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APRIL 2016

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MODELSMANIA

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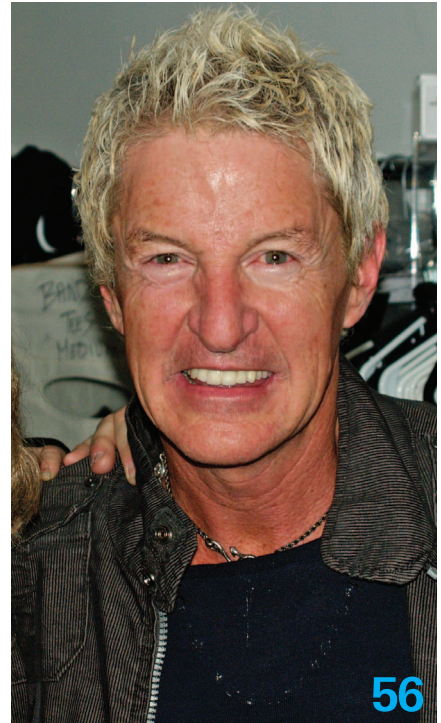
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MODELSMANIA

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DEMOLITON

Courtesy of Fox Spotlight

Davis a successful investment banker, struggles after losing his wife in a tragic car crash. Despite pressure from his father-in-law Phil to pull it together, Davis continues to unravel. What starts as a complaint letter to a vending machine company turns into a series of letters revealing startling personal admissions. Davis' letters catch the attention of customer service rep Karen and, amidst emotional and financial burdens of her own, the two form an unlikely connection. With the help of Karen and her son Chris, Davis starts to rebuild, beginning with the demolition of the life he once knew.



MOVIE REVIEWS

Criminal

Courtesy of Summit Entertainment



The memories and skills of a CIA agent are implanted into the brain of a dangerous criminal in order to stop an international terrorist. In a last-ditch effort to stop a diabolical plot, a dead CIA operative's memories, secrets, and skills are implanted into an unpredictable and dangerous death-row inmate in hopes the he will complete the operative's mission.

You will find that it has all the Drama, Action & Adventure, Mystery & Suspense to keep you wondering what happens next.

The film stars Kevin Costner, Gary Oldman and Tommy Lee Jones

PRECIOUS CARGO



Courtesy of Emmett/Furla/Oasis Films



After a botched heist, Eddie (Bruce Willis), a murderous crime boss, hunts down the seductive thief Karen (Claire Forlani) who failed him. In order to win back Eddie's trust, Karen recruits her ex-lover and premier thief Jack (Mark-Paul Gosselaar) to steal a cargo of rare precious gems. But when the job goes down, allegiances are betrayed and lines are crossed as Jack, Karen, and Eddie face off in a fateful showdown.

TERM LIFE



Courtesy of PalmStar Entertainment
WWE Studios

A thief (Vaughn) who plans and sells heists to the highest bidder takes his estranged daughter (Hailee Steinfeld) on the lam when a job goes bad. Hunted by mob bosses, contract killers and dirty cops, he takes out a life insurance policy on himself to leave something for her.

The film stars Vince Vaughn, who also produces the film, Hailee Steinfeld, Jonathan Banks, Mike Epps, Jordi Molla, Shea Whigham, William Levy, Taraji P. Henson, Annabelle Gish, and Terrance Howard.





BEBE REXHA
No Broken Hearts

Bebe Rexha No Broken Hearts is the lead single from the Bebe's full-length debut album. "No Broken Hearts" is a collaboration with rapper Nicki Minaj. "No Broken Hearts" is an urban-pop song about leaving your sorrow over heartbreak behind at least for one night - where dancing and all the booze will make you feel better.



LIGHTS
Midnight Machine

Midnight Machines, an album comprised of six acoustic songs from her most recent album Little Machines, plus two brand new songs. The new tracks are "Follow You Down" and "Head Cold," and the leading single is an acoustic version of "Meteorites."



Music Reviews



SANTANA
Santana IV

They've named the album Santana IV because it's designed as a follow-up to 1971's Santana III, which featured the same lineup. and the new album's artwork recalls the famous lion image from Santana's first album.



PJ HARVEY
The Hope Six Demolition Project

The Hope Six Demolition Project is the upcoming ninth studio album by English singer-songwriter and musician PJ Harvey. The album's title is a reference to the HOPE VI projects in the United States, "where run-down public housing in areas with high crime rates has been demolished to make room for better housing, but with the effect that many previous residents could no longer afford to live there.



Bodonic Magazine
The Ultimate Fitness Magazine

Coming Soon





Dark Souls III

Game Reviews



Dark Souls III is an action role-playing game set in a third-person perspective, similar to previous games in the series. Players are equipped with a variety of weapons including shortbows, explosives like fire bombs, greatswords and dual-wielding swords to fight against enemies, and shields that can be used to deflect an enemies' attack and protect the player from suffering damage. In addition, attacks can be evaded through dodge-rolling. Ashes, according to Miyazaki, play an important role in the game. Magic is featured in the game and the magic meter returns from Demon's Souls. Each attack has two different styles. One of them is standard attack, while another provides power-ups to players, and is slightly more powerful. When performing miracles and spells, the players'



Format
PC, PS4, XO

magic points are consumed and decreased. In order to refill these points, they need to consume an "Ash Estus Flask". There are two different Estus Flasks in the game. One of them refills hit points like previous games in the series, while another helps refill magic points. Throughout the game, players encounter different types of enemies, each with different behaviors. Some of them change their combat pattern dur-

ing battles. New combat features are introduced in Dark Souls III, including "Weapon Arts", which are special abilities that vary from weapon to weapon that enable extra damage and unique movesets for a limited time, at the cost of magic points. The game puts more focus on role-playing, in which the character builder is expanded and weapons are improved to provide more tactical options to players.



