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*“Life is just one grand sweet song,
so start the music.”*

RONALD REAGAN

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The Christian Dior swimming pool shimmers at the D Maris Bay resort in Türkiye.

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*Elizabeth Hurley wears a shirt by The Frankie Shop; necklace by Vanessa Baroni
Photography by Gilles Bensimon
Styling by Otter Jezamin Hatchett
Hair by Jon Chapman
Makeup by Mary Greenwell
Produced by Rachael Evans for RE.Pro Agency*

PHOTO LEFT COURTESY OF D MARIS BAY

SKECHERS STREET™



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west coast director LARRY STEVENS

cover stylist KARIN AGSTAM

digital director CHRIS WILSON

senior contributing editor KEITH GORDON

senior editor BRANDON FRIEDERICH

entertainment adviser NICK CANNON

For sales and licensing inquiries, please email: ADSALES@MAXIM.COM, LICENSING@MAXIM.COM

MAXIM INC.
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NEW YORK
121 WEST 36TH STREET #327
NEW YORK, NY 10018

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VILLA DOROTHY
21, AVENUE DE L'HERMITAGE
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SUPERLATIVE SUPERBIKE

*The 2025
Ducati Panigale V4
is the ultimate race-bred
motorcycle for the road*

Text by BRANDON FRIEDERICH

The previous-gen Ducati Panigale V4 already verged on perfection. Its 1,103-cc “Desmosedici” V4 engine—so named for the desmodromic valve-timing system first implemented by Ducati in the 1950s to achieve more uniform power delivery—was developed from a prototypical race-only MotoGP powerplant. At the hands of rider Álvaro Bautista, the Panigale V4 has won the past two titles in the Superbike World Championship, the pinnacle competition series for production street bikes. It’s the two-wheeled equivalent of a Ferrari SF90 Stradale—a thoroughly race-bred machine that will test your ability at a track and then carry you home on public roads. In late July, Ducati announced the new seventh-generation Panigale V4. And the early consensus is that, even with a seemingly immaculate pedigree, the superbike has somehow gotten even better.

“Ducati’s mission is to enrich people’s lives through technologically sophisticated motorcycles characterized by sensual beauty,” declared Ducati CEO Claudio Domenicali when presenting the bike during the Ducati World Première. “The new Panigale V4 continues a history of successes and unforgettable models, which represents the maximum expression of our values of style, sophistication and performance.”

This is the first Ducati in 30 years to employ a double-sided swingarm, which is arguably the most substantial change when compared to the preceding Panigale V4’s single-sided swingarm. There was something undeniably cool about seeing the rear wheel almost float in the space beneath the tail when viewing the old model on its throttle side, but as the RideApart site points out, MotoGP bikes employ double-sided swingarms in pursuit of ultimate performance because, among other reasons, they’re lighter. Indeed, this new Ducati Hollow Symmetrical Swingarm, connected to MotoGP-derived suspension linkages, helps shed 8.4 pounds off the rear. Thanks to the weight loss and a 37-percent decrease in lateral stiffness, the new swingarm should improve traction when exiting corners and increase feel during acceleration.

While the swingarm’s performance benefits may be obvious, many are contending that aesthetic value has suffered. Perhaps Ducati anticipated this gripe, as press materials cite the Ducati 916—widely praised for being one of the most beautiful motorcycles ever—as having inspired the new Panigale V4’s design. The similarities can best be seen in profile, where the balanced horizontal line, created by raising the Panigale V4’s front and lowering its rear, becomes most apparent. The rear-view mirror supports were mounted inside the fairing to fur-

ther accentuate this line, while the rear LED unit’s “double C” shape and narrow tank are two more elements evocative of the 916.

The powertrain has also been improved—the base Panigale V4’s standard alternator, oil pump and gearbox drum come from the hardest-core performance-minded variants of the previous Panigale. Most of the engine remains largely unchanged; it’s still a stressed element of the chassis, and it’s got four camshafts that move 16 valves. The U.S. version’s power output changes negligibly, with a peak 209 horsepower coming at 12,750 rpm and 89.5 pound-feet of torque at 11,250 rpm. However, several new pieces of MotoGP-inspired componentry have been brought aboard, one of which is Ducati Vehicle Observer. According to Ducati, this algorithm “is able to evaluate a high number of kinematic and dynamic parameters that influence bike behavior and calculate acceleration, forces on the tires and the maximum torque that the vehicle can support.” This capability further enhances the Panigale V4’s comprehensive rider-aid suite, which includes traction control, slide control, wheelie control, launch control and engine brake control.

The all-new dashboard is also lifted straight from Francesco Bagnaia and Enea Bastianini’s MotoGP bikes. The 6.9-inch screen, which was optically bonded to ensure readability in all conditions, features a “Track” display that shows a series of new parameters. Among them are “g-Meter,” which indicates the g-force value when leaning, accelerating and braking; “Power & Torque,” which displays the percentage of power and torque delivered in any given moment; and “Lean Angle,” which shows the instantaneous lean angles accompanied by the level of throttle opening and the pressure exerted on the brakes. A time-split table, with T1, T2 and T3 icons indicating the performance obtained in different sectors of a track, uses the same white, gray, orange, and red colors seen in MotoGP.

Perhaps the single most promising piece of data provided by Ducati is that the Panigale V4, priced at \$25,995, is one second quicker than the outgoing model around the company’s test track. And this is just the beginning: For \$33,895, the upcoming Panigale V4S offers even racier features, like lighter alloy wheels and an upgraded electronically controlled Öhlins NPX/TTX suspension, ensuring more milliseconds will be dropped from lap times. The next-generation Panigale V4R, the ultimate expression of the Ducati Corse racing program in a road bike, will likely be announced at some point in the near future. Who knows? This generation of Ducati Panigale V4 just might bring about superbike perfection.



PHOTO COURTESY OF DUCATI MOTORCYCLES

“THE PANIGALE V4 IS ONE SECOND QUICKER THAN THE OUTGOING MODEL AROUND THE COMPANY’S TEST TRACK”

SPORTS STAR

A conversation with Meg Stewart, Division I soccer player-turned-sports and talent agency president

Text by BRANDON FRIEDERICH



**“I CREDIT
TRAVIS KELCE
AND HIS MANAGERS
FOR MAKING ME
A MANAGER”**

“I just don’t have it in me to quit. I’ve always been willing to take risks, take chances. And I was never really scared of much.” This statement reflects the mind frame that might propel an athlete to the peak of their game or drive an ambitious young professional to step off the corporate ladder and create their own company. The speaker, Meg Stewart, has done both. The president and co-founder of Los Angeles-based Hour 1 Talent & Sports was telling *Maxim* about her decision to continue playing goalkeeper for the Southern Methodist University Mustangs after undergoing surgeries on her shoulders. Immediately after her four-year NCAA Division 1 soccer career concluded, Stewart put her film degree to good use, working in various capacities for power players such as filmmakers Richard Donner and Lauren Shuler Donner, J.J. Abrams and Mandalay Entertainment CEO Peter Guber. In part, it was her proximity to Guber, who also co-owns the Golden State Warriors, Los Angeles Dodgers and Los Angeles Football Club, that spurred her back into the sports arena. There, she leveraged her combined experience in athletics and film production to climb the ranks at multiple agencies before eventually founding her own.

Tell us what makes you stand out among other sports managers.

I was a player, and I’ve worked at an agency, a management company and production companies in film and TV. I’ve got a 360-degree background that covers all parts of the entertainment industry. There are very few people, let alone females, who have done all that, but I hope that changes. It’s gotten better as I’ve gotten older, but when I was getting into the industry, there weren’t that many of me.

But you are a female who has accomplished all that.

I’ll never take full credit, because a lot is good timing and meeting the right people. I will say this: I’ve mentored a lot of young girls who want to be in this industry, and I tell them that the best advice I ever got was, “You can’t be as sensitive as you might feel in the moment.” There’s a saying: If a woman yells in a boardroom, she’s a bitch, but if a man yells in a boardroom, he’s a boss, and there’s a lot of truth to that. The art is finding your backbone and ability to speak up without letting the little things get to you, all while maintaining boundaries. For example, Peter [Guber] is the best guy and an amazing boss who taught me a lot. But he’s a billionaire with a million things going on, and he can come across strongly because he’s trying to get stuff done. You can’t get upset because of how an intense boss speaks to you; it’s not personal. Also, men and women function differently in a high-pressure workplace. Both have different ways of approaching things, and both ways are valuable.

Who have been some of your most notable clients?

[Kansas City Chiefs star] Travis Kelce is a big one; I credit him and his managers for making me a manager. He’s always been a great football player, but the level of fame he’s achieved now is next level. In fact, the first deal that I worked on after I launched Hour 1 in 2020 was an episode of the “Xbox Sessions: Game Before the Game” YouTube series featuring Travis. He’s a huge part of my origin story.

Because you’ve worked with Travis,

we have to ask about Taylor Swift...

Travis is on top of his game, and Taylor is on top of her game. Travis has found someone who matches his energy and who’s also at the height of her career. Plus, I’ve never seen Travis this happy. I’ve never once heard anything negative from any of his friends.

Who else is on your roster currently?

Soccer is obviously close to my heart, and I have some cool players, like Bryan Jordan. He played on LA Galaxy during the David Beckham era and won two Major League Soccer Cups there; Bryan was one of the most exciting players. Now, he’s an actor and model, and we’ve turned him into a soccer personality. He’s one of the faces of the LA Galaxy organization and is in “Beverly Hills Cop: Axel F” with Eddie Murphy.

Another one I’m excited about is Freddy Chase, an extreme-sports athlete who’s a skydiver and base jumper. He’s gotten billions of views across social media because his videos are crazy! We’re working on a cool web series with him, and we just did a great deal with “Call of Duty: Warzone.”

I have Ridge Lenny, an incredible big-wave surfer and also an amazing watersports content creator. He filmed his brother [pro surfer Kai Lenny] in a super viral GoPro video while they were surfing Jaws Break together in Pe’ahi, Hawaii, which is home to some of the biggest waves on Earth.

I also work with this amazing guy, Junebug. He created the viral Junebug dance, and he’s also an incredible basketball player himself, and he’s making a wave in pop culture as a “sports personality.” He’s been invited to cool events with guys like [NBA stars] Damian Lillard and Kyrie Irving, so he’s got these amazing athletes supporting him. He’s also a big fashion guy and recently landed a deal with Foot Locker.

I’m a female and former athlete, so people always ask me, “Why don’t you have more female clients?” I would love more good female clients—that’s the dream. And I’m waiting for the day when that’s more of an option. The good female athletes get scooped up by an agent early on. Hopefully, as my company grows and I grow as a manager, I’ll find and sign more.



ALL PHOTOS COURTESY OF MEG STEWART

From top: Meg Stewart with Bryan Jordan and Junebug

MANN *on the* STREET

L.A. Clippers star Terance Mann talks stylish streetwear tips and the maximum performance of Skechers' latest basketball shoes

Exactly one member of the 2023–24 NBA rookie class had built a legacy long before entering the league: Skechers. Last fall, the Los Angeles-based footwear giant launched its inaugural line of technical basketball shoes: the SKX Resagrip and SKX Float. To usher the kicks onto the court, Skechers tapped Los Angeles Clippers shooting guard Terance Mann and New York Knicks power forward Julius Randle. The standout starters' consistently great performances helped lead their respective teams to the 2024 NBA playoffs, during which the Clippers clinched their first division title since 2014. Mann, who donned the speed-centric SKX Resagrip low-top last year, is poised to play in the yet-released Skechers Nexus, a court shoe featuring supportive Skechers Move Foam, a breathable mesh upper, lockdown ankle support and a grippy rubber outsole, courtesy of tire brand Goodyear. Ahead of the Skechers Nexus's NBA debut, Maxim caught up with Mann to discuss his ideal basketball shoe, streetwear tips and his award-winning charitable foundation.



What characteristics do you want in a perfect basketball shoe?

For me, basketball shoes should feel just as good as they look. With Skechers, I get the best of both worlds, and I don't think about my feet at all. Its basketball shoes are comfortable, supportive and they look good on the court, so I can focus all my energy onto the game.

Tell us about your experience playing in the Skechers Resagrip and SKX Nexus.

Competing and training in them has been amazing so far. I started out with the Resagrip, and I'm looking forward to stepping out on the court this season in the new SKX Nexus. I can't say enough about the comfort, innovation and style that goes into every pair.

How involved were you in the creation of Skechers' latest basketball shoes?

I've been providing Skechers with feedback from the start. It's been cool to be part of the process, and I love that I get to work with a team that's so receptive. They've taken the time to develop basketball shoes that meet my needs.

What traits from the SKX Resagrip did you specifically want to have in Skechers' latest basketball shoes?

I'm a dynamic player and I'm all over the court, so it was important to me that the new shoes continued to complement my style of play. The new SKX Nexus is just as comfortable, lightweight and supportive. I also like the way they look and can't wait to hit the court in the new colors coming this season.

What are some of your favorite aspects of the new SKX Nexus?

The new SKX Nexus uses a couple different innovations and comfort technologies that I'm excited about. There's added cushioning and support with Skechers Move

Foam insoles and amplified traction in the forefoot with Goodyear rubber outsoles. Whether I'm in the Nexus or the Resagrip, I always feel light on my feet running up and down the court, and they have the grip I need when I'm making quick cuts or locking in on defense.

What's your process for pairing streetwear with the perfect shoe?

It all depends on the vibe and feel; choosing the correct sneakers to accompany my outfits is an art form. The shoe has to complement the entire look, so it comes down to the way the colors pop or the pants rest, but a great sneaker can be what puts the fit over the edge.

Do you have a favorite non-basketball Skechers shoe?

That would definitely have



“FOR ME, BASKETBALL SHOES SHOULD FEEL JUST AS GOOD AS THEY LOOK”

to be the Skechers Slip-ins: Summits - High Range. I think they may be the most comfortable sneakers I've ever owned.

You've previously said that as a platform for stylish self-expression, the NBA allows players who have more subdued playing styles to dress boldly off the court. Do you see yourself as one of those guys?

For sure. I think my sense of style is a way of expressing myself without having to say anything. I like dressing according to how I may be feeling that particular day. I tend to be pretty reserved, but I think my style says otherwise.

Tell us about the Terance Mann Complete Player Foundation, which you launched last year.

I'm incredibly proud of what the Terance Mann Complete Player Foundation has accomplished over the past 18 months. One highlight was being honored with the NBA Cares Community Assist Award in February for our work. We've awarded numerous scholarships to students seeking private and independent boarding school opportunities. We've hosted several camps and clinics for boys and girls, ages 8 to 18 years old.

In addition, our camps and clinics have an educational component where we introduce families to prep schools from across the country at our academic fairs. Our foundation has partnered with Skechers, and we sent 50 pairs of basketball sneakers to athletes who have limited access to athletic gear in Saint Lucia, the Caribbean island where my parents are from. We're excited to keep growing and helping as many kids as possible achieve their academic and athletic dreams.



ALL PHOTOS COURTESY OF SKECHERS

Text by BRANDON FRIEDERICH

Sweet Caroline

*As a teenager,
Caroline Silta dreamed of
becoming a supermodel.
With sheer determination,
she now walks the runway,
graces magazine covers
and headlines billboards
in Times Square*

**“I LOVE
A LITTLE DANGER,
BUT IN A SAFE WAY”**

Sometimes teenage dreams come true. Growing up in Rhinebeck, New York, Caroline Silta watched “America’s Next Top Model” on TV and hoped she would end up in fashion magazines one day. Since breaking into the business at age 16 on the pages of “Teen Vogue,” the redheaded beauty has appeared on the covers of “Marie Claire UK” and “Harper’s Bazaar HK,” among other glossy publications. She’s also been the face of campaigns for top brands, including Uniqlo, Fleur du Mal, American Eagle Outfitters and Rebecca Minkoff. Silta (the name is Finnish) says that seeing her freckled face sky high on billboards in Times Square and hitting the runway for New York Fashion Week are pinch-me career highlights. The self-proclaimed Swiftie is also a fan of extreme sports, including bungee jumping, zip-lining and rock climbing. Skydiving is next on her to-do list. When she’s not treating her 75,000 Instagram followers to a look at her far-flung work destinations, Silta is spending quality time with her adorable pup. She’s also been rewatching “Gossip Girl,” her favorite...as a teen.

