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RUNWAY

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on the cover

Model: Arielle Raycene

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rrayimages

Fashion Stylist : Julia Perry @julia-perrystyle

Makeup & Hair: Barbara Lamelza @barbaralamelzamakeup (Using MAC Cosmetics & Intelligent Nutrients)

Assistant Stylist: Ralf Braese @ ralfbraese Location: Runway Hea dquarters @runwaytv **Entertainment:**

Arielle Raycene

Ben Gulak

Bailey Spinn

Bear Fiorida Ava Cantrell

Marco DelVecchio

Bradley Martin

Maela Rose





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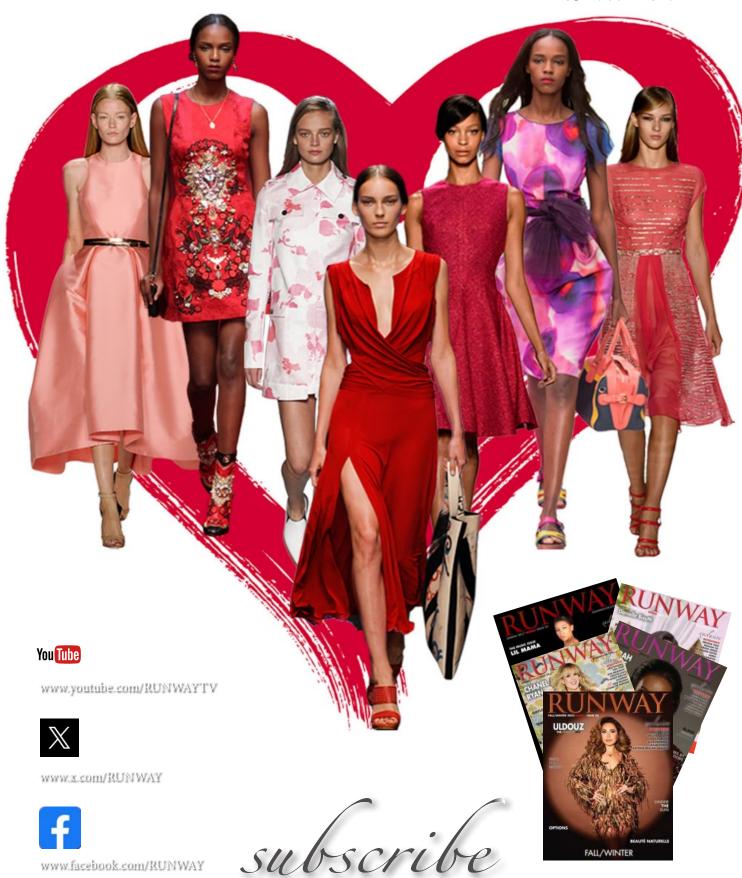
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RUNWAY

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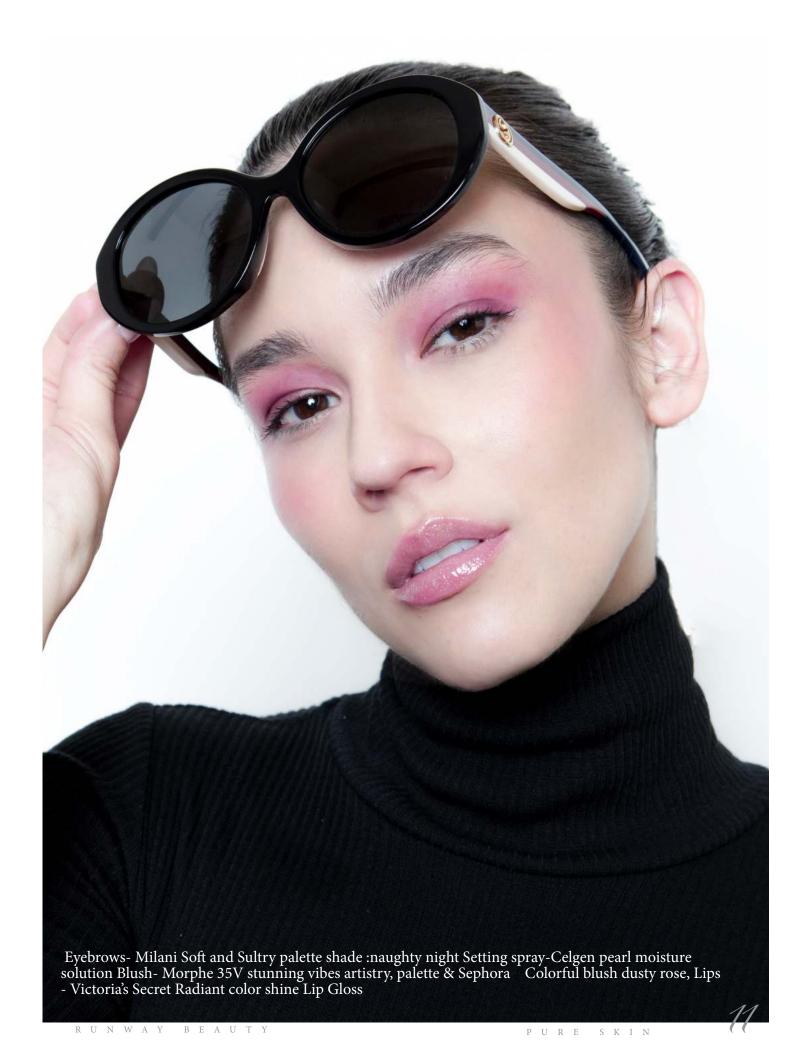




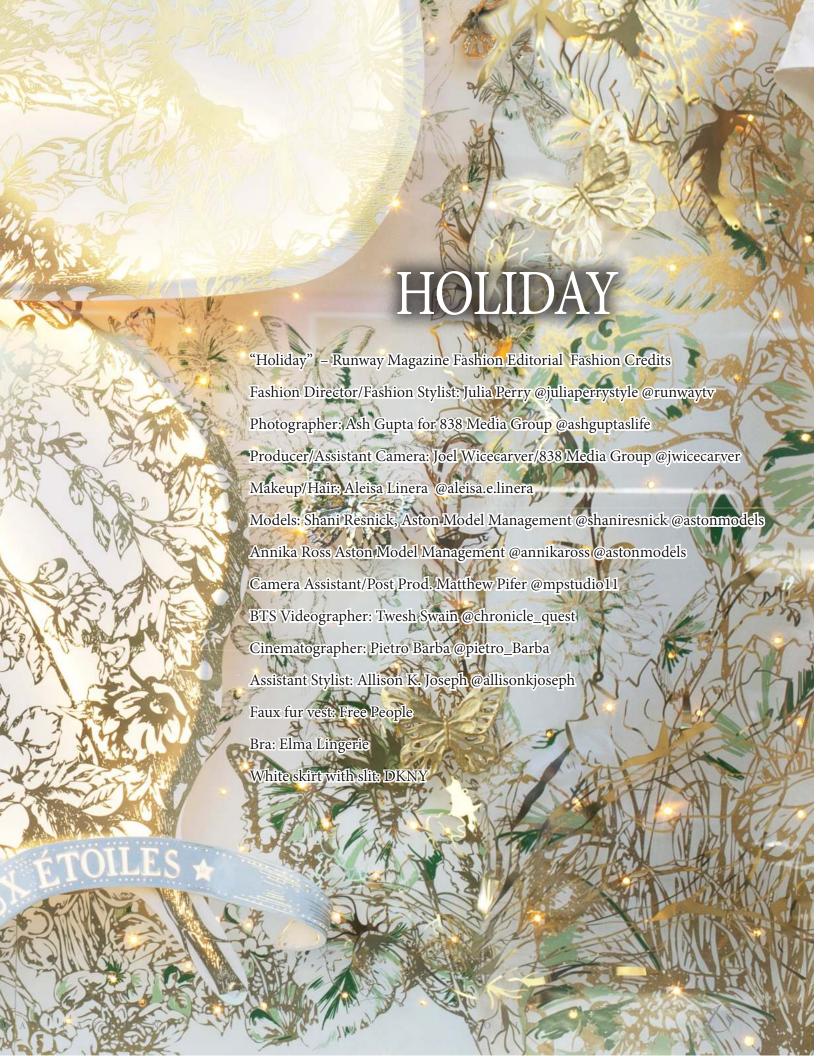






















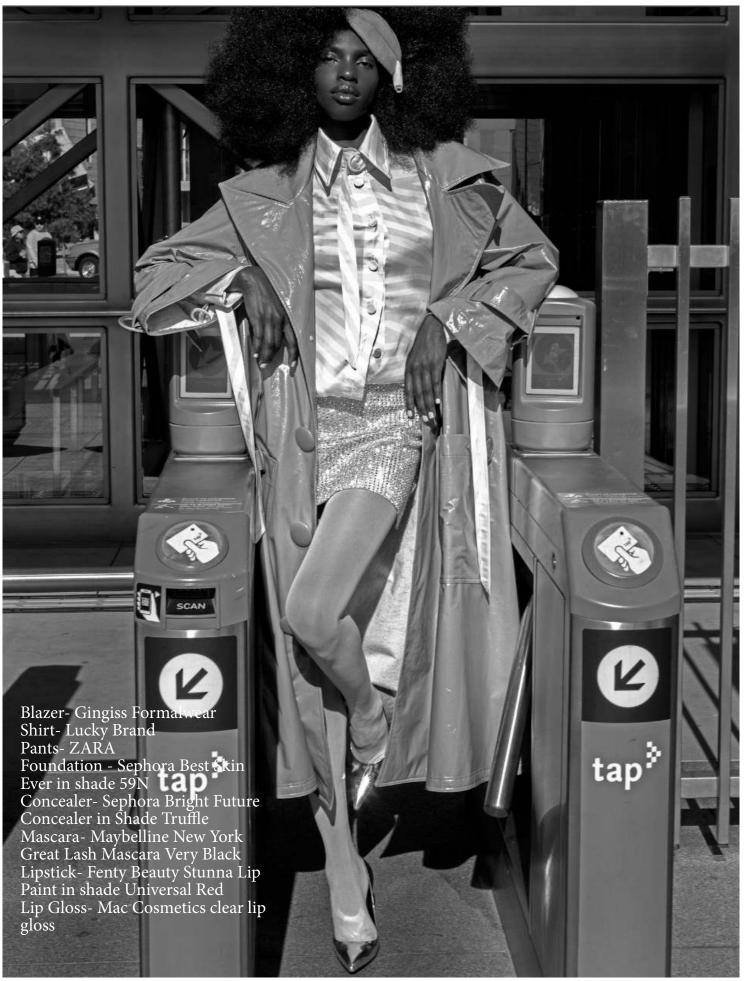




















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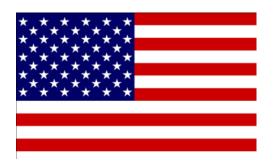






























































Hat: Limonade collective & Joe and me Body jewelry: Stylist own Cowboy boots: Toral & Mexicana Shirt: Stylos own Lingerie: Intimissimi





ollecti























Black strapless gown: Andrea & Leo Couture

Black embroidered kimono: Carol Coelho

Earrings: Julia Perry Style Black heels: Michael Kors

RUNWAY FASHION



Orange floral sheer top: Stello Brown & orange wrap skirt:

Payal Khandwala Orange bag: StudioCult Hat: Goorin Bros.