Our Rating



Quantum Break

Players play as Jack Joyce, a person with time manipulation powers in a world where time stutters, making everything freeze except Joyce. Players can use a variety of firearms, as well as their time-manipulating powers to defeat enemies in the game. Joyce can stop time temporarily, allowing him to escape from attacks or freeze enemies, unleash a “Time Blast”, which is an offensive projectile, and reverse the direction of bullets. There are also less action-orientated segments in the game, where players have to solve environmental puzzles while progressing through the game like a 3D platformer. With time stuttering and collapsing, objects may get trapped in a time loop. This causes them to become environmental hazards and enter an unstable state which is constantly shifting, and creates dangerous situations for players.



Our Rating



Dirt Rally

DiRT Rally features 39 of the most iconic and relevant cars from yesteryear through to modern day, representing the cars that the players want, and the ones that make the most sense for the surfaces they race on. Six rallies with over 70 stages. Head to the muddy paths of Wales, the dusty trails of Greece and the icy tarmac of Monte Carlo. Take on the legendary hillclimb of Pikes Peak, the snowy thrills of Sweden, and the epic scenery of Finland. DiRT Rally has the iconic locations to test your nerve and delight your senses. Race at the Lydden Hill, Holjes and Hell tracks in six of the fastest off-road cars and take on your friends in bumper-to-bumper multiplayer racing



Our Rating



Lumo

Lumo has the kind of charm that absolutely anyone can enjoy. Players can spend hours finding secrets and solving puzzles, or they can hunt for the subtle and not-so-subtle nods to the days of the UK’s Sinclair ZX Spectrum Personal Computer and beyond. Lumo is a charming little adventure game about a little wizard trapped in a puzzle-filled castle with over 150 rooms to explore. The object is to solve the enigmas ahead, and emerge to the outside.



PARTY FOOD GOODIES

Having a party usually comes with one's birthday, graduation or anniversary, but in reality you don't really need an excuse to throw one! If a party has good food, that's a big bonus for everyone! Don't you want to be the person who throws the best parties with the tastiest food? Here are some party food ideas that will make your party unforgettable!

Pork Belly Minis

Tasteful and hearty, these mini pork belly buns will not only impress your guests but they will leave them wanting more and more!

Makes 32

You will need

- 4 carrots, peeled and shredded
- 2 cup daikon radishes, peeled and shredded
- 4 tablespoons salt
- 2 cups sugar
- 2 cups rice wine vinegar
- 2 cups water

Marinade:

- 3 tablespoons low sodium soy sauce
- 4 teaspoons rice wine vinegar

- 3 tablespoons honey
- 4 tablespoons hoisin sauce
- 2 teaspoons sesame oil
- 2 lbs thinly sliced pork belly
- Green onion mayonnaise
- 2 cups mayonnaise
- 8 green onions, thinly sliced
- 4 garlic cloves, minced
- 2 seedless cucumbers, thinly sliced
- 32 sweet Hawaiian rolls

Instructions:

Mix together carrots, daikon and salt in a colander over the sink and let them sit for about an hour. Toss them together every 15 minutes, rinse and place them into a mixing bowl. In a small pot mix together sugar, vinegar and water and bring to a simmer until the sugar dissolves. Then let the mixture cool for about 10 minutes. When the mixture cools down, pour it over the carrot and daikon and place in the refrigerator for an hour. In a bowl place hoisin sauce, soy sauce, honey, vinegar, sesame oil and black pepper and whisk together. Add pork belly, toss together until well marinated and place in the refrigerator for 30 minutes. In a grill pan place 2 tablespoons of extra virgin olive oil and heat over medium

heat. Sear and cook pork belly on each side for about 5 minutes. Remove from heat and set aside. Place mayonnaise, green onions and garlic into a small bowl and stir together. Then spread a small amount of the mayonnaise mix onto the tops and bottoms of the buns. Place 2 pieces of pork belly into each bottom and top with cucumber slices followed by a small amount of daikon and carrots. Then place the top of the bun, press gently and serve.

Chicken Tortilla Rolls

Light yet hearty, chicken tortilla rolls are tasteful and simple!

Makes 5

Ingredients:

- 2 chicken breasts
- 250 g. goat cheese
- 2/3 cup shredded cheddar
- 1 garlic clove, shredded
- 3 green onions (just the green part), chopped
- 300 g. shredded tomato
- 5 medium tortillas
- A bit of fresh parsley, chopped
- Salt & pepper
- 1/2 cayenne pepper

Instructions:

With a knife open the chicken so that it becomes thinner and sprinkle with salt and pepper. In a plywood grill, frill the chicken with very little olive oil until evenly cooked. Remove from heat and let it cool. Cut to small pieces. Mix all the rest of the ingredients together (except for the tortillas) in a bowl until a homogeneous mixture is created. Add the chicken and mix again. Cover the bowl and place in the refrigerator for at least an hour. Then spread the mixture with a tablespoon in the tortilla and roll tightly. Chop each tortilla in 4 and place a toothpick to keep them closed. Serve.

Strawberry Lemonade

Perfect for a summer outdoors party, pink lemonade combines strawberry

with a spoon press the strawberries until melted. Remove from heat and let the mixture cool. Pour the mixture in a large jug over a pest so that the strawberry seeds don't fall in the drink. Add lemon juice and soda water, then stir. Fill the glasses with ice and place a slice of lemon in each one. Serve.