How did you get into modeling?

I started modeling part-time when I was 15 and still in high school. I was obsessed with “America’s Next Top Model,” so I submitted my photos to all the top agencies in New York City and went to open calls. I got signed, had my bangs cut at the request of my agency and started working soon after.

Did you have the support of your family?

My mom kindly drove me to Manhattan multiple times a week after school for the next three years so I could go to all my castings and jobs. As soon as I graduated high school I moved straight to the city to pursue modeling full-time. Now I’ve been living here for 12 years, which is wild to think about!

What are your biggest career highlights?

My first job ever was “Teen Vogue” when I was 16, so that set the bar pretty high. Some other highlights have included living and working in both Tokyo and Milan; walking in shows in New York Fashion Week; shooting with reindeer while dressed in Santa pajamas in a magical field in Scotland; and shooting editorials for magazines like “Marie Claire,” “Interview,” “Glamour,” “Harper’s Bazaar,” “Elle” and “Seventeen.”

What do you like the most about modeling?

I love that every day is different and unpredictable. Working at different locations, meeting new people daily and traveling to different countries. It keeps me on my toes in the most exciting way.

What’s it like to walk the runway at NYFW?

Honestly, it’s nerve-racking at first! But as soon as you’re out there and feel the energy of the crowd, it’s incredible.

And seeing your face on billboards in Times Square?

So much fun! It was for Aerie and Old Navy campaigns. I made all my friends and family go and look, too!

You have traveled all over the world for work. Do you have a favorite destination?

I think the Amalfi Coast in Italy is one of the most beautiful places in the world. I also love anywhere tropical with clear blue water. I just bring lots and lots of sunscreen!

Do you consider yourself a sporty type? You went zip-lining!

I did! That was in Costa Rica. I love a little danger, but in a safe way. I’ve been bungee jumping twice, once in Croatia and once in Canada. I’m dying to go skydiving next. Rock climbing, skiing and swimming are my other favorite things to do as well.

Have you been binge-watching any TV shows lately?

I love anything thriller- or horror-related. I’ve also been rewatching all of the original “Gossip Girl.” I think it’s strangely comforting because I haven’t watched it since I was in high school. Not sure how I’ll move on with my life once I finish with it!

Do you have any pets? Is that your cute dog we see on your IG?

Yes! I have a golden retriever named Scout. She’s got the best personality and loves to socialize. I always say I would die for her, but that seems to alarm people.

We hear that you’re a big fan of Halloween.

I’m obsessed with Halloween or any party with a theme. I’ve done just about every redhead costume in the book—Poison Ivy, The Little Mermaid, Chucky and even Pennywise.

What are your favorite foods?

Pizza (extra cheese is preferable) with an orange soda. Sushi. Lobster with lots of melted butter. Can this all be at a buffet? I’m a big buffet girl.

Guiltiest pleasure?

Staying up late and sleeping in. I’m trying to get better about going to bed early, but I get the most energy around 10 p.m. My Oura Ring shames me for it daily.

Tell us about your ideal date.

I’m always happy to go for dinner and drinks. If I were to plan the date, we’d go to Raoul’s (my favorite restaurant in NYC) for steak au poivre and martinis, then see where the night takes us. The most important thing is to have good conversation and fun, witty banter back and forth. At the very least I want my date to laugh at my jokes!



HAIR & MAKEUP ARTIST: LUCIE LETZ

Text by JOSEPH MANGHISE Photography by ANTOINE VERGLAS Styling by ALICIA ROSATO



MONDO DINO

*Enzo Ferrari's exquisite homage to his late son Alfredo, the **Dino** sports car, now enjoys the status of being an all-time classic*

Text by NICOLAS STECHER

The story of the landmark Dino is one of bloodlines, legacy, triumph and grief. You could start the tale with the shocking debut of the Lamborghini Miura at the Turin Auto Show in 1965, a concept car so revolutionary it stunned the populace dumb and introduced the Raging Bull from Sant'Agata as a legitimate contender to Enzo Ferrari's undisputed heavyweight crown. Widely considered the world's first supercar, the mid-engine layout of the Miura was a warning shot to its neighbors from Maranello who had only produced front-engine street cars until then.

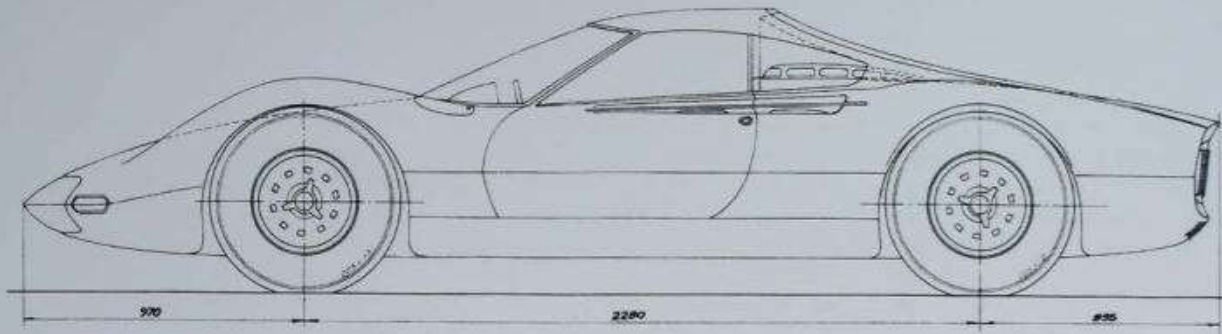
But the story probably more accurately begins a decade earlier with the "Dino V6," Ferrari's first V6 engine envisioned by Enzo's son Alfredo. A promising engineer in his own right, "Dino" Fer-



Top: Enzo Ferrari and son Dino pictured with marque staffers at Monza in 1949. Bottom: The production model of the Dino 206 GT debuted at the Turin Auto Show in 1967

ARTCURIAL
// Motorcars

1965 Dino 206 P Berlinette Speciale #0840



rari convened with legendary engineer Vittorio Jano to develop a V6 to deploy in Formula Two in 1955. This engine would evolve into the first V6 ever used in Formula One when it debuted in Ferrari's 246 P race car in 1960—also Ferrari's first prototype with a mid-engine layout.

Unfortunately for Dino, and the entire Ferrari family, he would never live to see that day as Enzo's firstborn son died of muscular dystrophy in June 1956, at the young age of 24. The grief followed Enzo for the remainder of his life, and he would visit Dino's grave every day until his own death in 1988.

To honor his son, Enzo decided to launch an entirely new marque. So he enlisted Sergio Pininfarina—son of the legendary designer Battista "Pinin" Farina who became an integral part of the Ferrari design team and went on to be named a Senator for Life in the Italian Republic—to collaborate with his Scuderia racing team on this new badge. While the Pininfarinas were eager to install their know-how—specifically the mid-engine layout they began with their aforementioned 246 P F1 racecar—Enzo was not. The Ferrari Godfather believed this unorthodox layout for a street car would prove too unfamiliar, too extreme for the casual driver. Lucky for

the automotive world at large, Enzo relented.

In October 1965, the Dino 206 Berlinetta debuted at the Paris Motor Show. The vehicle, although not officially a Ferrari, was not only the Maranello factory's first mid-engine supercar, it was also its first with a V6. At the time "Il Commendatore," as Enzo was known, decided to call it a Dino.

While at first teased as a volume Ferrari, today the Dino is considered nothing less than a landmark. The legendary progenitor of a Ferrari mid-engine bloodline that calls within its ranks many of the greatest, most celebrated automobiles the world has ever seen.

Continued on page 20

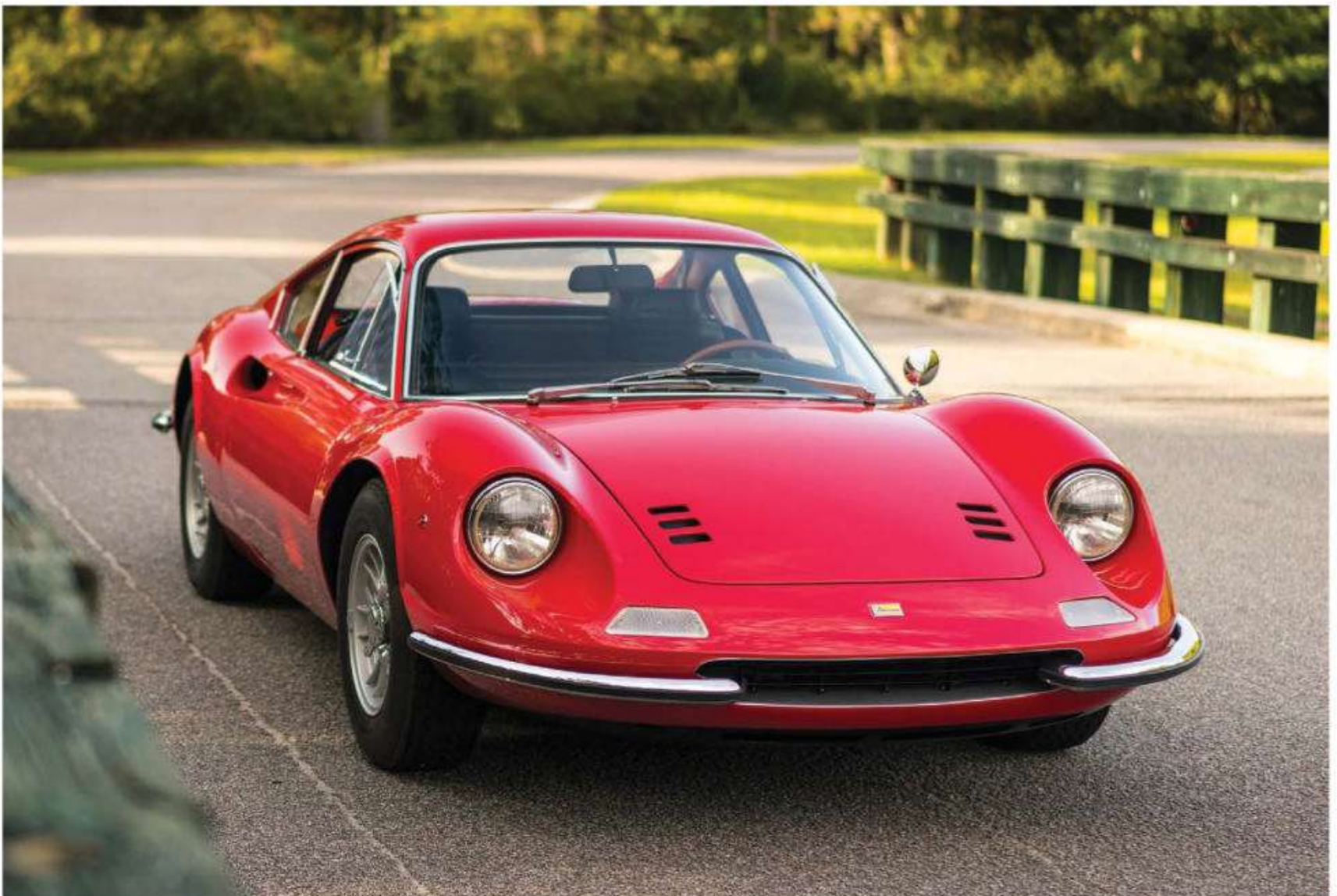


Top: A 1965 Dino 206 P Berlinetta Speciale displayed for auction by Artcurial during Retromobile in Paris, 2017. Middle: A Dino 206 SP driven by Günter Klass and Herbert Müller at Sebring, 1967. Bottom: A Dino 206 Berlinetta driven by Sam Posey and Bob Dini at Sebring, 1969

THIS PAGE PHOTO BOTTOM BY BILL FOX/KLEMANASKI COLLECTION/GETTY IMAGES
MIDDLE LEFT CHUCK ROGERS/KLEMANASKI COLLECTION/GETTY IMAGE TOP CHESNOT/GETTY IMAGES



**“THE DINO 206 BERLINETTA
DEBUTED AT THE PARIS MOTOR SHOW IN OCTOBER 1965”**



Top: A 1968 Ferrari Dino 206 GT by Scaglietti sold by RM Sotheby's in 2023 for a record-setting \$868,500. Bottom: A 1968 Ferrari Dino 206 GT by Scaglietti, also sold by RM Sotheby's

THIS PAGE ALL PHOTOS COURTESY OF RM SOTHEBY'S



“ENZO FERRARI DECIDED TO LAUNCH AN ENTIRELY NEW MARQUE



THIS PAGE TOP PHOTO COURTESY OF RM SOTHEBY'S BOTTOM B NATIONAL MOTOR MUSEUM/HERITAGE IMAGES/GETTY IMAGES

Top: A 1973 Ferrari Dino 246 GTS sold by RM Sotheby's. Middle: A set of vintage 246 GT owner's manuals. Bottom: A 1973 Ferrari Daytona 365 GTB, Dino 246 GT and 1968 Ferrari 275 GTB make perfect stablemates



Continued from page 17

Without the Dino, there would be no Enzo, no Testarossa, no F40 or F50, no LaFerrari and no 288 GTO. Makes you wonder, who would ever want to live in such a world?

Lucky for you, one doesn't have to. Consider it not only a treat, but also an investment. RM Sotheby's reports it sold a 1968 Dino 206 GT, the 18th of just 153 produced, to a Canadian collector for \$868,500. Santa Monica, California's Gooding & Company also moved a 1974 Dino 246 GTS, one of the last built, for the record price of \$967,500. Both sold at last year's renowned Amelia Island, Florida, car auction. So you can still get your foot in the door for less than seven figures.



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PHOTOS BY BRIAN HENNIKER.



A 1974 Dino 246 GTS with coachwork by Scaglietti sold by Gooding & Company for a record-setting \$967,500 in 2023

The CHOSEN ONE

Catching up with Ferrari's star driver **Charles Leclerc** at the Montreal Grand Prix

Text by JARED ZAUGG

At 116 miles per hour, it feels as if the Ferrari Purosangue has barely broken a gallop. Supremely stable, quiet and agile, there's so much power to be had from the 720 horses beneath the hood that this humble speed is a mere warm-up. I want to go faster, my passenger wants to go faster, even the car wants to go faster, but that's all I'll be able to achieve because this is Formula One weekend in Montreal and the traffic is brutal. I'm on my way to see one of the most important people in motorsport today, who races for one of the most important teams in the history of motorsport.

Confidently navigating the streets, highways and bridges of Montreal, out to the picturesque river island where the Circuit Gilles Villeneuve sits, this happens to be the first Purosangue in Canada and it's gorgeous to behold, finished in a rare combination of Celeste Metallizzato (sky blue) over Beige Honolulu (light sand). As a result, everywhere I go there are paparazzi. From kids to dads to professional vloggers and photographers, the attention is non-stop. If they only knew about the added symbolism of this car.

Purosangue, literally translated, means *pure blood*, which is the Italian word for thoroughbred. And this racehorse is whisking me to the F1 paddock before the qualifying races to meet with none other than Charles Leclerc. Fresh off his historic hometown win in Monaco, Scuderia Ferrari's star driver is the man of the hour. Young (he

turns 27 in October), handsome, famously polite and tremendously talented, he's one of the most endearing top athletes in the world.

Due to his fame, success and skill, Leclerc could be forgiven for any hint of arrogance. Due to the pressure, aggression and intensity of his profession, he could also be absolved of any hint of stress. Neither is the case. As I sit down to talk with him—with half a dozen members of Ferrari's corporate and racing team on hand—he greets me warmly and acts as if we're the only two in the room. Then, immediately upon asking my first question, it's clear Leclerc isn't just a gifted gearhead. He's so much more.