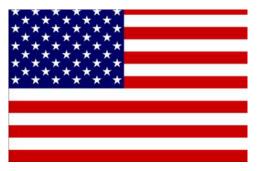
















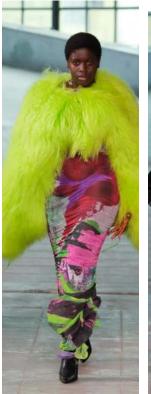




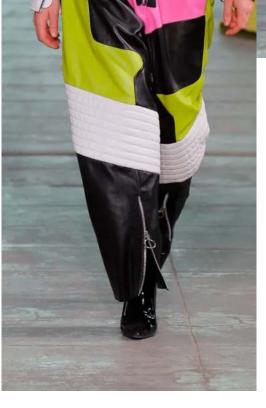
























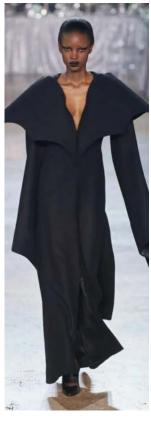










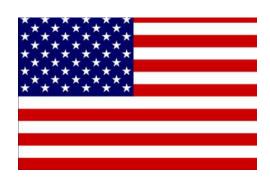












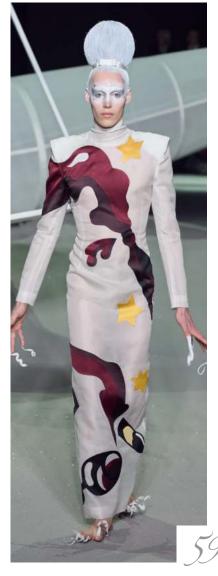
















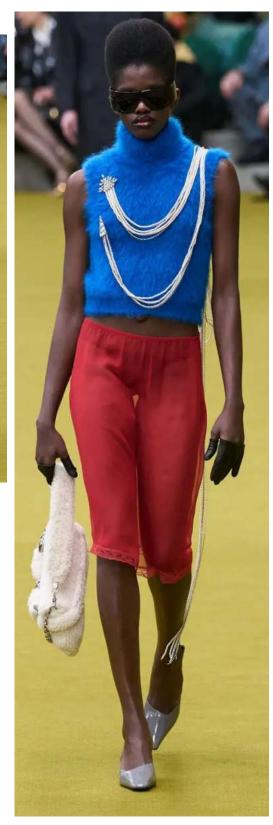


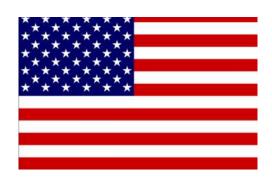






















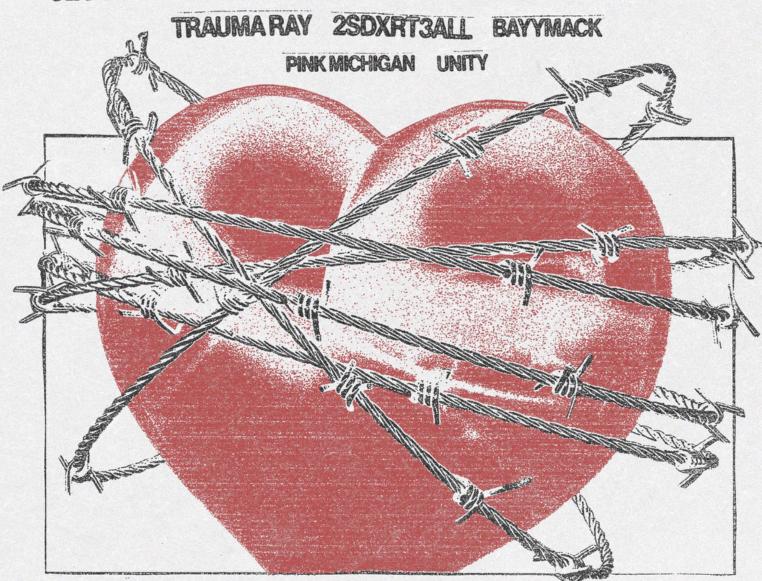






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Arielle Raycene

We're delighted to have you, Arielle. You are well known for your extensive modeling and acting career with globally recognized outlets including PLAYBOY, FHM, and MAXIM. This clearly wasn't your first photo shoot. Tell our readers more!

Absolutely, it's such a pleasure to be here! You're right, I've been in front of the camera for almost as long as I can remember. It all started when I was just an infant with a hiatus through elementary and high school.

When I got back to it, I was starting over which always comes with new learning curves. I've learned so much from working with amazing photographers, stylists, and other models—lessons in professionalism, adaptability, and the art of self-presentation. Every shoot is a new adventure and a chance to tell a different story through imagery. It's not just about looking a certain way; it's about conveying emotion and connecting with the audience.

I'm grateful for every opportunity I've had, from those early days as a baby, to features in globally recognized publications. It's been a wild ride, and I look forward to continuing this journey, embracing new challenges, and exploring all the creative avenues my career has to offer!

What skills from modeling creating, and being an entrepreneur prepared you to turn your focus to tech and use 3D volumetric video to create and foster a platform built on ethics, authenticity, and transparency?

My time in modeling, creating content, and entrepreneurship honed my ability to identify market trends and leverage opportunities, skills that were crucial when pivoting to the tech space. The transition to using 3D volumetric video felt natural as it parallels traditional set dynamics but innovates in its execution. This background has enabled me to build a tech platform grounded in the principles of ethics, authenticity, and transparency, reflecting the core values I've always upheld in my work.

Where did this all begin? Can you give us any background?

This journey began in the intersection of my modeling career and my entrepreneurial spirit. While working on various sets and navigating the intricacies of the entertainment industry, I observed the transformative potential of technology in enhancing storytelling and audience engagement. My background in creating visual narratives and running businesses provided me with a unique perspective on the importance of authentic representation. This, coupled with my commitment to ethical practices, led me to explore 3D volumetric video technology. By embracing this innovative medium, I aimed to create a platform that not only pushes the boundaries of digital interaction but also maintains the integrity and transparency that I believe are essential in any venture.

What have you learned? What tools have you mastered?

Throughout this transition into tech, I've learned a great deal about the importance of adaptability and continuous learning. Beyond the technical skills, I've also sharpened my ability to lead a team, manage projects, and develop strategies that align with the ethical, authentic, and transparent values I set out to uphold. These tools and skills have not only been instrumental in creating a platform that's innovative and cutting-edge but have also ensured that it remains user-focused and grounded in fostering genuine connections.

How have you integrated what you've learned over your journey into your newest purpose?

Integrating the lessons from my journey has been fundamental in shaping my approach to 3D volumetric video and its applications. My background in visual storytelling has influenced how I perceive the potential of this technology to revolutionize the way stories are told and experienced. By understanding the nuances of authentic representation and ethical practices, I've been able to ensure that our work aligns with these values, thus contributing to the creation of content that is both compelling and responsible.





Moreover, my experience in running businesses has instilled in me the importance of innovation and adaptability. This has translated into our approach to developing and refining our 3D volumetric video platform, where we continuously seek to leverage the latest advancements in technology to enhance user experiences and stay ahead of industry trends.

In essence, my journey has provided me with a holistic perspective on the intersection of creativity, technology, and business, which I have integrated into our work to drive the development of a 3D volumetric video platform that not only pushes boundaries but also upholds the values of authenticity and integrity that are at the core of my vision.

You just had an incredible photo shoot. Can you tell us about the concept behind it and what you enjoyed most about working with this team?

The photo shoot was an incredible experience that revolved around bringing to life a concept that combined elements of authenticity and fashion, resulting in a visually stunning and meaningful collection of images. What made the shoot truly enjoyable was the collaborative spirit and creativity that the entire team brought to the table. Everyone brought a unique perspective that enriched the creative process.

You have a strong presence in front of the camera! How can you manage to stay confident in what can be a vulnerable position as an artist and a woman? How do you think Beauty Standards and Culture have evolved?

Thank you, that's sweet. First off, it's impossible to feel confident 100 percent of the time, we all have bad days or at least I do anyway. But a large part of being confident is acting like you are until you are. I think it's a learned behavior.

Maintaining confidence in front of the camera, especially as a woman in the arts, has been a journey of self-discovery and empowerment. Over time, I've learned to embrace and celebrate my individuality, recognizing that true confidence comes from authenticity and self-acceptance. Surrounding myself with a supportive and inclusive network has also played a pivotal role, allowing me to navigate the vulnerable aspects of being in the spotlight with a sense of empowerment and resilience.

Regarding the evolution of beauty standards and culture, we are witnessing a positive shift towards embracing diversity and redefining traditional norms. There is a growing recognition of the beauty in all its forms, breaking away from narrow standards and celebrating a wide spectrum of identities and expressions. This shift is not only empowering for individuals but also enriches our collective cultural landscape by fostering inclusivity and representation.

As an artist, I find it inspiring to see the industry embracing diversity and challenging outdated beauty standards. This encourages me to use my platform to advocate for inclusivity and representation, striving to contribute to a more diverse and accepting cultural landscape.

Did you have any challenges before, during or after the shoot? How did you choose to respond to them?

Challenges come up every day and it's how we choose to respond to them that matters. Today I didn't have any challenges prior to the shoot but I did have a challenge balancing on the roof in heels and the ladder. Im also scared of heights ha. I was fortunate to have a well-prepared and cohesive team, which greatly contributed to the overall success of the shoot.

I find the best creators are those who can kindly laugh at themselves and others. Were there any moments of unexpected joy that brought levity to the set today? What made you laugh the most?

One of the most unexpected sources of joy during the shoot was the genuine pleasure of meeting and working with the entire team. The positive energy and enthusiasm that each member brought to the set created an atmosphere of camaraderie and collaboration that was truly uplifting. Sharing stories, exchanging creative ideas, and discovering the unique talents and personalities of each team member added an extra layer of enjoyment and fulfillment to the entire experience. Had the most amazing pizza while we were at it too!

You got to work with Julia Perry as well today, our Fashion Editor for Runway. What was your experience working with her like? What, if anything, was different in working with Julia and our team from other shoots?

Working with Julia Perry as Runway's Fashion Editor was a fantastic experience. Not only is she a wonderful person inside and out, but her fashion expertise and creativity also added depth and artistry to our shoot. Julia's contributions perfectly aligned with the team's vision, creating a cohesive, stylish visual story.

Her energetic, innovative approach made the collaboration both inspiring and successful.

Let's get to Fashion Specific. Which outfit or look from the shoot resonated with you the most personally, and why?

It was so hard to choose the outfits to shoot in as there were so many fun and creative ones. The outfit that resonated with me the most was the red suit. Its versatility for transitioning from day to night appealed to me, as it embodies both professional poise and evening elegance. Its bold color makes a statement, while its tailored fit ensures a look that's both sharp and sophisticated. This makes it a standout choice for a variety of occasions.

The orange corset paired with the bright-colored coat also struck a chord with me, evoking the vibrant energy of a fun day out in New York City. This ensemble is playful and bold, reflecting the city's dynamic spirit and fashion-forward attitude, making it perfect for an urban adventure.

Additionally, the dress adorned with a pink bow at the back left a lasting impression. It's ideal for special events, where its unique detail adds a touch of whimsy and feminine charm. The bow serves as a focal point that captures attention, while the dress itself suggests sophistication and grace. It's a look that combines elegance with a playful twist, suitable for moments that call for a memorable statement.

How do you feel Fashion and Styling can represent you as a creator and entrepreneur?

Fashion and styling are indeed powerful forms of self-expression that can significantly represent one as a creator and entrepreneur. As a creator, the clothing and accessories chosen are not just about aesthetics, but they also reflect personal creativity, mood, and even beliefs. The way we style ourselves can communicate to others our approach to work, whether it's innovative, meticulous, structured, or free-spirited. It's like a visual language that gives insight into our personality without saying a word.