Meatball Shots

This recipe is perfect for an adult party! Replacing alcohol with meatballs in shots and combine them with the sauce of your choice!

Serves 50

Ingredients:

1 cup onion, shredded
2 slices of old bread (just the inside)
500 g. minced veal meat
4 tbsp. olive oil
2 tbsp. mint, finely chopped

Yogurt sauce with mayonnaise

250 g. yogurt

3 tbsp. mayonnaise

4 tbsp. ketchup

Cream cheese yogurt sauce

200 g. cream cheese

200 g. yogurt

Salt, pepper

Parsley

2 1/2 tbsp. Ketchup

Instructions:

Place the onion in a colander and squeeze with your hands until the liquids come out. Place the bread in water and let it soak. Squeeze the bread well and place it in a bowl with the onion and the rest of the ingredients. Knead well for 5 minutes. Cover the bowl and place it in the refrigerator for 2 hours. Dip your hands in water. Section the mixture in small pieces and mold meatballs. Dip the meatballs in flour and fry. Serve in small glasses with any sauce and place a toothpick on each meatball.

Corn Flakes Chicken Nuggets

Chicken is one of the most popular foods, so why not make a twist of a classic dish and turn it into the perfect finger food for a party!

Ingredients:

500 kgr chicken breast, in thin slices

2-3 tbsp. mustard

1 tsp. salt

A pinch of oregano

2 cups corn flakes, crushed in thick pieces

1/2 cup eggs

2 tbsp. oil

2 tbsp. water

Oil for frying

Instructions:

Cut chicken breasts into cubes. Sprinkle chicken

breasts with salt and oregano. Spread the breasts with mustard. Lightly mix eggs, oil and water. Dip the breasts in flour and then dip one by one in egg mixture. Finally roll the breast in corn flakes and set in the refrigerator for 30 minutes. In a pan, fry the breasts until golden brown. Serve.

Whatever party you decide to plan and throw, these recipes will not disappoint you or your guests. Hope you enjoy and try them all. Bon appetite!



sweetness and lemon dew!

Ingredients:

1 cup sugar

200 g. strawberries

2/3 cup fresh lemon juice

750 ml. soda water

1 lemon thinly sliced

Ice

Instructions:

In a pot place together sugar, strawberries and a cup of water and bring to a boil. Stir until sugar is dissolved and

1 tbsp. vinegar

1 egg

30 ml. water

1 tsp. oregano

Parsley, salt, pepper

1/8 tsp. baking powder

For the yogurt sauce:

250 g. yogurt

Lemon juice

Salt

1 tsp sweet paprika

6-8 tbsp. olive oil



2017 Chevy Camaro ZL1 \$56,500





The ZL1 packs a staggering 640 horsepower and 640 pound-feet of torque. That means the ZL1 has 60 more horses than its fifth-generation predecessor. It's also 200 pounds lighter, thanks to the tauter chassis of the sixth-generation Camaro's Alpha platform. In addition to the standard 6-speed manual transmission with rev matching, it will offer a new 10-speed automatic transmission. There's loads of technology that should ensure that the car is not just quick in a straight line. The list includes magnetic ride control, an electronic limited-slip differential, performance-oriented traction control, launch control, and a driving modes selector. The car also gets massive Brembo brakes with six-piston calipers at the front and four-piston calipers at the rear. These reside within 20-inch wheels shod with tires measuring 285/30 at the front and 305/30 in the rear.





Our 2016 Truck Preview



2017-GMC-Canyon-Denali





2016 Dodge Ram 1500

4.5



2017 Honda Ridgeline

4.5



2016-Chevrolet-Silverado-Realtree Edition



2016-Chevrolet-Colorado-Shoreline



2017 Dodge Ram 2500 Crew Cab 4x4 with Off-road Package



2017 Ford Raptor SuperCrew



2017 Dodge Ram Power Wagon

2017 Dodge Ram Power Wagon



2016_nissan_TITAN_xd

2016_nissan_TITAN_xd





2016-GMC-Sierra- with eAssist



GADGETS GALORE



Nike gets 'Back to the Future' with the world's first self-tying shoe called the HyperAdapt 1.0



The HyperAdapt 1.0 will be made available in three colors and exclusively to members of Nike+, the company's eponymous fitness app, starting "Holiday 2016."

As soon as you step into a pair, as if they were slip ons and press a "+" button, the laces tighten. The shoe even lights up. Nike expects the shoe to come in various sizes and for multi-purposes. When you are ready to pull them off, just press the "-" (minus) button and they relax making them easy to pull off. The company said that technology has the potential to bring shoes that would adjust themselves as they are worn, helping athletes and others have their shoes fix themselves according to what their wearers need. The shoes are battery operated and use an inductive charge system and magnetic cup. It takes about three hours for a full charge. With average use you'll have to charge the battery every couple of weeks. A lighting system lets you know when you'll need to charge it. Which raises the question, what if the battery dies when you are ready to pull them off? You can easily pull them off as a low top shoe. More information will be available closer to the holidays. If you or someone you know was a fan of the movie 'Back to the Future' what a cool gift for christmas these would make.