I didn't know what to expect from a conversation with Ferrari's No. 1 F1 driver. All anybody ever hears about is his racing career—and rightly so—and maybe his music-making hobby. But what about the man himself? After seeing how much thought and consideration he put into each answer, not to mention the depth of his responses, I was impressed. Here's a guy at the top of his game, racing at the most elite level of motorsport for the most illustrious automotive brand in the world. And what are his takeaways? Learning from others and practicing kindness and understanding. Maybe all of us could learn a little from Charles Leclerc.

Maxim: Is there one word that could describe winning the Monaco Grand Prix in front of everyone you've ever known and loved?

Charles Leclerc: Emotional. On the last lap, when I knew I was going to win, I couldn't hold back the tears. I mean, this is where I grew up and these were my streets—where I walked, where I took the bus to school. It was in front of my family, my friends and even my teachers who helped me when I missed so much school. It's difficult to explain how much it means to me to win Monaco, but I would definitely say it was emotional.

In addition to racing, your love of piano and creating music is an intriguing quality for a world-class athlete. Do you have any tracks planned for release after this year's F1 season?

We'll see. First, I must focus on racing; this is my priority and the most important. I started playing piano during COVID, as something to do, and I was surprised at how well my music was received by my fans. It has since become a way for me to wind down and disconnect. I find it relaxing and enjoyable.

Do you have a source of inspiration for your music?

[Italian composer] Ludovico Einaudi is a big source of inspiration for me, and so is [German music producer] Hans Zimmer. I was fortunate enough to spend three days with [French pianist] Sofiane Pamart in Paris, and we created three songs together. It was an amazing experience.

Besides racing and music, do you have any other passions or interests?

Fashion is something I'm interested in and perhaps something I could do down the road.

You've been seen watching tennis matches at Wimbledon and basketball at NBA games. Is it these sports in particular that interest you or competition in general?

What I appreciate is seeing how world-class athletes manage moments. I like seeing how they handle the psychological aspect of competing at the highest level; how they recover from mistakes, temporary loss or disappointment. I can learn a lot from this.

You have an enviable collection of cars. If you had to pick one, what's your favorite, and which do you like to drive most?

The Ferrari Purosangue. It's my favorite and what I use on a daily



“IT'S DIFFICULT TO EXPLAIN HOW MUCH IT MEANS TO ME TO WIN MONACO, BUT I WOULD DEFINITELY SAY IT WAS EMOTIONAL”

basis. But I'm also getting a classic car that I'm excited about—a [late 1960s] Ferrari 275 GTB. I just love these sports racers and, to me, it's one of the most appealing Ferraris ever created.

Now we're talking! What's the most fun car you've ever driven?

The Ferrari 488 Pista. It's just got an incredible chassis; it's super playful and easy to maneuver.

If you could own any car, of any year/make/model, regardless of value, what would you choose?

Hmm, let me dream for a moment. Either the Ferrari F40 or the Ferrari F12tdf. The way they look, sound, drive...they're iconic, timeless machines—not to mention groundbreaking.

What do you like or appreciate most about Ferrari?

Passion, 100 percent. Everywhere you look there's passion—around the brand, inside the brand, from the employees to the fans. It's unmatched anywhere in the world. It's always been a childhood dream of mine to race for Ferrari, but I never imagined the support I'd get from fans everywhere, wherever we go. It's absolutely amazing!

Are there any people that inspire you or serve as role models?

First, my father. He passed away when I was young, and this was very hard for me. He'll always be my biggest source of inspiration. As for heroes, I'd have to say Ayrton Senna. He was the best race car driver in the world. He's my idol.

If you could have dinner with any person from history, who would it be and why?

I'd have to choose someone that's alive and that's Elon Musk. I like to discover and learn about other topics. I don't have much knowledge about space, but it interests me, and so Elon would be the perfect person to learn from. And more than that, Elon takes inconceivable ideas and makes them into reality. This is extraordinary and fascinating.

What do you feel is the true measure of a man?

Two values I stay close to are kindness and understanding. We all come from different backgrounds, and it's important to never judge someone by first impressions. We never know where someone has come from or what they're going through, so always remembering to practice kindness and understanding is, for me, essential. I'd consider these values important to the character of any real man.

TURKISH DeLIGHT

Türkiye's remote D Maris Bay resort offers a verdant oasis of pristine beaches, opulent amenities and a variety of world-class culinary outposts

Text by NICOLAS STECHER

There are but a handful of characteristics that uplift a luxury hotel from the fields of the elite into the world of the truly sublime. For some, it's provenance—a history unlike any other that carves itself into the stones of legend. Think the Ritz Paris, the original Raffles in Singapore or the Hôtel du Cap-Eden-Roc on the French Riviera. For others, height-

ened levels of luxury previously unseen make their mark. Consider Dubai's sailship-inspired Jumeirah Burj Al Arab. And for a select few, it's location that consecrates their singularity. The Brando, plopped in the middle of the Pacific Ocean on an atoll 15 miles from the closest human being, comes to mind.

It's in this world where the D Maris Bay in Türkiye exists. Located



on a verdant 39-acre nook nestled among several national parks, the D Maris Bay rests among nearly 557 square miles of untouched coastline in every direction. While in and of itself this pristine surrounding is a stirring characteristic, what elevates the hotel to unique levels is literally its elevation. Meaning, squatting atop a 200-foot bluff on the edge of the Datça Peninsula.

When one first enters the D Maris Bay after a winding three-mile drive up from the nearest road, you don't wait in any line to check in. Rather you're instantly greeted with a cold prosecco and hibiscus tea cocktail, bags swept away, and you're ushered through the grand white marble lobby to a wide terrace in the back.

This is when the D Maris Bay location hits you like a thunderbolt



from the fabled Ottoman sultan Bayezid. Looking out, untouched nature is all you see: across distant bays and shorelines, over the shrub-carpeted mountains in every direction, not a single human building or man-made scar. If you squint you can almost see Odysseus navigating his galley between the Greek islands of Symi and Nisyros straight ahead. The sense of vast space, idyllic nature and profound serenity suddenly and intensely elates the spirit.

Two floors below, the aqua Christian Dior pool shimmers in the Mediterranean sun like a beautifully cut sapphire, beckoning you to its edge like a postcard filed from a Slim Aarons fantasy. Beyond that and further below, the five beaches of D Maris Bay extend in a horseshoe into the water—a sugar-sanded “C” defining where the Aegean Sea meets the Mediterranean. These beaches are a thing of singular attraction, for when the founder of D Maris Bay, Ayhan Şahenk, opened the hotel in 2013 he had the prescience to partner

with some of the best culinary brands in the world.

Şahenk was one of the first hoteliers in Türkiye to foresee the future of luxury and invite some of the top names in hospitality to his crown jewel. First came La Guérite, the famed French Riviera property found in posh destinations of the well-heeled like Cannes and St. Barths. Located at the tip of D Maris Bay’s property as the small peninsula reaches into the azure water, the La Guérite Beach Club offers seafood delicacies paired with an impressive wine and Champagne cellar. The hotel offers complimentary shuttle boats to all the private yachts that moor here for both sustenance and entertainment.

Soon after came Zuma, the world-renowned Japanese concept from Rainer Becker. You can find Zuma’s izakaya, sushi and robata specialties like scorched salmon, succulently grilled A5 Wagyu steak and hoba leaf-wrapped sweet miso black cod plated in locations from Hong



THIS SPREAD AND PRECEDING SPREAD ALL PHOTOS COURTESY OF D MARIS BAY



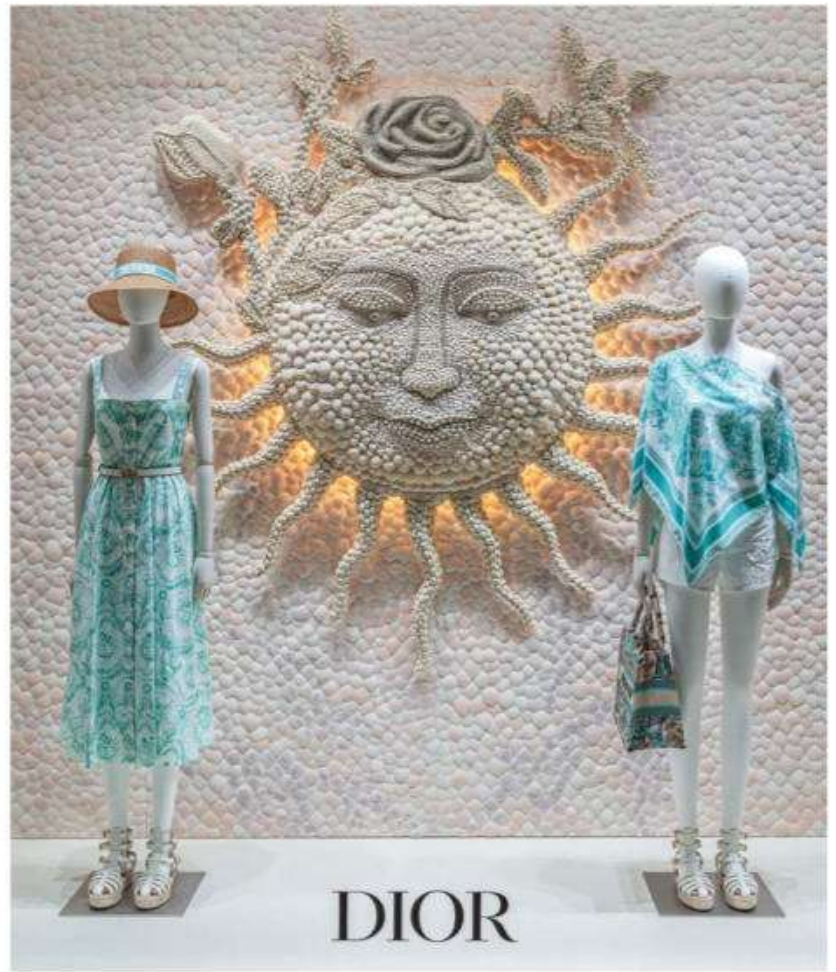
Kong to Miami, from Bangkok to Abu Dhabi.

Then there's Manos, a traditional Greek taverna from the nearby island of Symi. Here head fishmonger Mixalis Magkos will walk you to the ice boxes and aquariums overflowing with seafood captured within the past 48 hours, tempting you with rare options like giant Spanish carabinero prawns, primitive slipper lobsters and rockfish. If you're lucky, he'll force you to partake in a couple shots of Arak, cloudy and cold, as you watch the syrtaki dancers storm the floor. An evening meal at Manos is nearly always capped off with a rambunctious ceremony of plate smashing. As in, servers bring diners endless piles of clay plates to smash on the floor to their heart's delight. In total six restaurants and seven bars cater to a guest's nearly every culinary whim.

While nourishment and entertainment rank high, one of the finest beaches D Maris Bay offers is the aptly named Silence Beach—a stretch of fine white sand, imported from Egypt, absent of music, loud talking or children. Here you'll happily pass the day away sipping a Campari Americano, flipping through a dog-eared novel or swiping your Kindle. The only way to tell the passage of time is the shuttle boat intermittently ferrying guests from one beach to the other.

There's also the exclusive Maris Beach lined with orange canopied daybeds. The sand smells of sun and warm pine wafting down from the hills. There's even a Hidden Beach you can book for private afternoons, replete with its own butler. It becomes clear on the lush grounds—rife with almost 200 plant species and three acres of manicured grass—why hordes of supermodels, actors and European royalty regularly call D Maris Bay home, returning annually to this Turkish oasis. Seal, Alessandra Ambrosio, Sophie Ellis-Bextor and allegedly a secretive Kardashian and Pussycat Doll or two have all checked into the two-story Presidential Suite—a 1,883-square-foot spread sitting atop the hotel with a giant terrace and private jacuzzi that boast the best view in the land.

While less than a two-hour drive from the exploding tourist mecca of Bodrum—littered with luxury hotel brands like Kempinski, EDITION, Mandarin Oriental, Le Méridien and more—D Maris Bay feels like a different world. If Bodrum is the Tulum of Türkiye, then this place feels like a still undiscovered idyllic island on the Mexican Riviera—pristine, remote and yet overflowing with a surfeit of opulent ame-



nities and culinary delights.

We enjoy the bittersweet splendor of this Turkish sanctuary on the last twilight of our stay, sipping Jeeper Premier Cru with General Manager Vito Romeo on Green Hill. The immaculately trimmed emerald lawn charms with its pleasant breeze and the chattering of plump Iranian chickens squawking all around, the ideal spot to catch the drama as the sun dips behind the distant hills.

"Everybody was saying, 'What are you, crazy? It's not going to work! Nobody is going to come here,'" Romeo shares as we sip our champagne flutes, recalling those who questioned the hotel's founder when he first opened his doors. "What are you doing bringing Zuma to the middle of nowhere?"

The Italian GM chuckles at the doubters as we stare into the distance—quiet, serene, watching the orange sun slowly hide behind the hazy purple peaks. The mountains feel ancient, the horizon vast like the Grand Canyon. The view calls on you, inexorably, like the Sirens who beckoned Odysseus to these rocky shores so many millennia ago.

"But Mr. Şahenk said, 'No, no, I believe the place is unique,'" Romeo continues, just as the sun finally blinks farewell for the day. "I think he might have been onto something."





Unexpected BEAUTY

A new exhibition and book show why Danish-born photographer Marc Hom is destined for greatness

Text by JARED PAUL STERN

They're all beauties in various ways—Angelina Jolie, Lupita Nyong'o, Sienna Miller, Gwyneth Paltrow, Amy Winehouse, Anne Hathaway, Milla Jovovich and Taylor Swift. Together, they span decades of pop culture, often bridging different eras; but what else do they have in common? All have caught the eye—and lens—of famed Danish photographer Marc Hom, who specializes in “capturing our favorite celebrities in a vulnerable light, highlighting their personality and attitude.”

There's plenty of the latter on display in a new exhibition and accompanying book of Hom's most iconic images from the past 30 years. The impressive show was staged at the Fenimore Art Museum in upstate New York, overlooking Otsego Lake and near to a house Hom owns. It “offers visitors a new way to experience pho-

tography in an ever-changing environment,” as many of Hom's larger-than-life portraits—11 feet tall—are weatherproofed and mounted on the museum's sweeping lawn in Cooperstown.

The perfect venue for Hom, who has always followed his own path, and who conceived the unorthodox display method. The book, “Re-Framed,” from German luxury and art publisher teNeues, is both companion piece to the exhibition and retrospective, including all the portraits displayed at the Fenimore along with the story of the show's development, providing “documentary-style” insights into Hom's process.

In his introduction to the book, “The New Yorker” staff writer and “Vogue” contributing editor Nathan Heller recounts Hom's transition from control freak in his early days as fashion and celebrity photographer for “Harper's Bazaar” to adopting a more fluid approach. “One of the defining qualities of an artist's mind is to be always in motion, building on known methods and reframing what



Opposite: ANGELINA JOLIE, Los Angeles, 2008. Above: SIENNA MILLER, Brooklyn, 2009

came just before,” Heller notes. “For Hom, a breakthrough arrived when he began to loosen his claims on control and embrace what he calls the ‘magic of the unexpected.’”

