



CLOCKWISE FROM BELOW

Coco growing up in Canada; at a few of the 42 runway shows she did this season; Coco aged 14 visiting the Masai Mara tribe in Kenya; backstage at the autumn/winter 2008 Missoni show in Milan

Blue wet-look coat, Martin Grant, €2,735, to order, at Harvey Nichols.



scoring a double date with the Jolie-Pitts. "The most challenging thing is to not let this industry shake you," Rocha explains. "It's hard to stay grounded. You want to go home and have your friends still like you. If you can pass that test, you're doing okay."

In an industry where a Coke Zero and a cigarette is considered a two-course meal, and models sometimes waft across runways looking hungry and haunted, Rocha has also struggled with the pressure to be thin. Recently, she remarked, "People would say to me, 'We don't want you to be anorexic. We just want you to look it.'"

"What's difficult for most girls is that you're forced to grow up way too fast," says Rocha. "People expect you to act 25, to be on time and to be professional. But you've just been plucked from high school at an age when you're insecure about who you are and insecure about your body."

Any insecurity Rocha may have felt is certainly not evident in her photographs. In a recent *Vogue* spread, a celebration of the Costume Institute's *Superheroes: Fashion and Fantasy* exhibition at the Met, Rocha posed as a multitude of designers' visions of superheroes: Catwoman, Batman, the Silver Surfer and supervillainess, Poison Ivy. The role of heroine suits Rocha: She remains spirited and likeable – and that passes for a superpower in this size-0 glamocracy. ■