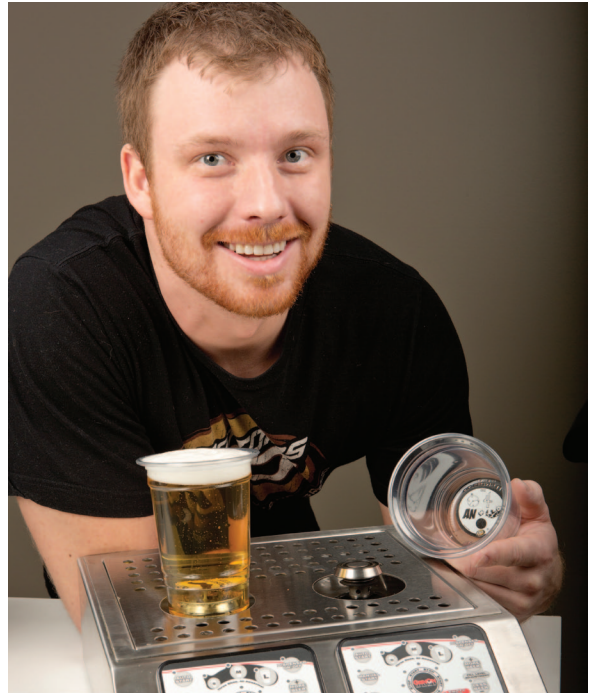
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BOTTOMS UP BREW DISPENSER

The Bottoms Up beer dispenser can pour up to 44 pints a minute, with just one person using it. Add a few helpers and it can reach 56 pints per minute, not far off one per second. But how does this magical machine work? Obviously, the cups have holes, but how do they reseal? Magnets. The plastic glasses have a floppy fridge-magnet inside, a circle which sticks itself to a corresponding donut-shape strip around the filling-hole. For more go to bottomsup-beer.com



RAZER-STARGAZER-V01

The Razer Stargazer revolutionizes webcam use as the first device of its kind suitable for quality streaming content production. It sets a new benchmark for video capture at 60 frames per second at 720p, a magnitude better than the 30 frames-per-second limit of common webcams, and it can provide high-definition 1080p video at 30 frames per second. The Razer Stargazer also includes an automatic noise-cancelling, dual-array mic. The webcam's Intel RealSense Technology enables the camera to intelligently sense depth to separate foreground from background. The Razer Stargazer also offers the most advanced facial and gesture recognition in a consumer camera. For more information, visit www.razerzone.com/stargazer



RocketSkates R5





URB-E

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WELCOME

Krista Nicole

Photography by Rick Trottier
 Makeup and Hair Design of Sarah Desmarais

What lead you to decide on jumping into the World of Modeling? Now that you're here, what impact has this made on your life?

I decided to be a model because of my mom. She is my biggest fan! I have always dreamed of being a Victoria's Secret model or Playboy model and she pushed me to get into modeling. Now that I am a model hopefully I can fulfill my dream! It has impacted my day to day life in such a positive way. It has not only bettered my life it made me a better person and more confident in myself.

Tell us what your goals are in Modeling. Where do you hope to be in 5 years if you could have your way?

In 5 years I would like to be a well-respected glamour model and for everyone to know who Krista Nicole is! I would also like to see myself give back to the newly inspired models in ways I didn't receive.

What are some of the ways to best describe your style as a model?

I would say my style is tastefully sexy, but fun, edgy, stylish and sometimes a little cute.





If you were given a chance to travel to any exciting destination for photo shoot, where would you like to go? Why?

If I had a chance to travel to do a shoot, I would have to say Egypt would be my choice. Egypt catches my attention greatly because of its architecture and its way of life is beautiful to me. I think it would be awesome to be on the top of pyramid for a shoot. The great wilderness of Africa would be another choice because I love wildlife and animals but that could get a little dangerous.

What is your philosophy on body image? Would you rather be too thin or a bit thick? What advice would you give to people with body image issues?

I have had people tell me I'm too skinny my whole life. I have a fast metabolism and I have tried gaining weight and it doesn't work. I know you hate me. Most people would die to be skinny but as we know girls want what we can't/don't have. So I would have to say love your body. You only get one so work with what you got and rock it!!







Krista Nicole Interview and Feature

Do you think of yourself as a sex symbol? Role model? What kind of impact do you see yourself making on the people who see your images?

I would have to say both!! I take sexy photos with a bit of the girl-next-door look. And as a role model my niece is already looking into modeling just because her aunt does it and she is ten years old. I even have girls around my age asking me for advice already and I'm still learning myself. I hope I can say I make an impact on people from my photos. Follow your dreams and do what makes you happy would be the impression I would want to leave if I could leave one.

What interests/hobbies do you have that reveal your true inner self? Which ones are helpful in building your skills as a model?

I love to shop. I love shopping for new outfits and new looks for shoots. My wallet doesn't agree but it makes my wardrobe bigger and trendier.

Are other models intimidated by your looks? If so, how do you handle that kind of negative attention?

I embrace it!! Negative attention is still attention. It's just fuel for my fire. I smile and wave at them. I don't want people to be intimidated by me though.







What is your biggest weakness when it comes to any part of your life? How does it affect modeling, or does it affect it at all?

I don't like weaknesses and if I'm weak I strive to be stronger. If I had to pick one weakness I am too nice to people that don't deserve it. I try to leave my personal life out of my shoots so it doesn't affect it. But it could because I'm a people pleaser and I put people before myself sometimes.

What advice would you give young people aspiring to get into the Modeling Industry?

Be careful with who you shoot with and value yourself. If you're not smiling the whole time you're doing it wrong!!