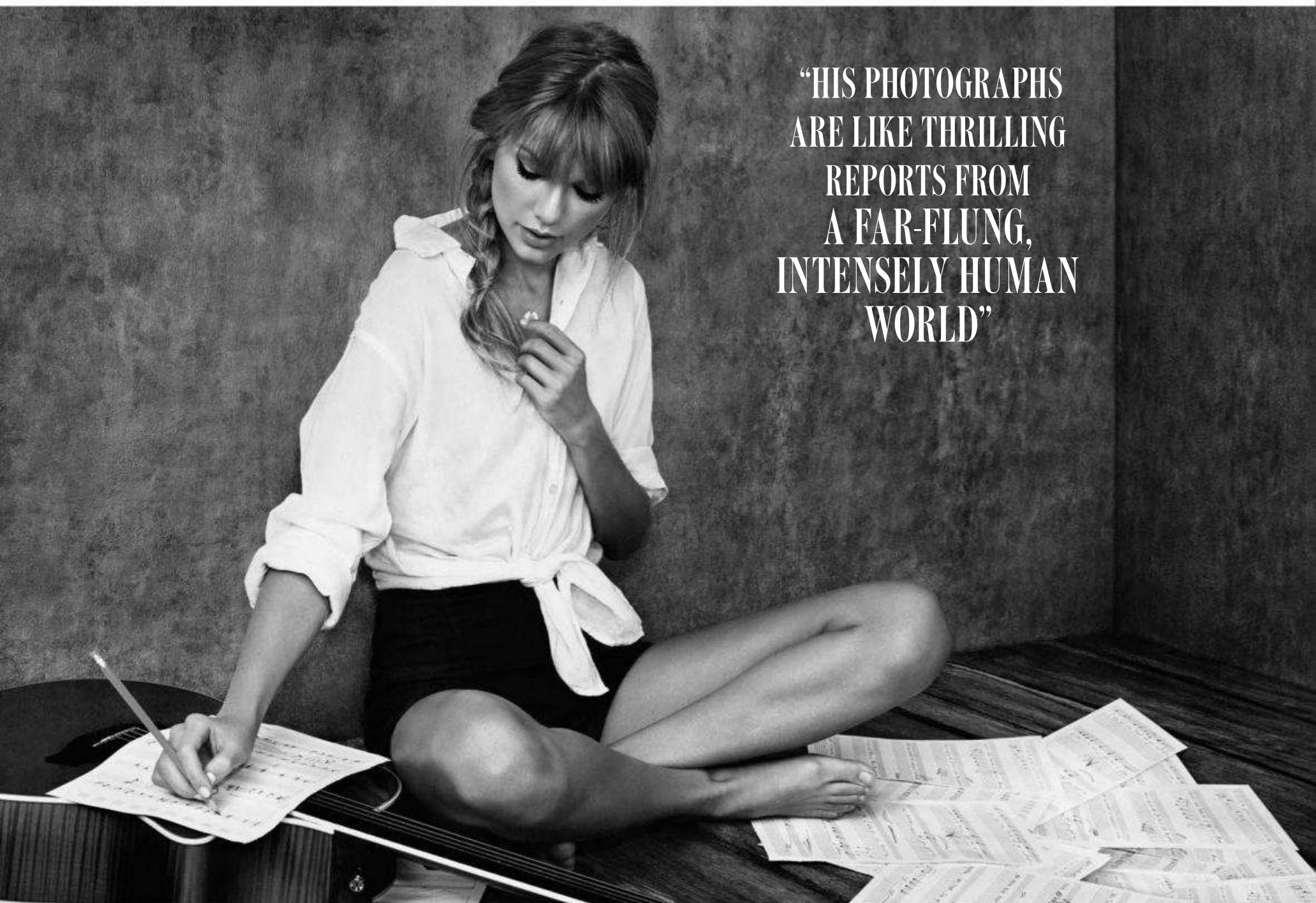
Heller recounts that, “Instead of poring over notebooks in advance, he made a project of being alert to what took form before his camera. His work became less about creating a world than discovering it. ‘Open-mindedness is something that you learn,’ he has said. ‘Maybe you have an idea at the start, but then something completely different happens—and it’s better.’”

He writes that Hom’s most intimate portraits “catch the sudden glamour hidden in the moments between moments: Lupita Nyong’o slumped against the arm of a sofa, Wiz Khalifa with his feet in a pedicure bath and a joint blazing between his lips.... Brought into the quiet museum, these color photographs seem thrilling reports from a far-flung and intensely human world.”

Hom has never eschewed commercial work, learning from the example of his photographer father that the life of a starving artist often leaves much to be desired. But his ad campaigns for the likes of Gucci, Patek Philippe, Hugo Boss and Max Mara burnish rather than diminish his more artistic endeavors, while allowing him the freedom to pursue personal projects. His work for various magazines, including “W,” “Vanity Fair,” “Vogue,” “The Face” and “Esquire,” attests to that. For his part, Hom has said he aspires to a



ALL © MARC HOM COURTESY OF TENEUES



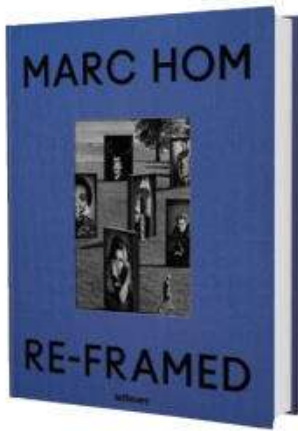
“HIS PHOTOGRAPHS
ARE LIKE THRILLING
REPORTS FROM
A FAR-FLUNG,
INTENSELY HUMAN
WORLD”

Top: AMY WINEHOUSE, *London*, 2011. Bottom: TAYLOR SWIFT, *New Orleans*, 2013. Opposite: ANNE HATHAWAY, *New York City*, 2010



“HE CATCHES
THE SUDDEN
GLAMOUR
HIDDEN IN THE
MOMENTS BETWEEN
MOMENTS”





timeless aesthetic that echoes early influences like Irving Penn and Peter Lindbergh, the latter of whom he encountered while working for “Harper’s Bazaar.”

“It’s about being able to still look at my own photographs 10 or 15 years from now and not say, ‘Oh, this is such a ’90s picture, or this is from the mid 2000s,’ ” he has said. “The only thing that should give the period away is the people [in the photographs] getting older.” Heller points out, “The long past

captured in a moment’s fleeting frame, the photographer’s ability to trace transformation through a second look: These are the themes of Hom’s exhibition, but also of the career that he has built across a world of accelerating change.”

“Photography is a popular medium, now more than ever; we travel the Earth with cameras in our pockets,” Heller sums up. “But it is also an art form, and the path toward that higher function comes—now more than ever—through the work of reconsideration, of holding images half-lost and forgotten to the standard of small monuments, reexamining what they tell us, not only of the past but of the present and the course ahead.”

In another 30 years, we predict Hom’s images will be part of many museums’ permanent collections, with the next generation of photographers revering and studying his work.



“HOM’S WORK SOON BECAME LESS ABOUT CREATING A WORLD THAN DISCOVERING ONE”



Opposite page: KRISTEN MCMENAMY, Paris, 1995. Top: GWYNETH PALTROW, New York City, 1997. Above, LUPITA NYONG’O, New York City, 2014

Class Act

*If you're looking for **Elizabeth Hurley**, check the garden. A longtime staple of screens, glossy magazine spreads and red carpets—particularly since one unforgettable gown sent her profile stratospheric in 1994—one might be surprised to learn that she has quite the green thumb*

Shirt, THE FRANKIE SHOP



Photographed by GILLES BENSIMON
Text by FREYA DROHAN
Styling by OTTER JEZAMIN HATCHETT
Hair by Jon Chapman
Makeup by Mary Greenwell
Produced by Rachael Evans for RE.Pro Agency

“**I**

m covered in scratches,” Elizabeth Hurley laughs. The revelation seems in contrast with her bona fide movie star guise, which manages to radiate even through Zoom despite the sometimes-spotty WiFi in her Herefordshire, England, manor. “The minute we hang up, I’m about to go outside and attack something! I feel much more creative when I can go outside. If I’m stuck on something, I’ll go hack down a weed and then feel better.” As the owner of one of the most deliciously posh British accents in the entertainment industry, she makes even the mere idea of weeding sound positively glamorous.

It’s one of her golden rules these days: For 15 minutes out of every hour, she’ll leave the desk and go breathe in the air of the “deep countryside”—her sanity saver for the past two decades—and peek over at her alpacas and grain fields. From the get-go, the “mummy, actress, model, farmer, bikini designer” (as her Instagram bio proclaims) was adamant that she didn’t want to raise her son, Damian, in London.

Now 22 years old, Damian is, to use British parlance, a chip off the old block. A model and actor with a mane of enviable hair and bone structure that echo his mum’s, he made his feature writing and directorial debut with the 2024 film “Strictly Confidential.” Much to the Internet’s delight, albeit with some raised eyebrows, the picture features steamy scenes between Elizabeth and her female co-star. At present, both Hurleys are finalizing financing for Damian’s next project, which Elizabeth will produce via her latest labor of love, a production company she formed earlier this year with a friend.

Being by her son’s side as he finds his feet in show business brings back memories for Hurley. She enrolled in dance and drama school straight after her A-level exams and credits initial industry attention to a role in “Christabel,” a 1988 BBC mini-series. “It’s a character-building time when you’re young, in any job, but especially in showbiz. You get rejected all the time...even now. I totally get that it’s not for everyone. You have to have a very good attitude toward it. You can bet that if you meet anyone my age and they’re still in the business, they’re tough, because they’ve had to be.”

When she tried her hand at finding fame in the United States, Hurley chalks it up to that elusive combination of luck, timing and resilience. “After rounds of auditions, visa problems and crying every night, eventually you get a break and then you just work on that,” she says. Those fateful breaks saw Hurley front and center on two of the most beloved movies of the 1990s and 2000s: as sultry secret agent Vanessa Kensington in “Austin Powers: International Man of Mystery” and as the temperature-raising leather-clad Devil in “Bedazzled.”

In another oft-referenced moment of the era, when Hurley joined her then-boyfriend Hugh Grant on the red carpet for the London premiere of “Four Weddings and a Funeral” in 1994, little did she know that she would guarantee her place in the annals of 1990s pop culture forever. Stepping out in the dress, a figure-hugging cut-out Versace scene stealer held together by oversize gold safety pins, Hurley became synonymous with the decade’s style forevermore. She thought nothing of it on the night and is still unsure what all the fuss is about.

“Obviously there were no cell phones or Internet at the time,” she recalls. “The next day Hugh and I were going to the Cannes Film Festival. In those days, they used to hand out newspapers on the plane and we realized we were on the front page of every single one. We thought it was insane! When we got to Cannes, people were going demented. And people have been obsessed with that dress ever since! I don’t understand it; I’ve never understood it. People still ring me up and tell me when it’s the ‘birthday’ of the dress.”

The burning question: Did she get to keep the dress? “It was the first thing I ever borrowed in my life,” she says. “I wasn’t famous. It wouldn’t have occurred to me to keep it; it just went straight back the next morning before we got on the plane, in the same white plastic bag I was given it in. That was that. I should have kept it, shouldn’t I? It would actually be nice if it was here—but because it has to have its birthdays, it’s probably better it’s wherever it is instead of being in my attic being eaten by moths!”

Despite being a prevailing sex symbol who oozes confidence and class—younger millennials may remember her as Nate Archibald’s seductive and experienced lover Diana Payne in Season 5 of “Gossip Girl”—Hurley is glad that being a model is only one string to her bow. “Shooting has always been a big part of my life, and I did end up loving it as much as being on a movie set. But a couple of days of modeling is enough. It wouldn’t have suited me for it to be my full-time job, but as part of my job, it’s a pleasure.”

Still, she’s her own best advertisement in campaigns and promotional materials for her swimwear and resortwear brand, Elizabeth Hurley Beach, which she launched 19 years ago. (Like her relocation to the English countryside, it was born from a desire to have a total life-

Continued on page 48

“YOU CAN BET THAT IF YOU MEET ANYONE MY AGE AND THEY’RE STILL IN THE BUSINESS, THEY’RE TOUGH, BECAUSE THEY’VE HAD TO BE”



Dress, STELLA MCCARTNEY +
NET SUSTAIN



**“FIND YOUR
COMFORT ZONE AND
WORK OUT WHAT YOU
CAN OFFER THAT YOUR
COMPETITOR CAN’T”**

This page: Tank top and trousers, THE FRANKIE SHOP; bra and heels, BEVZA
Opposite page: Dress, GEORGIA HARDINGE



“ELIMINATE WHAT YOU DON’T LIKE, ACCENTUATE WHAT YOU DO AND THEN JUST HAVE A GOOD TIME”

Continued from page 44

style change when baby Damian entered the picture.) Lovingly referring to it as her “small, niche boutique brand,” she stuck to her guns and decided to run the business her own way despite what many told her.

“Along the way, I had a lot of opportunities to make it a bigger company,” Hurley says. “In the end, I decided not to. I wanted to keep it small so that I could control it and didn’t have anyone breathing down my neck. I’m glad I did that.” During the pandemic, she made the decision to focus only on selling direct to consumers. “Now it’s tiny again,” she says, joyfully. “There’s only a handful of us working together and we love it. We make what we want to make and don’t have anyone giving us a hard time.”

Though she teases that she “may not be modeling the swimwear for much longer,” one gets the impression that Hurley, 59, has never felt better in her skin. Representation of women having a great time and looking “fabulous” (her favorite word) at every age is of the utmost importance to her. Since 1997, she has served as the global ambassador for The Estée Lauder Companies’ Breast Cancer Campaign. “Their loyalty is amazing and absolutely commendable,” Hurley praises. “They understand that it’s not only young people who buy makeup and skincare. In fact, it’s the complete opposite. A lot of people who had ads, campaigns or contracts back in the day, it would be over for them by age 30 and they’d be replaced by a younger person. I’m glad that that’s not happening so much these days.” Having now met tens of thousands of people affected by the disease and been a prolific spokesperson and campaigner for the cause, she refers to the ambassadorship as one of the most meaningful and enriching things in her life.

“I think the best way to have self-belief and confidence is to try your hardest to ensure you’ve got something to bring to the table,” she says of the key to longevity in your chosen career. “Sometimes we find ourselves out of our depth in something we don’t feel confident about. If I had to stand up tomorrow and make a speech about investment banking, I’d be very nervous. I’d have to learn my lines and I wouldn’t feel like I could go off script. Whereas when I talk about what I know about, I feel completely confident—and I think that’s the trick to feeling good. Find your comfort zone in whatever you’re doing and work out what you can offer that your competitor can’t. It’s the same for how you present yourself: Eliminate what you don’t like, accentuate what you do and then just have a good time.”

“I THINK THE BEST WAY TO HAVE SELF-BELIEF AND CONFIDENCE IS TO TRY YOUR HARDEST TO ENSURE YOU’VE GOT SOMETHING TO BRING TO THE TABLE”

Elizabeth Hurley and son Damian are currently working on a new film project together, which she will produce and he will write and direct

T-shirts, THE KIT; Elizabeth’s necklace, VANESSA BARONI; Damian’s necklace, his own



POSH SPICE

During a career that spans nearly four decades, **Elizabeth Hurley** has proved she has major staying power. Audiences around the world adore hearing the beautiful Brit's polished Queen's English on-screen, coupled with her effortless ability to ooze sex appeal, whether in a comedy or a drama or in one of her flawless red carpet appearances. To celebrate her Hot 100 cover, Maxim looks back at some of her most memorable moments.



As well as being an in-demand model and fashion plate, Hurley has always lent her profile to raise awareness for causes, including Comic Relief's Red Nose Day.



"Austin Powers: International Man of Mystery" When a scene entrance prompts Austin Powers to utter "I bet she shags like a minx," you know a character is going to be memorable. Both in her spectacles and sexy silver mini and boots, Hurley was unforgettable as Powers' right hand, Vanessa Kensington, in this 1997 comedy hit.



Hurley was the quintessential "Leading Lucifer" in 2000's **"Bedazzled,"** in which she played the devious and delicious Devil opposite Brendan Fraser's love-lorn Elliot. With seven wishes to grant her co-star, she blazed across screens in scarlet bikinis and skintight leather pantsuits in moments that were hotter than hell.



"Samson and Delilah" In one of her earlier roles, Hurley was captivating as the ruthless temptress Delilah in this 1996 TV miniseries about the ancient biblical figures.

