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ISSUE 68 MARCH 2017

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KYLE SANDILANDS'

GIRLFRIEND P. 38

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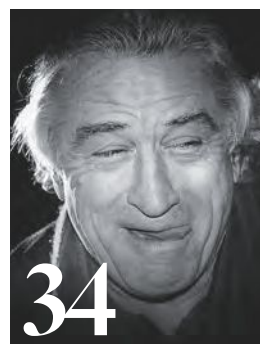
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BARON SAMEDI
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DRINK RESPONSIBLY

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SUMMON THE BARON



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SPOTLIGHT

VIXEN

Fearless in front of the camera, model HANNAH FERGUSON is still a 'Texas farm girl at heart

NEXT

BY **SARAH HORNE GROSE**

PHOTOGRAPHED BY **GILLES BENSIMON**

STYLED BY **CAROLINE CHRISTIANSSON**

DOOR



WOOL-BLEND BLAZER
AND TROUSERS,
SALVATORE FERRAGAMO



“WHEN I GET IN
FRONT OF THE
CAMERA, THERE’S
SOMETHING IN ME
THAT JUST COMES OUT.
**THAT’S MY FAVOURITE
KIND OF WORK:
BEING SEXY.”**



oogle “Hannah Ferguson twerking.” We’ll wait.

On camera, the swimsuit and lingerie model appears tanned and fearless, not afraid to show her moves, a whole lot of skin or a bit of a hard edge. She’s graced international editions of *Elle* and *Marie Claire*, glammed it up for the lingerie brand Triumph, and bared nearly all for *Sports Illustrated* shoots on some of the Caribbean’s most exotic beaches. But in person, as she walks into a café near Wall Street in New York, with her dark blonde hair pulled back in a tousled ponytail, Ferguson seems more farm girl than man-eater, and it’s hard to square her, in the flesh, with the girl dancing on a beach in outtakes from her latest bikini shoot.

Her Southern lilt and casual style are a testament to a childhood spent in San Angelo, Texas. Her parents were in the Marine Corps and she describes her upbringing as conservative. She and her four siblings were homeschooled; Ferguson didn’t enter a traditional school until seventh grade. At home, she and her three sisters weren’t allowed to wear nail polish until a certain age. On the family farm, “It was get up at six in the morning, feed the animals,” she says. “We had chickens, sheep, goats, geese, ducks, a horse.” Sports were a big deal. It all sounds like a plotline from *Friday Night Lights*, I note. “That’s pretty much what it was like,” Ferguson laughs.

Yet the gulf between all-American tomboy and glossy-magazine cover babe isn’t as big as it might seem.

After high school, the athletic beauty entered a local modelling contest, landing a contract with a Dallas agency. Six months later, she made the big move to New York. But even as she struggled to adapt to the breakneck pace of Manhattan and the glamorous, alien world of modelling, something clicked. “When I get in front of the camera,” she says, “there’s something in me that just comes out.

That’s my favourite kind of work: being sexy. For some reason, it comes naturally.” It all sounds rather glitzy, but she doesn’t flaunt her high-flying life on social media. She has all the usual accounts, but she keeps them focused on work. “I just take pics of things I’m doing. I feel like, for the most part, I’m more private; I’m not constantly Snapchatting my day away. For my day-to-day life, I don’t necessarily put it out there for the world.”

Ferguson says she’s not one to forget her roots. She drives a four-door, diesel-guzzling Ford truck, feels most at ease in cut-off jean shorts, and still likes fishing for bass and trout. “I always liked to do my hair and put on make-up, but I was never afraid to get my hands dirty, hang out with the guys, play sports, fish.” She adds, “I’m still trying to keep myself grounded and keep my upbringing, have a good heart. You hear some crazy stories in this industry. I don’t see the need for being a diva. You’re just making life unpleasant for everybody else and yourself, too.”

Thanks to that effortless sensuality, Ferguson’s work has taken her across the globe, from Turks and Caicos to Paris. In Miami, through fellow swimsuit model (and *MAXIM US* cover girl) Hannah Davis, she met her boyfriend, Davis’ brother, Conn. The pair split their time between downtown Manhattan, the Davis family farm in upstate New York, and the Virgin Islands, where they relax with Hannah Davis and her new husband, former New York Yankees superstar Derek Jeter.

Ferguson’s adventurous character shined through at her cover shoot for *MAXIM US*. When a stylist presented her with a snake cuff bracelet, she joked, “How about some real snakes?” On day two of the shoot, the crew called her bluff. “This guy came in with a crate of snakes. I mean, I grew up around snakes, because we would have bull snakes eating our chicken eggs. But at one point the python was around my shoulders and it started to wind around my neck, and this snake is slithering out of my hand and looking right at my face.” She tells me she remembers taking a deep breath and meeting the snake’s gaze, thinking, What did I get myself into?

She pauses, breaking into that girl-next-door grin. “It was very cool. Animals,” she adds, “can sense when you’re jittery. And so it goes with modelling. When you’re uncomfortable revealing your body, it’s going to show. The camera picks that up. So you just have to channel that adrenaline and say, ‘Okay, here we go.’” ■



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THIS PAGE:
MAXI COAT, **ANTHONY VACCARELLO**; GOLD CHOKER WITH DIAMONDS, **DE GRISOGONO**; T-BACK V-STRING PANTY, **VICTORIA'S SECRET**; OVER-THE-KNEE LEATHER BOOTS, **JIMMY CHOO**

OPPOSITE PAGE:
BLACK FELT HAT, **FAETH MILLINERY**; T-BACK V-STRING PANTY, **VICTORIA'S SECRET**; BLACK SUEDE OVER-THE-KNEE BOOTS, **GIUSEPPE ZANOTTI DESIGN**





THIS PAGE:
PATENT-LEATHER
SANDALS, **GIUSEPPE
ZANOTTI DESIGN**

OPPOSITE PAGE:
LAMÉ ONE-PIECE SWIMSUIT,
AMERICAN APPAREL

HAIR **ITALO GREGORIO FOR
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Along came LA SPIDER

Ferrari can't help themselves. They're always building extremely limited-run uber-expensive open-top versions of their models. In 2014 alone they gave us the F60 America (10 built) and the 458 Speciale A (499 built). For their current Spider (project Aperta), Ferrari have not revealed how many will be built (we're betting less than 100), but apparently all been sold to specially selected Ferrari owners — with names, locations and bribe amounts unknown.

While it shares the same performance stats and sits on the same rims as the original, it's what the Ferrari LaFerrari Spider is lacking that makes it different — a removable carbon fibre roof. But even

without the roof, torsional rigidity is not compromised, as the carbon fibre tub uses four different types of carbon and is as strong as Tarzan and Arnie combined.

Naturally, the super sunroof version uses the same hybrid gas-electric drivetrain as the coupe; meaning 789 naturally-aspirated horses meet 161 electric ponies for an overall 950 horsepower combined with all that race-inspired Ferrari luxury.

While it can't outrun the Bugatti Veyron convertible (408 km/h), it is still one of the fastest, rarest cars on today's stage — and we wouldn't kick it out of our garage. ■

VEHICLE:
FERRARI LAFERRARI SPIDER APERTA

ENGINE:
6.3 litre V12

TRANSMISSION:
F1-style KERS system

POWER:
708kW

TORQUE:
715 lb-ft

TOP SPEED:
349 km/h

0-100KM/H:
2.4 seconds

PRICE:
\$3 million (est)





Street Smart

The new BMW R nineT and modern gear from Belstaff and Bulgari, engineered for style

ENGINE:

2-cylinder 4-stroke flat twin, double overhead camshaft

GEARBOX:

Constant-mesh 6-speed with helical cut gears

REAR SUSPENSION:

Cast aluminum single-sided swing arm with BMW Paralever

FRONT SUSPENSION:

Upside-down telescopic fork

MAXIMUM SPEED:

210 kmh

WEIGHT:

489 lbs

PRICE:

Starting at \$15,095

If you have one of those mates who spend a good chunk of their income to indulge in nostalgia from their youth, then 2017 R NineT Scrambler from BMW Motorrad might be their ride. Based on a design made popular from the '50s to the '70s, the NineT respects the integrity of the original naked scramblers, without ignoring those must have modern finishes.

Dominating the overall profile, the air-cooled 1,170cc boxer-twin engine has a low centre of gravity which provides great balance at slow speeds, while the 85.5 foot-pounds of torque it produces takes the performance to epicville.

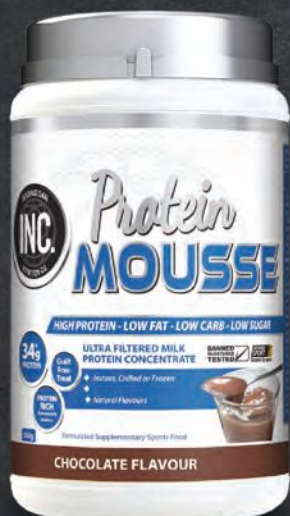
With no unneeded branding or endless plastic, the bike is a 'parts bin special'. Not bits lying around the BMW factory floors; more like the finest parts from BMW Motorrad's 90-year existence; including a cast aluminium swingarm from the sexy R1200R, gold forks from the sports S1000RR, or the final drive system from the extreme R1200GS.

Customising can be done DIY style with parts from the R9T custom catalogue — like the Café Racer styled rear 'hump' which doubles as a storage compartment. Need a professional touch? Just contact a BMW approved custom builder, like Cherry's Company in Japan, Urban Motor in Germany, or Deus Ex Machina here in Australia — and they can really cut loose.





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MV Agusta Diabolo Rosso Brutale 800

ENGINE:

798cc 3 cylinder, D.O.H.C

TRANSMISSION:

6 speed, constant mesh

POWER:

86 kW

TORQUE:

83 Nm@7600rpm

CURB WEIGHT:

175kg

PRICE:

\$18,165

After decades working together, the two Italian motorsport legends, Pirelli and MV Agusta, decided to celebrate like any old married couple would — by building a unique breed of machine as homage to the new Diabolo Rosso III racing tyre. We take it this is one marriage that isn't umm... on the skids.

Dubbed the Diabolo Rosso Brutale, it's a special edition Brutale 800 naked roadster,

a high revver with pure aggression, thanks to new intake and exhaust cams and pistons, and a new Euro 4-friendly exhaust responsible for shifting the power for maximum potential.

A fiery red finish drenches the futuristic light alloy frame, complemented by the Diabolo Rosso lettering on the trapezoidal tank and similar accents on the underseat and tail section. Quite intentionally, the tank and fender decor

bare the typical 'thunder' groove of the Pirelli tread pattern, which is a trademark.

MV Agusta have the Ducati Monster 821 pinpointed as the most realistic competitor for the fine folk who might want the Brutale, but it's more expensive, feels a bit cut-price, and has no space to tuck your feet away. Whereas the Brutale simply asks "You call that a bike?" "This is a bike".



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It's that time of the year to pass, kick, tackle, punch and also brace ourselves for an off-field drama or two. Enlisting the professional acumen of former footy players, we present the...

MAXIM AFL & NRL 2017 SEASON PREVIEW & PREDICTIONS

INTERVIEWS BY **SANTI PINTADO**

AFL

Former AFL players, turned FOX Sports commentators,
David King and **Ben Dixon** take a look at the season ahead



During your playing days what was the most important thing to do in the pre-season?

David King (DK): Lose the five kilos that I'd put on over the off-season!

Ben Dixon (BD): Complete at least 85% of the total workload – I felt if I could manage that I would get through the season with no worries.

How did you prepare for the first game of the season?

BK: I always built myself up for the first game. It started a month out from the first game with the last couple of games trying to match the intensity expected in Round 1.

DK: Every player has something to achieve through the pre-season – younger players are trying to get a game, those that are on the

fringe are trying to entrench themselves and those that are entrenched are hoping to show the way. No-one is ever satisfied with where they're at and their own performance.

What will be going through the player's heads as they take the field for the first game?

BD: They will be thinking all the work over the pre-season has put them in the best possible position to tackle the season, so give it everything from the first bounce.

DK: It's always important to get off to a good start whether it's individually or as a team. If your team has a bad start the pressure builds on your coach and the club, and you don't want to be part of that. You need to hit the ground running. All the players have done the work and will want to see the rewards.

TOP THREE PLAYERS TO WATCH

DK: 1) My favourite player Max Gawn (Melbourne) – he's going to be a sensation for a number of years. He's already the game's most dominant ruckman, he's an entertainer and an individual. He'll help take a young club into a finals campaign and beyond. **2)** Nathan Hrovat (North Melbourne) – an outstanding junior talent who moved over from the Bulldogs where he was plagued by injury. He can make a name for himself in a regenerating team. **3)** Nathan Fyfe (Fremantle) – how does he come back after a season out injury? Will Fyfe come back and resume his mantle as number one player in the competition? It will be interesting to see how he goes and what it means for Fremantle.

BD: 1) Jacob Hooper (GWS) – he's an exciting prospect with a solid first year. **2)** Jaeger O'Meara (Hawthorn) – he's had a solid pre-season and could be anything this year. **3)** Jarryd Roughead (Hawthorn) – back from a time out and ready to play fresh. Watch this space for Coleman medallist 2017.

MOST IMPROVED TEAM

DK: Should be Fremantle – best player in the comp back into their line-up, Michael Johnson back, Aaron Sandilands back – they lacked leadership and sheer talent last year. Also, in terms of a meaningful spot in the eight, watch for Melbourne or St Kilda. **BD:** Yeah, St Kilda – they've had some solid

games against good opposition last year and will continue to press for Top 8. Big improvers and well coached, too.

