



Critical Acclaim For 'Girl Model'

By David Redmon and A. Sabin

"Documentarians David Redmon and Ashley Sabin have pieced together an eye-opening account of a form of human trafficking . . . [that] gets under the skin-deep promises of glamour and wealth that lure a seemingly endless stream of very young hopefuls."

—**Sheri Linden, *The Los Angeles Times***

"Dipping into a very specific corner of the modeling industry — the search for fresh Russian faces to feed the seemingly insatiable Japanese appetite for prepubescent-looking clotheshorses — [this] film presents an international transaction sustained by the twin forces of illusion and delusion."

—**Jeannette Catsoulis, *The New York Times***

"*Girl Model* presents an emotionally charged look at the realities of life as a young model, and the hardships that put girls to work at such a young age . . . [and] leads you to consider the issues."

—**Jennifer Merin, *About.com Documentaries***

"An alarming documentary about the trafficking of Russian child models to the Japanese fashion market . . . when a postscript tells us what Nadya will do next, we're filled with dread."

—**Ella Taylor, *NPR***

"Far more interesting than the breathless documentaries that usually accompany Fashion Week, this eye-opening expose may actually change the way you watch the coverage. . . There are no supermodels or Cinderellas in this sadly compelling story, just predators and the impoverished dreamers who want to trust them. Don't expect to look at a catwalk in quite the same fashion again."

—**Elizabeth Weitzman, *New York Daily News***

"Anxious parents looking to dissuade their daughters from pursuing a career as the next Kate Moss might find *Girl Model* a useful tool. David Redmon and Ashley Sabin's engrossing documentary provides access to a pitiless niche of the fashion industry, but it's arguably more fascinating in its depiction of the recruiters than their discoveries."

—**David Rooney, *The Hollywood Reporter***

"POV's vivid report on the profiteering in young girls from Siberia seduced by promises of a career in modeling."

—**Dorothy Rabinowitz, *The Wall Street Journal***

"The general perception of international modeling is women embodying beauty and glamour, but there is an ugly side to the business that most people never see. Underage girls - not women, girls, often from poor families, exploited by false promises and unfair treatment [as seen in] the POV documentary, *Girl Model*."

—**Anne-Marie Green, *CBS News "Up to the Minute"***

"This film, **Girl Model**, is extremely important [. . .] Nadya's story unfortunately is not all that uncommon. A lot of people who aren't familiar with this industry, they don't get it. It's so hard to see

past the glossy veneer. But when you see this unvarnished account it really is very compelling [. . .]
What you see in this film, **Girl Model**, is that what goes in modeling can sometimes border on human
trafficking.”

—**Sara Ziff, founder, Model Alliance, as interviewed on CBS News “Up to the Minute”**

“[A] journey marked by deceit and exploitation.”

—**Virginia Prescott, host “Word of Mouth,” New Hampshire Public Radio**

“Anyone who still doesn’t see modeling as a treacherous business that breeds dangerous neuroses in
its practitioners will come around fast if they watch this ‘POV’ documentary That supermodel
dream bears a steep price tag.”

—**David Hinckley , New York Daily News**

“This [. . .] film ought to be shown in school assemblies, or wherever impressionable pre-teens gather to
discuss their dreams of media stardom. An unadorned examination of the lower reaches of the global
modelling industry.”

—**Andrew Pulver, The Guardian**

“A powerful documentary *Girl Model* is essential viewing for adolescent girls who flip through
fashion magazines or obsess over *Top Model* without thinking about why.”

—**Ty Burr, The Boston Globe**

“Their story tells itself: Redmon and Sabin simply turn their camera on the girls, allowing their loneliness
and youth to speak for themselves.”

—**Amy Biancolli, San Francisco Chronicle**

“This courageous documentary chronicles the trafficking of young Siberian girls to Tokyo’s youth-
obsessed photo studios, where tears are wiped away in favor of blush. . . . Make time during Fashion
Week for this one.”

—**Joshua Rothkopf, Time Out New York**

“*Girl Model* is a horror film about the worship and eventual mutilation of innocence. They only had to
turn on the camera.”

—**Tanya Gold, The Guardian**

“A brilliant exposé of a dangerous business. The particularly startling aspect of this sharp non-fiction
exposé . . . is the eerie, visceral horror the haunts every scene. *Girl Model* portrays a business defined by
inherent corruptionThe conclusion implies that the commodification of the female body is a disease
with no obvious cure.”

—**Eric Kohn, indieWIRE**

“Eye-opening for any older girl curious about the potential pitfalls of modeling, this is a frank depiction
of a frightening industry.”

—**Sandie Angulo Chen, Common Sense Media**

“As seen in David Redmon and Ashley Sabin's somber, sometimes poetic, Fred Wiseman-like
documentary, the international model trade ranks just above human trafficking in legitimacy.”

—**Peter Keough, Boston Phoenix**

“We’re well aware of the unglamorous and unethical aspects of the modeling industry, but never before have we seen such an intimate portrait of the young models’ loneliness, frustration, and isolation.”

—**New York Magazine**

“Ashley is among the more interesting characters to emerge in recent documentary cinema . . . *Girl Model* should be [Redmon and Sabin’s] most widely seen [film] yet. In fact, it deserves to be shown to teenagers, not necessarily as a warning, but at least as an eye-opener: This is how it works, kids. And it ain’t pretty.”

—**Christopher Schobert, indieWIRE “The Playlist”**

“*Girl Model* proves unsettling in any but the usual ways . . . The radiant sadness of its two subjects—one a soulfully impassive stripling, one a symmetrical husk—forms the center of *Girl Model*, and that is enough.”

—**Michelle Orange, *The Village Voice***

“*Girl Model* is a movie that completely sneaks up on you. It builds slowly, like the room is getting colder and colder—this is you, being drawn into the subzero, subhuman world of the movie . . . *Girl Model* makes the situation as big and global as it is. In pulling the curtain back only slightly, the directors dare you to try forgetting what you've seen.”

—**Jen Graves, *The Stranger***

“Images we in the west see every day persuade us of the impossibly glamorous world of international modelling. . . . This film provides the bleak counterpoint.”

—**Caroline Frost, *The Huffington Post UK***

“It's hardly news that young women are exploited in the meat market of modeling. But *Girl Model* explores that on a deeper psycho-emotional level . . . It does provoke many questions that need to be answered.”

—**Jenn Brown, *Slackerwood blog, The Austin Film Society***

“*Girl Model* documents the modeling business at its disquieting entry level . . . [and] shows that even though some models make big bucks, the global economy remains the same as it ever was: those with nothing are seduced by the prospect of *something*, such that they hesitate to complain, lest they end up with *less* than nothing.”

—**Noel Murray, *The AV Club***

“This quietly effective lo-fi doc explores the trafficking of Russian teens to the Japanese modelling meat market . . . the real core is an intriguing character study. The filmmakers stay back, observing, for a restrained, intimate and poignant result.”

—**Johnathan Crocker, *Total Film***