

Denise Maxwell

Red on Black

Denise Maxwell is an established full-time photographer of 11 years, who set up a photography business following a job loss at the time of the austerity cuts a decade ago. Covering a range of genres including sports, fashion, branding, documentary and press, to name but a few, she decided to expand the editorial side of her work with the series 'Red on Black'.

'Red on Black' is an exploration of red on dark skinned Black models in an editorial style. Maxwell chose to collaborate with dark skinned Black models to challenge a still widely held set of European beauty ideals. Through the application of minimal make-up and the simple styling of the model, she intends to defy current beauty standards. The colour red symbolically represents the anger which the world felt during all the human rights demonstrations in 2020. In addition to engaging with the topics of anger and beauty, 'Red on Black' also explored the creation of fashion editorials on a small budget, which rolled into this body of work.

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