BIGGEST DISAPPOINTMENT

DK: I'll stay close to home with the Kangaroos. After starting 9-0 last year then disappearing, there isn't anyone who is prepared to put them in their Top 8, so I think they will be the most logical slider.

BD: Richmond – they haven't added much to give them a tilt at the finals in 2017 and they've been much criticised, so that will continue.

THE TOP EIGHT

DK: Sydney, Adelaide, GWS Giants, Bulldogs, West Coast, St Kilda, Melbourne and Hawthorn. My top four have enough fresh faces already in their line-up that you'll expect natural improvement. The margin between these top four teams is incredibly narrow.

BD: Bulldogs Sydney, Hawthorn, GWS, West Coast, Adelaide, St Kilda and Geelong.

WOODEN SPOONERS

DK: Brisbane Lions. In no way, shape or form is that a disaster – they just need to ensure they get another 20 games into those young kids. It's a long road back for them.

BD: Gold Coast.

“THE BULLDOGS HAVE SO MUCH UPSIDE AND THE HAWKS CAN'T BE DOWN LIKE LAST YEAR, SO EXPECT A SHARP BOUNCE BACK.”

BIGGEST OFF-FIELD DRAMA

DK: There's always an off-field drama and it usually involves Collingwood.

BIGGEST CHANGE IN THE GAME

DK: The game will become more of a handball contest with a penchant for speed out of the backline and frantic ball movement.

BD: Less tackles with a more spaced-out running game and not as congested.

BIGGEST UMPIRE CONTROVERSY

DK: Probably involve Richmond, because they tend to be on the wrong end of all umpiring decisions.

BD: The umpire marks a ball during a game – I'd like to see that!

THE GRAND FINAL

DK: Sydney vs Adelaide – Sydney to win. I think Aliir Aliir and Isaac Heeney will have a better year and Callum Mills is a star. Plus, Sydney has got a great core too.

BD: Bulldogs vs Hawthorn – the Bulldogs have so much upside and the Hawks can't be down like last year, so expect a sharp bounce back.

MEDAL WINNERS

BD: Brownlow – Robbie Gray (Port Adelaide) because he's their best player and they will be a better team this year and win their fair share of games. He's always poled well in the Brownlow and suspension is the only way he won't win this year. Norm Smith – Jarryd Roughead (Hawthorn). A fairytale finish to a feel good story of the year.

DK: Brownlow – Marcus Bontempelli (Western Bulldogs). At only 21, “The Bont” can do it all – a big game performer who never wastes possession and has a happy knack of creating a game-changing moment. Norm Smith – Josh Kennedy (Sydney) will pick the medal he should've got last Grand Final day!



Will last year's AFL Premiership winners, the Western Bulldogs, go back-to-back in 2017?

NRL

Former NRL greats and FOX Sports commentators **Braith Anasta** and **Gorden Tallis** forecast the 2017 rugby league season

During your playing days what was the most important thing to do in the pre-season?

Braith Anasta (BA): The most important thing in the pre-season was my diet and training. I had to make sure I was in optimum condition for Round 1 of the season.

Gorden Tallis (GT): You need to train hard – it's as simple as that. It's important thing to improve on what you did the year before. You need to be high on skill, train hard to lift heavier weights and get yourself mentally right so that

you're ready for any obstacle.

How did you prepare for the first game of the season?

BA: It was always hard. You can't possibly know how you are going to feel first game back – it's always faster, harder and more physical than anything you could possibly train for. You just had to make sure you had done everything possible – skill, speed, strength and endurance-wise – to make sure you were as ready as you could possibly be.

GT: You're always nervous but excited, too. You've been training since October and you have to take one game at a time. It's a little bit of an unknown – you don't get to test yourself then all of a sudden you come up against the rest of the comp and it's serious! The more experience you have, the less nervous you get.





LEFT: After a forgetful 2016, Roosters' playmaker Mitchell Pearce is ready for a big 2017;
ABOVE: Are last year's Premiers, the Cronulla Sharks too old to win it again?

What will be going through the players' heads as they take the field for the first game?

BA: They will be very nervous. It's hard not to second guess yourself in round one. But everyone prepares differently and has different approaches to the game, mentally. A positive attitude and confidence helps, and that grows with experience and performance over the years.

GT: If I was the coach I'd be telling them to just make your first play good. Get an early touch, make a strong and confident first play and the rest of the game should flow on.

TOP THREE PLAYERS TO WATCH

BA: **1)** Experience and age-wise Cooper Cronk (Melbourne) can still exceed and produce. **2)** Matty Moylan (Penrith) is tipped for big things this year. **3)** Young gun Kalyn Ponga (North Queensland) is as good as I or anyone else thinks.

GT: **1)** Roger Tuivasa-Sheck (New Zealand) – he was brilliant at the Roosters and missed last year, so he will be fresh and super keen for a great season.

2) Jarryd Hayne (Gold Coast) – he's had an off-season now and from all reports he's trained hard. **3)** Valentine Holmes (Cronulla) – based on how he went last year, plus the experience he got from going away with the Australian side, will help with confidence.

MOST IMPROVED TEAM

BA: Manly – big things were expected from them last year and obviously they didn't produce, but they also had excuses with a horrible injury toll and the controversy that surrounded them. With less pressure, Trent

Barrett at the helm, a mix of quality signings and amazing youthful talent this year they will definitely improve a lot.

GT: The Sydney Roosters. They started last year with no Mitchell Pearce, no Jarryd Waerea-Hargreaves and no Boyd Cordner but got their act into gear by the time they had finished the season. They've bought well in the off-season and are too good to finish outside the Top 8.

BIGGEST DISAPPOINTMENT

BA: It will continue to be the Newcastle Knights. The reality is they don't have the cattle and I can't see much changing on the field especially with Mullen now gone due to steroids and Korbin Sims leaving to head to Brisbane.

GT: I wouldn't say they're a disappointment but it will be hard for Cronulla to go back-to-back. You've seen great sides try it in the past and they're an ageing side, so will they be able to repeat it?

THE TOP EIGHT

BA: This is my first look Top 8 but a lot can change right up until kick off Round 1... Melbourne, Roosters, Cowboys, Penrith, Canberra, Warriors, Cronulla and Manly. This was so hard as it's so open that any team can make Top 8 apart from Newcastle.

GT: Panthers, Roosters, Titans, Broncos, Cowboys, Storm and Warriors.

WOODEN SPOONERS

BA: Newcastle.

GT: Yeah, it has to be the Knights.

BIGGEST OFF-FIELD DRAMA

GT: For the first time we'll have the perfect

FOX for Footy

AFL & NRL fans will be able to see their team, every round, live and with no ad-breaks during play in 2017 on FOX FOOTY and FOX SPORTS' brand new 24/7 dedicated rugby league channel, FOX LEAGUE

season! No drama – which will be a drama.

BA: This is impossible to predict but if recent years are anything to go by, someone will likely stuff up. I'll call some kind of social media nightmare.

BIGGEST CHANGE IN THE GAME

BA: Very early to call pending rule changes, etc... but the speed and sheer brilliance will yet again go to another level in 2017.

GT: The halfbacks will dominate. We have a really good crew of young halfbacks coming through the game and they will take the game to the next level – especially the likes of Nathan Cleary (Penrith) and Kane Elgey (Gold Coast).

BIGGEST REFEREE CONTROVERSY

BA: Probably some sort of weird ruling on the obstruction rule.

THE GRAND FINAL

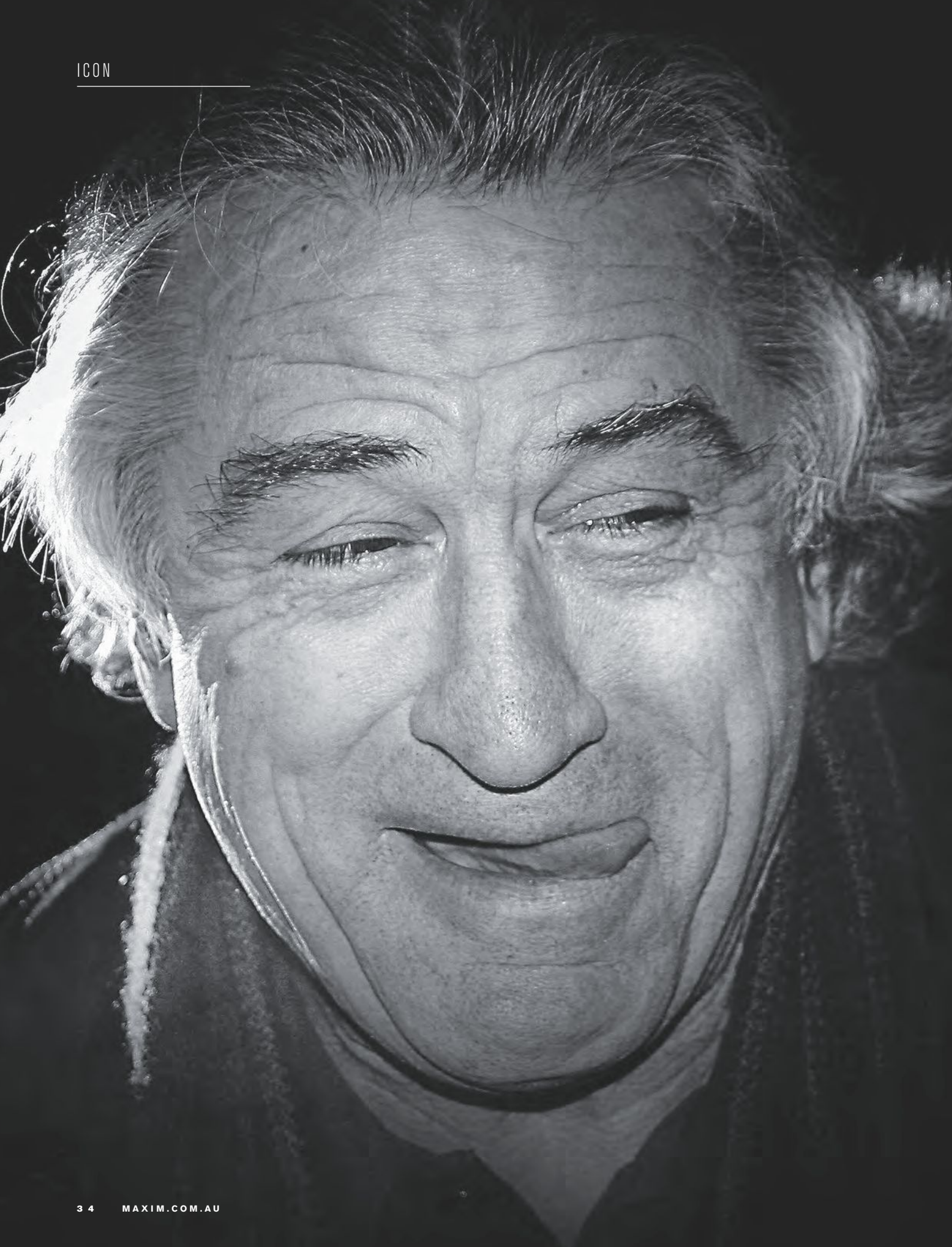
BA: Roosters vs Penrith. Two great teams on paper – Roosters with experience and class, while the Panthers have youth and exuberance partnered with an abundance of skills. Panthers to win – it's their year.

GT: Roosters because they will have improved a heap from last year. From where they finished at the end of the season, every side should be looking over their shoulder. And Penrith are young and have bought well in the off-season such as James Tamou from the Cowboys. But the Roosters to win, for the reasons above.

MEDAL WINNERS

BA: Dally M Award – Mitchell Pearce (Roosters). He's out for redemption this year and has a lot to play for. The Roosters will be at the top of the ladder and he will get a few points off the back of that. Clive Churchill Medal – Matty Moylan (Penrith). He'll have a big year and if the Panthers win he will be best on ground.

GT: Dally M – Roger Tuivasa-Sheck (New Zealand). He's too good of a player and had some time off to get fresh and fit. The Warriors will have a good season and he will be a big part of it. Clive Churchill Medal – Mitchell Pearce. He's a great player and was brilliant in the few games he played last year. If the Roosters win they will need their halves. ■



THE TITAN OF TRIBECA

Already a legend of the screen, Robert De Niro has emerged as one of New York's savviest entrepreneurs

BY **BILL SAVORITO**



New York wiseguys: De Niro with Ray Liotta in a scene from 1990 American biographical crime film *Goodfellas*

You could say that history cast New York City native Robert De Niro perfectly in his role as a real estate entrepreneur, movie producer, and developer. Not that the two-time Academy Award winner has done all that badly at acting in his more than four decades on screen. But his real estate dealings have followed the footprint of New York's original business. The city was built — quite literally — in the 17th century by the Dutch inhabitants of New Amsterdam, who filled in parts of lower Manhattan to create more usable property.

Skip ahead a century or so and New York is the birthplace of another industry: moviemaking. The first studios got rolling in the 1890s, the films flickering to life in the Kinetoscope parlours of lower Manhattan. Another hundred years after that, De Niro establishes Tribeca Productions in an emerging neighbourhood and in the process cements his reputation as a shrewd businessman. "Robert De Niro was the person who began to see the possibilities of Tribeca," architecture

critic Brendan Gill said in 1997. "He bought property there, developed an old building into a film centre and a restaurant. When you do that, a cultural centre develops around it, and soon you have what would amount anywhere else to a prosperous village in our great big city."

That prosperous village, along with his lucrative film career, has given De Niro an estimated net worth well north of US\$150 million.