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TOP LEFT COMIC RELIEF/COMIC RELIEF VIA GETTY IMAGES
TOP RIGHT SUNSET BOULEVARD/CORBIS VIA GETTY IMAGES



“The Dress” It’s 30 years on, and Hurley’s appearance in a va-va-voom Versace dress is regarded as one of the most iconic red carpet images of all time—and we can see why!



“Mickey Blue Eyes” Hurley initially dipped her toes into the world of producing after setting up Simian Films in 1994 with her then-boyfriend Hugh Grant. During their relationship, she produced the films “Extreme Measures” and “Mickey Blue Eyes.”



Hurley joined her son Damian on the red carpet earlier this year as he made his feature writing and directorial debut with the tense erotic thriller “Strictly Confidential.” As Lily, she sends pulses racing in an intriguing story that’s full of unexpected twists and turns.



“Serving Sara” Hurley starred opposite the late Matthew Perry in this 2002 rom-com about a process server who’s hired to speed up divorce proceedings against a British socialite. Plot twist: Hurley’s Sara quickly wraps him around her fingers, as she is wont to do.

THIS PAGE BOTTOM LEFT TO RIGHT PHOTO BY ROBERT MORA/GETTY IMAGES
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Sydney Sweeney

@sydney_sweeney

She's the girl next door with serious range. Thanks to career-defining roles in "Euphoria" and "The White Lotus," as well as the hit rom-com "Anyone But You" (on which she was an executive producer), Sydney Sweeney appeared to be everywhere you looked this year. She's about to take on the role of history-making female boxing icon Christy Martin in a movie that'll surely pack a powerful punch.

THE 2024 MAXIM HOT 100

Text by FREYA DROHAN

*What does it mean to be hot? Maxim's eagerly anticipated **Hot 100** portfolio asks just that, charting the individuals who are blazing a trail in entertainment, fashion, sports and pop culture. Not only are these world-class stars soaring high, breaking ground, smashing records and inspiring future generations with their inimitable talent and determination, they're doing it all while emitting a sizzling, sparkling energy that leaves us in awe. Read on with caution: These names are on fire right now!*

Box-Office BEAUTIES



Margot Robbie

Australia's finest! Whether lighting up our screens or green lighting and executing Oscar-winning projects through her production company LuckyChap Entertainment, Margot Robbie has cemented her status as one of her generation's most influential talents.



Eiza González @eizagonzalez

Mexican beauty Eiza González can do it all, including horror, sci-fi and sitcoms. Also an accomplished musician, González will appear in not one but two Guy Ritchie projects: "Fountain of Youth" with John Krasinski and Natalie Portman, and "In the Grey" with Henry Cavill.



Simone Ashley @simoneashley

"Bridgerton" and "Sex Education" star Simone Ashley has a new feather in her cap. The British-Indian actress has been named to the cast of "F1," an upcoming Apple Original Films production about the fast-paced world of Formula 1, alongside Brad Pitt and Damson Idris.



Daisy Edgar-Jones @daisyedgarjones

When "Twisters" hit theaters in July, it smashed box-office records and enjoyed the biggest domestic opening weekend in history for a disaster movie. It also catapulted its female lead, chic and stylish English actress Daisy Edgar-Jones (of "Normal People" fame) into a bona fide household name.



Hannah Dodd @hannahkdodd

She's the diamond of the season! While she's been working as a model for the past 10 years and more recently as an actress, English rose Hannah Dodd was launched into the spotlight in a whole new way this year when she joined the latest season of "Bridgerton."

OPPOSITE PAGE PHOTO BY TAYLOR HILL/GETTY IMAGES THIS PAGE BOTTOM ROW LEFT TO RIGHT PHOTOS BY TAYLOR HILL/GETTY IMAGES SAMIR HUSSEIN/WIREIMAGE JOHN PHILLIPS/GETTY IMAGES TOPROW LEFT TO RIGHT MIKE MARSLAND/WIREIMAGE GILBERT CARRASQUILLO/GC IMAGES



Camila Morrone @camilamorrone

With an Emmy-nominated role under her belt (in “Daisy Jones & the Six”), model-actress Camila Morrone is increasingly coming into her own. Next, she turns her attention to a major role on the new season of acclaimed “The Night Manager,” set to air in 2025.



Úrsula Corberó @ursulolita

A notable fashion icon with stellar personal style, Úrsula Corberó will reach new audiences as she joins Eddie Redmayne and Lashana Lynch in the upcoming series “The Day of the Jackal.”



Mia Goth

Mia Goth has proved herself as the heir apparent to the title of Scream Queen, thanks to her role as 1980s adult film star Maxine Minx in the grisly slasher flick “MaXXXine,” the third installment in the popular “X” trilogy.



Kaya Scodelario @kayascode

Kaya Scodelario has come a long way since her role as Effy Stonem in the teen drama “Skins.” The British actress parlayed her early fame into an impressive career that spans Hollywood and TV, including her acclaimed role in the crime show “The Gentlemen.”



Zoey Deutch @zoeydeutch

A true chameleon of the industry, Zoey Deutch is currently turning her talents to everything from bigger-budget studio pictures to indie cinema. Plus, not one to rest on her laurels, she’ll make her Broadway debut in “Our Town” at the Barrymore Theatre in September.



Olivia Cooke @livkatecooke

Viewers are obsessed with Olivia Cooke for many reasons, not least for her turn as Queen Alicent Hightower on HBO’s “House of the Dragon.” The excellent English actress will pop up next on the suspenseful drama series “The Girlfriend,” co-starring with Robin Wright.

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Zendaya @zendaya

They were the press tours that rivaled any Fashion Week—and Zendaya was the quintessential supermodel that kept us on our toes throughout. For her films “Challengers” and “Dune, Part Two” the California native had the world waiting to see what epic outfits she would serve next, thereby setting a new precedent for movie promotion in the digital age. Following her early Disney-fame days, the Emmy-winning “Euphoria” actress has become one of the most-sought-after celebrities in the world and a global brand ambassador for the likes of Louis Vuitton, Lancôme and Bulgari.

BOX-OFFICE BEAUTIES



Laura Harrier

@lauraharrier

After being discovered while in acting school by legendary director Sir Steve McQueen, Chicago native Laura Harrier has gone on to have an impressive career in both film and TV. You'll find her next in "Michael," the upcoming 2025 biopic about Michael Jackson, as pioneering female music exec Suzanne de Passe.



Alexa Demie @alexademic

Since her phenomenal breakthrough as Maddy Perez in "Euphoria," Alexa Demie has become a pop culture fixation across entertainment and fashion. After somewhat of a hiatus from the limelight, she was back in front of the camera as Becca in the recent whimsical comedy series "Fantasmas."



Adria Arjona @adriaarjona

All eyes are on Puerto Rican actress Adria Arjona after the release of the Netflix rom-com "Hit Man," in which she stars opposite Glen Powell. Striking while the iron is hot, Arjona is appearing alongside Channing Tatum in the thriller "Blink Twice," directed by Zoë Kravitz.



Saffron Hocking @saffronhocking

This Londoner was a breakthrough star of the "Top Boy" series 3 revival, prompting a BAFTA nom. Catch her next in the Prime Video show "The Devil's Hour"—or on the cover of any glossy magazine as the fashion world can't resist her.



Lily Collins @lilycollins

This pretty-as-a-picture brunette reprised her role as the protagonist in the latest season of "Emily in Paris"—and she's been busy with projects, including a thriller and a murder mystery coming soon.....



Ashley Park @ashleyparklady

You may know her as the quirky best friend from "Emily in Paris," or the suspicious Broadway actress in "Only Murders in the Building," but Grammy- and Tony-nominated Ashley Park has always been a bona fide musical theater star in her own right. Coming up, she'll be seen alongside Alexandra Daddario in "A Tree Fell in the Woods"—and in the meantime, she's usually found sitting front row at major fashion shows around the globe.

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OPPOSITE PAGE PHOTO BY JEFF SPICER/GETTY IMAGES FOR BFI

A black and white portrait of Madelyn Cline. She is shown from the chest up, turned slightly to her right but looking back over her shoulder towards the camera. She has long, straight, light-colored hair. She is wearing large, round, metallic earrings and a dark, strapless top. The background is a plain, light-colored wall.

Madelyn Cline

@madelyncline

She's got millions of fans, thanks to her role on the teen action-adventure drama series "Outer Banks"—with a hotly anticipated fourth season due for release soon. South Carolina native Madelyn Cline has also become a fashion It Girl, with campaigns for Tommy Hilfiger and Stella McCartney and a gig as Revlon's global face.

Music's MOST WANTED

Miley Cyrus @mileycyrus

It's Miley's moment. The Tennessee native is getting her dues, having finally been recognized at this year's Grammy Awards. Her performance of "Flowers" on the night in a vintage sparkling beaded dress also made for a memorable comeback that showed exactly why she's become a pop icon of her generation.





Normani @normani

You probably already know what sizzling-hot singer Normani sounds like, whether from her time as a member of Fifth Harmony or thanks to her solo career. Now the former adviser on “The Voice” is also turning her attention to film, with her turn in “Freaky Tales,” in tandem with the launch of her new album, “Dopamine.”



Jennie Kim @jennierubyjane

Known simply as Jennie, this K-pop icon initially found her fame as a member of Blackpink but has risen to global prominence, thanks to no shortage of fashion partnerships and endorsement deals with the likes of Chanel, Calvin Klein and Jacquemus.

Charli XCX @charli_xcx

There’s one reason why the word “BRAT” will be heard everywhere in 2024. The sultry British singer-songwriter’s sixth studio album received immediate buzz this summer and the rave-pop effort was ranked as the highest-rated launch of 2024 so far.



Tyla @tyla

South African sensation Tyla has the world at her feet, with her first Grammy win, a '90s-inspired Gap campaign and a debut album heating up the “Billboard” charts. Not to mention her viral moment at the Met Gala wearing a dress made out of sand, which is not likely to be forgotten anytime soon.





Sabrina Carpenter @sabinacarpenter

This pop princess is growing up! Since releasing not one but two songs of the summer—"Espresso" and "Please Please Please"—following her buzzy Coachella debut in April, the pint-size performer has everyone awaiting her next move.



Olivia Dean @oliviadeano

Breakthrough British singer Olivia Dean is an It Girl in the making, with a Chanel ambassadorship, a sold-out run of shows at London's Apollo theater and a crystal-clear neo soul voice that could move anyone to tears.



Tems @temsbaby

There's a reason singer-songwriter and producer Tems caught the attention of Justin Bieber, Future and Drake. The pioneering Nigerian artist is lauded for having a distinctive voice that has won her a Grammy. She recently launched her debut studio album, "Born in the Wild."



Jorja Smith @jorjasmith_

No matter what genre she turns her vocals to—from house to R & B—Jorja Smith aces the assignment. Thankfully, the British singer famed for her thick honeyed voice satiated fans' appetites for more with the release of "Falling or Flying (Reimagined)" this year.



Victoria Monét @victoriamonet

One could barely open TikTok without hearing Victoria Monét's track "We Might Even Be Falling in Love." While the singer won the Grammy for Best New Artist this year, she's, also co-written songs for Ariana Grande, Jhené Aiko, Chloe x Halle, and others.

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Dua Lipa @dualipa
“Training Season” is over! British-Albanian chart topper Dua Lipa is living the dream, with a headline set at Glastonbury recently accomplished in the middle of her Radical Optimism Tour. She’s already turned her talents to launching an editorial platform, Service95, starring in movies and creating a music festival named Sunny Hill in her family’s native Kosovo. What’ll she take on next?



Larsen Thompson @larsenthompson
 Since going viral in a dance video set to Beyoncé's "Run the World (Girls)," dancer Larsen Thompson has parlayed her talents into singing, acting and modeling, too. You're likely to find this Raphaelite beauty anywhere from the front row or the recording studio to the red carpet.



Peggy Gou @peggygou_
 Equally admired for her signature personal style, quirky tattoos, and doll-like features as for her dance floor-filling anthems, no female is lighting up the dance music charts quite like South Korean DJ and music producer Peggy Gou.



SZA @sza
 Despite her shy nature, SZA's world-class talent has catapulted her right to the top. In fact, the pillow-pouted and doe-eyed star, who was born in St. Louis and raised in New Jersey, is one of the most-listened-to artists on Spotify worldwide.



Nicole Scherzinger

@nicolescherzinger

The former Pussycat Dolls frontwoman has entered a new chapter, with the success of her return to the West End as Norma Desmond in Andrew Lloyd Webber's "Sunset Boulevard." After garnering awards for her starring stint in London, the actress is preparing to bring the fun to Broadway this fall.

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A full-page photograph of Olivia Rodrigo performing on stage. She is wearing a bright red, sequined, halter-neck dress and has her mouth wide open as if singing or shouting. Her right arm is raised high in the air. She is wearing a necklace with a star pendant and a bracelet on her left wrist. The background is a dark blue stage with some light spots.

Olivia Rodrigo

@oliviarodrigo

She's the veritable voice of Gen Z—and judging by the global phenomenon that was the GUTS World Tour, the future is bright for this Disney star-turned-angsty songstress.



Bella Hadid @bellahadid

Bella Hadid is the definitive supermodel of the Instagram generation, and there's few luxury fashion houses she hasn't fronted campaigns or graced runways for. Now, she's enjoying her next act as a founder and investor, busying herself with growing her fragrance brand Orebella and the nonalcoholic beverage company Kin Euphorics.

Fashion
**FRONT
RUNNERS**

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GILLES BENSIMON



Irina Shayk @irinashayk

The Russian super with a sultry stare, Irina Shayk is known equally for her powerful catwalk stride as her prowess in front of the camera; there's no surprise as to why many designers consider her a muse as well as a model.



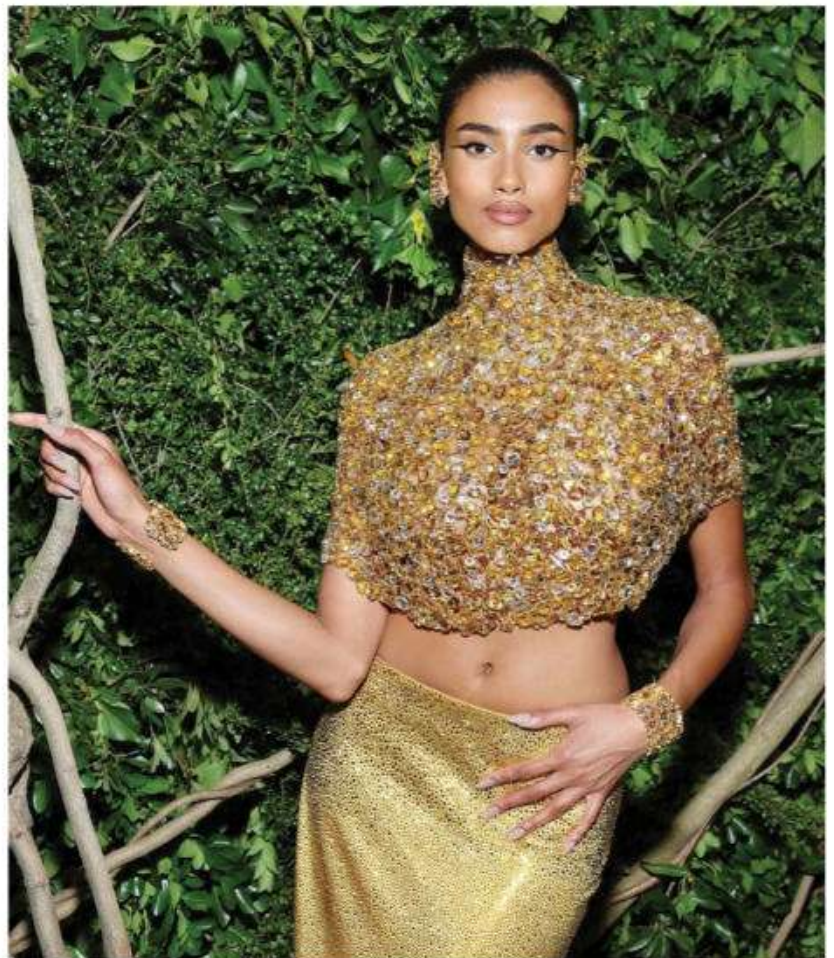
Hailey Bieber @haileybieber

The fact that she's expecting her first child with husband Justin hasn't slowed Hailey Bieber down. With 70 million followers across her socials and the reach of her beauty brand Rhode, Bieber has cemented herself as the industry's most-watched tastemaker.