It is typical for fans to want their idol's autographs. A signed photo by Taylor Swift or a baseball defaced by a famous player sure strengthens the emotional connection of the fan to the celeb-

Celebrity Autographs are Lucrative Business

The autograph hounds are dressed like normal people who order pizzas, beers and wings in famous Hollywood bars and restaurants, hoping that a random celebrity decides to come here

cus only in getting celebrities' signatures. If you're earning well into six digits dollars a year just by getting famous people to sign memorabilia, then they see no point of abandoning the business.

According to Michael Kasmar, the founder of Autograph Pros in an interview with ET that he has made "several million dollars in this industry." This figure is nothing to scoff at, even if some celebs have already felt a huge degree of resistance against professional autograph hounds like him.

He cites Mick Jagger as an example, saying that this musician's autograph could cost a whopping \$2,500 when sold. However, not all celebrities are easy to get autographs from. "Getting Mick Jagger to sign anything is nearly impossible unless you're a female and have good looks," Kasmar further explained.

Another established autograph hound in the industry is the father-and-son tandem, Steve and Jeff Woolf. The older Woolf, Steve, explains to ABCNEWS that celebrity autograph is an annual 50 million industry, and it continues to thrive year after year. "Everybody's autograph is a reflection of their personality," Woolf explains to the network. If this is the case, are celebrities who refuse to sign autographs more aloof and less friendly?

Resistance from Celebrities

For the Woolfs and many others who

THE CELEBRITY AUTOGRAPH BUSINESS

By Jane Susaeta

riety, not to mention giving him bragging rights about acquiring a signature that's considered by many as a rarity.

But it's not only the fans that wait for a chance to get celebrities to sign autographs. There are those who are called as autograph hounds who make a living out of these signed memorabilia.

as well. Of course, they're working with an off-chance for an encounter and the night could end up for them returning home empty-handed and zero dollars in gain.

But autograph hounds do get lucky and that's why some of them even don't have a full-time day job and fo-

make a living out of celebrities' autographs, getting a signed glossy is equivalent to a number of dollars that pay the bills. Michael Wehrman, also a professional in the autograph business believes that most celebrities are willing to sign, saying "they love who they are and what they do and that's why they keep signing autographs ...

You know, Katherine Hepburn used to say ... 'I'll worry when they stop asking me for my autograph.'

Unfortunately for the autograph hounds, not all celebrities think like Katherine Hepburn so they are more reluctant to sign autograph. Pitch Perfect star for example, Rebel Wilson, has been vocal about this, saying "I'm not signing your pics that you sell online."

This is quite a downer for professional autograph hunters, but some of them, like the Wolfs, have also been vocal in their website about celebrities who are less than generous with their signatures. They cite Tobey Maguire, Britney Spears, Cameron Diaz and Edward Norton as the most aloof when it comes to autograph signing. Meanwhile, they cite Angelina Jolie, George Clooney

of value nowadays. Even in the past several years, fans had to wait by the sidelines as stars walk the red carpet for a premier, product launching, press con and other similar events, fans and stars alike both expect that signing an autograph would in order at some point or another. Simply put, stars were expected to sign autographs because it is part of the package of them being famous and they just have to give it to their eager fans.

If anything, an autograph simply reinforces the concept of being a celebrity: they are people who are famous and looked up to and a signature at the possession of an admirer bridges the gap in between; that somehow a fan can touch a star and even get him to give a signature.

later on.

This is also the reason why a number of celebrities have become reluctant to give their signature. In the case of famous athlete Carli Lloyd, she took out her frustration over Twitter, saying "I sign for my fans. I don't sign for people who then sell and put the items on eBay (and use young kids to do it)."

But autograph hounds believe that they're keeping the industry alive by gathering treasures. Unlike the paparazzi who snap photos which only get to be thrown out the next day after publication, autograph collectors either keep these treasured signatures as their own remembrances or pass them down to another person who will also treasure them, of course at a cost.

However, these hounds also admit



and LeAnn Rimes as Fred Durst who are the friendliest in giving autographs.

Are Autographs Devalued Nowadays?

Although technology has allowed fans to gather solid proof of their interactions with their idols through selfies and modern cameras, autographs are still

However, autographs do get a bad rap depending on the manner of which they've been acquired. A sincere fan would be content with a signature or two and possibly a photo with the star, but autograph hounds work in a more aggressive manner. They ask the celebrity to sign multiple photos and memorabilia, only to sell them online

that the economy could also hurt their business. When the economy is down and the consumers are tightening their belts, the first things they abolish from their budgets are luxuries like an expensive autograph. The signature doesn't lose its value overall, but it does get thrown into the backseat when fans can't afford the price tag.



How to Earn Money for Celebrities' Signatures

Autograph hounds make famous spots their office. They can spend hours on end at a high-end Beverly Hills mall, the airport or restaurant, just waiting for celebrities. The Woolfs don't come here unprepared. Steve says he has an inventory of photos of all the celebrities, arranged alphabetically. If they see a star, they rush to their car, get the star's photo and try their best in getting it signed.

After a photo or an item has been signed, autograph hounds and fans who got lucky of scoring autographs could decide of keeping these signatures in mint condition (and wait for their value to go up) or decide to put them on sale. Ebay has been a great venue of buying and selling autographs, while other platforms, like Autographedtoyou.com serves as middleman in getting these photographs bought and sold.

Selling an autograph over Ebay is a simple as selling any other item on the site. But the one catch that any seller or buyer needs to remember when auctioning or purchasing autographs is

that it needs to be certified as authentic before they can maximize their profits. Third-party authenticators like Professional Sports Authenticator (PSA) and James Spence Authentication (JSA) help ensure that you are buying and/or selling an original autograph, not a fake or forgery. With the certificate of authentication attached to the autograph, you could raise your asking price for the said signature.