De Niro, 73, the wild-child son of boho Greenwich Village artists Robert De Niro, Sr., and Virginia Admiral, is a high-school dropout who found salvation from the streets in acting. Yet his most dramatic role would come in the months and years that followed the attacks of September 11. With lower Manhattan still smoldering, De Niro and his partner in Tribeca Productions, Jane Rosenthal, enlisted real estate investor and philanthropist Craig Hatkoff to launch the Tribeca Film Festival, which would bring people, money, and some desperately needed diversion downtown. "We had thought of doing a film festival before, and if there was ever a time to do it, after 9/11 was it," De Niro said

a few years later. "I hope at this point we've accomplished our goals and made a contribution." It's clear that he has. Over the years, the hugely popular film festival has injected hundreds of millions of dollars into the local economy. So much so that neighbours in this now-ritzy part of town complain about the influx of movie stars and stargazers — a most ironic sign of success.

When De Niro first arrived on the scene circa 1980, Tribeca — the name, which stands for "Triangle Below Canal", didn't even exist until the '60s or '70s — was largely a forlorn chunk of lower Manhattan, as least as far as real estate development was concerned. Bordered by the Hudson River and its once-bustling docks, the area had long been populated by warehouses that held the foodstuffs uptown dwellers craved. The smell of coffee, spices, roasted peanuts, and chocolate still wafted down the cobblestone streets as the last of those companies hung on. De Niro grew up in nearby Greenwich Village, and like most Villagers, he hadn't paid much attention to Tribeca.

"I came down here initially during *Raging Bull* to find a space to set up a gym and wound up loving the area," he said. What he especially loved were the sturdy 19th-century brick and cast-iron warehouses with soaring windows, and the once-elegant townhouses of the same vintage. However, after years of neglect they had fallen into gross disrepair.

De Niro's first major real estate move came in 1988, when he established his film production company, Tribeca Productions. After rehabbing a former coffee warehouse to create a combination film-and-editing studio with a screening room, De Niro sold or rented the rest of the space as office condos. In his mind, the project offered not only the prospect of a second income stream, but a modicum of artistic freedom as well. "It takes years to develop a [film] project for yourself, and then lots of things don't work out," he told the *New York Times*. "Or maybe I won't want to act for two years. This way I'd have a company that could sustain itself and I could do other things and still have an income." To feed all those hungry artists and crew members, he teamed with famed restaurateur Drew Nieporent to open Tribeca Grill in 1990, a New American rebrand that is still a landmark in the neighbourhood.

A few years later, De Niro again changed the face of Tribeca. He had dined at the Beverly Hills restaurant run by Japanese fusion chef Nobuyuki Matsuhisa. Wildly enthusiastic about the food, De Niro told Matsuhisa that if he ever wanted to open a place in New York, he'd help finance it. Matsuhisa wasn't interested, but De Niro kept at him. In 1994, the pair, along with other partners, established Nobu — a collaboration that would lead to a worldwide collection of Nobu restaurants and, later, hotels.

De Niro doesn't see himself as a celebrity restaurateur, nor does he think that sprinkling celebrity dust over a project is a substitute for smart investing. "Nobu is great because it works on its own," he once told the *Wall Street Journal*. "We hear about celebrity restaurants all the time. If they go by the wayside, it's because they're not up to par. The same with anything that I get involved with. It has to have something that's special about it, that I could say at least I want to be involved with it." And De Niro is definitely involved. When he and his partners opened the Greenwich Hotel at the height of the 2008 recession, it reflected the same attention to detail De Niro has shown when developing a character. In this case, the character needed to fit the neighbourhood. De Niro's team,

**"WE HAD THOUGHT
OF DOING A FILM
FESTIVAL BEFORE,
AND IF THERE WAS
EVER A TIME TO DO IT,
AFTER 9/11 WAS IT"**

which included Ira Drukier and Richard Born of BD Hotels and his son Raphael, a rising real estate star, made extensive use of recycled materials and hired local craftsmen to work with them. "We worked on this project a long time, to make it as good as we could make it, and make it a place that I want to stay in," De Niro told New York's Landmarks Preservation Commission during a hearing over the design of a penthouse roof. "It was a labour of love," he added. "We've really worked quite hard on it, and so anything that would be offensive would be offensive to me."

That didn't stop some critics of the project from complaining about the US\$38.9 million or more worth of tax-free Liberty Bonds that were used to finance the ultra-luxury hangout for the Hollywood set. He's been called a "business bully" by New York's *Daily News*, and a planned Caribbean resort recently drew fire for what local residents saw as overly generous concessions by the government. But there will always be critics and complainers, De Niro has noted.

He made the point, somewhat bawdily, to graduates of NYU's Tisch School of the Arts in a commencement address last year. "Tisch graduates, you made it. And... you're f—ked," he said. "Think about that." Meaning, in the arts, the rejections come fast and furious, but you just have to keep working. It's advice De Niro himself continues to follow. He and producer Harvey Weinstein were thrown aside in their efforts to develop a studio in the old Brooklyn Navy Yard. The restaurant business is no picnic either, and De Niro and partners have had some flops. Yet he keeps going.

De Niro's latest venture is perhaps the culmination of everything he's learnt in real estate. He and his partners got approval from London's Westminster City Council to open an 83-bedroom boutique hotel in the pulsing Covent Garden district, in central London. The property will combine six Victorian and early 20th-century structures and include two restaurants and a spa; it has drawn effusive praise from at least one local council member. "The Wellington Hotel will honour the heritage of the area, while bringing the best of what we've done in New York to London," De Niro said.

London's Covent Garden is hardly the run-down neighbourhood Tribeca was when De Niro found it. But neither is De Niro the neophyte developer he once was. The actor and businessman is a man of substance and style, with a respect for heritage. He'll fit right in. ■



De Niro at the Tribeca Film Festival, which he co-founded with two others, to celebrate New York as a major filmmaking centre

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COVER GIRL



IMOGEN ANTHONY

IMOGEN ANTHONY is more than just Kyle Sandilands' girlfriend. The hot influencer, sexy fashionista and shrewd businesswoman is social media savvy, always full of surprises and here, in her return to *MAXIM*, she's on point...

PHOTOGRAPHED BY **WAYNE DANIELS**
WAYNEDANIELSPRODUCTIONS.COM

INTERVIEW BY **SANTI PINTADO**



Hey, Imogen, congrats on your second MAXIM cover. What have you been up to since you last graced our pages way back in March 2014?

Hey, hey! Thank you, I feel great and it's good to be back. I've been up to a fair bit, really! I've been working on my clothing label, travelled a bit, went to the Burning Man Festival – which was EPIC – and I'm still running a farm full of animals which also takes up a fair bit of my time.

This shoot is a slightly different slant for MAXIM. Why did you like about this concept?

I chose this idea because I will only do creative things that are true to who I am. I'm a bit of a rocker at heart, so the styling and location was on point. Shooting to Van Halen playing in the background was pretty cool, too.

You look HOT. When do you feel sexy?

I probably feel the sexiest when I'm in my own space, at home chilling with wet hair and wearing a vintage band T-shirt. I know, so glam right?

For those who might not know much about you, how would you best describe yourself?

Insightful, creative, quirky, funny, fun, maybe a tad eccentric but super loyal, passionate and I won't put up with any crap. I'm also an animal lover and creative genius – haha...

You launched your fashion label WTR by Imogen Anthony last year. How's it going?

It's going great. I started with one idea and ventured off into a few things which are still yet to be seen. I've also been overseas a lot working on something new so I'm excited to share that soon.

Can you tell us more?

All I can say at this stage is that I've teamed up with a well-known Australian accessory brand which I'll be announcing very soon! I'm so excited to share this as it's been a fun ride which came about very randomly, but I'm glad I've done it – and I'm super proud of the company I'm doing it with. Here's a clue – you wear it somewhere above your shoulders. I'm full of surprises, so you will just have to see!

What's a typical day like for you?

A typical day consists of feeding a house full of animals – my dogs and a couple of cats I recently adopted – and I work out sometimes, if I can fit it in, but I'm usually running around for meetings or working on my label or something on the farm. I walk my mini goats a lot – haha...

You have a big social media presence.

What's the freakiest thing someone has sent to you?

I don't know, I block a lot of crap before I even open or read it, so I avoid it pretty well. I just get the odd Internet stalker/pest every now and then – I mean, nothing major. That was total sarcasm, by the way, but you just don't engage with it and block people. Blocking is the best.

What do you love and hate about social media?

Well, where do I start? I hate that it has such an ability to make people judge a person by a picture. There's too much hate and Internet bullying with younger kids and I fear for them as it's the new way of living – the Internet is all they know. I believe there should be an age limit to using the Internet. That's a big passion of mine – teaching people how to treat people appropriately online.

Status Update

BORN:

February 5, 1991

HOMETOWN:

Sydney, NSW

HOBBIES:

"Travelling, eating and horse riding."

FAVOURITE

CAR:

"1969 Dodge Charger."

FAVOURITE

MOVIE:

"The Doors."

GO-TO DRINK:

"Fireball and cloudy apple juice."

HANGOVER

CURE:

"Cucumbers and water. Fries are pretty good, too."

GIRL CRUSH:

"Ruby Rose."

EMBARRASSING

MOMENT:

"Losing control of a shopping trolley in a supermarket and slamming into the magazine and lolly stand near the cash registers."

TWITTER:

@imogen_anthony

SNAPCHAT:

ImogenAnthony

INSTAGRAM:

@imogen_anthony

You've been dating radio 'shock jock' Kyle Sandilands for years now. What do you say to people who say you're "just riding off Kyle's coattails"?

Man, I don't even know where to begin with this question. Essentially, if you know me, or know us, and see me in a chicken shed every day or walking around in tracksuit pants, you will kind of get the idea it's far past what anyone thinks I am – not that I really care because it's dumb. I don't care for dumb opinions – they have zero effect on me. Yeah, Kyle might be an acquired taste to some people, but I know him on a different level to what people have grabbed from a media image. We're just chilling and living our lives as happily as we can. I couldn't really care less what people think this far into it. It has been almost six years, so get the f-k over it. Jesus!





The tabloid press have been talking up Kyle proposing to you soon. Have you guys discussed it?

We are in zero rush – if he does, he does. We will cross that bridge when we come to it, I guess.

Describe your perfect date?

A nice dinner, a few drinks, bit of a drive around exploring new things or places – I like adventures.

What have you learned about men over the years?

I've learnt that men can be tamed, with the right kind of woman – mwahahaha!

What's one thing men should always remember about women?

They should never underestimate how powerful we are. But seriously...

If you could spend a day with anyone in the world who would it be?

Hmmm... that's a tough one. Probably some old-school rock star and I would pick their brain for stories. I couldn't tell you which one, although it'd probably be Jim Morrison, from The Doors, if he was still alive.

Do you have a scar that tells a story?

I have a few – one on my leg from surfing, one on my knee from when I kicked-in a glass window, and I also have one on my foot from dropping a knife which landed in my heel. Gnarly stuff!

Finish these sentences...

- **I can beat anyone at...**eating contests.
- **My superpower would be...**flying.
- **The worst word in the English language is...**moot.
- **If I ruled the world for a day,**
I'd... that would not be a good idea.
- **Public nudity is...**okay, depending on what kind of place it is – haha...
- **The last thing that made me LOL was...** one of these MAXIM questions.

What's the best piece of advice anyone has ever given you?

Just be yourself, really. You will only truly be happy when you learn to accept yourself for who you really are. Own it.

Finally, where do you see yourself in five years?

I see myself doing me. You will just have to see what that is... ■

STYLING BY IMOGEN ANTHONY & NIMA
SAYEH FOR IMMYTURE PRODUCTIONS
HAIR CARL BULL MAKE-UP BECCA GILMARTIN



Sam
20th
Mün
Olyn

GUN FEVER
PRESENTS

TAKE THE DAY
AUGUST/SEPTEMBER

THURSDAY
FRANKIES P
W/ HOBO M

GUN
FEVER

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COVER GIRL






**"KYLE MIGHT BE AN
ACQUIRED TASTE
TO SOME PEOPLE,
BUT I KNOW HIM
ON A DIFFERENT
LEVEL TO WHAT
PEOPLE HAVE
GRABBED FROM
A MEDIA IMAGE."**



"I SEE MYSELF DOING ME.
YOU WILL JUST HAVE
TO SEE WHAT THAT IS..."





THE WORLD'S **CREEPIEST** HOTELS

(and why you
should stay in them)

BY **DILVIN YASA**

Desperate for a haunted room, prison experience or the chance to live out your worst-case horror scenarios? With these properties you can check-in any time you like, but you can never, ever leave...

THE CLOWN MOTEL

NEVADA, USA

Psychologists have long maintained exposure therapy to be one of the most successful ways of getting over a fear or phobia. Got a '90s Stephen King's *It* hangover (and don't we all)? Check into The Clown Motel, located at the halfway point between Reno and Vegas, and give yourself over to the joys of sleeping in a room decorated floor to ceiling with hundreds of menacing clown figurines, dolls and posters – each sinister character seemingly waiting for you to go to sleep so that they can come alive and put your head on a stick for fun. Making your stay just that little bit more enjoyable? The hotel also shares the same lot as an abandoned graveyard. Inexplicably, the hotel tends to book out so reserve your clown-themed room (priced from \$US34) well in advance through the hotel's Facebook page.