Vittoria Ceretti @vittoria

Vittoria Ceretti is about to heat things up in a new Dolce & Gabbana campaign alongside Theo James, so get ready to see even more of her. Since being discovered in 2012, the Italian seductress (and rumored girlfriend of Leonardo DiCaprio) has been one of the most consistently booked models in the world.



Imaan Hammam @imaanhammam

Casting directors can't get enough of Dutch-Moroccan-Egyptian scene-stealer Imaan Hammam. Since being discovered at 13, Hammam has become one of the most visible faces of her generation. This helps bring attention to causes she's passionate like furthering representation for fellow Afro-Arab women.

Candice Swanepoel

@candiceswanepoel

After getting her Victoria's Secret Angel wings in 2010, this heavenly 5-foot-10 South African beauty parlayed her supermodel status into ventures including her sustainable swimwear brand Tropic of C. Kindhearted Swanepoel also serves as an ambassador for the mothers2mothers nonprofit.



Anok Yai @anokyai

Anok Yai's career has gone from strength to strength, particularly since she graced the history-making cover of British "Vogue" alongside eight other supermodels of African descent. The Egypt-born American runway regular is also the sexy new face of Mugler's Alien Hypersense fragrance.



Lila Moss @lilamoss

Mini Moss! Iconic supermodel Kate's daughter Lila is increasingly coming into her own. From magazine covers to billboards, the 22-year-old Brit is everywhere. As a type 1 diabetic, she's known to display her glucose monitor on the runway and in glossy images, too.



Francesca Aiello @francescaaiello

Gigi Hadid's childhood best friend Francesca Aiello is the beach-loving blonde behind the swimwear brand Frankies Bikinis. Thanks to collaborations with Hadid, Pamela Anderson, and Naomi Osaka, as well as an \$18 million investment from Victoria's Secret, there's no stopping this inspiring entrepreneur or her label.



Lulu Wood @luluwood_

A chance meeting in a Perth shopping center with a renowned model agent would change then-schoolgirl Lulu Wood's life forever. Since then, the fairy-like ethereal beauty has become a favorite of Dolce & Gabbana, Jimmy Choo and Tom Ford to name but a few.



Devyn Garcia @devynfaithgarcia

Victoria's Secret is just one client who's ensuring Devyn Garcia is a face of the moment. The Miami-raised model, whose heritage is a mix of Spanish, Black, White and Native American, has been steadily working with the lingerie giant since 2021, not to mention Chloé, Alexander McQueen and Calvin Klein.

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Iris Law @irisaw

When Kate Moss is your godmother, you know you're destined for the modeling hall of fame. Iris, daughter of actors Sadie Frost and Jude Law, has become an in-demand name lately for the likes of Marc Jacobs, Versace, Miu Miu and Dior Beauty. Considering she made her debut as a toddler in the pages of "Vogue," we'd expect nothing less.



Barbara Valente @__valente

From the beaches of Brazil to the international runways, Barbara Valente has been steadily rising through the ranks to become one of the most consistently booked of her peers. Catch her everywhere from Fendi campaigns to Zara look-books and every brand's catwalk between her nonstop shooting days.



Yasmin Wijnaldum @yasminwijnaldum

A week after being scouted in her native Amsterdam, Yasmin Wijnaldum found herself on the runway for Prada. A decade later, her powerful catwalk strut is one of the most recognizable in the industry and her chiseled bone structure ensures she's a regular in campaigns, too.



Kaia Gerber @kaiagerber

When your mom is one of the most famous supermodels of her generation, it's safe to say you've won the genetic lottery. Kaia Gerber, gorgeous daughter of Cindy Crawford, is a chip off the block, and after dominating the modeling industry for years, she's now turning her attention to acting and growing her burgeoning online book club.

Jasmine Sanders

@goldenbarbie

You're as likely to see striking supermodel and influencer Jasmine Sanders walking the runway or sitting front row. She's also increasingly pivoting toward TV, having been spotted lately as a guest juror on "Germany's Next Top Model."



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GILLES BENSIMON TOP ROW LEFT TO RIGHT SAMIR HUSSEIN / CONTRIBUTOR TAYLOR HILL/FILMMAGIC



Rising
STARS

Leomie Anderson

@leomieanderson

One-time Victoria's Secret Angel Leomie Anderson is a force to be reckoned with. From TV hosting and podcasting to advocating against racial discrimination in the modeling industry and running her own activewear brand, she does everything she turns her attention to with aplomb.



Grace Burns @graciebrns

Grace Burns is ready for her closeup! The daughter of Christy Turlington and Ed Burns has been making waves since her modeling debut, quickly landing campaigns and runway gigs. She won't be relying on just her beauty, though, as she's busying herself with photography and poetry side hustles as well.



Michelle Keegan @michkeegan

English rose Michelle Keegan was catapulted to attention in the United States earlier this year after her turn as Maya Stern in the nail-biting Netflix thriller, "Fool Me Once," which fast became one of the most watched shows in the platform's history.



Freya Tidy @freyatidy

From McDonald's employee to fashion muse of the moment, this stunning British model, dancer and content creator is an in-demand influencer, working regularly with brands including Gucci Beauty and YSL Beauty. It's no wonder her videos have amassed almost 25 millions likes on TikTok.



Angelina Kendall

@angelinakendall_ If there's one new face the luxury fashion world is enamored with, it's Brazilian-Kiwi-Australian stunner Angelina Kendall. Just one year since her runway debut, she's now regularly on the catwalk and fronting global campaigns for some of the biggest labels in the world.



Elle Smith @officialesmith

Former Miss USA Elle Smith's unique beauty has led to a career post-pageant life modeling for the likes of Tommy Hilfiger. Now that she has new agency representation in London as well as the U.S., get ready to see a lot more of those distinctive blonde curls and caramel skin.



Eloise Dufka @eloisedufka

Content creator and model Eloise Dufka has an angelic face you won't soon forget. Born in Nairobi and raised around the world by her mom, she's now based between New York City and Los Angeles, where she's booked and busy with household-name fashion and beauty brands.

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RISING STARS



Elena Azzaro @elenaazzaro

Celebrated for her distinctive panther-like runway walk and chameleon-like prowess, brands can't get enough of working with sultry Italian model Elena Azzaro. The green-eyed beauty has also-co founded a new techno music event, Acida, which kicked off in New York City this summer.



GloRilla @glorillapimp

This year has been major for Gloria Hallelujah Woods, aka GloRilla. The bling-loving Memphis-born rapper recently released her debut commercial mixtape, which features the single "Wanna Be" alongside Megan Thee Stallion and already has nearly 5 million Instagram followers ready for her next move.



Muni Long @munilong

Overnight success was years in the making for Priscilla Renea Hamilton, known professionally as Muni (pronounced like "money") Long. The talented writer behind songs for stars including Rihanna, Ariana Grande and Demi Lovato, she had a breakout hit of her own with last year's "Made for Me."



Sofia Harmanda @sofiaharmanda

Gorgeous Greek model Sofia Harmanda has relocated to the Big Apple to continue her career Stateside. With chocolate brown doe eyes and cheekbones that could cut glass, it's clear to see why she's a favorite of magazines and clothing brands alike.



Tate McRae @tatemerae

While Canadian triple-threat Tate McRae initially found fame as a teen on "So You Think You Can Dance," she later burst back on the scene as a full-fledged pop star. With several "Billboard" hits under her belt, she's also connecting with fans on YouTube.



Madhulika Sharma @madhulikasharma

Click onto any fashion website and chances are you'll see one familiar face with a smoldering stare gazing back at you. NYC-based Indian gazelle Madhulika Sharma is an in-demand e-commerce models, and who's studying at the Stella Adler Studio of Acting.

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Sistine Stallone *@sistinestallone*

Sylvester Stone's actress and model daughter has entered her next act. She helms the podcast "Unwaxed" with her sister Sophia; together, the duo delves into everything from dating and relationships to life advice in each episode, calling in their Hollywood icon dad as a guest star.



Sandra Shehab *@sandrashehab*

A former contestant on "America's Next Top Model," this New Jersey native with Egyptian roots is parlaying her arresting beauty and chill personality into a budding career as a content creator for beauty and fashion brands.



Jasmine Daniels *@jasminedaniels*

This smoke show has a résumé that would make any would-be model green with envy. Think: lingerie and swimwear campaigns for the likes of Victoria's Secret, Skims, Kith, Calvin Klein, O'Neill and Frankies Bikinis, to name but a few.



Khristyana Kazakova *@khrystyana*

As the founder of The Real Catwalk fashion event series, Russian model Kazakova is a prominent figure in the body-positive movement, celebrating and highlighting natural beauty in all its formats.

Maura Higgins

@maurahiggins

From the moment she graced screens on "Love Island" as a contestant, Irish model-turned-media personality Maura Higgins was destined for stardom. The *Maxim* cover girl can now be found heating things up in Fiji as the scorching-hot host of "Love Island USA Aftersun."

Digital
DARLINGS

OPPOSITE PAGE PHOTO BY SAMIR HUSSEIN/WIREIMAGE OPPOSITE PAGE BOTTOM ROW LEFT TO RIGHT PHOTOS BY PHILLIP FARAONE/GETTY IMAGES FOR GO GARETH CATTERMOLE/GETTY IMAGES GARETH CATTERMOLE/GETTY IMAGES MIDDLE ROW LEFT TO RIGHT STEVEN SIMIONE/GETTY IMAGES STEFANIE KEENAN/GETTY IMAGES ARTURO HOLMES/GETTY IMAGES TOP ROW LEFT TO RIGHT GOTHAM/GC IMAGES ALEXANDER TAMARGO/GETTY IMAGES FOR SPORTS ILLUSTRATED GILLES BENSIMON



Alex Cooper @alexandracooper

At the helm of the world's most-listened-to podcast by women sits enterprising media mogul Alex Cooper. A member of the 2023 Time100 Next list, she's since gone on to launch The Unwell Network, which gives a platform to fellow podcasters.



Alix Earle @alix_earle

After finding unprecedented success on TikTok for her candid uploads from her college bedroom, bubbly beauty Alix Earle has paved the way for a new generation of influencers whose unique selling power is their relatability.



Camille Kostek @camillekostek

Maxim cover star Camille Kostek can do it all. The sunny blonde has no shortage of strings to her bow, with a résumé that spans cheerleading, modeling, acting, TV hosting, brand collaborations, activism and more.



Nara Smith

@naraaziza

Got a craving? There's nothing that domestic goddess model and mom Nara Smith can't whip up. The South African-German content creator has become a household name, thanks to videos that show her making everything from condiments to bubble gum from scratch.



Gabbriette @gabbriette

You never know where you'll see model, musician and muse Gabbriette Bechtel next. Having started out as the lead singer of punk rock band Nasty Cherry, her distinctive style and look caught the eye of modeling agencies and fashion brands. This led to working with the likes of Skims, Marc Jacobs and Diesel.



Monet McMichael

@monetmcmichael

Jersey girl Monet McMichael might now have millions of followers for her beauty and fashion updates, but some have been watching since her days as a nursing student. To date, the beautiful Black-Puerto Rican's content has garnered 349 million likes on TikTok...and counting!



Christina Nadin @christinanadin

She's got one of Instagram's most enviable manes, so it makes sense that divine U.K.-raised Filipina-Irish model and influencer Christina Nadin would set her sights on launching a line of chic hair accessories named Bahay Kubo.



Olivia Neill @olivianeill

Millions of people hang on every moment of Northern Irish podcaster and YouTuber Olivia Neill's life, hoping to get a glimpse into her global travels with luxury brands alongside pals like Lila Moss and Stella Jones.



Paige Lorenze @paigelorenze

The founder of lifestyle and fashion brands Dairy Boy and American Charm, Paige Lorenze has a new audience as the most-watched WAG of tennis, as her courtside style steals the spotlight from her beau, Tommy Paul.

Brooks Nader

@brooksnader

The unstoppable Brooks Nader is on a high. The Louisiana-born model is dizzy with campaigns and covers every month, and a rumored reality TV show also starring her equally gorgeous three sisters as they navigate life in New York.

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Lori Harvey @loriharvey
Model and entrepreneur Lori Harvey, adopted daughter of TV host Steve Harvey, keeps busy with everything from front row and red carpet appearances to conceptualizing new drops for her fashion line, Yevrah Swim, and clean skincare brand, SKN by LH.



Lexi Kaleiia @lexikaleiia
Lexi Kaleiia, winner of the Maxim Cover Girl 2023 search, has her eyes on the prize. The nature-loving South African one-to-watch is busy growing her bikini brand, ramping up her content and focusing on her burgeoning modeling career.



Haley Kalil @haleyybaylee
Strawberry blonde-haired funny woman Haley Kalil went from Miss Minnesota Teen USA to a "Sports Illustrated" Swimsuit Issue rookie, but it's her cheeky TikTok personas (think: the "stay-at-home billionaire's girlfriend") that have cemented her status as one of social media's biggest names.



Nicole Williams English @justnic
Nicole Williams English is one of only two women to ever be featured in the "Sports Illustrated" Swimsuit edition while visibly pregnant. The former "WAGS LA" star has amassed a fan base for her content, which showcases her unique personal style



Ellie Thumann @elliethumann
At 23, Ellie Thumann has racked up an astonishing amount of catwalk miles, magazine spreads and campaigns. These days, she's also a fashion influencer on Instagram, where 1.5 million people obsess over her latest adventures.



Amanda McCants @amandamccants
"Just be hot" might be a tongue-in-cheek catchphrase from her many satirical videos, but TikTok star Amanda McCants has indeed won over fans for both her girl-next-door vibe and sharp wit.