For entrepreneurs, fashion can be an integral part of the personal brand. It can help in establishing a recognizable identity that sets them apart in a crowded market. When entrepreneurs consistently present themselves in a unique style, they become more memorable to clients, partners, and the public. This can create a sense of trust and credibility, as people tend to associate a well-defined personal style with professionalism and attention to detail.

Moreover, styling can influence not only how others perceive us but also how we perceive ourselves. When we dress in a way that resonates with our best self, it can boost confidence and improve performance.

In the realm of business, fashion isn't just about following trends; it's about setting them. Entrepreneurs who understand this can leverage their personal style as a tool for storytelling, connecting with their audience on a more personal level. This alignment of personal style with business values can create a strong, authentic brand image that resonates with customers and inspires loyalty.

In short, fashion and styling can be strategic assets for creators and entrepreneurs. They provide a means to showcase originality, build a distinctive brand, and enhance personal confidence, all of which are key components to success in any creative or business endeavor.

As a multi-faceted artist and creator, would you like to talk about your own Entrepreneurship? Please tell us about your upcoming launch of your own clothing brand "Small Town", and how it reflects your own story.

Venturing into the realm of fashion with the launch of my clothing brand "Small Town" has been an exciting and challenging journey. As a multi-faceted artist and creator, I've always been drawn to various forms of creative expression, and fashion has been a natural extension of that passion.

The concept for "Small Town" has been a seed growing in my mind for years, inspired by my own experiences and the imagery that resonates with my roots.

Growing up in a small town and then moving to a city has given me a unique perspective on life and culture. The contrast between rural and urban environments, symbolized in my early drawings of cows against cityscapes, has been a recurring theme in my work. It speaks to the balance between simplicity and complexity, between the nostalgia of where we come from and the excitement of where we're going. In short, i'm a big fan of juxtaposition.

The inception of "Small Town" was catalyzed by the serendipitous downtime during the writer/sag strike. It provided the space needed to focus and develop the ideas that had been percolating for so long. This brand is more than just clothing; it's a narrative, an ode to the small-town spirit that lives within many of us, even as we navigate the vastness of city life

The collaboration with my partner, Forest Jean, has been instrumental in bringing "Small Town" to life. Entrepreneurship can be a solitary path, but a reliable partner offers support, perspective, and shared enthusiasm that is indispensable. Forest's insights and contributions have been a cornerstone of our progress, proving that a shared vision and combined effort are priceless.

"Small Town" aims to fill a gap in the market by giving a voice to the small-town experience. It's about creating a sense of belonging for those who carry a piece of that world within them, no matter where they are now. It's for the dreamers, the nostalgia, the storytellers, and everyone who finds beauty in the understated charm of small-town life.

With "Small Town," I'm weaving my personal story into a broader tapestry that connects with others who share similar sentiments. The brand is a celebration of origins and the paths we take, serving as a reminder that no matter how far we roam, our beginnings are a part of us, shaping our identity and our dreams.

I'm dying to know more about this lovely little character Moonicorn. Please tell us about them.

Moonicorn is a mystical creature, part cow, part unicorn. A one of a kind. He grew up in small Town and got scouted for his magical talents and pranks. He moved to the city and hosted a prank show and it was a hit with crowds from ages young to old. But Moonicorn began to feel nostalgic for his home, so one day he decided to go back to his hometown. He was welcomed back with open arms as the towns people have missed his mischievousness. Over the years he has gone from the Town Mascot to the Town Mayor. Recently he reconnected with his childhood friend Daisy, and they started the clothing brand, small Town.

Moonicorn is truly a delightful and enchanting character that captures the hearts of everyone who hears his story. As a unique mix of cow and unicorn, Moonicorn embodies the whimsical charm of the mythical and the grounded spirit of the pastoral. His origins in Small Town laid the foundation for his down-to-earth personality, while his unicorn lineage imbued them with an extraordinary flair for magic and mischief.

His journey from Small Town to the bustling city is a classic tale of seeking adventure and following one's dreams. Moonicorn's natural talents and one's dreams.

penchant for playfulness quickly earned him fame as the host of a wildly popular prank show. His ability to bring laughter and light-heartedness to a wide audience made them beloved figures across generations. Despite their success, the allure of the city life couldn't eclipse the deep connection he felt to his roots.

Feeling the pull of nostalgia, Moonicorn made the heartfelt decision to return to his hometown. His return was met with joy and celebration—after all, it's not every day that a local legend decides to come back. The townspeople embraced him not only for the fun and excitement he brought into their lives but also for the sense of identity and pride he represented for Small Town.

As time passed, Moonicorn's role in the community evolved. His inherent leadership qualities and his unwavering dedication to the town's well-being led him from being the mascot to becoming the mayor. In this new role, Moonicorn has been able to channel his magical touch into making Small Town an even more delightful place to live.

The launch of the clothing brand "Small Town" marks yet another chapter in Moonicorn's extraordinary life. Reuniting with his childhood friend Daisy to start the brand is a testament to the power of enduring friendships and shared dreams. Together, they've created a brand that isn't just about clothes; it's about celebrating the feelings that small town charm can bring.

Moonicorn, as the face of "Small Town," represents the fusion of imagination and reality, the extraordinary within the ordinary, and the belief that magic can be found in the most unexpected places. The brand, much like Moonicorn himself, is an invitation to embrace our individual stories and to wear them proudly.

What brings you the most joy and satisfaction from both of these projects? How do they differ? How are they the same?

The joy and satisfaction from working on both "Small Town" and Real AF derive from the creative process and the actualization of ideas into concrete forms. In "Small Town," I relish the process of shaping the brand's narrative, from the conceptualization stage to the visual execution, creating something that embodies our shared identity and personal legacy. Each element that resonates with the brand's story feels like a triumph, contributing to a grander vision for the brand.

At Real AF, the excitement comes from engaging with groundbreaking technology, which has the potential to revolutionize the fashion industry, hinting at a future where these two projects might seamlessly converge. Like acting, there's a thrill in the immediacy of capturing moments and the collaborative effort to produce visual art. Directing and managing the technical aspects of production is both demanding and thrilling, offering a direct hand in shaping the outcome and experiencing the satisfaction of each step towards the final product.

Although "Small Town" represents a more individual journey in brand creation and Real AF a collective endeavor in production, their essence is the same: storytelling. Both require a vision, meticulous attention to detail, and a dedication to excellence. They rely on strong teamwork and iterative processes, with Real AF's innovative nature demanding continuous adaptation and experimentation—principles that are equally applicable to launching a clothing brand.

In essence, my greatest joy and satisfaction stem from the artistic expression and the journey of transforming visions into reality, whether through the medium of fashion or technology in film. Both avenues allow me to channel my creativity in distinctive ways, yet they are equally gratifying as they resonate with my passion for weaving and sharing engaging narratives.

You are clearly a multi-faceted creator and have a ton of talent. What are your other Goals for the future?

My future goals are as diverse as my interests. While acting remains my primary passion and pursuit, with an ever-expanding set of objectives in that arena, I'm also dedicated to honing my skills in scriptwriting. Understanding the intricacies of crafting a compelling narrative is essential, and seeing a script of my own creation come to life on screen is a significant goal.

With regards to "Small Town" and "Real AF," there are numerous aspirations I plan to achieve. Each project represents a different facet of my creative vision, and I'm committed to nurturing them both. For "Small Town," I aim to grow the brand to a point where it not only resonates with those who share a similar background but also appeals to a wider audience who appreciates the values and aesthetics the brand embodies. With "Real AF," the goal is to continuously elevate the project. The path to these goals is paved with daily efforts and commitment to the brand's evolution.

On a personal level, my goals are oriented towards self-improvement and holistic well- being. I'm focused on being the best version of myself, which encompasses mental, physical, and spiritual health. Whether it's through meditation, exercise, learning, or personal development, investing in myself is a priority. By cultivating a balanced and healthy lifestyle, I'm better equipped to tackle my professional aspirations and maintain the energy and clarity needed to achieve my diverse set of goals.

Overall, my goals for the future are about growth, learning, and creating. Whether it's through acting, writing, business ventures, or personal development, each goal contributes to a larger vision of success and fulfillment. I'm driven by the desire to make a meaningful impact in my professional endeavors, while also ensuring that I live a well-rounded and enriching life.

Is there anyone you'd like to thank for helping you along your path?

Absolutely, I would be remiss not to acknowledge the profound impact my grandparents have had on my journey. My grandmothers, in particular, have been pivotal in shaping the person I've become. Their unwavering belief in my potential and their encouragement to pursue my ambitions have been a constant source of motivation. They nurtured my creativity from a young age, allowing me to dream big and to see those dreams as possibilities.

My family, as a whole have provided an incredible support system. The love and faith they've shown in my endeavors, whether I'm stepping into a new role on set, launching a brand, or writing a script, have been essential to my growth as a creator and an individual. Their support has taken many forms, from being a sounding board for my ideas to offering practical help when needed.

I would also like to extend my gratitude to anyone who has ever supported or believed in me. Friends, mentors, colleagues, and even fans—each person has contributed to my journey in their own unique way. Their encouragement, constructive feedback, and sometimes even their challenges, have helped me refine my skills, build resilience, and stay focused on my goals.

In the end, the road to success is rarely walked alone, and the people who accompany us along the path deserve our heartfelt thanks. Their influence is often a fundamental part of our achievements, and for their role in my life, I am deeply grateful.



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In the end, the road to success is rarely walked alone, and the people who accompany us along the path deserve our heartfelt thanks. Their influence is often a fundamental part of our achievements, and for their role in my life, I am deeply grateful.

Do you have any advice you'd like to give to creators and entrepreneurs? Any advice specifically to young models?

It's not going to happen without putting in the work with Micro steps every day towards the bigger goal at hand. It's also hard but important to find the joy in working towards your dreams.

To creators and entrepreneurs, my advice is to embrace the journey with perseverance, grit, and passion. Success often hinges on the cumulative effect of small, consistent efforts. Set achievable goals and work towards them daily. As these micro-steps build upon each other, they can lead to great accomplishments.

It's also vital to find joy in the creative process itself,

as this enjoyment will keep you motivated and make the journey rewarding. Along the way, be open to learning and be ready to adapt your methods based on new insights. Having a network of supportive, like-minded peers is invaluable for guidance, encouragement, and opening new pathways. Lastly, remember the importance of self-care. The demands of entrepreneurship require a balance of hard work with attention to your physical, mental, and emotional health to maintain the endurance to reach your objectives.

For young models, crafting a distinct personal brand in the digital age is essential. Identify your unique qualities and shape your portfolio to reflect them, using social media to display your work and network with professionals.

Always approach jobs with utmost professionalism; punctuality, a positive attitude, and respect go a long way in establishing a commendable reputation. Educate yourself about the industry's business side, including contract comprehension and financial management—this knowledge is empowering. Prioritize a healthy lifestyle over succumbing to stringent industry standards; your well-being is paramount. Lastly, develop resilience to handle rejection, viewing it as an opportunity for growth rather than a defeat. Stick to your aspirations and persistently strive toward them.

Remember, both entrepreneurship and a career in modeling are marathons, not sprints. It's the persistent, dedicated, and joyful pursuit of your dreams that will ultimately pave the way for success.





















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Bear Fiorda

Bear what has shaped the person you are today?

The death of my father and the strength of my mother. I believe loosing my dad at such a young age and then seeing my mom work so hard to provide us a good life really shaped me. I lost someone I loved so much before I even really understood what it meant and then I saw the other person I love struggle and work twice as hard as everyone else to to keep us afloat and she still managed to make birthdays and Christmas special. God, she tried so hard not to let me see her struggle. My mother taught me what love and kindness were and I want so much to be like her.