On the other hand, platforms like Autographedtoyou.com works and earns in a very different manner. The platform provides a venue for fans to request autographs from their idols without breaking a sweat and at a more decent price. It works by getting celebrities on board in the business by signing their photos with their signature. The signed photo is then sent to the fan who requested and will then be charged a flat fee, usually starting at \$5, going up. The profit is split in three ways: one-third goes to the celebrity; another third to the company and the last third to the celebrity's chosen charity. This has become a popular business model that even A-list stars like Madonna, Tom Cruise and

a number of sports celebrities have come on board.

The autographs can appreciate or depreciate over time. For a time, Princess Diana's signed Christmas cards were worth \$2,000 each. When she died, the value rose to \$14,000. But when the market became saturated of these similar cards, getting an asking price of \$2,000 is already considered lucky.

Furthermore, both buyer and seller should ensure that the certificate of authentication is in order. Autographs are investments and the best way to protect them is to get them authenticated. For instance, a Babe Ruth autograph with has been blessed with authenticity by PSA, JSA or both could get sold at around \$2,900 while an unauthenticated one could only generate \$250 in sales.

Autographs that are easier to come by are cheaper. If a celebrity is known to provide autographs more willingly, it can come with a cheaper price tag. But this is business, and if you believe a signature to be an investment, you must learn how to play with its ups and downs. Good luck in your endeavors in the autograph world.





MEN'S FASHION FOR 2016

By Jane Susaeta

In between London Collections Men, New York Fashion and events in between that showcase men's fashion, it's easy to surmise what trends are likely to dominate for men's fashion this year. There seems to be movement on function and practicality, earthy color tones and relaxed and laid-back fitting.

Slouchy and Roomy

Although skinny jeans were popular among the male population during the past year, the complete opposite is seen to be dominating the fashion scene this year. Baggy trousers, for instance have been quite in the scene now, but they didn't make it to the top simply because too much focus was given on being skinny. But baggy trousers will make quite a comeback and take the fashion scene by storm too.

We'll also see a shift towards roomy body warmers that can go from casual to corporate wear. These body warmers also range from basic to quilted

with pockets. They'll be often worn with zips open and can be layered with a corporate suit, long-sleeved shirt or even a plaid polo.

But that doesn't mean well-tailored suits will go out of style. They never will. But we might see skinny jeans among men becoming less popular this year.

Emphasis on Function

Dressing men up should be a balance of function and style, but if one comes first, it will always be fashion. This is further evidenced by designers who made more focus on the utilitarian aspects of men's wardrobe. Consider the brand Belstaff which used nylon in creating parkas, making them lighter but still warm. We will also see a lot of pockets in men's wardrobe this year, whether it be on casual shirts to formal suit trousers.

If you want to be one step ahead of providing more function to your year-round wardrobe, consider getting a field jacket that works for both warm and cold seasons.

Earth Tones

If Facebook founder Mark Zuckerberg hasn't set the trend yet last year, this year we will definitely see a lot of greys and other earth tones among men's fashion. But apart from grey, there's also going to be a massive shift towards subdued colors that are more specific, say apricot tan, chocolate liquor, sienna brown, mauve mist, vintage indigo and oyster. These colors project classiness, creaminess and being all-around useful for various times of the day and occasion.

During the summer, it is predicted though that colors will take on new bursts, coming in colors of grass turf, limoncello and orange rind.

Cardigans on the Rise

It seemed like men and cardigans don't really go together, at least that's what we've seen these last couple of years. But cardigans promise a kind of warmth that no other piece of clothing can provide and designers are seen to resurrecting the cardigans into new styles for men.

Cardigans provide warmth without being too constricted (unlike most crew neck jumpers) and they could go well for any occasion too. This year, we will see cardigans in impressive patchwork designs and in muted colors. Throw in a cardigan over your day job attire and you're functionally and style-ready to tackle the world on your off-duty hours.



Image by vonora/bigstockphoto.com

Distressed Jeans

As if we've not seen a lot of distressed jeans the last few years, but so you know, you will see a lot more of them this year. And the jeans will feature more distresses, as if they've go through a lot of tears and repairs. Jeans will look like they've been torn and washed for too many times and each tear will become a significant addition to that distressed look. The main point is that your jeans should look it's been used and lived in, not too ripped off to a very extreme point.

Shearlings are Here

Luxurious in look and feel, expect shearlings to become an important part of men's wardrobe during autumn and winter seasons. Shearling coats are made of processed sheepskin which provides a uniform look and feel. Authentic shearlings are expensive, but you'll find alternative options in faux shearlings which are at a fraction of the cost.

Socks and Sandals Go Together

If you like to channel your touristy

vibe, then you have license to wears socks and sandals together in summer this year. Forget the plastic strapped poolside sandals though and think of a more luxurious version. Think of soft leather sandals paired with cotton socks that are color-coordinated.

Suede Jackets

Suede jackets have become more popular last year, and they will continue to be so this year, even during the summer. Suede jackets are stylish for day in, day out events, whether you're attending your child's PTA or going to get some beers with the dudes at night.

Male Fashion Blunders for 2016

After knowing what's in for men's fashion this year, here are a couple of things you need to avoid and prevent being incriminated of fashion blunders.

- Folds are out. Folding the bottom of the pants was once fashionable, especially if you're going sockless with sneakers or loafers to go with them. This year they'll go out of style so set-

tle with a comfortable pair jeans and trousers that needs no folding.

