumped' into Grace was two months, (and a million-to-one chance) later, in North Africa.

It was 1976 and I was covering (on assignment) the Franco Zeffirelli film: *Jesus of Nazareth* starring Robert Powell and filmed all over Northern Africa.

I was only supposed to be 'on set' for 4 days to shoot the crucifixion scene, but the

EXCLUSIVE**Princess Caroline dresses as Clown**

weather was so good (Franco wanted dull weather for the finale), I ended up spending ten days there.

Every morning after breakfast Franco would check the light and decide to film another scene from the Bible until the dull weather came in. After one particular hot and dusty day shooting in the desert, I made my way back to my hotel in Monastir (Hotel Sidi Mansour) for a well-deserved cold drink at the 'Casablanca style' bar.

It took me fifteen minutes to persuade Franco Zeffirelli that Grace Kelly was indeed in the bar downstairs.

I had only been standing at the bar for a couple of minutes when a voice from behind me said: "Hello Michael, what are you doing here?" It was Grace Kelly seated with Prince Rainier at a small table in the bar.

"What are you doing here, your Royal Highness?" I asked, realising that she had asked the question first, as I pulled-up a chair and joined the royal couple, going completely against royal protocol.

After telling me that she and Prince Rainier were attending a conference in Monastir, and I explained why I was in Africa, Grace said, "Oh! I would so love to visit the set of the film. Do you think you could arrange it for me?"

COULD I ARRANGE IT FOR HER? You bet I could!

"Leave it to me, Your Highness," was my parting statement as I hurried out of the bar towards Franco's top floor suite.

It took me fifteen minutes to persuade Franco Zeffirelli that Grace Kelly was indeed in the bar downstairs.



Princess Caroline at JIMMYZ by Mike Maloney



GRACE KELLY VISITS ZEFFIRELLI'S "JESUS OF NAZARETH"



Above: Grace Kelly talking to Robert Powell on the set of "Jesus of Nazareth" by Mike Maloney

Below: Grace Kelly with Franco Zeffirelli



Putting his hand onto my forehead Franco said: *"Too much desert sun, I think, Mika (a pet name Franco Zeffirelli had for me). 'But I will play along with your game'."*

The look on Franco's face was priceless as I walked with him into the bar.

Grace Kelly attended the set the next morning.

Twenty-four hours later Grace was leaving North Africa and heading home to Monaco, and her parting words to me were: *"Next time you are in Monaco, Michael, give me a call at the Palace."* You don't get many invitations such as that in life!

I wasn't going to miss an opportunity like that and it could have been years before I

Grace Kelly to marry Prince of Monaco



In the Seventies my Nikon Fs were big and bulky and there was no way I could have smuggled even one of them inside, although I am sure that Grace would not have minded.

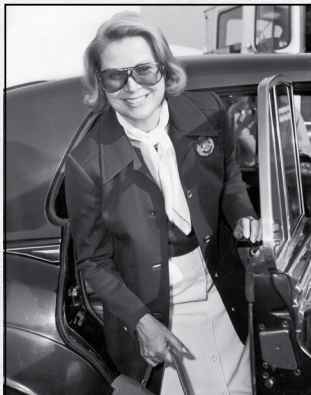
was given another assignment in the Principality therefore I planned a couple of days' break in Monte Carlo, checking beforehand with the Palace that Grace would be around.

Sadly, I was informed that I would not be allowed to take any photographs inside the palace.

In the Seventies my Nikon Fs were big and bulky and there was no way I could have smuggled even one of them inside, although I am sure that Grace would not have minded. I would have loved to have had a photograph of myself with the Hollywood Princess.

I will always remember the scent of the Monaco flora and fauna. Aloes, palms, tamarisks, mimosas and carobs in the Palace Gardens as Princess Grace walked me through the beautifully landscaped areas. She suddenly stopped at an area of gorgeous roses and plucked a few petals before handing them to me. "Eat some of these," she said. "Very good for the digestion!"

I must say that they tasted surprisingly good, as I



GRACE KELLY VISITS ZEFFIRELLI'S "JESUS OF NAZARETH"



finished the third one. But the highlights of the unforgettable afternoon stroll were the stories from her days in Hollywood. And what stories!

Grace had only a relatively short film career, making just eleven films. Her big successes were: *High Noon*, *Mogambo* with Clark Gable, *Dial M for Murder*, *Rear Window*, *To Catch a Thief* and

have liked her because he was famous for chewing a garlic clove before a love scene, if he didn't like his leading lady!

Her favourite story about Mr. Hitchcock happened in 1954 while filming *To Catch a Thief* with Cary Grant. August 13th was the director's birthday. Every year it was expected of the cast and crew to produce champagne and a

"Clark Gable's breath smelled of fish", she said, after her first kissing scene with legendary actor.

High Society. It was Alfred Hitchcock, the famous director, however, who made her into a major star. She was the perfect Hitchcock heroine, the embodiment of what he later called 'sexual elegance'.

I also found out that he was madly in love with Grace. I casually tried to find out more details but she would not elaborate any further.

"Clark Gable's breath smelled of fish", she said, after her first kissing scene with the legendary actor.

I told her that he must

giant cake for Mr. Hitchcock who in return would feign surprise. Mr. Hitchcock's secretary was a very well-spoken English lady who invited everyone into a small side room. *"Will you all step this way and have a piece of Mr. Hitchcakes c**k?"* Grace told me that she had never laughed so much in her life.

The rest of the afternoon seemed to disappear in a haze of stories and laughter. I returned to England the next day, a very happy person and still pinching myself! ■

Editor's note: When the 'crucifixion' picture appeared in the *Daily Mirror* (across two pages in the centre of the paper) Mike received telegrams from The Pope and Grace Kelly, requesting copies of the photograph.

Grace Patricia Kelly (12th November 1929 – 14th September 1982) was a beautiful Oscar-winning actress, fashion icon, and the Princess of Monaco.

Grace Kelly was born in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania to John and Margaret Kelly. John B. Kelly was a wealthy contractor. At a young age, Grace decided she wanted to become an actress, and studied acting (primarily theatre) at New York City's American Academy of Dramatic Art and worked as a stage actress and model before moving to

Hollywood. When in New York, Grace promoted Old Gold cigarettes and appeared on the covers of magazines such as *Cosmopolitan* and *Redbook*.

Grace debuted in the film *14 Hours*, in a minor supporting role, but then starred in *High Noon*, in which she played a "mousey" Quaker bride. She then appeared in *Mogambo*, which won her an Oscar nomination and a Golden Globe for Best Supporting Actress. Her work in *High Noon* and a screen test for the film *Taxi* piqued the interest of director Alfred Hitchcock,

who, with the aid of Edith Head, pruned Grace into his ideal of the elegant, beautiful blonde. She gave Hitchcock wonderful performances in *Dial M for Murder*, *Rear Window*, and *To Catch a Thief*. Grace went against Hitchcock's glamorous vision of her for the film *The Country Girl*, which won her the Golden Globe and the Oscar for Best Actress in a Leading Role in 1954. The success of the song "True Love" from the movie *High Society* earned Grace a gold record. In 1956, she was voted the Golden Globe's World Film Favourite Actor, Female.

Later that year, she married Prince Rainier Grimaldi III of Monaco to become Her Serene Highness Princess Grace of Monaco. As a princess, she gave up her successful acting career. She had three children: Princess Caroline, Prince Albert, and Princess Stéphanie. Grace died on 14th September 1982 after her car went off a road in the cliffs of Monaco.

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