Share with us a pivotal moment in your life where you had to confront your own vulnerability. How did you emerge from that experience?

Stepping into the cage for the first time before I had taken any actual cage fight lessons. That was so stupid (laughing) the nerves and anxiety were overwhelming and the knowledge that once that gate locks closed, no one but me is there to protect me from the other person. It's like taking a huge test when you haven't studied for. You have to figure it out and you are your only life line! That said I lost in 47 seconds, so I wasn't the best life line!

As someone who inspires others, what's a fear or insecurity you still grapple with privately?

I still fear every day that I'm not good enough. That no matter what I do or accomplish that I'm not successful or that I'm letting everyone around me down. I do my best to encourage everyone to be proud of themselves and what they have done with their lives because I want everyone to feel confident in who they are. I try to help everyone feel that they are enough so that hopefully one day I feel the same way about myself.

Reflecting on your journey, what's a decision you've made that you initially regretted but ultimately led to significant growth?

Opening up my non profit. First I remember thinking "what am I doing I'm too young, I've never owned a business before and i don't know the first thing about it." then when no one came I felt that it was all doomed to fail because I didn't know the first thing about how to promote a business.

On top of that any company we reached out to for donations hadn't heard of us so they didn't know if we were credible which made getting support very difficult and after a while it became very demoralizing. However with my mom's support and after working our asses off businesses slowly started to come around, and the community has been amazing, we've even had big names in the martial arts world start leaning in to us! It helps that we we offer our services for free so we are not competition for the local dojos.

Can you recount a time when you felt utterly alone, despite being surrounded by people? How did you cope with that feeling of isolation?

All the time. The feeling of loneliness hits me hardest during my fights. There is so much anxiety and fear from being surrounded by the crowd that I wouldn't do much in the matches and that led to a few really embarrassing losses, quite a few really embarrassing losses! I started feeling like there was no hope, that I was somehow broken and that sense of loneliness continued to grow. I couldn't understand why I did so well in training and then froze every time I get in front of a crowd.

Then after one particularly bad loss I met my now my head coach Joe Stevenson who works with me every day on my skills, but more importantly on my confidence and crafting a strong head space for when I step into the cage. Don't get me wrong the stage fright is still there and I do have crippling stage fright, but I feel a little less alone when I face it now.

* Joe Stevenson is a retired American UFC star out of Hesperia, California (https://en.m.wikipedia.org/wiki/Hesperia,_California). He was the ultimate Fighter 2 tournament champion and is the rumored US Olympic MMA coach for the 2028 Olympics.

Beyond the glamorous facade, what's a burden you carry that your fans may not be aware of?

That one day somebody will have to use what I teach them. I want everyone to know it but I am afraid they will have to use it.

I had a young girl named Hope who I had been teaching for a year, she had come in due to bullying. During the pandemic she had her home broken into and while one guy looted her home another held her and her mother at gun point.

She was just 13! Hope thought she was going to die, so when the gunman looked away she threw everything she had into one punch and knocked him out.

They got the gun away and call the cops, thankfully she was OK, she had a boxers fracture, but she saved hers and her mother's life. I'm grateful she knew what to do, I'm sorry she had to do it, you never want your students have to use what you teach them in self defense class.

Describe a moment when you felt like giving up on everything. What kept you going, and how did you find the strength to persevere?

When I started my MMA journey I went to a gym where one of the guys would talk badly about me behind my back and then tell me directly that I'm not good enough and that everything I had learned up until that point was useless. He was better and stronger than me so I felt helpless in the situation.

He tried to take my job, he hit on my girlfriend and after a year I just said "I'm done" I was quitting mma and going to open up a taekwondo school. I was given some very wise counsel and it was suggested that maybe I try a different school before I quit, so I did and I felt healthier and happier after switching to Dan Henderson's and I was suddenly in an environment that allowed me to grow my skills and was absent of any toxic egos! It was amazing, I didn't realize how much the place you're at affects who you are and how you feel.

Let's inject some levity into the conversation. If you could trade lives with anyone for a day, living or dead, who would it be and why?

This is going to sound super corporate but I would trade lives with Conor Mcgregor. I don't want to live his life exactly but I want to be in his business meetings, see what he has to do every day to be successful. I feel that if i am to succeed in putting as many non profits around the world as possible then I need to know how he thrived so well in this business. He will be the one person remembered from our day and age in MMA. he is an amazing fighter and a brilliant businessman. Or Taylor Swift same reasons!

What's the funniest or most embarrassing moment you've experienced in you career?

It didn't really happen in my career however it was my kickboxing coach who did it to me so I think that counts. He was a kickboxer and pro sword fighter and one day he invited me to train swords with him. We had practice weapons (sticks) and when I asked him if I should wear a cup he replied "nah".

Not 10 minutes later he hit me so hard between the legs I it lifted me off the ground like a Looney Tunes character and I fell down crying. As he held out his hand for me to squeeze the pain away I told him "I think they fell off". It was terrifying in the moment but funny for the group of people watching! Shout out to Matthew Morris fine jewelry, its owner is the one that hit me in the junk!

As a philanthropist, what's a cause or issue that you're most passionate about, and how can others support your efforts?

Free martial arts, I believe in a lot of things, but this is near and dear to my heart so much so that I put my money where my mouth is and started the nonprofit. I grew up in a rough area and made a few friends at my dojo however when their parents couldn't afford classes anymore they dropped out, got into drugs, gangs, and a couple of them died. If they could've stayed in martial arts then I know they would've had a better life.

That's why I opened FreeMMA. Self discipline, self defense, and self confidence change the way you see yourself and see the world. free MMA exists so everyone can better their lives and not have to choose between rent and gym fees. Of course donations and financial support is amazing (hit the QR code to donate) but if you can't or you don't want to, tell people about us, spread the word and follow @freeMMA and @BearFiorda on social media. That way we can let the world and maybe Connor McGregor and Taylor Swift, know what we are doing!

Reflecting on your journey, what's one piece of wisdom you'd impart to your younger self, knowing what you know now?

Wrestle. Do high school wrestling. I kick myself every day for not doing it given the career path I've chosen and almost every fight I've lost has been because the other dude took me down and scored more points.

I chose to do ROTC instead because their uniforms looked awesome, I'm proud of it and I think it's great but it didn't really help me in fighting (laughing). Oh and never touch yourself anywhere delicate after touching Serrano peppers!

*Free MMA is a free Mixed Martial Arts gym that allows everyone to take advantage of the self-discipline, self-confidence, and self-defense that martial arts training offers.



What was it like being part of Runway?

Nerve-racking! While I've posed in tiny shorts and shirtless countless times, there was a unique intensity under those bright lights that stirred up butterflies in my stomach. Fortunately, @SethTheTailor ensured I looked impeccable despite my inner jitters. The crew and host of Runway were incredibly supportive and patient, considering my limited experience. Prior to this, my only modeling stint was walking the runway at LA Fashion Week at Art Hearts which was no easy feat. I have to admit I prefer being punched!

It was exciting, but certainly out of my comfort zone. Which is ironic because modeling is a topic I delve into regularly into on my radio show behind the Scenes with Summer Helene! It's all about the entertainment industry and goes on behind-the-scenes, it's great @tuneinBTS check it out! This experience has given me a newfound respect for models. It's a similar to the adrenaline rush to MMA, just less punching!

Finally, if you could leave one legacy behind, what would you want to be remembered for most?

As the man who gave everyone a second start or a chance to succeed in life. Martial arts whether you compete or not, gives you valuable life skills to help you succeed in any field of work.

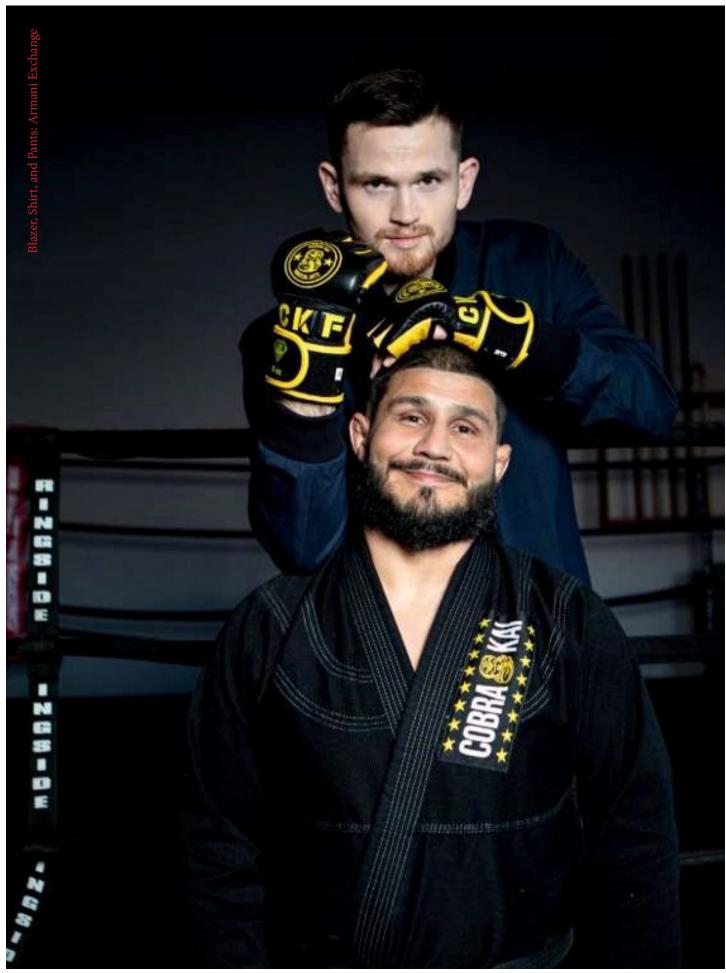
I want to be remembered as the person who gave everyone that opportunity for free whether you're in stuck in poverty or simply don't have direction in your life, I want to be remembered as the guy who put a FreeMMA near your home so that you can pull yourself out of whatever terrible situation you find yourself in or protect yourself like hope when you needed to!

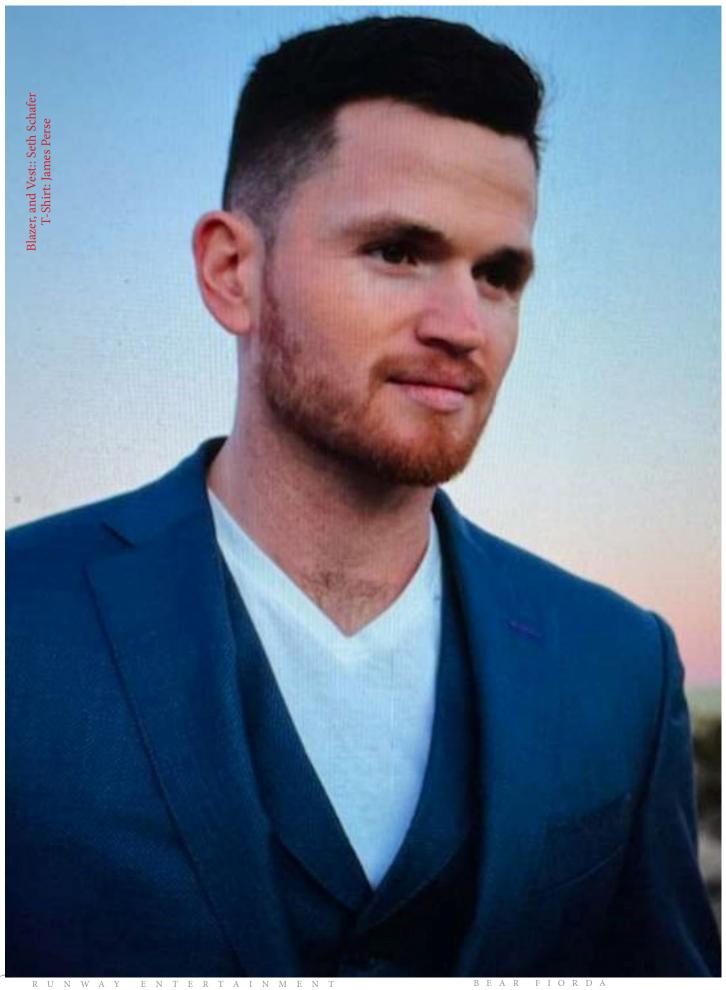
Join the fight here!