GRAND HYATT HOTEL

TAIPEI CITY, TAIWAN

It's not often you get to one-up martial artist and actor Jackie Chan, but you can do exactly that by checking into Taipei's luxurious Grand Hyatt – and lasting through the night. The word is that the hotel – built on top of a former wartime political prison – is so haunted by the ghosts of several narky inmates that Chan stormed out at 3 A.M., refusing to return. Management has placed many amulets and religious scrolls in the lobby designed to keep the dead ones at bay, but one look at the hotel's TripAdvisor review page shows that their approach may not be working; many have complained of ghostly experiences – as well as the odd gripe about ceiling height and the like. Visit taipei.grand.hyatt.com



PROPELLER ISLAND CITY LODGE

BERLIN, GERMANY

Cost of narcotics getting you down? Get yourself a room at Propeller Island City Lodge, a hotel which claims to be both that and an art installation and you can have that same WFT sensory experience for a fraction of the cost all night long. There are 31 'fun' rooms/experiences to choose from, such as the upside down room where you sleep under the floorboards and look up at all the suspended furniture, the flying furniture room, or the coffin suite where you can enjoy the feeling of sleeping in a closed lid coffin – without, you know, being dead. And the best part? No comedowns, only a bill for 79 Euro. Visit propeller-island.de for more information.

OPPOSITE PAGE AND ABOVE: The Propeller Island City Lodge in Berlin; **RIGHT:** The Clown Motel

McKAMEY MANOR

SAN DIEGO, USA

According to the Australian Bureau of Statistics, your chances of being murdered is less than 20 in a million, but if you feel like you're missing out, you can always join the 27,000-strong waiting list for a torture tour at McKamey Manor, where you can experience all the fun stuff that tends to happen in the company of a serial killer before they mercifully slit your throat. Over the eight-hour tour, you will be bound, gagged, drenched in blood and terrorised within an inch of your life, and while online critics have branded the manor's owner Russ McKamey as a sadist and psychopath, it's actually worse than that; he's also a part-time wedding singer. Check out mckameymanor.com

KAROSTA PRISON HOTEL

LIEP JA, LATVIA

How many times have you listened to Grandpa Jack's war stories and wished you too could have had that WWII prison camp experience – if only just to tell the boys down the pub? Well now you can do just that by first travelling to Latvia, and checking into Karosta Prison Hotel, a former prison which has been converted into a hotel which promises to give you the 'full prisoner experience' in communist-era conditions,

but better. You see, according to the prison's history, many prisoners died here on the premises and the place is said to be haunted. Ghosts aren't your greatest concern however; it's the guards who interrogate you and force you to do physical labour as you listen to your inmates moan. Prison accommodation packages start from just \$US16, but the chance to get your own back on Grandpa Jack? Priceless. See karosta.lv for details.

ADULT BABY HOLIDAY NURSERY

BANGKOK, THAILAND

It's not just you; your childhood really was shit, but rather than recommend you spend thousands of dollars on unnecessary therapy, why not fly into Bangkok, put on your adult nappies and let Nanny Rose take care of you the way your mother should have over at Adult Baby Holiday Nursery – a nursery that's only for adult babies. Yes indeed, Nanny Rose has got the ultimate set up with adult-size cots, highchairs and prams for outings, and you can spend your days playing with baby toys, being spoon-fed purees and having your dirty nappy changed before naptime. The only rule is nothing sexual is allowed because that would be weird. That said, public humiliation can be dished out by request. Visit adultbabyholidaynursery.com



TOP: If it's your thing why not take a torture tour at McKammy Manor; **LEFT:** 'Enjoy' a WWII prison camp experience at Karosta Prison Hotel; **ABOVE:** Have your dirty nappy changed at the Adult Baby Holiday Nursery

THE LANGHAM

LONDON, UK

The biggest problem luxury hotels have in common is that they're often so damn interchangeable with their goose down duvets and all-you-can-eat salmon. Enter London's ultra-posh The Langham whose point of difference isn't just the champagne afternoon teas they're famous for, but the ghost with the gaping wound for a face who tends to roam the hallways of the third floor in particular. Guests have long since complained about seeing ghost children playing in its rooms, taps turning on and off by themselves and the steep \$900 nightly rate, and when England's national cricket team came to stay, no-one was surprised when rooms had to be switched at last minute due to the unusual amount of paranormal activity which surrounded the players. Room 333 is said to be the most haunted so either avoid, or accept the challenge. Visit langhamhotels.com

THE STANLEY HOTEL

COLORADO, USA

Do you have fond childhood memories of watching Jack Nicholson breaking through that door with an axe screaming, "Here's Johnny?" And more importantly, are you keen to recreate the scene? Pack up your nearest deranged family member and check into The Stanley, the breathtaking hotel that was the original inspiration for Stephen King's



The Shining. Although the hotel has a history of paranormal activity, it is said King was inspired by the hotel's isolation and thoughts of how being cut-off from the real world can drive you to murder your whole family (hint: you can also get this feeling from moving deep into suburbia). Why should you visit? The annual *The Shining* Costume Ball sounds like a hoot, but we're all about the new maze built out the back especially for people like you and Pa to recreate that childhood fun. Check out stanleyhotel.com for details.

CHELSEA HOTEL

NEW YORK, USA

Let's face it – there are garden-variety ghosts, and there are ghosts of people like former Sex Pistol's "bassist" Sid Vicious and Welsh poet and resident alcoholic Dylan Thomas who employees say still manages to raise hell throughout the halls of the infamous Chelsea Hotel. Considered by many to be the most rock n' roll hotel of them all it's currently closed for renovations (set to reopen later this year), paranormal activity is said to be most present in the rooms where Vicious murdered his girlfriend Nancy Spungen, and the one where Thomas drank himself to his death. Could be the most interesting night on the tiles you're ever likely to have.

Q STATION HOTEL

MANLY, AUSTRALIA

Australians are not known to do anything by half-measure and it's an attitude that clearly extends to ghosts. Case in point? London's Langham is known to have five resident ghosts, whereas Manly's Q Station Hotel (considered to be the country's most haunted spot), is home to over 500 – all of whom died unhappily when the hotel was a quarantine station created to isolate people who had incurable diseases. Boasting sweeping views of Sydney Harbour National Park, it's well worth splurging on one of the hotel's ghost tours – just be warned that it's often ghostly children tugging at your sleeve that lead the path. Visit qstation.com.au for more. ■



TOP: Guests have complained about seeing ghost children playing in their rooms at The Langham;
ABOVE: The breathtaking Stanley Hotel is the original inspiration for Stephen King's *The Shining*

Denim Done Differently

Outland Denim make premium ethical denim jeans for sale in the global marketplace in an effort to undermine the human trafficking trade. Fifty dollars from every black jeans sale goes to front line agencies in the fight against human exploitation and slavery. So, check out this cool new range and do your bit to support their cause, not only because they are a tidy product to wear, but because you care...

PHOTOGRAPHED BY **TIMOTHY JAMES ALLEN**
STYLING BY **SINEAD JAMES**





THIS PAGE

DUSTY JEANS IN
DRIFTWOOD, **OUTLAND**
DENIM; SHIRT, **VINTAGE**;
BOOTS, **RM WILLIAMS**

OPPOSITE PAGE

COUNTRY TRAVELLER JEANS
IN KODIAK, **OUTLAND DENIM**;
SHIRT, **MODEL'S OWN**;
BOOTS, **RM WILLIAMS**



THIS PAGE
DUSTY JEANS IN
DRIFTWOOD, **OUTLAND**
DENIM; SHIRT, **VINTAGE**

OPPOSITE PAGE
VANGUARD JEANS IN BONDI
BLUE, **OUTLAND DENIM**;
JACKET, **LEE**; T-SHIRT, **TEE**
INK; SHOES, **CONVERSE**







OPPOSITE PAGE

VANGUARD JEANS IN
DRIFTWOOD, **OUTLAND**
DENIM; SHIRT AND T-SHIRT,
TEE INK; SHOES, **CONVERSE**

THIS PAGE

VANGUARD JEANS IN BONDI
BLUE, **OUTLAND DENIM**; T-SHIRT,
TEE INK; SHOES, **CONVERSE**;
HAT, **LACK OF COLOR**

HAIR & MAKE-UP ALANA MEVISSEN
ART DIRECTION LINDSAY KALLIS
CREATIVE DIRECTION JAMES BARTLE

THE DENIM PROJECT

Outland Denim founder **JAMES BARTLE** explains how his company came to be and how he's doing his bit in the fight against the human trafficking trade



"I WOULDN'T CALL MYSELF A FEMINIST, BUT I DEFINITELY IDENTIFY WITH THE IDEA OF HELPING THOSE WHO ARE MOST VULNERABLE"

I didn't wake up one day and decide to be a feminist. In fact, when it came to girls and women, for most of my life my main concern had been attracting them. In my teens, I had to decide between pursuing pig hunting or motocross as my main game. I chose motocross not because I enjoyed it more (I'm a hunter at heart) but because I thought this would give me a better chance at getting a girlfriend. Mind you, my girlfriends tended to be the smart ones; the ones I could take home to meet my parents, who were church pastors.

Then I met my wife. She asked me out for a drink on a particularly fine day at Burleigh Beach where I was masquerading as a surfing instructor (again, for the girls). She booked a lesson and things snowballed across states (she in Sydney, me on the Gold Coast) from there. Eighteen months later we got married. A year later we went to the movies with a couple of friends to see *Taken*. That's when the seed was sewn. The movie is based around a father (Liam Neeson) pursuing his daughter who has been trafficked with a friend. Prior to that, I was completely ignorant about the issue of human trafficking.

Human trafficking is the trade of human beings for exploitation and profit — in the movie, it was for commercial sexual exploitation that the girls were trafficked, but you can be trafficked into a sweat shop where you have to make shoes for 16 hours a day with next to no pay, or recruited into a rogue militant group as a child soldier — or traded for your organs. It's a gnarly world out there. The issue stirred me up, but I didn't do

anything about it straight away. That was another few years down the track.

Then in 2011, I went to a music festival and connected with a crew called Destiny Rescue who were literally going into brothels and villages and saving young girls (as young as five years old — and they are even younger now) from being sold off to older men for sex; some even sold by their parents because feeding the rest of the family is seen as more important than your daughter's dignity.

I had two young nieces then, and I have two of my own daughters now, and I cannot fathom how you would think that was okay, but these people are desperate. I'm not. I have food on my family's table and a roof over our heads. And I am hell bent on ensuring that no scum bag ever lays a hand on my daughters.



"Denim sales account for over \$56 billion in sales globally each year," says Bartle. "The human trafficking trade makes \$150 billion annually."

These girls in Cambodia who we employ to make jeans for Outland Denim have been through hell. Their lives completely muddled by the things they've had to do and how they've been treated by other human beings; like meat at a butcher shop. Sometimes the trauma effects their ability to go on to lead normal lives, so we make it a part of our business model to give them skills in sewing as well as life skills so they can make it through. The suicide rates amongst trafficked and sexually exploited people are extremely high.

Now when I hear one of our seamstresses, who has been abused, traumatised and dehumanised by the trafficking trade has had a baby of her own, I know that that child will be okay because its mother won't have to sell herself or be tempted to sell her child, because she has work that is sustainable and she's valued by Outland for not only her work but for who she is. I wouldn't call myself a feminist, but I definitely identify with the idea of helping those who are most vulnerable, and 98% of people trafficked for sexual exploitation are women and girls.

I get that our culture — male culture — has decided that it's okay to travel to a foreign country and have a little something on the side like you're living *The Hangover* in real life. But in real life, these girls are scared, they are lonely, they are hopeless and they are wishing they were anywhere but where they are making creepy older dudes happy because they can't get their rocks off elsewhere. So, support what we do — buy Outland Denim jeans not only because they are a tidy product to wear, but because you care. Chicks dig that. ■

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A nighttime photograph of the New York City skyline, featuring several prominent skyscrapers illuminated with warm yellow and cool blue lights. In the foreground, a rooftop bar is visible with numerous round cocktail tables covered in dark cloths and topped with greenery. The sky is a deep purple and blue, suggesting twilight.

BRIGHT LIGHTS, BIG CITY

Gold cocktail tables, top-of-the-range cigars, 360-degree rooftop city views, a butler on call for you 24 hours a day... NEW YORK has never been sexier. Here's *MAXIM*'s guide to the luxuriously exclusive bars, clubs and hotels in the city that never sleeps...



NIGHTCLUBS

Squares

360 Park Ave. South

Those who've outgrown the raucousness of the Meatpacking District will feel at home inside this sexy, just-opened subterranean space. Located next to Madison Square Park, the venue caters to a sophisticated crowd by channeling the classic New York society clubs of decades past.

1 OAK

453 West 17th St.

In a city where the average nightclub life span is estimated to be around 18 months, 1 OAK (an acronym for "one of a kind") has achieved the unthinkable: It's managed to stay relevant for nearly a decade. A strict door policy ensures the privacy of 1 OAK regulars including Diddy, Leonardo DiCaprio and Jay Z, so the best way to guarantee entry is by booking a pricey table in advance.

The Blond

11 Howard St.

Attached to the new 11 Howard hotel in Soho, this hip downtown lounge has become the preferred weekend hangout for socialites and models. The guests are so distractingly gorgeous that most patrons fail to notice the Blond's other masterpieces — works by contemporary artists Dan Attoe, Nobuyoshi Araki, and Charming Baker are scattered throughout the space.

*Provocateur*

18 Ninth Ave.

The Gansevoort hotel's ground-floor club has maintained its reputation as one of Manhattan's most exclusive haunts since opening in 2009, and with good reason: When high-profile DJs are in town — the likes of Calvin Harris and Tiësto — you'll almost always find them spinning at Provocateur.