- Belt hiding. The no-belt look will become passé this year and investing in a simple and versatile belt is a must. You need to show it too. Settle for a black or brown belt without the flashy buckles and use it in such a way that it indeed holds the pants to your waist.

- Say no to embroidery. With the trend going towards laid-back, functionality and simple this year, the embroidered look is simply a fashion blunder. It looks too loud and colorful. Opt for something more subdued and muted and one that will showcase the proportions of your body.

If you haven't stocked your wardrobe with new clothes yet, you still have the chance to re-think your options and look stylish this year. Thankfully, the trends seem to gravitate for the effortless look without putting in a lot of thought; clothes in subdued colors so they can carry you anytime of the day and emphasis on functionality.



MEET

Ashley Charlotte

Photography by Rick Trottier







What got you into modeling and what do you like most about it?

My cousin Hillary got me into modeling. She had shot with Rick several times and convinced me I should give it a try. I loved it and I like getting my hair and makeup done. It's a lot of fun.

What is your favorite food and drink and when would you most want to enjoy them?

My favorite food is steak with a side of bbq ribs and my favorite drink is anything with coconut. I would love to enjoy this meal on a Disney resort beach.

What's your favorite type of music? What can we learn about you from this interest?

I love 90's and early 2000s Pop!! I think that says that I have a lot of energy and am a lot of fun to be around.

What would be your favorite travel location be if you could choose anywhere to go?

I want to go to Australia someday. There is so much to see. It has beaches, beautiful cities, deserts, the Outback and all kinds of amazing animals.





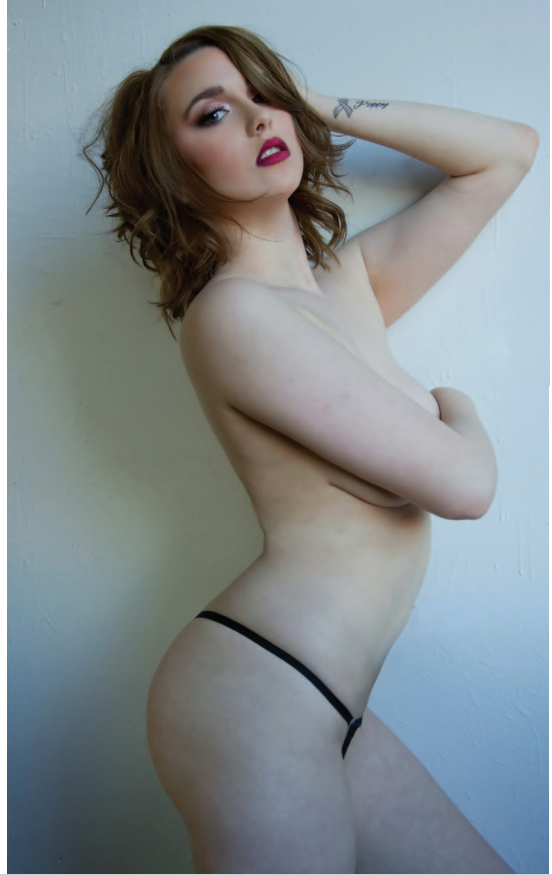


What are your favorite hobbies and/or sports?

Like most girls, I love to go shopping, but I also like wrestling. It's a lot of excitement and you never know what expect.

What make you laugh most in life?

People me laugh a lot. I like making strange videos with my friends, being silly and unpredictable and just having a good time.



If you had your choice what is your dream car?

I would get a Dodge Challenger. I like BIG, fast, strong but sexy cars.

What is the sexiest outfit you would wear out in public? Why is that sexy in your opinion?

I would wear a fun colored V-neck shirt with cute booty shorts, sandals and sunglasses. I like the idea of being fun, flirty, girly but also being me. I don't like being like everyone else.

What is the most daring concept you'd most want to shoot someday?

I pretty much am up for anything. I am adventurous and spontaneous.





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REO SPEEDWAGON: SPEEDING BACK TO THE TOP

Who has led a more rock and roll life than the band REO Speedwagon? They dressed the part with the requisite big hair and walked the path trodden many times before by bands that started out in a small town, gained moderate success and then faded from the limelight. So what makes this band different? After many decades, they are still at it – they are still living the rock and roll life.

What's In a Name?

REO Speedwagon named the band after a friend's vehicle (a Chevy REO Oldsmobile station wagon) that they borrowed for free to haul their musical equipment between gigs. An REO Speedwagon is actually a flat bed truck and a fire truck manufactured by the REO (pronounced rio) Motor Company. The owner of the company, Mr. Ransom Eli Olds (hence R.E.O.), was the founder of the Oldsmobile and

was the first to employ the use of the assembly line in the vehicle production industry. Speedwagon, the vehicle, was known for its durability – a trait that the Midwest band also took to heart.

Beginnings

The band was formed in 1967 by Neal Doughty and Alan Gratzner while they were still studying at the University of Illinois in Champaign-Urbana. Their initial line up consisted of Doughty on keyboards, Gratzner on drums, Mike Blair on bass and Joe Matt on guitars. Everybody did their share with the vocals with the exception of Doughty. They became a hit in the local campus bar scene singing cover versions and in time, they began to inject some of their original music into their set. Fortunately, these were well received by their growing Midwest audience and it only fuelled the band's hunger for bigger and brighter success in the music industry. Even as early as this time, the band took exceptional liking to performing live where they were able to express their music directly to their fans. They often found themselves

on the road and thereby effectively expanding their fan base.