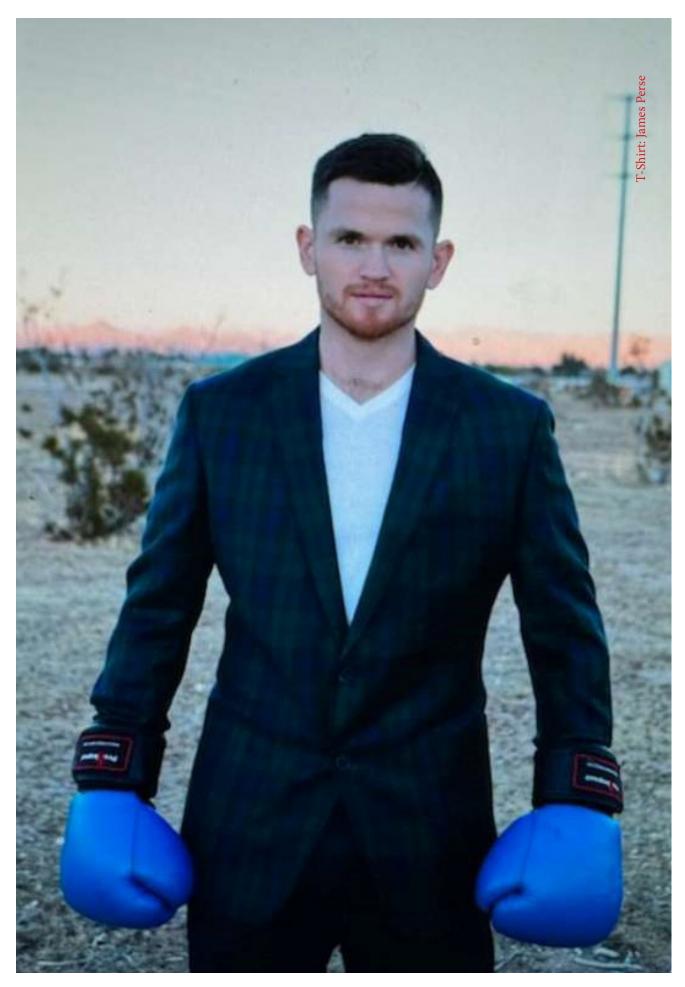


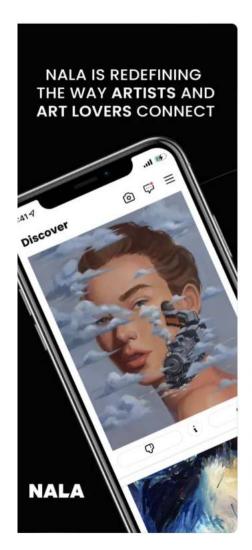


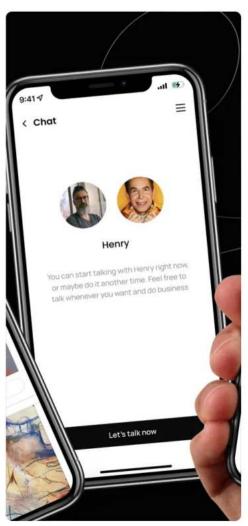


















Ava Cantrell

Tell our readers about your horror feature LIGHTS OUT, and what were some of your favorite experiences on and off set?

Lights Out is a fantastic horror film that was directed by David Sandberg. The idea about a monster that was only visible in the dark started with a short on YouTube that he made with his wife Lotta. It was so good and got so much attention that iconic horror producer James Wan brought it and David to Warner Bros.

For me, it was such an incredible experience. We filmed in an abandoned mental hospital with heavy metal doors, creepy rooms and hallways. I spent hours in the makeup chair transforming my skin and teeth into wickedly scary monster-like appearances. It was so much fun, and I loved every minute of it.

As the lead character in the revenge-horror film ABIGAIL, now available on VOD, tell us about the film and what it was like working on a film set in 1976?

Abigail is a twisted love story about two teenagers in the 70s who take revenge way too far. Abigail has a dark history that she brings Lucas into unwittingly. Little does he know things are going to get real messed up. It's a great ride that people will really enjoy.

A film that takes place in the 70s needs to really have

A film that takes place in the 70s needs to really have actual 70s set pieces and costumes which Abigail totally does great. The wardrobe, cars, furnishing, props and guns were all from that era. The music and vibe of the film do a great job of immersing you in 1976.

When did you first learn to act?

I'm always learning and polishing my craft with each audition and role I'm able to book. I started when I was seven or eight and took scene study and improv classes. I have an amazing manager and coach that helps me bring something that only I can bring to each role. I'm always working on finding things that challenge me and skills to bring to my acting repertoire, and enjoy the work it takes to overcome those challenges.

What was your favorite show to be on?

I really enjoyed being on Young Sheldon. Its su ch a great show with an impressive pedigree as a spinoff of the Big Bang Theory. It has such a talented cast and crew that it is at such a high level of quality. I'm truly blessed to have been a small part of it.

What designers do you wear on the red carpet?

My Abigail premiere dress was Vera Wang. I Loved it

so much. I knew I wanted to wear yellow or red to match the Abigail logo. I am wearing For Love and Lemons and Blank NYC jacket for our look together. Some of my go-to red carpet brands are Sachin and Babi, Badgley Mishka, Herve Leger, Free People, Dress the Population, L'agence, and ralph Lauren. To name a few. I would love to find designers to collaborate with as my career grows.

What item in your closet could you not live without?

I can't pick one! I love athletic wear. I'm wearing my Nike Pandas everywhere lately. I love to throw on my Blank NY leather jacket to dress up my casual wear. And I wear my North Face 1996 black jacket everywhere.

Do you work with any charities?

I'm very supportive of pet adoption charities like Stand Up for Pits. I work directly with Relist Wolves. And I have been tied to LA Mission for almost a decade. Giving back is near and dear to my heart, and I will continue to spend time and money helping those causes.

What do you like to do in your free time?

I have been obsessed with Muy Thai for the last year and a half. I'm in the studio almost everyday and I've even competed in amateur fights. It's a place where I can work on being physically and mentally fit. It also has a great community around it. After that I'm a beach girl and surfer at my local surf spots.

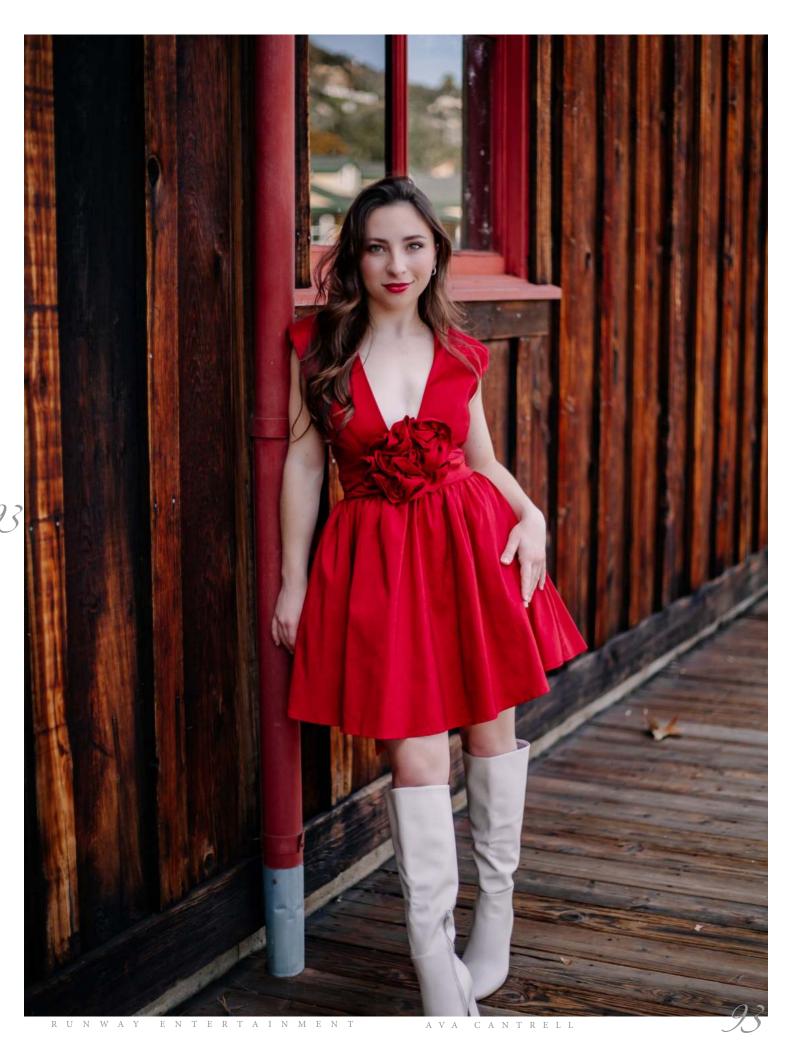
What are your goals?

I'm going to finish college and most likely pursue a master's in business. I'm also going to work one day with Ben Stiller. I am going to win my next Mauy Thai fight and continue to prioritize personal health and wellness as well as maintaining positive relationships.

Whats your socials?

Instagram: @avacantrell X: @theavacantrell





Bradley Martin

Tell us about your personal Style!

Old-money aesthetic. Lots of fitted collared shirts and sweaters. I tend to favor white, black, and blue. This style allows me to look like I put effort into my outfits without abandoning comfort.

You wear the same pendant everyday and have for the past few years, is there any meaning behind it?

Not initially but it grew into a symbol for turning the impossible into reality. I started chasing a lot of my aspirations like writing a novel and creating social media content back around the time I started wearing this pendant. Four years later, I'm still wearing it. So if anything it's a sign of defying the odds.

Tell us about your novel. What made you want to create it?

My novel "Academy of Blood" is about a boy assigned a classified mission to infiltrate a private academy for supernatural-blooded students and kill them all. It's a very high-stakes, action-packed story. I was inspired to write this story by my love of reading, and I ended up falling in love with the writing process.

Tell us about your writing Process.

My writing process looks very different for novel writing and script writing, but there are a few similar fundamentals. I stick to a schedule that designates daily time for brainstorming and scene writing. When balancing multiple projects, it's essential that you prioritize and stay organized. For example, in my day, I typically allocate time in the morning for my content writing since that's my main priority. After finishing that, I'll jump to editing or reading before later diving back into writing for my upcoming novel.

When did you learn to act?

I learned acting from my experiences in high school theatre. I found my love for performing and began doing 3-4 productions yearly.

Who was your biggest influence growing up?

My greatest influence growing up was my parents. They made me think I could accomplish anything I wanted, no matter how seemingly crazy, as long as I worked hard and treated everyone around me with kindness.