Vandal

199 Bowery

Earlier this year, Tao Group — the minds behind nightlife institutions like Lavo, Tao, and Marquee — introduced Vandal, a "clubrestaurant" concept that affords diners the luxury of going from dinner to the club without ever leaving the buildings.

GoldBar

389 Broome St.

This Soho hot spot features gold cocktail tables, 12-foot vaulted ceilings covered in 18-karat gold leaf, and 2,400 custom-made gold skulls embedded in the walls. The drinks menu is just as grand. Created by renowned mixologist Tim Cooper, GoldBar's libations include creative concoctions such as the Porn Star Martini #2, made with Absolut Elyx Vodka, apricot eau-de-vie, and passion fruit puree. The GoldBar Classic cocktails run US\$18, and the Gold Standard collection, made with ultra-premium spirits, are US\$75 apiece. Bottle service is available from US\$450 to US\$12,000. The intimate space (capacity: 175) was immortalised in the song "Dancin' Til Dawn," written about the bar by regular customer Lenny Kravitz. —*Lindsay Silberman*



TOP: GoldBar; **LEFT:** Vandal; **OPPOSITE PAGE (CLOCKWISE FROM TOP LEFT):**

Angel's Share is hidden behind a Japanese restaurant; Nat Sherman Townhouse; The menu at Death & Company changes quarterly



COCKTAIL BARS

The Tuck Room

11 Fulton St.

Like the three other outposts in Los Angeles, Miami, and Houston that came before it, the Tuck Room's new South Street Seaport location describes itself as "a glamorous setting for covert decadence." The cocktail menu will be switched up every few months, inspired by the city's drinking past.

Angel's Share

8 Stuyvesant St.

This Japanese speakeasy is hidden behind Village Yokochō, a casual Japanese restaurant in the East Village. Once you're in, look for the unmarked door on the left-hand side that leads to the bar. Parties larger than four will be turned away, and there is no standing allowed. If you don't feel like waiting for a table, try the "annex" just down the block, upstairs from a restaurant called Sharaku (14 Stuyvesant St.).

Death & Company

433 East 6th St.

The cocktail menu at this dark East Village mainstay changes quarterly, and is informed by pre-Prohibition-era recipes. Martinis are served in five-ounce goblets; the remainder is left behind in an iced carafe. Try the fries, which come with bacon jam. No reservations.

Little Branch

20-22 Seventh Ave. South

Once you find the unmarked door in this nondescript corner of the West Village and head down a flight of stairs, you may not want to leave the cozy subterranean cocktail lounge

for a while. The out-of-the-way space is perfect for a first date — or an affair. There's live jazz Sunday to Thursday, which may inspire bebop fans to order their drinks straight, no chaser.

PDT

113 St. Marks Pl.

Short for "Please Don't Tell," this speakeasy-inspired cocktail lounge is accessed through a vintage phone booth inside Crif Dogs, known for its New Jersey style deep-fried hot dogs. Bar patrons can order dogs to be delivered to their tables, because what goes better with a dry martini than a crispy frank with everything?



CIGAR BARS

Grand Havana Room

666 Fifth Ave.

Relax with a fine smoke at this private, mahogany-paneled members-only hideaway on the top floor of perhaps the most valuable office tower in the United States. Floor-to-ceiling windows afford breathtaking views of the entire city, and a glass-enclosed walk-in humidor room stores cigars at an optimal 70 degrees and 70 percent humidity. Membership is by invitation only; Alec Baldwin and Arnold Schwarzenegger reportedly belong.

Soho Cigar Bar

32 Watts St.

One can easily imagine Dean, Sammy, and Frank enjoying themselves in the corner of this Art Deco-inspired club in the heart of Manhattan's trendy Soho neighbourhood. In fact, that's them there, in a framed photo hanging on the wall of the clubby, Rat Pack-ish downtown haunt. In addition to the club's own hand-rolled cigars, which are made in the bar's local factory, an extensive selection of international stogies is also on offer.

Nat Sherman Townhouse

12 East 42nd St.

"If Yankee Stadium is the 'House That Ruth Built,' our store is definitely the 'House That Nat Built,'" proclaims the Nat Sherman website. But this so-called "store" is more of a club — one that just happens to have offered the city's finest cigars to discerning smokers since 1930. Today, Nat's son and grandchildren run the operation, which is open from 10 A.M. to 7 P.M. (11 A.M.–6 P.M. on Sundays). —Justin Rohrllich



ROOFTOP BARS

The Skylark

200 West 39th St.

Perched 30 stories above midtown Manhattan, this soaring, multilevel rooftop space offers unparalleled views of the Hudson River, Times Square, and the Empire State Building. Weekends are reserved for private events only, but stop by Monday to Friday after 4:30 p.m. for a cocktail and a seat by one of the bar's floor-to-ceiling windows.

St. Cloud

6 Times Sq.

Sip an apricot julep, smoke a fine cigar in the on-site lounge, and nosh on short rib sliders and kampachi crudo by celebrity chef Charlie Palmer at one of Times Square's only rooftop bars. The best views can be had from one of three VIP "Sky Pods," which seat 15 to 25 and cost US\$200 and up to book, plus a minimum spend of US\$100 per person.

The Press Lounge

653 11th Ave.

On the roof of the Kimpton Ink48 Hotel, the Press Lounge serves handcrafted cocktails with a side of 360-degree city views. Consistently named one of NYC's best rooftop bars, there is a no-reservations policy here. There's also no bottle service; everything is served by the glass.



Roof at Park South

125 East 27th St.

Enjoy classic cocktails and seasonal, Mediterranean-inspired dishes high above Park Avenue South, while taking in unobstructed views of the city below. The hours are a bit shorter than normal — it closes at 11 p.m. Sunday to Wednesday, and midnight Thursday to Saturday — so get there on the early side.

Ascent Lounge

10 Columbus Circle

This lounge in Columbus Circle's Time Warner Center floats just above the Central Park tree line. Settle into a wraparound banquette and order a cocktail with a "house-made ice cream pop." Executive chef Jason Harding turns out modern twists on beloved classics, like miso lobster rolls and marinated New Zealand lamb lollipops. —Justin Rohrlach



OPPOSITE PAGE: St. Cloud offers a view of Times Square; **THIS PAGE (FROM TOP):** The patio of the Press Lounge at the Kimpton Ink48 Hotel; Ascent Lounge in Columbus Circle's Time Warner Center

NEW YORK HOTELS

Four Seasons Hotel New York Downtown

27 Barclay St.

When the luxury hotel brand unveiled its shiny new downtown location in September, all the hype finally felt justified. Designed by American architect Robert A.M. Stern, the 82-story skyscraper is nothing short of spectacular, with 189 oversize guest rooms, a dramatic bi-level spiral staircase suspended in the lobby, and a restaurant by Wolfgang Puck.

The St. Regis

2 East 55th St.

For a taste of old-school New York, head straight to the St. Regis. It's been the city's grande dame since 1904, and while recent renovations have kept the landmark hotel looking fresh, history permeates every nook and cranny. What's more, each suite comes with a butler on call 24 hours a day.

The William Vale

111 North 12th St., Brooklyn

Williamsburg, an area historically characterised by its overpopulation of bearded hipsters, is getting a sophisticated rebranding thanks to the recent launch of the William

Vale. The "resort-inspired" high-rise is home to the city's longest hotel pool (it clocks in at 60 feet) and frequently hosts cultural events for locals and guests. Still, the 183-room boutique hotel doesn't stray far from its Brooklyn roots: It has a 15,000-square-foot public rooftop park that houses an urban farm. But of course.

The Nomad Hotel

1170 Broadway

The moody, dimly lit boutique — housed in a beaux arts building that dates back to the turn of the century — brings a European sensibility to the NoMad (short for "north of Madison Square Park") neighbourhood. There are a handful of intimate places to unwind without ever leaving the building, the best being the Library, a cozy bar that's tailor-made for a nightcap.

Baccarat Hotel

28 West 53rd St.

If you're looking for the most unapologetically ostentatious hotel in New York, you'll find it here, just across from the Museum of Modern Art. The French glassware company's flagship property is akin to a crystal palace in the middle of Manhattan, with gargantuan chandeliers that could easily blind passersby.

*The Bowery Hotel*

335 Bowery

Those in search of downtown grit paired with five-star service invariably end up here. The hotel's location — in the crosshairs of the edgy-meets-elegant Bowery neighbourhood — makes for prime people-watching, particularly from a perch in the hotel's sultry Lobby Bar.

Park Hyatt

153 West 57th St.

Situated on a stretch of West 57th Street known as "Billionaire's Row" due to its abundance of tony skyscrapers, the Park Hyatt is a tranquil oasis amid Manhattan's chaos. Even the check-in process is headache-free: Attentive staffers armed with iPads are positioned in the lobby, so you'll never have to wait in line at the front desk.

The New York Edition

5 Madison Ave.

If staying uptown seems far too stuffy but you can't stomach the idea of going below 14th Street, the New York Edition — across from Madison Square Park — strikes the perfect balance. Boutique-hotel mogul Ian Schrager designed the place to feel like a private club, catering to an in-the-know clientele. And with a bar that's consistently packed with attractive patrons, what more could you ask for? —Lindsay Silberman



THIS PAGE (FROM TOP): The bar at the ostentatious Baccarat; the St. Regis, which remains New York's grande dame; **OPPOSITE PAGE:** The New York Edition was designed to feel like a private club





TREVOR NOAH'S NEW YORK

South African comedian, and host of late-night satirical news program *The Daily Show*, has found a home in America's most impatient city

BY PRIYA RAO



The Daily Show host calls Hell's Kitchen home now, but he returns to his native South Africa several times a year

Though Trevor Noah has only lived in Manhattan full-time since July 2015 — he calls the West Side neighbourhood of Hell's Kitchen home — *The Daily Show* host can sum up what it means to be a New Yorker in one word: “impatience.” Since taking the reins from Jon Stewart in September 2015, Noah has exhibited some of that himself with his searing takedowns of well-known journalists, which included calling out NBC *Today Show* host Matt Lauer for failing to challenge Donald Trump on his support for the Iraq War during a presidential forum. Fans can expect more provocations from the 33-year-old comedian with the recent release of his memoir, *Born a Crime: Stories from a South African Childhood*. The book begins with his birth — which,

in fact, was a crime, since he was born in 1984 during apartheid to a white Swiss father and a black Xhosa mother — then moves through his restless journey to adulthood. While New York is certainly far from his hometown of Soweto, which he visits several times a year, Noah is making do with the vibrant food offerings of the city that never sleeps. “My favourite restaurant is Blue Ribbon Sushi,” he says. “Papadam, on the Upper East Side, is my favourite for Indian. I always order the curry.” Still, Noah hasn’t been so taken with the local shopping scene — despite his penchant for slim, navy blue suits. “I shop online,” he says resolutely. “Most everything one needs can be found on Amazon, including groceries, often delivered the same day. Why would I leave my apartment?” Spoken like a true New Yorker. ■

The Franco Guide to NYC

JAMES FRANCO is not a full-time New Yorker, but the star of *Pineapple Express*, *127 Hours* and *Milk* spends plenty of time in the city. Here are a few places where you might bump into the hyperproductive dude during his infrequent downtime...

Barbiere

246 East 5th St.

Get a traditional straight-razor shave from Lello Guida, the Italian-born master barber at the shop where Franco has entrusted his Oscar-nominated face. It's an old-school Italian-style place in a historic East Village carriage house; you'll be offered a drink when you arrive. Need a trim, too? You're in luck — Guida was dubbed the "Michelangelo" of haircuts by New York's *Daily News*.

Smith & Mills

71 North Moore St.

This small, sophisticated Tribeca "hipstaurant" — as described by New York magazine — is a prime destination for Franco-spotting in NYC. The raw bar offers a nice selection of market oysters, and the burger is top-notch. After a few drinks, you'll definitely want to visit the bathroom, which is situated in a turn-of-the-century elevator cabin.

Jimmy

15 Thompson St.

A James Franco sighting could be the only thing to distract you from the spectacular view that comes with every cocktail at this

rooftop bar perched on the 18th floor of Soho's swanky James New York hotel. There's teak decking and a pool (open seasonally), and a fairly strict door policy due in no small part to the space's intimate size. Specialty cocktails run US\$18; there is a selection of snacks and small plates available if you're feeling peckish.

Clocktower

159 Pioneer St., Brooklyn

Franco's first solo art show, called "The Dangerous Book Four Boys" was held at the Clocktower's old space on Leonard Street, but the downtown vibe remains even after a dispersal to the boroughs. His work, which included experimental film, photography, and drawing, "deconstruct[ed] the reality of fame in a subtle, bare, and elemental way, sparing expected clichés," raved the *Village Voice*.

NYU Tisch School of the Arts

721 Broadway

The renaissance man that is James Franco not only graduated from Tisch but taught film there ("Directing the Thesis I") during the 2011-12 academic year. He's no longer on the faculty, but Franco's connection to the school remains — he recently produced and starred in *Yosemite*,

a film directed by Gabrielle Demeestere, one of his former classmates.

Landmark Theatres Sunshine Cinema

143 East Houston St.

Goat, Franco's latest movie, held its NYC premiere at this Houston Street art-house theatre in September. It's the same screening room at which 2014's *The Interview* was also meant to premiere, before showings were cancelled to avoid further inflaming tensions with hackers holding likely ties to North Korean leader Kim Jong-un.