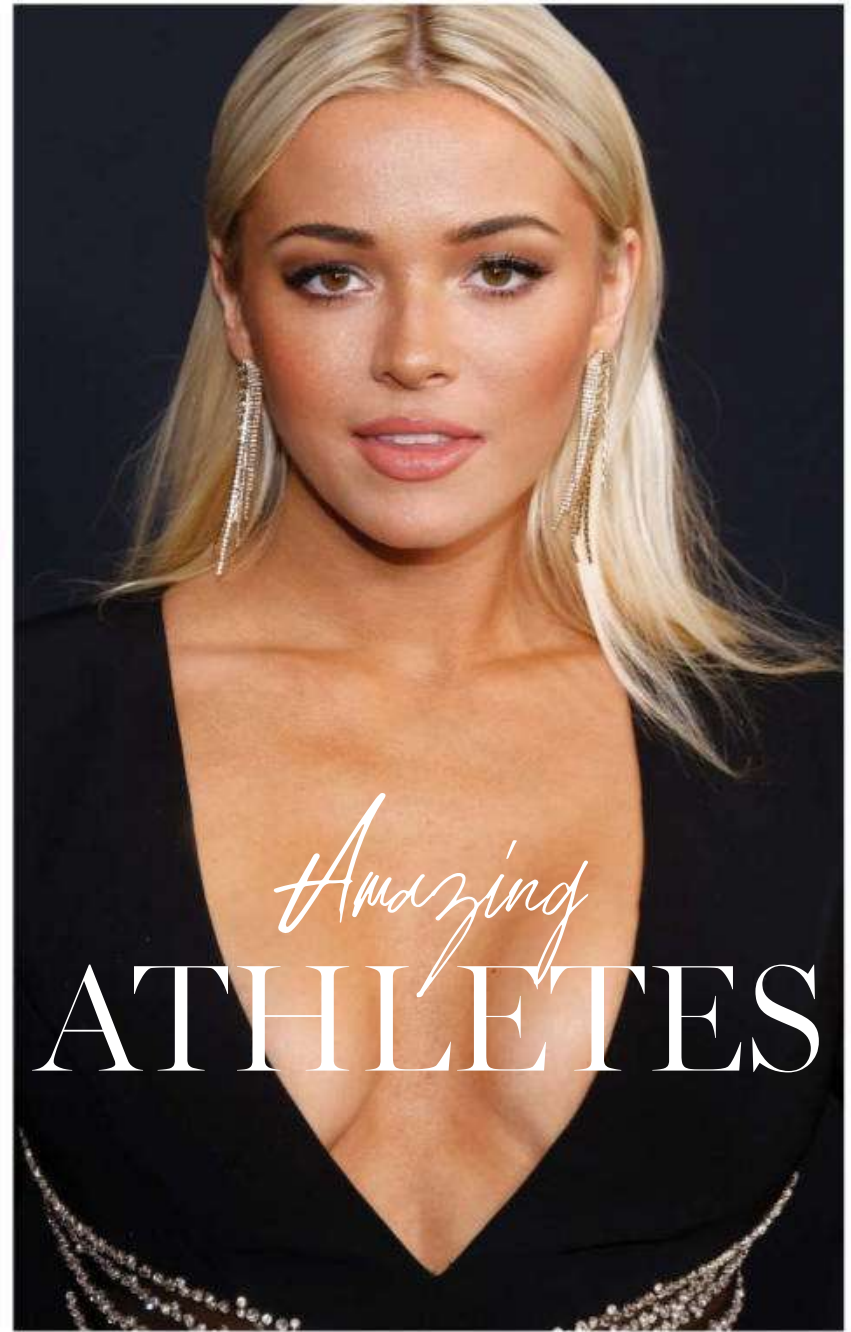


Maya Jama @mayajama
British presenter Maya Jama's megawatt smile and seductive feline stare might be the first things you notice, but with a career that spans TV and radio, not to mention fashion campaigns and "Vogue" covers, she's got the smarts, substance and style to do it all.



Coco Gauff @cocogauff

She may be only 20 years old, but Cori Gauff, aka Coco, will go down in American history as one of tennis's most phenomenal players. With seven WTA Tour career single titles already to her credit—including last year's U.S. Open—and nine WTA Tour career doubles, she's already proven that she's destined for Hall of Fame status.



Olivia Dunne @livvydunne

Future college athletes can thank LSU gymnast Olivia "Livvy" Dunne for breaking the mold when it comes to their earning power. The first-ever NIL athlete signed with WME Sports, with a combined 13.3 million followers on Instagram and TikTok, she's regarded as the highest-valued female college athlete.



Cameron Brink @cameronbrink22

Cameron Brink has the world at her feet. The Stanford alum and current Los Angeles Sparks forward was the first female basketball player to sign with New Balance and recently fronted a Skims x WNBA underwear campaign. Brink also uses her platform to destigmatize mental health and raise awareness around anxiety.



Sami Clarke @samiclark

Model-turned-health-and-wellness professional Sami Clarke is the first name on the lips of fitness-obsessed women around the world. Through her method, Form, Clarke has helped thousands of people transform their bodies with her signature time-efficient workouts, which are rooted in Pilates and strength training.



Emma Raducanu

British tennis champ Emma Raducanu is considered one of the world's most marketable athletes. The former British No. 1 has worked alongside Evian and Porsche. She may have withdrawn before an anticipated mixed doubles match this summer at Wimbledon, but the future is still bright for the 21-year-old pro.



Eileen Gu @eileengu

Chinese-American athlete Eileen Gu became the youngest Olympic champion in freestyle skiing history after winning gold at age 18. At the same Winter Olympics games in 2022, she also became the first freestyle skier to win three medals at a single Olympics. Now signed to IMG Models, Gu is unstoppable in the luxury fashion space as an in-demand brand ambassador.

THIS PAGE BOTTOM ROW LEFT TO RIGHT SARAH STIER/GETTY IMAGES (PHOTO BY STEFANIE KEENAN/GETTY IMAGES FOR GOOD.CLEAN.GOOP AURELIEN MEUNIER/GETTY IMAGES FOR ITF (TAYLOR HILL/GETTY IMAGES TOP ROW LEFT TO RIGHT JULIAN FINNEY/GETTY IMAGES TAYLOR HILL/WIREIMAGE

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Élodie Clouvel

@elodieclouvel
French pentathlete Élodie Clouvel is a force to be reckoned with. Six-foot-tall Clouvel, the daughter of two athletes, won the silver medal in Rio in 2016 for the sport (which consists of fencing, swimming, riding and running/shooting) and took the silver in modern pentathlon in Paris this summer.



Bianca Bustamante

@racerbia
McLaren Driver Development team member Bianca Bustamante is one to watch. The England-based Filipina F1 star in the making has been competing against the boys since the age of 5—and now she's chasing down victories at 220 miles an hour or sharing a glimpse into life in the fast lane for her millions of followers.



Angel Reese *@angelreese5*

As the nation was swept up in WNBA mania this year, Chicago Sky forward Angel Reese emerged as one of the country's most promising athletes. Now that she's finished her communication, leadership development and psychology studies at LSU, the 6-foot-3 "Bayou Barbie" has a promising future ahead that combines sports and modeling.



Sharlene Mawdsley *@sharlenemr*

Irish sprinter Sharlene Mawdsley recently helped her national team take home medals at both this year's World Athletics Relays and European Athletics Championships events. The speedy track star also ticked off a major career accomplishment this spring, when she qualified to represent Team Ireland in the Olympics for the first time.



Rayna Vallandingham

@raynacallandingham
Having started her martial-arts journey at just 2 years old, California-native Rayna Vallandingham has earned 13 world-championship titles in tae kwon do. She's also a fourth-degree black belt in the sport, and there's evidently no stopping this WME and IMG-repped talent.



Imani-Lara Lansiquot *@imanilara*

Team Great Britain sprinter Imani-Lara Lansiquot is one of only three British women to break the 11-second mark for the 100 meters. (The other two are Dina Asher-Smith and Daryll Neita.) The fashion-loving Londoner also holds a psychology degree and is a core member of the RACEquality Network for British Athletics, championing diversity and inclusion in sports.

WATER WORLD

The New York Yacht Club team, *American Magic*, will make another run at the America's Cup in Barcelona through October

Text by JORDAN RIEFE



During the 2021 America's Cup regatta, the Auckland waters were unkind to American Magic's AC75 "Patriot." During a semifinal race, the team had overtaken Italy's Luna Rossa Prada Pirelli and was leading by a significant margin when the wind speed jumped during a risky maneuver, causing the vessel to capsize.

"The moment is still surreal," Skipper Terry Hutchinson told *BOAT International* at the time. "I can still see the water bubbling around me as I struggle to get out of my harness. One tether is keeping me pinned under the surface, and with every attempt to get air,

all I'm getting is water. The main sail is on top of me, as well as my teammates Cooper Dressler, Cicho Cicchetti and Tim Hornsby. What seems like an eternity ends up passing in seconds as Cooper and Cicho cut me out and I'm able to get that first big gasp of air."

This year, the New York Yacht Club (NYYC) team American Magic seeks redemption at the 37th America's Cup, presented by Louis Vuitton, in Barcelona from August through October. Since its inception in 1851, NYYC held the America's Cup for 132 years before losing it in 1983 to "Australia II" and the Royal Perth Yacht Club. Since then, it's been touch and go for the United States, inter-



**“USUALLY THE BOAT
THAT’S MOST EXTREME
WINS—OR LOSES—BY A LOT”**

mittently giving up the trophy to Switzerland and New Zealand, but mostly New Zealand.

“They’re a well-polished outfit,” Skipper Hutchinson, one of the world’s most esteemed sailors, tells *Maxim*. New Zealand has the most successful team in the modern era, having won the America’s Cup four times (1995, 2000, 2017 and 2021). “We saw that last time how advanced their boat was in front of everybody else. But this time around it’s a different story. All the boats are much more similar. We’re probably a little bit more the outlier than some of the others—the hull shape and the form. And usually the boat that’s most

extreme wins—or loses—by a lot.”

Six teams will be competing in Barcelona, including INEOS Britannia (United Kingdom), Alinghi Red Bull Racing (Switzerland), Luna Rossa Prada Pirelli (Italy), Orient Express Racing Team (France), Emirates New Zealand and American Magic (United States).

“Last time around we had more of a Y-shaped foil,” says Paul Goodison of the bespoke design characterizing the team’s new iteration of “Patriot.” A seasoned helmsman, Goodison clinched an Olympic Gold Medal in Beijing 2008. “This time around we’ve

gone much more toward the T. So the foil basically interacts when it comes out of the water at a different angle. The bend properties are different to what they were before, and also the leading edge of the foil. We're trying sharp leading edges to dissipate some of the drag we're having. So there's a whole heap of innovation going on."

Working with simulators, the design team, led by Scott Ferguson, had to anticipate race conditions nearly two years in advance. American Magic's team of 30 designers, CFD analysts, engineers, naval architects, AI resources and boatbuilders put in more than 108,000 design hours and 65,000 construction hours in refining every aspect of the new boat.

Introduced in 2013, innovations include foils on which the boat sails above the water and minimizing the space between the hull and the ocean's surface. But with warmer temperatures, the teams are expecting chop, presumably necessitating a rise of about two feet.

"That's bigger than usual," Goodison notes. "The boat will always be fastest when it's lying close to the water because it creates a surface effect and that helps performance. So when you design the boat, you take all that into consideration. Here in Barcelona, because we're up against a beach and a break wall for the port, you get feedback of waves off that."

The design team also had to anticipate wind and wave conditions. "You have to kind of pick what you're aiming for," Hutchinson observes. "And if the weather is in that condition, it should be fast. And if it's out of that condition, it's how you get the most out of it when it's suboptimal."

The race schedule begins August 22–25 with finals taking place October 12–21. Best viewing points are on the beach between Port Vell and Port Olímpic in Barcelona. The Fanzone Plaça del Mar will feature the competition on a giant screen with catering and bar options. Farther north, the Fanzone Bogatell will offer a unique beachfront perspective just a few hundred meters from the action. Situated along the Moll de la Fusta, the official Race Village will include big screens, restaurants and bars.

For a close-up look, charter a yacht from the Edmiston fleet, which includes the 212-

foot "Resilience." Accommodating 12 guests in seven staterooms, it features a main-deck master with foldout terraces. The 119-foot "Preference 19" sleeps 10 guests in five staterooms and includes a basketball hoop and golf mat. The 108-foot "The Mac One" also accommodates 10 guests in five staterooms.

Landlubbers are advised to take a room at Barcelona's best hotel, El Palace, formerly the Ritz. Its neoclassical opulence is captured in the stately marble-columned entryway and vast main hall. Stay in the first floor Dalí suite, where the famed surrealist artist lived for a time in the 1970s. The Art Deco El Palace Suite was designed by Rolling Stones guitarist Ronnie Wood, and there's another named for Josephine Baker, the 1920s rage of Paris. Sadly, elegance ain't cheap; expect to pay more than \$4,000 per night for a standard room during high season.

Dine in chef Rafa Zafra's 2-Michelin-starred Amar Restaurant, where the accent is on Mediterranean and traditional Catalan cuisine, including seafood from Costa Brava, meat from the Pyrenees and local produce, with a substantial section of the menu devoted to caviar. If ambiance is a priority, eat at the rooftop garden surrounded by a stunning 360-degree view of the city.

More reasonably priced alternatives include The One, located just steps from Catalan architect Antoni Gaudí's landmark apartment house, La Pedrera-Casa Milà. Starting at around \$375 in low season, its tasteful contemporary design affords intimate though spacious accommodations. Starting from \$1,600, the Terrace Suite

Sagrada Família includes a private terrace with a hot tub and outdoor showers, plus spectacular views of its namesake, Gaudí's unfinished cathedral, the Sagrada Família.

El Palace sits on the edge of the Gothic Quarter, adjacent to the city's harbor, while The One is a short walk away. Both are just a brief cab ride from the racing action.

"Ultimately we have to beat the defender," Goodison said of Emirates New Zealand in early May as the new boat was christened. "In some ways the regatta's already been decided as the boats have all been designed. Now we put it in the sailors' hands and see where we can get to."

**"IN SOME WAYS THE
REGATTA'S ALREADY
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ALL PHOTOS COURTESY OF NYC AMERICAN MAGIC

“THERE’S A WHOLE HEAP
OF INNOVATION
GOING ON”





AMERICAN UNDERDOG

John Hennessey built the world's fastest production car from his modest tuning shop in Houston, besting the automotive industry's most powerful corporations. Now, with his new Venom F5 hypercar, he's gunning for even more speed

Text by NICOLAS STECHER

For John Hennessey, the moment he realized the esoteric power of torque was a seminal one. He does suggest his connection with petroleum-firing cylinders dates prenatal, when he swears remembering driving around Houston in his dad's stick-shift 1964 GTO 389—while still in his mom's womb. But the first time Hennessey credits being consciously smacked in the head with that indelible power was when, as a seventh grader, he'd ignored his mother's orders to be home by curfew.





“I knew I was supposed to be home for something, but I was blowing it off,” John recalls, chuckling at the memory. “By then my dad had a ’68 Pontiac GTO and he comes ripping down the street, rolls down his window, and says, ‘You’re supposed to be home. Get your ass back there!’ And I said, ‘Yes, sir.’ So I go to get in the car, but he slams it into gear and does about a 200-foot burnout because he’s pissed off, and basically he’s telling me that I had to walk home. All of a sudden my social status with my junior high friends went up because now I’ve got this cool dad who does burnouts,” he laughs. “I thought, ‘Okay, well, maybe if I get some social status with my friends, maybe they’ll give me some status with the ladies.’”

When he finally bought his first car, a 1969 Oldsmobile 442 convertible, on day one Hennessey started modifying the carburetor, spark plug wires and exhaust. The speed bug bit.

By college, his parents had divorced. Running out of money paying his own way through an engineering degree, John took what he now jokingly dubs “a 40-year gap year.” While nursing his entrepreneurial spirit with a successful asbestos-removal business, in 1991 he funneled the profits into a blood red Mitsubishi 3000GT VR-4 and started cranking away on the famed 3.0-liter V6, steadily increasing output from 320 to more than 500 horses. Inspired by a magazine feature on Pikes Peak, he drove the roll cage-enhanced 3000GT to Colorado and ran the famed sprint. And while Hennessey didn’t place, he also didn’t crash.



But it was too late, the speed bug multiplied through his bloodstream, inspiring him to follow up quickly with two Nevada races: the Silver State Classic and Nevada Open Road Challenge. The only commandment for the latter, a closed-off 90-mile stretch of highway north of Vegas, was all gas, no brakes. By his second attempt John averaged 167 mph, capturing the unlimited class and second place overall. In the interim, he also set a class record at Bonneville. The virus now took full control.

“I got a little bit of a reputation of being this crazy guy from Texas who loads up his tools, helmet, spare wheels and tires, and just sticks them in the back of his car and shows up to races,” Hennessey remembers wistfully of his penchant for driving to and from events. After one particular long drive home, victorious and with plenty of time to indulge wild thoughts, he broke his vision to his new bride.

“I’m like, ‘I don’t know if this car thing will work or not, but I really enjoy it. I think I’m good at it, and I think there are other people out there who would pay me to modify their cars.’”