What is your favorite thing in your closet?

My textured white polo from Hollister is my favorite thing in my closet. It finds its way into my outfits every week without fail, and if you look at my social media pages, you won't be able to miss it!

Where is your favorite place to eat?

I cook about 95% of my meals at home, but when I do eat out, I'll always choose a Mexican or Hawaiian-style restaurant. Hawaiian Bros Island Grill has been my latest obsession. It has great flavors and is an easy meal to pick up on the go.

What item could you not live without?

My journal, for sure. I write my daily, weekly, monthly, and long-term goals at the start of every day. It's a habit I picked up a few years back, but it helps me focus on living each day in a way that reflects my aspirations. Not to mention, all my random ideas throughout the day are thrown in there!

Do you have a favorite anime? If so, Why?

My favorite anime switches all the time, but at the moment, it's Cyberpunk Edgerunners. I really appreciate works of fiction that can move me emotionally, and this series had me crying my eyes out.

Tell us a little about your fitness routine.

My fitness routine is all centered around the idea of balance. I do strength training with weights four times a week, endurance training twice a week, and flexibility training three times a week. Since most of my day involves using my brain to create and write, I love the opportunity to use my body to its fullest in the gym beforehand.

Do you work with any charities?

I've partnered with FARE (Food Allergy Research & Education) a few times in the past years. Food allergies have been a struggle of mine my whole life, so their purpose as a nonprofit really resonates with me.

Plug your social media!

Instagram: @ Radmartin_ (255k followers)

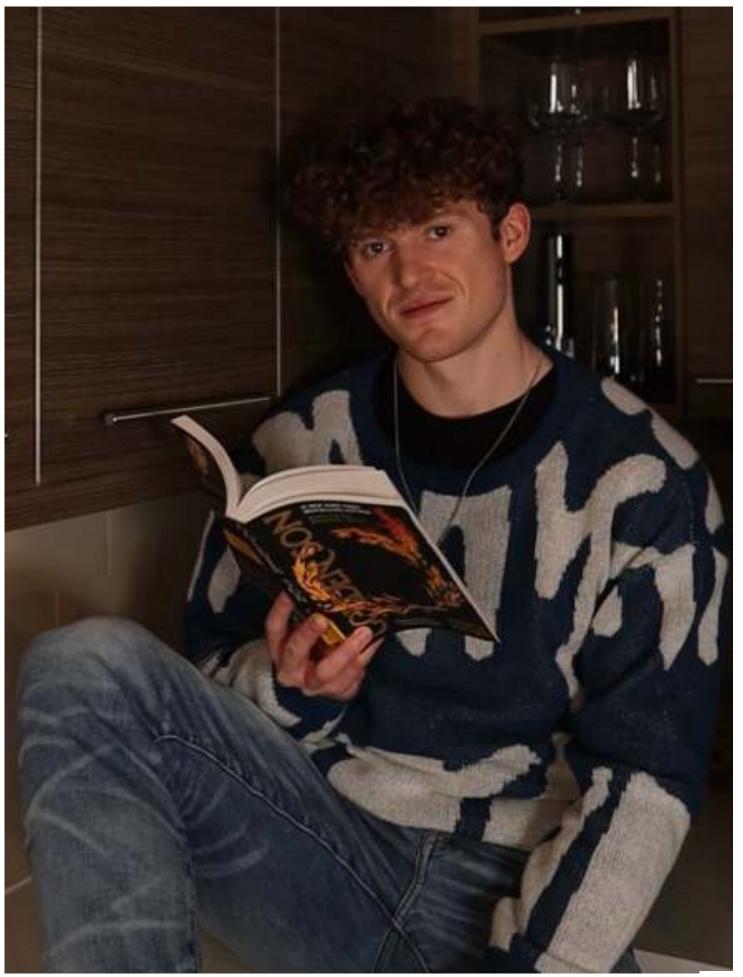
TikTok: @ Bradmartin_ (2.9 million followers) & @ Radmartin_ (635k followers)

Snapchat: @ Bradradmartin (555k subscribers)

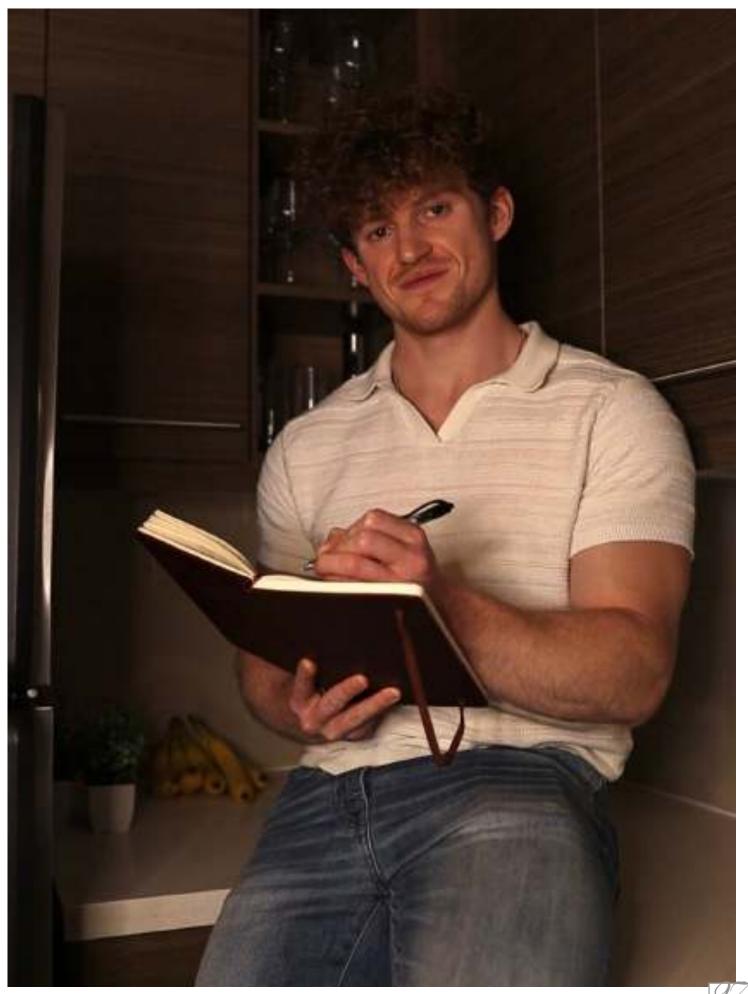
YouTube: Bradmartin_ (1.3 million subscribers) & @ Radmartin_

(12.5k subscribers)











Bailey Spinn

How did you make the step from being a LGBTQIA+ content creator to Punk Rock musician?

I started slowly emerging myself into the music space starting with vocal lessons and learning the guitar. I started to post covers of popular songs on YouTube and TikTok to first show my audience that music was a big interest of mine. After the covers began, I started to get into sessions to create original music. It took a few months to find the style of music that was perfect for me, and I started to slowly incorporate it into my posts! I created my first EP and shared it with my audience, continuing to show them that I was serious about making music. It felt natural for me because I was so passionate about my music and I loved finding the community who does as well.

Your recent release of your debut EP "My Worst Enemy" was widely received and fans are looking forward to your first album. Tell our readers when we can expect that to drop?

Right now, I'm actually working on a second EP before I create the first album. I'd say they can expect an album from me next year!

What were some of your favorite experiences on your recently wrapped West Coast and East Coast tour?

I loved hearing my fans talk about how much my music helped them, or what their favorite song was. Some people would come up to me crying and it would make me cry too because I was just as happy to see them. The whole thing was an amazing experience for me because I got to connect with my fans in a way that I never had before. Fans gave me a bunch of bracelets they made with names of songs, and even my own name on a few. Many of them drove from all over to come see the show and it meant so much to me.

Tell us about your personal style.

My style is very alternative. I take a ton of fashion inspiration from celebrities like Avril Lavigne, Demi Lovato, and Maggie Lindemann! I typically choose darker patterns, colors, distressed clothes, and leather!

How did you get started in this business?

I started through posting on social media, which really helped me to find the connections to make my music dream a reality. It's all a build, and I had to build up my music career just as I did on social media. I started from

square one until I found the right team to help me along the way. Once you start making a few connections, more come along!

What are your goals?

My biggest goal is to become a full-time touring musician, and also to perform at some festivals. I've always loved music festivals and I hope to fulfill the dream of playing on one of those stages. I loved connecting with fans in person and getting to share my music in such a personal way. Seeing people singing along brings me to tears.

We absolutely love your truly unique merch line. How did this project first come about and what were some of the challenges you faced?

I decided to drop jewelry as my first merch line because it made the most sense with my style. I wanted to make sure the merch I created was personal to me and my interest, so we decided to use a design from one of the tattoos on my hand. I always knew I wanted to do something a little different, and I loved what we released. It was hard to decide on which tattoo to use as the design because I have so many! It could've been a rose, a sword, a snake, and so many other things.

How do you relax and what do you find yourself doing in your free time?

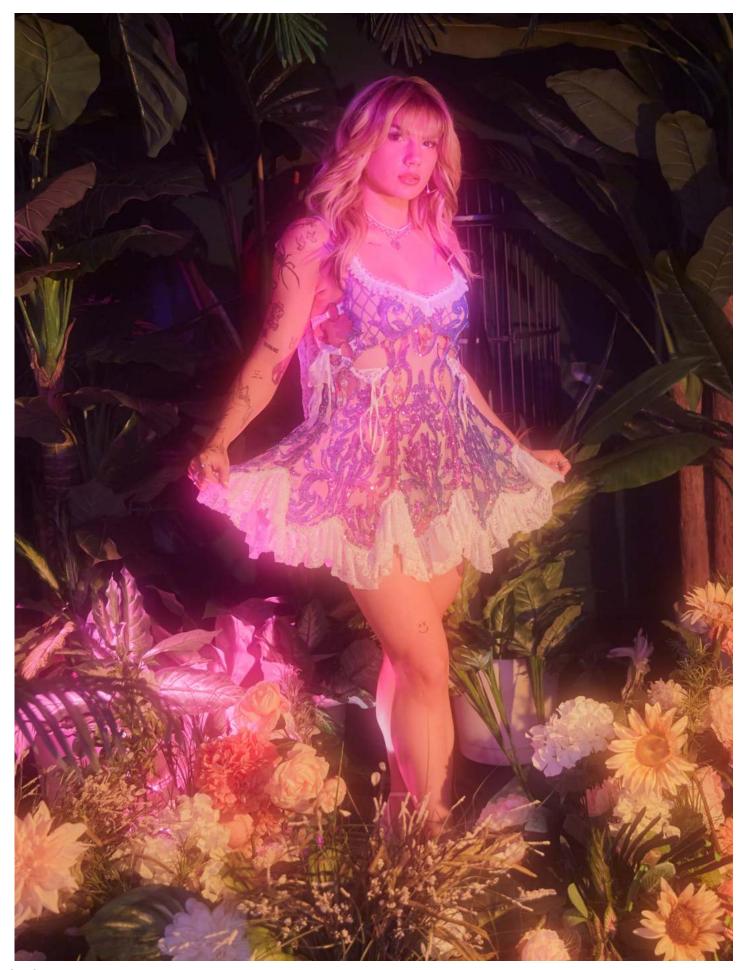
One of my favorite things to do is play the guitar. It's a fun way to fill my extra time. Usually, I'll relax and play some songs that I know or learn something new. I'm also obsessed with working out. I go to the gym 6/7 days of the week.

What inspires you most?

Listening to music inspires me more than anything. It's how I used to come up with all my video ideas. To me there's nothing better than finding a new song that you relate to so much. Hearing something that speaks to me inspires me to create!