Strand Books

828 Broadway

Franco has been spotted among the stacks at this legendary store ("18 miles of books") while doing multiple author events. He recently spent three hours meeting fans and signing his latest book, *Straight James/Gay James*, a poetry collection that the Strand described as "break[ing] down the many personas of James Franco as only the man himself could." He also signed copies of *Magic Mountain/Home Movies*, which contains reworked elements of his thesis in visual art from the Rhode Island School of Design, where he earned his MFA in digital media.

—JR ■



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THE

As trade talks surround the playing future of New York Knicks basketball star **CARMELO ANTHONY**, the NBA's classiest guy also has big plans for a journey off the hardwood

HIGH

BY **TIM STRUBY**

ROAD

Carmelo Anthony's life has been a journey of many turns, from a kid on the mean streets of Baltimore to NCAA champion to NBA megastar. Those closest to Melo have said he likes it this way: Journey builds character. Imbues wisdom. The latest turn came after Team USA beat Serbia 99-66 to win gold at the 2016 Rio Olympics. Anthony stood on the Carioca Arena 1 court as his teammates celebrated around him. The New York Knicks forward had just claimed his third Olympic gold medal (and fourth overall; he won bronze in 2004), but he was more reflective than overjoyed. "I know this is the end," he said while fighting back tears. "This is it for me." The 32-year-old was retiring from Team USA — a squad that has included legends like Michael Jordan, Magic Johnson and LeBron James — as its all-time leader in points, rebounds, and games played.

Yet as that chapter closed and Anthony enters the last stage of his pro hoops career, his personal journey is just beginning. Off the court, following in the footsteps of Muhammad Ali, Jim Brown, and Kareem Abdul-Jabbar, Melo has emerged as one of the country's

highest-profile advocates for social justice. And on the hardwood, the star's luck may be changing. Although Melo has perennially been, without question, one of the NBA's best since he entered the league in 2003 — with a career average of 24.9 points, 6.6 rebounds, and 3.2 assists per game — he has never won an NBA championship. With the Knicks' off-season changes, however, New York may have a contender. They have a new head coach in Jeff Hornacek. They have assembled their best squad in a decade, one that includes last season's rookie sensation, Kristaps Porzingis, and recent signees Derrick Rose, Joakim Noah, and Brandon Jennings. "I think the time is now for us, for the Knicks," Anthony told New York's *Daily News*. "I think the time is now for the city, the fans. Everybody's been tired of waiting and waiting and waiting."

Although it hasn't been the greatest start to the 2017 season, Anthony's been waiting for an opportunity like this since he first made a layup. Raised in the West Baltimore district known as the Pharmacy because of its rampant drug problem, the streets outside his

"I THINK THE TIME
IS NOW FOR THE
CITY, THE FANS.
**EVERYBODY'S
BEEN TIRED OF
WAITING AND
WAITING AND
WAITING."**



front door were straight out of HBO's acclaimed series *The Wire*. Drugs, gangs, and thugs were a part of daily life. Not unlike many kids in that world, he found solace on the basketball court. Unlike many kids, however, Melo had a gift. In 2001, as a 201cm junior at Towson Catholic High School, he averaged 23 points and 10.2 rebounds per game. That same year Anthony solidified his reputation at the USA Basketball Men's Youth Development Festival, where he tied for the tournament scoring title (a 24-point average) with another young prospect: LeBron James.

Melo played at Syracuse University, where in his first and only college season, he led the Orangemen to their first NCAA championship, earning the freshman the Most Outstanding Player award. "I didn't even like Syracuse, but I became a fan watching him," says four-time NBA champion John Salley. The Denver Nuggets selected Anthony with the third pick of the 2003 draft (behind James and Darko Milifi and ahead of Chris Bosh and Dwyane Wade), and it was immediately clear that the kid from the Pharmacy was a phenom. "He's always been a complete player," says Gus Johnson, the longtime sportscaster now with the Milwaukee Bucks. "Big, strong, tough, and versatile. He's got that great jump shot. He can play on the perimeter. But he can also bang in the paint or the box."

In his first NBA season, Melo averaged 21 points and 6.1 rebounds, and the Nuggets made the playoffs for the first time since 1995. Over the next 13 seasons with Denver and in New York (where he was traded midseason in 2010-11), Anthony would make nine all-star teams, win the 2013 NBA scoring title, and pour in 62 points in a game, one of only a handful of players to score that many. In 2014, he surpassed the 20,000-point mark and is currently the 29th-highest scorer in league history. "He's an obvious Hall of Famer," Johnson says.

Melo is not without his critics, however. He's inconsistent on defence, they say. He shoots too much. Why, screams the collective Greek chorus, hasn't he won that title? Contemporaries including James, Wade, Stephen Curry, Dirk Nowitzki, and Kobe Bryant have all hoisted that hardware. The answer is simple: supporting cast. Anthony's never had much of one. "Kobe has always thrived in the league," explains Salley. "But Kobe wasn't a champion until they built the right team around him." The closest Anthony came was in 2008-09, when the Nuggets lost to the Lakers in six games in the Western Conference Finals.

Recent years in New York have not silenced detractors. Following a second-round loss to the Indiana Pacers in 2013, Anthony and the Knicks have not returned to the playoffs. "They're rebuilding, and he's in a tough situation," says Johnson, referring to the team's lowly 49 wins over the past two seasons. "He could have bailed. But he's committed to New York City. He loves the pressure, the pulse. It's something he's accepted." Proof of which came in July 2014, when Melo resisted the chance to play for title contender Chicago and re-signed with the Knicks for US\$124 million.

Melo's loyalty subsequently prompted Knicks president Phil Jackson and GM Steve Mills to open the coffers and build a team around their superstar. "We have a very special team on paper right now," Anthony said, according to a recent *Daily News* report. "The front office stepped up. It was a collective effort. They did their job." Hopefully the newest Knicks can do theirs. Rose, when healthy, is one of the league's top point guards. Noah is a defensive monster and brings a palpable energy to the floor. "I think we'll be seeing them win that trophy in the near future," Johnson says. "Melo will have a chance to bask in the glory like the great Knicks teams of old."

A title is unquestionably first and last on Anthony's NBA bucket list. Yet he refuses to be defined by basketball and he's already mapping out paths for his post-NBA life. The first is that of activist. Over the past few years Anthony has continually used his voice for social change. In April 2015 Melo marched in the Baltimore



Triple digits: Carmelo Anthony's signature celebration every time he scores a three-point basket involves tapping three fingers to his head

streets of his youth after the police-related death of Freddie Gray; he joined James, Wade and Chris Paul on stage at last year's ESPY Awards to deliver a message in support of Black Lives Matter and social responsibility; and he vociferously stood by the WNBA players who demonstrated against police shootings of young black men.

The second path is that of entrepreneur. A few years ago, Melo unveiled Melo7 Tech Partners, a venture capital company he founded with renowned investor Stuart Goldfarb. A longtime tech junkie, Anthony's plans go beyond chasing a buck; he hopes to help shape the future with innovations such as virtual reality. "The money is enticing, but it's also the thrill of being involved with businesses and companies that [are] changing the world today," he later said.

His basketball career may be in its third act, but the long journey of Melo the man is only just beginning. ■

**This is the real Michael Clarke.
Standing up and speaking out.**

*My
Story*

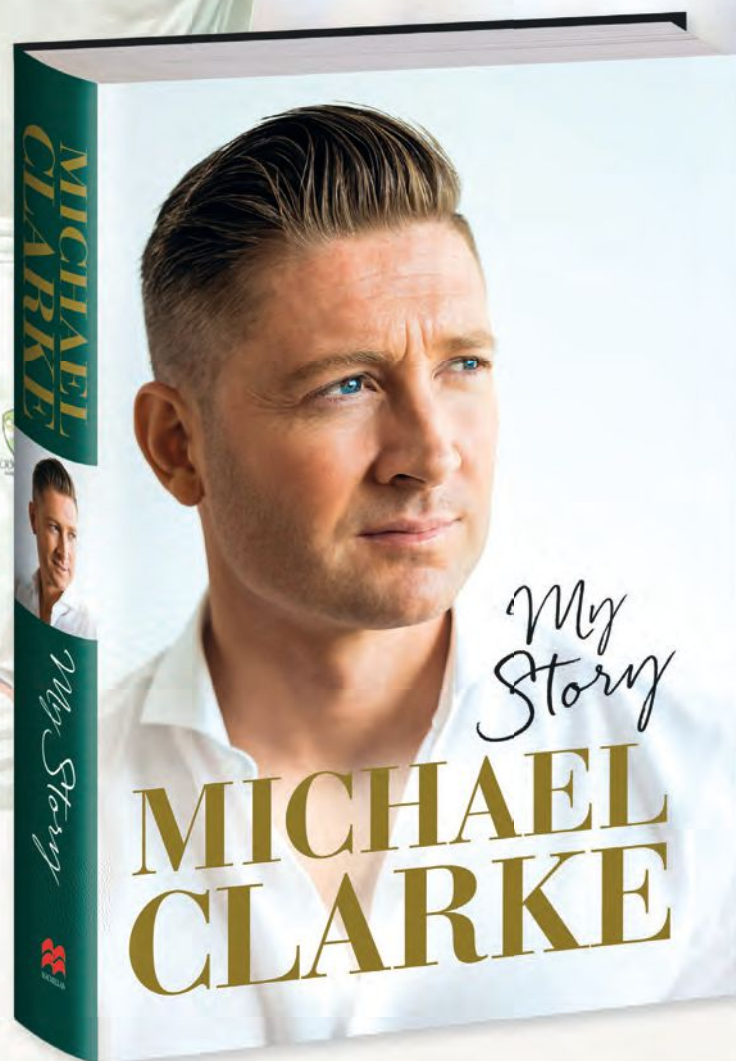
MICHAEL CLARKE

For a decade, Michael Clarke's personal life, career fortunes and controversies - real or imagined - were splashed across front pages and scrutinised.

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WOMAN OF THE WORLD



ELENA

The German model dares and dominates with audacity, energy
and beauty in the most competitive city in the world, New York...

MUELLER

PHOTOGRAPHED BY **DAN CROSBY**

WOMAN OF THE WORLD

SUNGLASSES,
ILESTEVA;
SWEATER, **COS**;
VELVET BODYSUIT,
TOPSHOP



THIS PAGE
BODYSUIT, **TOPSHOP**;
NECKLACE, **PETITE GRAND**;
RINGS, **MINA RO MINA**
AND **AVOCET JEWELRY**

OPPOSITE PAGE
BOMBER, **VLADIMIR**
SPENCER; NECKLACE,
PETITE GRAND; RINGS,
MINA RO MINA AND
AVOCET JEWELRY



WOMAN OF THE WORLD





NECKLACE, **PETITE
GRAND**; RINGS, **MINA
RO MINA AND AVOCET**
JEWELRY; JEANS, **MAVI**

STYLING BY **TATIANA
CINQUINO FOR WILHELMINA**
ARTISTS; MAKE-UP, **DANIEL
AVILAN FOR WILHELMINA**
ARTISTS; HAIR, **ISAAC
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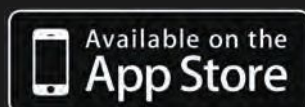
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CEO OF THE FUTURE

ELON MUSK, the visionary founder of Tesla and SpaceX, is about to change life as we know it on earth—and beyond

BY **BILL SAPORITO**

There are no small mistakes when you're in the business of launching rockets. One mechanical glitch, one wrong computer input and your exquisitely crafted, US\$60 million engineering marvel becomes a highly unsatisfying fireworks display. Yet on the afternoon of September 28, 2008, as SpaceX's Falcon 1 rocket sat on the pad at Kwajalein Atoll in the Pacific, the risks extended well beyond the impending launch itself. Elon Musk had boldly — foolishly, some of his own friends thought — sunk much of his Internet fortune into a commercial space company, which from an entrepreneurial perspective has a degree of difficulty right up there with nuclear fusion. Now, after three consecutive RUDs (as in "rapid, unscheduled disassembly"), Musk was almost out of money. And he was certainly out of rockets. A fourth disaster would not only doom SpaceX but would likely take out Tesla, the electric car company Musk had also started. Tesla shared technology and overhead, not to mention Musk himself, with SpaceX and was hemorrhaging money.

As Falcon 1 roared off amid the palm trees of "Kwaj," a parallel roar of jubilation and relief emanated from SpaceX's HQ in Hawthorne, California. Minutes after the flawless ascent to orbit, an emotional Musk turned to his rocketeers and said, "That was freakin' awesome." The successful mission would realize SpaceX's strategy of utilizing low-cost, reusable rockets to launch satellites, deliver space cargo and ultimately carry humans to Mars. "There were a lot of people who thought we couldn't do it. A lot, actually," he told his employees. "But as the saying goes, the fourth time's the charm, right?"