As with all successful endeavors, kismet too played its role. That 3000GT VR-4 mod package held more import than could ever be expected, as John transitioned much of it from the Mitsubishi to the Dodge Viper—an American muscle car so overpowered that it became synonymous with absurd rear-wheeled hedonism at the turn of the century. Bolting on a couple turbochargers to the 8.5-liter V10, among other upgrades, the nascent Hennessey Performance



Above: Hennessey Performance founder and CEO John Hennessey is ready for a high-speed spin



“I NEEDED THAT BOOST OF CONFIDENCE AFTER THE SUCCESS OF THE VENOM GT TO TELL ME THAT, ‘OKAY, WE’VE GOT WHAT IT TAKES TO BUILD OUR OWN CAR’ ”



boosted output to make the Venom 1000 Viper one of the most powerful cars of the era. The rest, as they say, is Texas hooligan history, as the small Houston shop exploded with the success of his infamous Venom 1000 Viper.

To be clear, it usually wasn't John himself smeared in grease wrenching away under a lift, tweaking air filters and adding superchargers. Rather, here's where Hennessey applied his first Fundamental Rule of Success: *Know thyself*.

“I've always been creative, always good at marketing and sales,” he says. “But what I learned early on when I started racing is that I knew what I wanted the car to do and had a general idea of how I wanted to get it there, but I've always felt like there's more talented mechanics. I've probably been able to get where I wanted to go quicker by partnering with or hiring people that have those very specific high-level talented skills to help me achieve my vision.”

The formula worked, and in the coming years the Hennessey Performance Venom 1000 Viper adorned the covers of evermore gushing petrol-head magazines, winning countless shootouts. Soon segueing from print to the digital age, it became a star of the Internet, YouTube and now social media. The company expanded from Vipers to Corvettes, Camaros and Mustangs, and eventually trucks, pickups and mammoth SUVs. A victim of its own success, Hennessey Performance couldn't keep up with demand.



The next step perhaps best crystallizes Hennessey's entrepreneurial gift, as when challenged with a lack of engineers capable of elevating his firm to the next level, did he complain or fret? No. See his second Fundamental Rule of Success: *If a solution doesn't exist, build one*.

Ergo, if capable engineers don't exist, why not create them himself? So in 2009 John opened up his own Tuner School, where every year he trains about a hundred students from all over the world. Beyond earning him handsome tuition checks, the training ground created a direct pipeline where he plucks the very best to join the growing Hennessey empire. To date, Hennessey estimates more than half of his technical staff have come directly in-house from Tuner School.





On one particularly impactful “Road and Track” shootout in 2007, the company’s “Fly Navy” Venom 1000 Twin Turbo Viper accomplished the seemingly impossible, besting the Bugatti Veyron—along with a rogue’s gallery of factory supercars, exotics and modified cars—by clocking a 210.2-mph top speed. This David and Goliath feat, defeating a seven-figure hypercar from one of the industry’s most historic racing marques, earned Hennessey fame. “After that shootout I thought, ‘Okay, that’s great for business. But where do we go from here?’ We’re always looking for the next mountain to climb. I thought, well, gosh, we could just keep adding horsepower, but maybe there’s a way we could go with something lighter weight? And I joked with a friend of mine, ‘Why don’t we take a Lotus Elise, swap out that little four-cylinder and put our twin-turbo Viper engine in the back of it?’”

From that seemingly innocuous joke was born not just the Venom GT but an entirely new arm of the Hennessey octopus that would focus on designing and building its own cars fully in-house: Hennessey Special Vehicles. When headed to the SEMA show that year John tucked some renderings of this unnamed prototype into his backpack and showed them to veteran journalist Mike Spinelli. A couple days after returning from Vegas, Spinelli published them on Jalopnik, and the buzz was so loud it shook the concept from fanciful rendering to potential reality. Suddenly, finally, John knew his next step.

The first Hennessey Venom GT saw the light of day in 2010. By 2014 the Venom GT ran 270 miles an hour on a stretch of the Kennedy Space Center, besting the Bugatti Veyron’s top speed record and earning Hennessey Special Vehicles the record for the world’s fastest production car.

Imagine: Bugatti, Lamborghini, Porsche and Ferrari boast nearly infinite budgets, coffers overflowing with capital, cutting-edge technology and world-class engineers. And here’s this tiny outfit—essentially a mod shop out of Texas—designing, engineering and building a vehicle capable of conquering them all.

“I was probably more relieved than I was elated,” John shares when asked about the pride he felt at such a Herculean, truly tectonic accomplishment. “I’ve always told my kids that I hate losing more than I like winning. Now, in the past five years, maybe the joy that I get from winning—because I went to this therapy thing for some childhood trauma crap a long time ago—maybe now I can tap into feel-



ing joy a little bit more than I used to feel.”

To wit, John Hennessey’s third and final Fundamental Rule of Success: *Hate losing. A lot.*

At last count, Hennessey estimates the company has modified some 16,000 vehicles in the past 33 years, selling 13 Venom GTs before sunsetting the model in 2015. And despite the accomplishment, something always stuck in his indefatigable craw: Internet haters who would comment that all Hennessey accomplished was an engine swap, nothing more. Clearly frustrated, he lists the parts carried over from the Elise (chassis, head- and tail-lights, windscreen and parts of the dash) but states “basically 90 percent of the Venom GT was our own car.”

Realizing he’d erred by not changing the exterior Lotus styling enough, his team drew up designs for a successor with utterly redesigned sheet metal. John sent the plans to longtime buyer and supporter Phil Schiller, a former Apple senior vice president, asking for his thoughts.

“So Phil responds: ‘John, you’re just not going to get credit for having your own design till you engineer your own car.’ And that’s the point that spoke truth to me. It was painful to hear at the time, but I’m like, ‘He’s exactly right.’”

Schiller’s response, although a gut punch, precisely exposed what Hennessey needed to hear to cement the fact that no matter how valiantly he jousts with Internet trolls and YouTube commenters, there would be only one way to shut them up for good. But building

“IT’S RISKY GOING OUT AND BREAKING TOP SPEED RECORDS AND TESTING CARS AT SUPER HIGH SPEEDS, BUT IT’S PART OF OUR DNA, PART OF WHO WE ARE AND WHAT WE DO”



a car from the ground up requires a lot of money—and the world’s best minds. So he galvanized support from partners Shell and Pennzoil, whom he calls “more than sponsors,” and they funded an exterior design and build for a full-scale 1:1 model of what they called the Venom F5. Once again John chose SEMA to debut his new creation, bringing the concept to Vegas in 2017. That was enough to drum up six orders, sufficient to justify the engineering cost for Hennessey Special Vehicles to shift into the next gear.

“I needed that boost of confidence after the success of the Venom GT to tell me that, ‘Okay, we’ve got what it takes to build our own car.’ And then as that momentum continued to build, it’s been cool because now we’ve attracted some high-level talent for the Venom F5.” On that note Hennessey proudly namechecks guys like Brian Jones, Hennessey VP of engineering, who at his previous position at Multimatic was the chief engineer on tentpole hypercar unicorns like the Mercedes-AMG ONE, Aston Martin Valkyrie and Ford GT.

“I replied back to that e-mail Phil sent me with pictures of the F5



and said, 'Hey, look what your e-mail in 2013 led to.' And he ordered a car a week later," adds Hennessey, noting the important role the Apple exec had on his company. "The Venom F5 wouldn't exist today if it were not for some of our customers believing in me, believing in the brand, believing in the product, believing that we could do it. Because look, I get people asking all the time, 'What was the biggest challenge in building the Venom F5?' And my answer is always, 'It was getting people to believe.'"

Not just suppliers, sponsors and employees to believe, mind you, but even his wife and children. This is no small order when one di-

vulges that he's aiming to engineer a hypercar from the ground up designed around a hand-built 6.6-liter V8 so explosive that John purposefully dubbed it "Fury"—after the "War Daddy" M4 Sherman tank that reportedly destroyed more than 250 German vehicles during World War II. But this hard-earned belief has been rewarded. Sizzling with 1,193 lb-ft of torque and a hellfire stable of 1,817 horses, the Venom F5 in its latest Revolution Coupe mode recently captured the track record at the Circuit of the Americas—besting the one-time record holder McLaren P1's run by almost seven seconds, and the previous Czinger 21C by 0.43 seconds. To date Hennessey Special Vehicles

Continued on next page

AMERICAN UNDERDOG

Continued from previous page

have delivered more than 20 Venom F5's to itchy-trigger-fingered buyers, with 30 to be finished by year's end. In total almost 50 units have been sold. Still, the brand's ultimate goal eludes the stubborn Texan.

"We told the world we're going to build the world's fastest car, so are we going to do that?" Hennessey asks the sky, or perhaps himself. "We still haven't forgotten about that goal. Matter of fact, I've got a whole army of engineers doing aerodynamic testing on a runway today, and we're still intent on beating Bugatti. Yeah, it's risky going out and breaking top speed records and testing cars at super high speeds, but it's part of our DNA, part of who we are and what we do."

The American Underdog once again bringing the good fight straight to the doorsteps of Europe. This small tuning shop from Houston, boasting barely 100 employees, taking on giants with seemingly endless resources at their disposal. Despite this colossal imbalance, John reveals at the moment the biggest obstacle to reaching the goal of world's fastest is not necessarily engineering or funding—it's simply finding a road in America long enough to allow him to reach speed safely.

"The F5's gone 272-mph in testing, but we're just in third or fourth place. That's okay. That's good motivation for us," Hennessey says. "But we don't want to just leap frog these guys by a little bit; we want to leap frog them by a lot. I'm not going to throw a number at you, but we're trying to go out and go faster—as much faster as we can."



Hall of Fame Hennessey Performance Builds

THE EXORCIST

In 2017 Hennessey Performance blazed headlines worldwide with its 1,000-horsepower ZL1 Camaro, famously dubbed The Exorcist. Summoned from the heavens to banish the nefarious Dodge SRT Demon back to the netherworld, the sixth-generation Camaro swiftly became the pinnacle of the modified car community when it crested 217 mph, making The Exorcist the fastest muscle car in the world.

MAMMOTH 6x6

The aptly named Mammoth 6x6 stands apart not only due to its metrics and rarity, but also because of the complexity in its engineering. Built on the RAM TRX platform, Hennessey Performance subbed in its 1,200 horsepower "Hellephant" V8 while adding a fully functional second rear axle, an amendment delivering extreme off-road traction and jaw-dropping profile. As only three were ever built, the Mammoth 6x6 is also one of the shop's rarest creations.

H1000 CADILLAC CT5-V BLACKWING

In 2012 the VR1200 CTS-V boosted the Cadillac's 7.0-liter V8 engine to more than 1,200 horsepower, marking an early Cadillac x Hennessey Performance marriage that caused massive waves. However, this year a newer edition, the H1000 Cadillac CT5-V Blackwing, took on a \$700,000 Lamborghini Aventador SVJ in a series of drag races in Texas. Sure, when starting from a dig the AWD Lambo won, but with a rolling start the H1000 Cadillac CT5-V Blackwing beat the apex V12-powered Raging Bull convincingly. The Caddy is a rear-wheel drive sedan featuring room for five adults and a price that's less than a third of the Lambo's. *Bellissimo!—N.S.*



Two of Hennessey Performance's wildest creations: the six-wheeled Ram "Mammoth 6x6" and 1,000-horsepower ZL1 Camaro "The Exorcist"

CREDITS

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MONTREAL BLOWOUT

French Montana and A-listers shine at the **Maxim Grand Prix Party Presented by Michelob ULTRA**

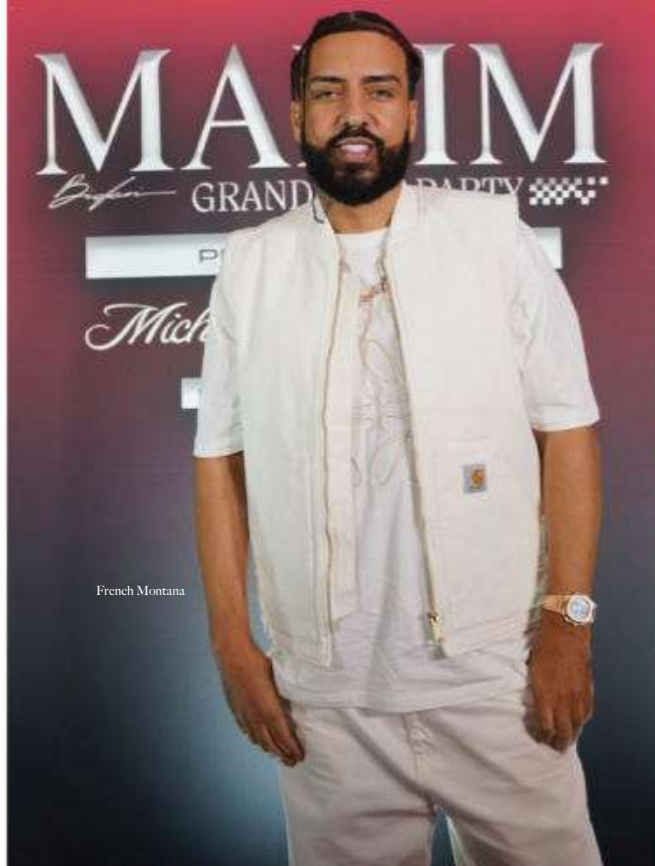
The Maxim Grand Prix Party, proudly presented by Michelob ULTRA in collaboration with 888casino.net, returned in spectacular fashion on Saturday, June 8. *Maxim* transformed the iconic Windsor Station in Montreal, Canada, into an epicenter of luxury, excitement and entertainment.

The event showcased an opulent blend of celebrities, performances and luxury experiences, reaffirming its status as the highlight of the race weekend. The evening culminated in a standout performance by rapper French Montana. His appearance ensured that the Maxim Grand Prix Party upheld its tradition of unforgettable star-studded performances. The Aussie dynamic duo NERVO, famed for their infectious beats, kept the energy levels soaring with their DJ set. Adding to the night's allure, fitness icon and social media sensation Sommer Ray brought her unique energy to the stage.

Guests were immersed in a dazzling array of brand activations, acrobatic performances and endless photo opportunities, all set to the backdrop of top-tier musical performances. Esteemed partners like renowned whiskey brand Jack Daniel's and Canada's largest automotive group Dilawri made their return. New to this year's event, Pur Sang Vodka, co-owned by MMA legend Georges St-Pierre, offered exquisite cocktails crafted from the finest premium vodka. St-Pierre also made a guest appearance on the *Maxim* stage. L'Oréal's Azzaro fragrance returned, ensuring that guests stayed fresh throughout the evening.

Annually, the *Maxim* Grand Prix Party draws an impressive array of celebrities and professional athletes, and this year was no exception. Attendees included NBA players Luguentz Dort and Chris Boucher, professional boxer Jean Pascal, New York Islander Julien Gauthier, singer Alicia Moffet, actor and comedian Kevin Raphael, model and influencer Claudia Tihan, rock band Arkells, professional wrestler Alex Moore, the Montreal Alouettes football team, the Montreal Canadiens ice hockey team, NFL Washington Commanders cornerback Benjamin St-Juste, Olympic swimmer Mary-Sophie Harvey, American ice dancer Madison Chock and many more.

Maxim is renowned for hosting glamorous events that bring together influential figures from sports, music and entertainment. The *Maxim* Grand Prix Party's allure lies not only in its glamorous guest list but also in its creation of a night of unrivaled opulence and entertainment. This year's musical lineup surpassed all expectations, delivering yet another night to remember. The magazine's history of featuring top-tier acts continued this year, building on past performances by icons like Diplo, Wyclef Jean, T-Pain, Francis Mercier with Kiesza, Sam Blacky, DJ Ruckus and Diamond Cafe.



French Montana



NERVO



Sommer Ray



Florence Belzile



Jean Pascal



Julien Gauthier



Benjamin St-Juste



Chris Boucher



Georges St-Pierre



Madison Chock



Luguentz Dort



PHOTOS COURTESY OF DAN PERES_SNAP MTL, ANDREW BRESTANSKY

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