Plug your social media.

I'm @baileyspinn everywhere!







Marco DelVecchio

Tell our readers about your experience on the dating competition show FBOY Island and how you provide the old adage "nice guys always finish last" wrong?

My experience on Fboy Island was one to remember to say the least. I met some amazing ladies and even more amazing fellas and really created friendships that will last a lifetime. I've always stayed true to myself in my character and refused to let the games and manipulation tactics of dating getting in the way of my mantra "if you be nice, work hard and always treat everyone equally, things will fall into place."

How did you first get started acting?

I played the UPS guy in a regional production of Legally Blonde the Musical and I knew performing was my calling, so I got accepted into California Institute of the Arts. Soon after my first semester however, I dropped out to pursue a professional career in the industry. My first big role was the love interest of Camila Cabello in her Grammy award winning music video "Hayana."

In addition to modeling and acting, you are also making a name for yourself as a stand-up comedian. What are the differences and similarities to modeling and acting?

There's not many similarities between modeling and stand-up, however the majority of my acting tends to steer towards comedy so at the end of the day, I'm just trying to put a smile on peoples faces. And I guess you could say modeling does that to some extent as well so they're all basically the same thing lol

Tell our readers some of your favorite moments as a stand-up comedian?

My favorite moments as a standup comedian in general are when I get someone in the audience that is funny and interactive with me and I can just riff and forget about my set. Some of the best moments have come on the road in smaller crowds

What is it like hosting and recording "Smoochie Town" at the legendary Barney's Beanery?

I fortunately have moved into a studio but I will always be thankful for Barry giving me my start and recording there. I've never felt more myself and comfortable than interviewing my famous friends on my podcast. I'll actually be getting a billboard soon in West Hollywood so be on the lookout for that. It's my favorite thing to do.

What were some of the key values you learned growing up in a family of all sisters about respecting women, and why is this important to you?

I owe everything to my parents because I was raised properly, even in a divorced household. I had a great stepdad as well as a great father figure, and three sisters who always showed me and taught me how to respect women. Old-fashioned, full Italian, and full respect towards women; those are my three pillars.

Tell us about your fitness routine.

I love to incorporate all aspects of fitness into my weekly routine. I love to lift heavy ass weights, mix in a group fitness class here and there, as well as some fasted cardio outside such as a hike or game of basketball. I always like to keep my body guessing

Where is your favorite place to eat?

I eat Sweet Green five days a week and you can say that I'm addicted and need a sponsorship but I would continue to pay for it until the day I die because the Harvest Bowl is literally crack to me.

Do you work with any charities?

Both of my grandparents have unfortunately passed due to Alzheimer's disease so I try to work closely and donate to certain charities revolving around finding a cure for that.

Plug your social media!

You can follow me at @MarcoDelvec and @ SmoochieTownPod on Instagram and Tik Tok, and subscribe to my Smoochie Town Youtube channel.









Malea Rose

I understand that besides being an actress and producer, you are also the founder of Vie En Rose, a new skincare line sought after by many celebrities. Tell our readers about Vie En Rose and how this new direction for you came about?

I created Vie En Rose as a hobby to address my own skin issues. I was my own customer, searching for an all-in-one cure that actually delivered results. My skin was ultra-dry, so sensitive, and I was breaking out with rashy bumps all the time. It was affecting my self-esteem. Constantly on the move, I thought about how nice it would be to have an all-in-one face mist, travel-sized, that I could take on the go, loaded with the same types of ingredients found in the best serum or lotion. That's how the Mile High Ultra-Hydrating Mist was born.

I had no idea it would turn into a real business, a brand, and that I would be running a company. Nor did I realize how much work I had in front of me, building one from the ground up alone, with no capital. I must be insane, but I think all the geniuses and globetrotters are. It takes a certain level of crazy to take such great risks. I think this is my favorite role to date.

I have always loved creating things and seeing them come to fruition, whether it's an acting job, writing a screenplay, and now I am absolutely obsessed with products and discovering new innovative ingredients. The world of wellness and beauty is a world away from Hollywood, which I also love. It's the first thing I've ever done that's felt truly mine. Every essence of the company is a part of me, from the designs, the company ethos, the brand's voice, to what it stands for. The more positive reactions the brand gets, the more inspired I am to push harder and grow.

What was the process that went into the development of Vie En Rose and what were the challenges you faced in bringing these amazing new products to the marketplace?

I did a lot of research and found the absolute best lab in America. These people have become my family. They helped guide me in so many ways and have been my biggest support. Our first meeting, we sat in a boardroom for hours, talking about my vision, blending smells, playing with textures, discussing ingredients—it was such a beautiful day

I will never forget. We formulated for 2 years to achieve absolute perfection. The ingredients are the best you can find in the market, and my products actually deliver instant results. I wanted to make sure I created a line that

worked for all skin types, genders, and ethnicities, and I feel proud to say that I did.

Everything! I'm a first-time business owner. I had to learn every single aspect of this business. One of the biggest challenges was when I realized that without capital and with all the regulations and laws about CBD, it was nearly impossible to market.

I had to get very creative and rogue with what I was doing, and it's a good thing I am so stubborn. Also, when you start out as a one-woman show doing absolutely everything myself, it is so overwhelming, especially when I was learning as I was building. Truthfully, with everything on my plate, I'm just now finally taking retailer meetings, which will be a big focus in the next coming months. The company is growing, and I need to learn how to grow with it.

Taking products to market is no joke; there are so many moving parts I had no idea about—packaging, branding, copywriting, barcodes, Shopify stores. I'll never forget the first time I walked into Fred Segal and saw my products front and center at the entrance. Working so hard, then seeing it on a shelf in a store you love, then knowing that every person who touches it loves it—it's magical. I'm proud to say all of my customers are repeat customers, which says a lot about the products.

Even our Editor In Chief and Fashion Director, Julia Perry has tried your amazing products and loves them. Where is Vie En Rose available to try or purchase?

That makes me so happy, music to my ears! I promise to keep her glowing forever! The easiest way to find Vie En Rose is directly from the website www.vieenrose.com; it comes in the chicest packaging! We also offer handwritten notes and gift wrapping to make gifting easy.

I decided to try a beauty taboo—rules were made to be broken—and have my Ash + Smoke Creamy Charcoal Cleanser available on Amazon Prime and FabFitFun. If you're in India, MorLuxury is the #1 certified luxury American skincare sales channel, and they are fabulous. They have all my products available for sale.

World and The Venetian carry my Mile High Mist and Love Potion Beauty Oil. The desert may be dry, but you don't need to be! Bio Skin Beverly Hills (my favorite facial spot ever) carries all the products... and simultaneously right now, soon to be some very exciting bigger retailers and spas (I can't disclose yet).



If you're in Las Vegas, Miss Behave Beauty Bar at Resorts Follow along for upcoming announcements. But truly, my website is the best, and I offer free shipping because my customers are worth it!

What sets your brand apart from others in the marketplace?

My ingredients and formulations are packed with the most potent anti-aging and anti-inflammatory ingredients on the market. They are also cleaner than anything out there, providing science-backed ingredients that deliver real results. I dedicated 2 years to formulating for absolute perfection, despite the long and tedious process. I have the most sensitive dry skin, and there was nothing on the market that actually delivered what I was searching for, so I created it.

The line perfectly synergizes with any preexisting regimen for amazing results, or for the jetsetter/minimalist, you can just use my 3 products for the ultimate healthy glow. Vie En Rose isn't a trend or made of quick fads that come and go. Every ingredient is there for a purpose - to nourish, heal, and deliver results. Why stop at just skincare when you can also make it holistic? We are made in the USA, Vegan, unisex, great for all skin types, ethnicities, genders, consciously sourced in every way.

The Mile High Mist is travel-sized and in frosted glass, so no toxic plastic will seep in when it's in the heat, making it a makeup artist's dream. There are over 30+potent botanicals that carry throughout the line, a fresh garden for your face, high in antioxidants and vitamins. The smell is completely natural, light, and dreamy. Every customer I have spoken to raves about the compliments they get on their skin, how it's cleared up blemishes, maskne, dryness, and how amazing it works with makeup.

My Ash + Smoke Creamy Cleanser uses activated charcoal that goes deep beneath the surface to detoxify and erase pores, while leaving your skin soft and hydrated because of ingredients like rose stem cell, Swiss glacier water, and alpine rose stem cell. OK Magazine wrote it up as a celebrity fall favorite must-have! I could keep going; my passion is so real, but you have to try my products to truly appreciate them. Also, now that this tween skincare craze has started, they are clean enough for a baby but potent enough for aging skin. That is something I am very proud of.

What would you like our readers to know about Vie En Rose that they might not know until they try the products for themselves?

Know that you are not alone in your skin struggles. True confidence comes from within and feeling good in your own skin, and there is nothing more beautiful than confidence. How we feel is how we look. Also, our packaging is as beautiful as the products themselves. There are no perfumes, just fruit and flower extracts for the dreamiest light smell. The Love Potion Beauty Oil not only deeply hydrates and boosts collagen but also contains ingredients like Sea buckthorn and other goodies that combat your body's own oil production, making it great for acne-prone, inflamed, sensitive skin.

All of my customers are repeat customers; in fact, Vie En Rose is in some of my favorite actresses' riders for their makeup kits when they work on shows. I have productions/studios calling me all the time to place orders. Vie En Rose isn't just a beauty brand; it's a lifestyle. You are worth the investment.

Who are your favorite designers and why?

I love fashion. If you compared my shoe and purse closet to my savings account, you'd have a good laugh. I love the freedom of expression that fashion enables. I appreciate streetwear, denim, classics, and anything metallic with sparkles. If I could have lived during Studio 54, Chanel will forever be a classic. It's timeless, chic, and I love when they play with bright colors and patterns. Saint Laurent leather jackets have always been a weakness of mine. They fit perfectly, and I will forever love the cool, classic look of a motorcycle jacket, vintage T, and jeans.

I love my Air Jordan retros; I have quite a few pink pairs that I rock with everything from jeans to dresses. If I could live in baggy jeans and crop tops, I would... I love Redone jeans; they fit my body perfectly. I also love slacks, especially power pants; there is something irresistible to me about them. I am a total creature of comfort, and truthfully, if I hate my outfit, I automatically don't feel as empowered. I mostly steer away from tight things, but every once in a while, I love to get dolled up.

I love Gucci mules and slides because they are so comfy, classic, and easy to pair with everything. I take my dog on long walks and hikes, so I have a very impressive baseball cap collection that's always growing. I like to collect them from all my travels. My fashion is everywhere. Despite my love for designer goods, there is nothing that makes me happier than finding a cheap store at the mall or Melrose and mixing in those treasures with other things; I always love a good deal!



What was it like when you found out you are going to Thailand for the filming of Season 3 of The White Lotus?

Incredible! The show is one of the best I have ever seen—the writing, casting, makeup, all of it. The rich characters and their inner lives. I love the show so much. I get to not only visit one of the most beautiful places in Thailand and see my friends in action, but they have been such a large support of Vie En Rose since day one. It's how I got my first organic press—a feature in Glamour about the beautiful Brittany O'Grady's favorite skin products. I am so excited to do some behind-the-scenes (BTS) work and collaborations on the ground there, and the adventure that lies ahead.

I've worked on a few HBO shows as an actress, and it's fun to experience this world from another angle. It's also a true testament to the quality of my products and how amazing the Mile High Mist is as a primer and setting spray for makeup. All three seasons are filmed in such drastically different climates. My Emmy-nominated makeup artist girlfriend, Rebecca Hickey, truly focuses on good skin first when on the job; she's an absolute dream. Maybe I'll have my own 'White Lotus experience' while there... you never know.