By late December of that year, just before Christmas, NASA was on the line telling Musk that SpaceX had won its US\$1.6 billion



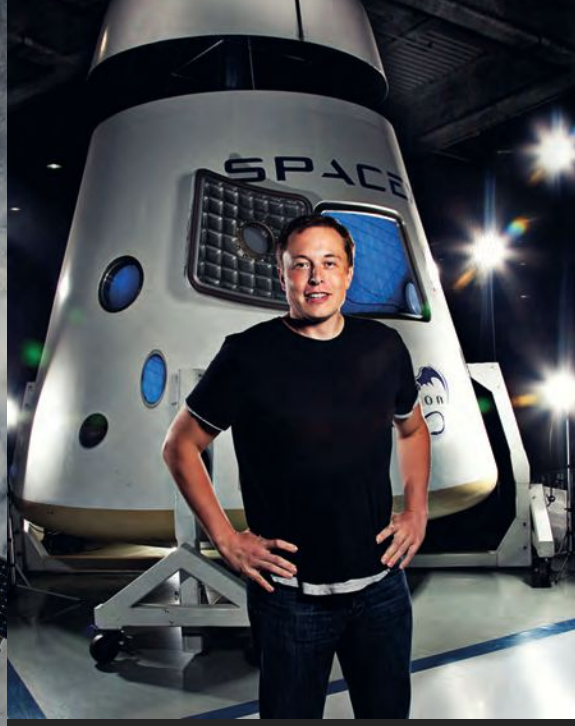
contract to resupply the International Space Station. "I couldn't even hold the phone. I just blurted out, 'I love you guys!'" he told *60 Minutes*. And it wasn't his only Christmas present. That month, Tesla had run down its cash so low that making the next payroll was doubtful — until a last-gasp infusion of investor money on Christmas Eve kept the company solvent. Before the Christmas Miracle, Musk thought he might be on the verge of a nervous breakdown.

Today, Tesla is on the verge of an enormous breakthrough. The introduction of Tesla's Model 3 has been a triumphant, iPhone-level event, with buyers queuing for the privilege of purchasing the US\$35,000 electric vehicle two years in advance. The Model 3 is the culmination of Tesla Motors' "Secret Master Plan," one that Musk conspicuously posted on the company's website in 2006. The idea was to first build the high-priced, US\$109,000 Roadster to prove the EV concept and finance the development of a family sedan, which

became the Tesla Model S (US\$70,000) — the best-reviewed car in the history of the auto industry. (In "Ludicrous" mode, it's now capable of doing zero to 60 mph in 2.8 seconds, which Musk describes as "faster than falling," and is quicker than most Porsches, Ferraris and Lamborghinis). The Model S would then produce the funds for the lower-priced vehicle. In between, though, in 2015, Tesla announced the otherworldly, falcon-winged Model X SUV before it got to the Model 3, "so it's a four-part trilogy," Musk joked at the Model 3's introduction this spring.

Jokes aside, Tesla has re-created the electric car, and to some degree the auto industry itself, by producing stylish, high-performance EVs without much help from Detroit, Tokyo or Stuttgart. Fanboys flock to his press conferences, and comparisons with Steve Jobs are not out of line. Tesla has taken in more than 400,000 orders for the Model 3, worth some US\$14 billion. The biggest challenge Tesla now faces isn't selling the Model 3, it's making





enough of them. That's known as a high-class problem. Everything in Musk's universe appears to be functioning optimally. In April, SpaceX stuck the ocean drone-ship landing of its reusable Falcon 9 rocket — think of a 12-story building parking itself upright on a floating doormat — which will be launching billions' worth of satellites and space station shuttles for NASA, the International Space Station and other clients. "It's another step toward the stars," he said after the landing.

And far away from the stars, in the desert near Reno, Nevada, Tesla's Gigafactory will soon double the world's manufacturing capacity of lithium-ion batteries while increasing their efficiency and lowering cost. The Gigafactory will be churning out battery packs Musk says will make electric vehicles universally popular, reduce global warming and deliver cheap power to the poorest parts of the world. "It's about a fundamental transformation of how the world works, about how energy is delivered across earth," he said at the introduction of Tesla's Powerwall home energy storage system last year. The initial goal: create a giant, distributed-energy utility across the United States to replace coal-burning power plants. He declined to patent the production technology, egging on other companies to use it to build more capacity.

Musk, 44, is a physicist and economist by training, and a jet pilot, self-taught rocket scientist and automotive and battery designer by avocation. His earliest success came as a transplanted South African (via Canada) code genie. He was one of the forces behind the formation of PayPal, a group that included Max Levchin, Peter Thiel, Reid Hoffman and others in the PayPal Mafia who would create Internet dynasties of their own — the ultimate overachievers club. Unlike them, Musk wanted to move beyond Silicon Valley's code culture to

create physical products tied to space, energy and transport, and with a greater sense of responsibility to humankind. It's one of the reasons he formed SolarCity, a renewable-energy provider, and also what led him to post a white paper in 2013 on something called the Hyperloop. Born out of his frustration with California's costly and slow proposal for high-speed rail between San Francisco and Los Angeles, the idea seemed outlandish at first: a podlike vehicle that floats in a nearly frictionless tube constructed between the two cities that would speed you along at 750 mph — and cost billions less than the existing plan. The Hyperloop capsule would hover over magnetic accelerators strung along the length of the tube, using a solar-powered motor for propulsion. Perhaps unsurprisingly, the physics have now been proven by one of several companies hotly pursuing the project, and Musk, too busy to run yet another startup, set his idea free to let others develop it.

What makes him remarkable is not that he believes that our carbon-based, CO₂-spewing society is doomed. It's that he's dead certain he can do something about it. "The goal of Tesla and SolarCity is to minimise the existential threat of a delayed transition to a sustainable-energy economy," he says.

SolarCity addresses energy supply, Tesla addresses energy consumption, and SpaceX is a sort of planetary insurance policy if Musk can't save earthlings from their own destructive behaviours. "The purpose of SpaceX is to help make humanity multiplanetary. If life as we know it is multiplanetary, then the probable length of existence of human civilisation is much greater," he said after a recent rocket launch. No wonder Musk became the model for Iron Man in the eyes of actor Robert Downey Jr. Why be a mere money changer at PayPal when you can be an intergalactic force?

Trying to rescue the planet can be remunerative, too. Musk is worth about US\$10 billion, the majority of it tied to his Tesla stock. He takes next to nothing in salary.

He may have been born brilliant and eccentric, but Elon Musk's upbringing certainly contributed to the oddball genius label he'd acquire — even from his mother. Musk was raised in Pretoria, South Africa, the youngest son of a cold, distant engineer father and vivacious, entrepreneurial mother named Maye, a fashion model and nutritionist. In a society that prized athleticism, Elon had zero. From the time he could read he became a data input device, absorbing every book within reach. According to a Bloomberg report, he overcame his fear of darkness by doing the math. "Dark just means the absence of photons in the visible wavelengths — 440 to 700 nanometers," he reasoned. "It's really silly to be afraid of a lack of photons." (Try explaining that to your three-year-old).

As a child, he designed backyard rockets and explosives to amuse his siblings and cousins; at 10, he got a Commodore computer, and his programming ability soon outstripped that of most adults; at 12, he wrote the software for a computer game named Blaster and sold it for US\$500. "I don't think they realised I was 12," he later recalled.

Elon, his brother, Kimbal (who later became a business partner), and sister, Tosca, were raised to be independent. At 17, he left South Africa for Canada, where his mother was born, and worked odd jobs while living with relatives. Maye and Kimbal would follow and the family made a home in Toronto, where Elon attended Queen's University. He moved on to the University of Pennsylvania, earning degrees in both physics and economics, a rare and somewhat odd combination.

His pursuit of a Ph.D. in applied physics at



Stanford would last a matter of days: Musk had already decided that universities delivered knowledge too slowly, and he had an idea that was turning into an itch. It was called Zip2. In 1995 the Internet was still an infant, but Musk realised that a tectonic shift was underway in publishing, from print to digital. He figured that local advertisers would buy space on the budding websites of local newspapers and developed Zip2 to do just that. He was way too early. Living hand to mouth, with brother Kimbal operating as sales chief, the pair hung on until print media companies finally began to see the light. That was enough to interest Compaq, which bought Zip2 for more than US\$300 million.

Musk already knew his next target — the stultified world of banking. “Money is low bandwidth. You don’t need some sort of big infrastructure improvement to do things with it,” he told an audience at Stanford in 2003. He launched X.com with the idea of completely transforming banking. But the PayPal guys were doing likewise, and after becoming quick and fierce rivals, the two companies eventually merged. Musk decamped to Los Angeles in 2002 and quickly began pursuing space exploration. The Hollywood setting suited both Musk and his wife, Justine, a woman he’d met and pursued at Queen’s University. She became a novelist, magazine writer and blogger, documenting their lives in the Hollywood-Silicon Valley circuit. (Musk flew himself back and forth weekly). Their Silicon celebrity lifestyle was tragically halted when their first child died of Sudden Infant Death Syndrome in 2002. They would later become parents of twins and then triplets — all boys — but the marriage could not stand the strain of Musk’s relentless dedication to his companies. He filed for divorce in the spring

of 2008. Justine would make it all public in *Marie Claire*, calling herself a “starter wife.”

In 2009, six weeks after divorcing Justine, he became engaged to English actress Talulah Riley, who became wife 2.0, and then also wife 2.1 — the pair divorced in 2012, remarried and then filed for divorce again. Musk is a big fan of iterations, but apparently it works better in manufacturing than in marriage.

Steering past potential business disasters to triumphant success is testimony to Musk’s idiosyncratic management approach. He has been called a nanomanager, someone who can see things on a mind-blowingly deep level. It comes from his physics background. “My main training and mind-set is that of a physicist,” he said. “So I tend to think of things in a physics framework, because I think that’s the best framework for critical thinking and for evaluating technologies that are fundamental.”

That background led him to believe that lithium-oxide batteries, which have a higher energy density than lead versions, could power a new era of electric vehicles. “The issue with existing batteries is that they suck,” he says. “They’re really horrible.” Tesla’s original cofounders, Marc Tarpenning and Martin Eberhard, had come to the same conclusion. Musk funded them and became chairman of the company, and then added a Li-ion battery pack he had also financed. Think of 10,000 triple-A batteries strung together powering your car. “If you could combine large-enough numbers of lithium-ion cells into a single battery, you could provide not only adequate range for a car but also power capable of turning the humble electric car into an object of desire,” he said at a TED talk.

Tesla owes a lot to SpaceX, where Musk was maniacally bent on lowering the cost of producing and launching a rocket, eventually

cutting it down to US\$6 million dollars a pop. The nearest competitor charges US\$25 million. SpaceX’s approach is something that Musk cites often: rapid reuse. If you could design a low-cost rocket that could be fired, release its payload, land and be turned around rapidly, you wouldn’t have to reinvent the wheel (or the rocket), which is what NASA and large subcontractors such as Boeing have been doing for decades, at huge expense.

“The cost to refuel our rocket, or reload — it’s mostly [liquid] oxygen — is only about two to three hundred thousand dollars, but the rocket itself is US\$60 million. It’s kind of like an aircraft. Aircraft are really expensive to construct and buy but not expensive to refuel, relatively speaking,” he explains. Rapid reusability can represent a hundredfold reduction in marginal cost.

That’s why SpaceX is building a Spaceport in Texas, designed to launch, land and relaunch rockets as rapidly as LaGuardia does 757s. The idea is to make space flight as unexciting as driving to the mall. “We’ll be successful, ironically, when it becomes boring,” he said after Falcon 9’s perfect touchdown. “When it’s like, ‘Oh yeah, another landing. OK, no news there’ — that’s actually when it will be successful.” And by then you can expect Musk to be long gone, throwing billions at some other adventure. Maybe to Mars. To make the point a little more real, SpaceX just announced that it would fire its Dragon spaceship at Mars, with a landing scheduled as soon as 2018. Musk won’t be a passenger, but he’ll be presenting his plans for Martian colonisation at the International Astronautical Conference in Mexico this fall.

“I think it’s going to sound pretty crazy,” he says with his typical dose of self-deprecation. “So it should be at least entertaining.” ■

Simple Solutions

Stained teeth, bad breath, feet you're embarrassed to show in public... we've all had these annoying body issues that, in the grand scheme of things, aren't life changers but are just as irritating as razor burn. These easy ways to fix such tricky problems are all available at Chemist Warehouse and won't even come close to breaking the bank, leaving money to spend on the all-new you!

DANDRUFF

Nothing is worse than a sprinkling of dry and flaky skin on your shirt. *Old Spice Head and Shoulders 350ml 2in1* not only cleans hair with the fresh smell of Old Spice but the dual action formula removes dandruff and stops it from returning. Try it today for \$10.39. To calm unruly locks, finish off your look with a dash of *My Organics Matte Paste* at \$9.99 for a shine that's not greasy and can hold even the most imaginative styles.

BAD BREATH

There's no use having great teeth if your breath wilts flowers. Some of the great products you can stock up on at Chemist Warehouse include handy *Ultrafresh Coolmint Breath Freshener* for \$3.69 and, for \$5.99, a toothpaste you'll find you can't live without — *Colgate Total Pro Clean Breath* 170g.

CRACKED FEET

Cracked and dry feet is a common problem amongst men and one many of us don't realise. *Milky Foot Intense Exfoliation Pads* are a deluxe at-home pedicure treatment which remove hardened skin through intense peeling action after just one application. These handy little socks, yours for \$25.99, do all the hard work for you.

Also designed to buff you straight to beautiful soft feet, is the *Scholl Velvet Smooth Electronic Foot File* with long lasting micro-abrasive particles which now comes with finely ground diamond crystals. Gently rotate the the file over hard skin and see dead skin disappear. Just \$34.99 and super easy to use.

A CLOSE SHAVE

It's one of life's necessities for most, but shaving can really irritate the skin. To avoid razor burn, try the *Gillette Fusion ProGlide* razor with new FlexBall Technology. With five thinner and finer blades the manual razor glides over contours and gets virtually every hair. At \$17.99, it's Gillette's number one razor for sensitive skin.

Follow up with *Nivea for Men Sensitive Post Shave Balm*, a light, non-greasy and easily absorbed balm specifically formulated to meet the needs of easily irritated and sensitive skin. It'll help protect your face against inflammation and irritation and leaves skin feeling soft and well cared for. \$8.99 for 100ml.



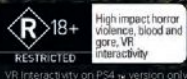
RESIDENT EVIL

biohazard



HORROR COMES HOME

24.01.2017



Hunting the Horizon

GAME: *Horizon Zero Dawn*

DEVELOPER: GUERRILLA GAMES

FORMAT: PS4

OUT: March 1

Sony has a new exclusive IP to unleash that not only redefines the action-RPG, but also what's possible on PS4

We love a new IP: it's a chance for developers to experiment with characters, stories and gameplay experiences that don't fit in an existing series. And boy has developer Guerrilla Games had fun with *Horizon Zero Dawn*! It has constructed an action-RPG set in a massive open-world and built around the experience of hunting and crafting. The end result, is something very special.

She's Got The Look

Horizon Zero Dawn is gorgeous. In fact, it could be the most beautiful game ever made. It unfolds in the lush landscape of a world a thousand years after the apocalypse. Humanity has reverted to a tribal lifestyle, while machines built in animal forms — both real and fantasy — patrol the landscape, growing more powerful by the day. You play as a hunter, Aloy, charged with protecting

her tribe. Her adventure starts by going out into the wild, hunting the beasts and scavenging their parts in order to trade them for, or craft them into, better gear. What Aloy discovers on this journey about the machines and the remnants of humanity we'll leave for you.

Great Combat

Combat is very interesting in *Horizon Zero Dawn*. Many battles begin with stealth as you sneak up on enemies using the environment as your cover, and scan them in order to reveal weak spots and predicated movement trajectory. The latter allows you to set traps or ambush opportunities, while the former gives you hints on where to target your ranged weapons (like slingshots that fling various bombs and a bow with a range of arrow types) or melee attacks. Movement is fast and slick, allowing you to jump, roll and

aim fluidly. The AI is razor-sharp, so you will need play it smart when making your way into their vicinity and predict behaviour based on the enemy type. Some will run away while spooked, while others are aggressive — it's always unpredictable. Guerrilla Games has done an amazing job of capturing the feeling of the hunt, and the reward for a big capture.

Deep Horizon

There's plenty of depth to *Horizon Zero Dawn*, and the further you immerse yourself in the world, the more you understand about its open-world sandbox and what you can do in it. Eg: if you trap smaller machines, you can hack them and then ride them to get around faster. You'll also find NPCs that will tip you off to locations of important items you're after. And there are sidequests galore, as well as an XP system that unlocks perks. Truly a must-own for PlayStation fans.



1 Go PS4 Pro

As well as being an outstanding action-adventure game in its own right, *Horizon Zero Dawn* is also a showcase title for Sony's PS4 Pro console. Released in late 2016, the console provides developers with added power and sweet visual upgrades like 4K resolution and high-dynamic range lighting. If you have a 4KTV and a PS4 Pro, *Horizon Zero Dawn* goes to another level.



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Will You Make the Switch?

Nintendo's new console, the **SWITCH**, has finally come into full focus. It is out March 3 and we have all the details for you...



The Switch, like its predecessors, forgoes raw power in pursuit of a new way to play games. In this case, it's the ability for a console to be both lounge-room locked, and portable. The Switch can be docked at home and played with a controller, or removed and taken on the road as a handheld. It offers a third mode of play, too, called Tabletop, where a kickstand can hold the screen upright for a mini-console experience on the go. The console isn't much bigger than your hand and has a touchscreen running its full length. It slides in and out of the dock seamlessly, with instant transition between modes. And while the screen is capped at 720p, it still looks quite sharp. With only around 3 hours of battery life when gaming (six hours max), you'll need to have it on charge a lot, but the concept is quite neat.

Bringing the Joy

The key tool in enabling the Switch to be so versatile is the new Joy-Con controller. It's effectively like having the two halves of a traditional controller separable. In Console

or Tabletop modes, the two halves can be joined together for a normal style play, or held separately in each hand like two Wii-remotes. In Handheld mode, they clip onto the side of the screen. The construction is robust, with switching the Joy-Con between modes easy and sturdy. The individual controllers have motion sensing, too, plus a new, expressive rumble system and an IR camera capable of measuring distance and recognising shapes – all up, it allows for a stack of gameplay variety. It's all very responsive, but a little on the small side – men with big hands may want to try the feel of the Joy-Con in a store before buying.

The Games

The Switch is starting life with a modest line-up of titles. The big hitter is *The Legend of Zelda: Breath of the Wild*, which is a stunning open-world action experience that brings crafting, climbing and non-linear dungeons to the series for the first time. Another must own is 1-2-Switch, which is designed to show off all the tricks of the new Joy-Con controller by providing a host of minigames: great fun

for parties. Following through autumn will be *Arms* (a motion-driven boxing game that works a treat), *Mario Kart 8 Deluxe* and the delightful *Snipperclips*. Also announced for later in the year are *Splatoon 2*, *Ultra Street Fighter II*, *Sonic Mania*, *Xenoblade Chronicles 2* and the epic *Super Mario Odyssey*.

How Much and Give It To Me?

At \$469.95, the Nintendo Switch isn't as cheap as we would have expected. The machine is well-conceived and built, and the console-handheld hybrid idea does work well, but the lacklustre launch line-up means that all but big time *Zelda* fans may want to wait till Christmas.





For Honor (PS4, Xbox One, PC)

Out: Now

This innovative action game from Ubisoft manages to make melee-driven combat more than just hacking and slashing. The warlord Apollyon is pitting three medieval tribes against each other – Knights, Vikings and Samurai – and you take up the cause. Each tribe has multiple classes to choose from, helping you zero in on the unique skills and abilities you're after. You're then placed on the battlefield in a scene not unlike *Game of Thrones*, using your cunning and skill to survive all the carnage and take the objectives. It's fun in single player, but a riot in multiplayer, where one-on-one duels become a battle of wits as you time defensive and offensive moves in the hope of exposing a weakness. Succeed and you will earn Feats: special abilities like a barrage of arrows. Imagine *Dynasty Warriors* with way more structure – good fun!

Halo Wars 2 (Xbox One, PC)

Out: Feb 21

The *Halo* universe needs no introduction, but it's not just about first-person shooting. *Halo Wars 2* is a spinoff experience that plays like an old-school RTS (think *Command & Conquer*). It's a part of the official canon, with a story set just after *Halo 5* and featuring the same human crew from the first game. Awoken from cyro-sleep, they're drawn to a nearby distress signal only to discover a new enemy – the Banished – and war soon ensues. Missions follow the genre-script, with base building/upgrading, unit production and management, and map exploration, achieving objectives by outwitting the enemy AI (in the campaign) or human opponents (online). The campaign can be played in co-op, which is a nice touch, and there are some fun new multiplayer modes, but it's the slick design and action-filled battles that make *Halo Wars 2* a winner.



Sniper Elite 4 (PS4, Xbox One, PC)

Out: Now

Set directly after its predecessor, *Sniper Elite 4* sends players to Italy, 1943, to help the local resistance fight back against the fascists. The location looks a treat, and you will have plenty of opportunities to gaze at it while sneaking up on the officers you must despatch. The maps are now massive, providing more routes – helped by the new climbing mechanic – and more tactical freedom. This includes the ability to set traps; sometimes in enemy corpses. The core gameplay of sneaking into position, marking targets and executing takedowns – with the famous slow-mo kill-cam – is still where the game truly shines and it feels even better now thanks to a more responsive and realistic AI. But it's co-op where the game is best. Working with a friend to navigate into position, establish a game plan and implement it perfectly is incredibly rewarding.

Ghost Recon Wildlands

(PS4, Xbox One, PC)

Out: March 7

Ghost Recon returns to present day for its latest entry, set in Bolivia as our elite soldiers try to bring stability to a region run by a drug cartel. The biggest thrill for fans of the series is the massive open world. It's huge, with a large array of terrain types (mountains to forests to deserts and everything in-between), driveable vehicles (drones, dirt bikes, helicopters, dune buggies and more), dynamic weather, a day/night cycle and side missions. It makes for an immersive sandbox to jump into with a team of friends and to use the high-tech weapons and military tactics to influence the future and politics of Bolivia. The only missing ingredient is splitscreen, a previous staple for the series.



THE CARDIO SESSION

IN YOUR BEDROOM

Here's why you should have
more sex, according to science...

BY ZEYNEP YENISEY

As if you needed another reason to have more sex — we have one more for you. Having sex is good for your heart health! And, in case you didn't know, sex is pretty good for many other things — it boosts morale, helps you sleep better, offers pain relief, brings stress levels down and helps prevent prostate cancer, among other things. It's also fun, which is definitely good for you too, one way or another. What I'm basically trying to say is that sex is like a miracle cure-all that you don't need a prescription for. Sex is the secret doctors don't want you to know, which is why I'm telling you all of this. And unlike a doctor, this advice comes free. You're welcome.

When it comes to keeping your ticker strong and healthy, you've probably been told to eat right, exercise regularly, keep stress levels down and take some pharmaceutical crap. Sure, that's cool and all, but has your cardiologist ever told you to go home and fool around with your special lady friend for optimum heart health? No? Didn't think so.

According to heart expert Johannes Hinrich von Borstel, the ol' bump and grind between the sheets is the best, healthiest, and most enjoyable workout you can do. "As well as an entire cardiac workout, before and during intercourse there is a big release of hormones that have a protective effect on our cardiovascular system," he says. An entire cardiac workout? Apparently, an orgasm triggers the release of a healthy cocktail of about 50 chemical messengers, including oxytocin, which is affectionately known as the "cuddle hormone." Oxytocin is proven to lower blood pressure and reduce stress, which is obviously really, really good for your heart.

But here's the catch: Fleeting one-night stands aren't particularly good for your heart, because there's not much oxytocin action going on since you don't have an emotional connection with that person. Ugh, sorry. Instead, have sex with someone who makes you feel all warm and fuzzy inside. Now that's the good shit that makes the oxytocin come pouring out. Other heart-healthy hormones released during sex are

**"SEX IS LIKE
A MIRACLE
CURE-ALL THAT
YOU DON'T NEED A
PRESCRIPTION FOR."**

endorphins, which are the hormones responsible for making you feel reaaaal good after sex. Endorphins lower heart rate and blood pressure, which, again, are good things for your heart. Like, very good things.

That said, a 2010 study published in the American Journal of Cardiology found that men who got it on at least twice a week were less likely to develop heart disease compared to men who were almost celibate and only did the deed once a month. So what's the takeaway here? Don't be like the celibate men. That's lame. Be like the sexually active men, because it's healthy and responsible. The road to poor cardiac health is abstinence. Von Borstel's words of advice are to have "as much loving sex as possible." Good man, good man. So, listen to the heart expert (and to me) and vow to have more sex, as any health-conscious and responsible person would do. ■

**HEART: THE INSIDE STORY OF OUR BODY'S
MOST IMPORTANT ORGAN** by Johannes Hinrich
von Borstel is published by Scribe, RRP\$29.99





Michael McKean

The legendary star of *Better Call Saul* (and, more importantly, *This Is Spinal Tap*) discusses his last day on Earth...



How do you want to die?
Smothered in puppies.

Do you have any deathbed confessions?

You're expecting I'll say, "I am the zodiac", but no, none.

What's your last meal?

Annette O'Toole's [his wife] chilli. And cake.

What's a real-life situation you would have been better off calling Saul?

A music biz ganef shook me down in a car once – could have used the Chicago sunroof treatment.

Saul's motto is "Better safe than sorry." What is yours?

Never pass up a chance to take a leak.

What life advice would your better call saul character give Michael McKean?

If you write it, you should own it.

Are you going to heaven or hell?

Don't believe in either but I would ask God why he made scorpions.

Which legendary people will you hang out with in the afterlife?

Dickens, Twain, Judy Holliday, Elmore Leonard, Lennon & Harrison, Louis Armstrong, Carole Lombard, Laurel & Hardy, Imogene Coca – all brilliant

and funny in different ways.

Which of the seven deadly sins gave you the most trouble?
Sloth.

What do you know now that you didn't know at 20?

People are even more mysterious than you think, but not unknowable.

What's the greatest Michael McKean joke or scene that never saw the light of day?

An elevator encounter in *This Is Spinal Tap* between the band and a gaggle of chorus boys from *The Wiz*. It might have gotten a little broad. I thought it was funny.

What's the craziest thing you did here on Earth?

In my 20s I'd get drunk and somehow find my way home on the subway at 2am. How I avoided falling on the tracks I don't know.

What do you think is the dumbest thing you ever did during your time on Earth?

Driving in a snowstorm while having an argument. Those are two activities you want to do one at a time.

What's your greatest achievement during your time on Earth?

Stumbling gallantly into this lovely family I'm in.

What quality advice will you take to the grave with you?

"Let us endeavour so to live that when we come to die even the undertaker will be sorry." – via Mark Twain.

Name one thing you're glad you'll never have to do again.

Geometry.

What are your friends saying over your casket at your funeral?

"Cargo shorts? Surprising."

What are the cast of *Better Call Saul* saying over your casket?

"When Vince [Gilligan] writes them out, he *really* writes them out."

What would you like to be reincarnated as?

A border collie.

What's written on your tombstone?

"You are here."

Got any last words?

There's nothing as overrated as ratings. ■

"IN MY 20s I'D
GET DRUNK AND
SOMEHOW FIND MY
WAY HOME ON THE
SUBWAY AT 2AM."



AIRLAYER

SUPER COMFORT TECH-FABRIC

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M
Science fiction
themes and
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GUERRILLA