Describe a "normal" day for you and what you do to relax?

Every morning starts with 100 kisses from my dog, Monroe, and then my cat, Elvis, joins in.

It's the best way to begin my day—filled with love and their adorable spirit. I kick off each day with a long morning walk with Monroe, during which I don't listen to music or use my phone. I use this time to ease into the day, get my body moving, and set intentions and priorities.

Aside from that, every day is a new adventure. I sometimes work from home in my Barbie pink office. Some days, I spend hours in the office whiteboarding with my favorite business collaborator and advisor, Metta World Peace, and his team. On other days, I get to do fun collaborations and take meetings with amazing people. Some days are spent hunched over in front of the computer, building out sales channels and financial projections. Some days are glamorous, while others find me barely brushing my hair or changing out of sweats. I'm so busy with the endless amount of work that goes into every aspect of my business.

Sometimes I remember I'm also an actress and go on auditions or get my hair and makeup done on set to shoot something. I'm constantly producing content for my socials; I love being the creative director of my own brand. I'm always pitched new ideas and collaborations. Some days are filled with fabulous lunches and dinners, while others might find me crying from exhaustion and the overwhelming nature of my to-do list.

Right now, I'm very retailer-focused, so a lot of my time goes into that. Life is very eventful when you have so much on your plate. My favorite way to find Zen is to write—whether it's creative essays or screenplays. It's my favorite creative form of expression. I also love music and concerts, delicious food, and a long bath with a face mask as a lovely treat to unwind after a long day.

I adore my family more than anything, so connecting with my mom and sister is one of my daily highlights. There's nothing more relaxing than a spa day; I'm a sucker for massages, facials, and trying out all new wellness and beauty treatments. I love the beach and fresh air. Boxing and Pilates are two of my obsessions to boost serotonin and feel strong.

My ultimate relaxation is going home to Kauai, where I barely have cell service on the island. I like to stay with my mom in my childhood room, spend long days at the beach, and catch up with my childhood friends.

It keeps me grounded and always reminds me of who I am if I ever start to feel like I'm straying from myself. Before bed, I always give myself a face massage with my Love Potion Oil, and it helps relieve the day's stress. Stress is an absolute killer, so I've been working on managing it a lot. I also love quiet nights at home, binging a good show from my bed, which has pink silky sheets, of course.

How did you go from being a competitive surfer to acting and producing and then creating your own skincare line? Tell our readers something they might not know about you already?

I believe that reinvention is the key to happiness, and allowing yourself to evolve, free of judgments and fear, is the only way to live. It's scary making changes and stepping out of your comfort zone, but if you don't, life becomes stagnant. I've always been on a quest for unconventional education and learning new skills. It's my fearlessness that allows me to fail, make mistakes, and take on challenges bigger than myself that most rational humans wouldn't. I love to challenge myself, problem-solve, and if I

don't know something, I teach myself and figure it out. There is just no other way to be. If we become too married to an idea or narrative, that's when I feel the rose gold-plated handcuffs.

I am an absolute free spirit. I believe in energy; what we put out is what we attract, as energy is magnetic.

At the end of the day, we have to be alone with ourselves, and when I look in the mirror, I want to be proud of the woman looking back. I want to have purpose, and I want to know that I earned each win with my own hard work and merit. Life is what you make of it, and perspective is a very important thing.

Something your readers definitely don't know about me is I went to clown camp when I was younger and learned to walk on 8-foot stilts. Imagine how fun that was when the kids in high school got wind of that! I'm also a nerd to my core. There is nothing I love more than a good debate and learning all sorts of random knowledge; you can never learn enough.

The universe is always teaching us things if we are listening. Also, I'm from a very small town; I can be shy sometimes as a result. I was the graduating class of 8 kids. I'm from a jungle on the beach, and that shaped everything about me. I am a very eclectic human who has had many lives. I'm like a cat; I've had 9 lives, and I always land on my feet.



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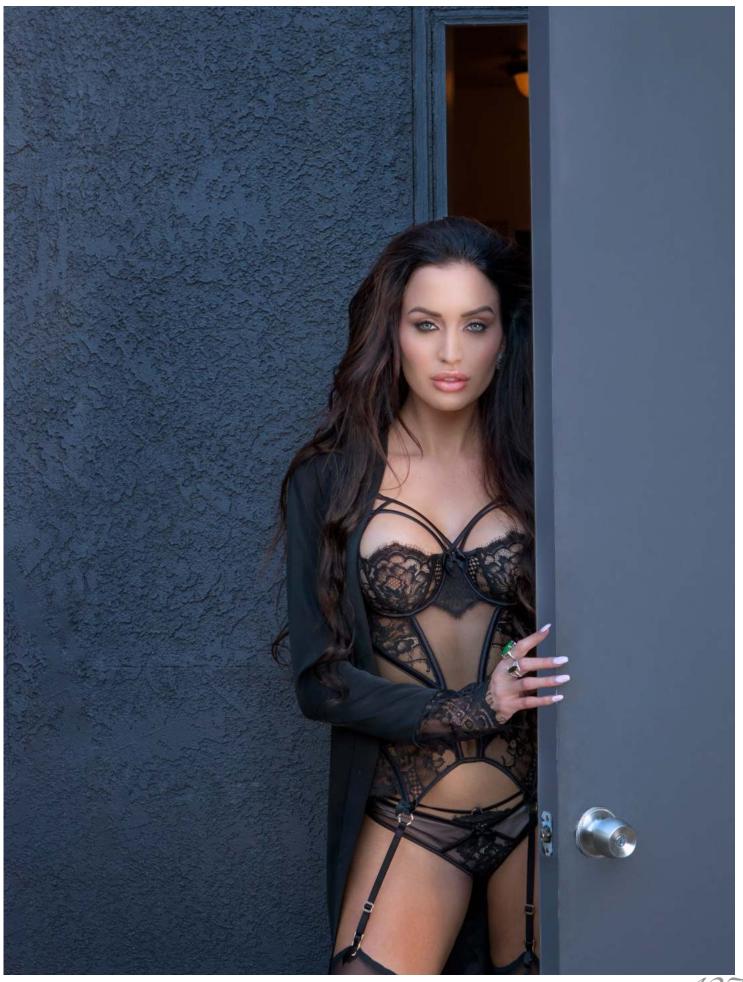






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Ben Gulak

So what is NALA? Tell me about what you're working on.

NALA, Networked Artistic Learning Algorithm, is the world's first Art Matchmaker. Just like how Spotify or YouTube knows what a user will most likely enjoy listening to or watching next, NALA can predict which artworks a user will most likely fall in love with. NALA can take any artist's work and show it to the people most likely to love it, increasing the chance of a sale. The concept is simple: people are likelier to buy something they like, and NALA ensures that Artists' work is seen by the most likely buyers.

Doesn't that exist already in the Art World?

Actually no, the 3 largest online art platforms don't use any kind of intelligent recommender engine. If you're looking for a specific genre of Art within a budget range, you may get hundreds of pages of images to sift through. There could be a fantastic piece of Art for a customer that wouldn't be seen until page 87, and the buyer simply never gets to it.

Additionally, the largest online art platforms cater exclusively to working with galleries, but less than 2% of artists work with galleries. Hence, if you're looking to buy something, you only ever see a tiny sliver of the market at best.

NALA opens the market up, allowing all artists to participate in the global market and allowing Art Lovers to find the absolutely perfect piece for their home based on their unique personal preferences.

How or why did you start NALA?

NALA emerged from a fusion of personal experiences and my academic studies. As an artist, I navigated the complex landscape of the art world, from dealing with the frustrations of selling my own work, trying to get into galleries, dealing with those galleries, and all the other stresses that come with being an artist.

When I returned to University, I was unable to keep painting, but I started selling artwork from artists I'd met on my travels through galleries I had relationships with. The artists I was working with were predominantly from emerging markets, where the artists struggled to gain access to the global markets. Working closely with these artists, I could take an artist selling their work to tourists in Havana for peanuts and sell the same painting for +5000 GBP through my Gallery in London. Witnessing

the disparity in artist recognition and compensation simply by changing the audience motivated me to try and create something to help artists.

These experiences and my academic studies in AI and recommender engines revealed a stark void in the Art World. Almost every other industry utilizes recommenders to make personalized product suggestions. But we don't have anything akin to Spotify or Youtube for the Art World. I realized that by applying these now mainstream technologies with a tried and tested business model, I could democratize art access and connect artists directly with buyers worldwide. I started experimenting with the idea during my final year of studies, and by the time I graduated, I was well into developing what would become NALA.

Ultimately, NALA was intended to be the solution to the archaic barriers within the art world. By blending the intuitive interface of dating apps (swiping left and right on Art you like or dislike) with sophisticated algorithm-driven recommendations, NALA offers Art Lovers a unique way to discover new Art. NALA is not just about using technology; it's about reshaping an outdated industry to be more inclusive and artist-centric. Almost every decision I've made throughout the development process has had artists as the central focus.

My commitment to this idea was deepened by the stark contrast between the traditional art market's gatekeeping and the potential for a more equitable and accessible art ecosystem. My experiences in Havana are by no means an outlier, the world has millions of artists who are unable to access the broader global market and remain detached from the global stage.

Understanding the art world's intricacies and the transformative power of technology, I believe that NALA can bridge some of these critical gaps. The excitement in creating a platform that has the potential not only to revolutionize how Art is discovered and appreciated but also to empower artists by connecting them with the right audience globally has been incredible.

The feedback has been amazing so far, and in a short period of time, we have already registered over 6000 artists from 140 countries. What's even more exciting is that with every new user and every like/dislike, NALA learns and is able to make better, more intelligent connections and help artists more.

NALA's growing database and improving algorithms testify to the platform's potential to change the art world's landscape, making it more democratic, interconnected, and vibrant.

You sold your work through galleries?

Yes, at one point, my work was selling through a network of 12 galleries globally, including Graffik Gallery in London, Sist' Art in Venice, and Addictive Art House in Palm Beach. My work was even at Scope Miami three times.

MIT, Gallery painter, Entrepreneur, You seem to straddle both the creative and technology worlds, how did that come to be?

I do, in fact, NALA is the culmination of almost 30 years of life experiences, my entire life has led me to this point. I grew up going to Art Camps as a kid, taking art classes throughout elementary and high school, and even doing a fine art study abroad program in Italy during my final year of High School. Simultaneously, I competed in science fair competitions and robotics and programming contests. In fact, I was one of only 3 Canadians to ever represent Canada 3 times at the International Science and Engineering Fair (IISEF).

I could have just as quickly gone to art college as going into Engineering. Even though I did end up going to MIT for Mechanical Engineering the first time, Art continued to play a massive role in my life, and my projects always managed to blend these two passions of mine. When I went back to University for Computer Science and Data Econometrics, I still managed to find a way of combining creativity with computer science. The lines between Art and engineering have always been blurry for me, and I consider them equally creative.

Designing something that didn't previously exist uses the same imagination neutrons as creating works of Art. Both involve seeing what isn't there, and the two have always gone hand in hand for me.

What's next for NALA?

Right now, we're actively signing up Artists and Art Lovers to the platform and trying to grow. We have proven that the marketplace works; we have been able to connect artists with buyers they never would have met and helped facilitate transactions. It's a paradigm shift in how online art sales can happen. We also recently

attended Miami Art Week, where we had a booth at Context Miami and brought NALA artists. We are looking at other real-world partnerships to expand beyond the digital space to give our artists physical opportunities to display their work.









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