However, there were signs of restlessness and numerous changes in the band line up caused some degree of instability in the group. By the spring of 1968, Terry Lutrell took the reins as lead vocalist, Bob Crownover took the place of Joe Matt on guitars and Gregg Philbin replaced Mike Blair on bass. Joe McCabe played the saxophone for a brief period of time and eventually left when he switched to a different school, Southern Illinois University.

By the summer of 1969 up to the end of that year, the role of guitarist was filled in by Bill Fiorio. Afterwards, Steve Scorfina assumed the guitarist position after Fiorio left to pursue musical success with a different band and under a different name. Come the end of 1970, Gary Richrath replaced Scorfina and some kind of settling down occurred as the band soared to greater heights. This increase in popularity may be attributed to the arrival of Richrath who, along with his prodigious guitar playing skills, also brought with him his numerous original compositions-

one of which was the Speedwagon staple hit "Ridin' The Storm Out".

And We're Off

In 1971, they were signed by Epic Records and their line up at the time composed of Luttrell on vocals, Dougherty on keyboards, Richrath on guitars, Gratzner on drums and Philbin on bass. They came out with a self titled debut album REO Speedwagon which was met with a lukewarm reception. The following decade saw the band put forth one album per year leaving without a doubt in anyone's mind that REO Speedwagon is indeed serious in its pursuit of the good old rock and roll vibe.

The year 1972 saw the release of the sophomore album from the band entitled R.E.O./T.W.O. however this time with a new lead vocalist. Kevin Cronin replaced Terry Luttrell who left during the early part of the year to front another band. Cronin penned three songs but this album, just like its predecessor, did not exactly rev up the charts. Musical differences during the production of the third album caused estrangement and again the vocalist position was left open. Mike Murphy stepped in and performed on the Ridin' The Storm Out album which caused a flicker on the chart list when it hit the 174th spot. This quiver became a quake in 1974 as the rock chart was once again hit by REO Speedwagon, this time with their work Lost In A Dream at the 98th spot. Things within the band were also escalating as Murphy worked out creative differences with the group. After finishing their 1975 album This Time We Mean It, Murphy finally left REO Speedwagon. Kevin Cronin once again took up the microphone and introduced two new songs – one of which was a departure from their usual sound but was a precursor to the type of songs that will propel them later to the top of the charts – power ballads.

After 1976's release of the album R.E.O., the band decided that a live album was a great idea. They have always taken pride in their live shows and they felt that they needed to capture the magic in those shows and set them on vinyl. They also felt that it was up to the band to produce such an album and proposed to the record label management as such. Their label



agreed and thus was born the double album Live: You Get What You Play For in 1977.

The live album was met with great success and this afforded Cronin and Richrath to have more control over the next album entitled You CanTune A Piano, But You Can't Tuna Fish. This album (nicknamed the Tuna album) was definitive because it allowed the band to get out of the stereotypical rock genre and infuse a "Beatlesque" flavor to their melodies especially with the arrival of their new bass guitarist Bruce Hall (replacing Gregg Philbin). So much of their personal selves went into the production of the Tuna album that they could not help but have high expectations from it. The album did extremely well. In fact, it went double platinum and even made it to the number 29 spot of the charts. However, despite this success, Cronin still felt a bit let down by the album and claimed that he lost the inspiration to forge on ahead.

The band members found themselves suffering from the effects of a more demanding schedule brought about by their new found popularity. The apparent disappointment over their last album plus the growing tensions in their personal lives brought the group

to a new level of emotions. The hustle and bustle of constant touring as well as the other activities that are part and parcel of a rising rock band's obligations caused extreme emotions that sought release in the creation of songs that were powerfully visceral. These songs found their way into the 1981 album entitled "Hi Infidelity". For the first time, REO Speedwagon allowed itself to take on slower but not necessarily softer songs. These were songs that contained so much emotion that it was palpable not only in the lyrics of the song, but also in the way it was sung and in the crescendos of the musical accompaniment. It was called the power ballad. Hi Infidelity had such a song – "Keep On Loving You" – and it became the first number one single for the band and the album went all the way up to number one on the charts. It sold over nine million copies worldwide and became the rock album of the year for 1981. It also spawned three other chart toppers – Take It On The Run, Don't Let Him Go and In Your Letter (hitting chart spots 5, 24 and 20, respectively).

The success of Hi Infidelity brought about worldwide fame but it also brought forth a number of criticisms. Some accused the band of becoming sell outs by deviating from hard rock and going mainstream (with ballads to boot!) while other critics dismissed the band as a "one hit wonder". Eager to prove them wrong, the band put out "Good Trouble" in 1982 (which landed in the number 7 spot in the charts) and "Best Foot Forward" and "Wheels Are Turnin'" in 1985 (another number 7 charter). "Can't Fight This Feeling", another power ballad off the Wheels Are Turnin' album, gave them their second number one hit single and maximum exposure in the airwaves.

Come 1987's Life As We Know It album, the popularity of the band seemed to take on a downward turn. Although the album still made it to the charts (hitting the number 28 spot), the inevitable deceleration occurred. Another round of personnel changes happened and Alan Gratzner retired and was replaced by Graham Lear while Gary Richrath left the group due to an impasse with Cronin regarding the "musical direction" of the band. Miles Joseph temporarily filled in and was later replaced by Dave Amato.



The End...or is it?

The 90s were a struggle for the band REO Speedwagon. Their record company tried to counter the low sales of their last album *The Earth, A Small Man, His Dog and a Chicken* by re-issuing several previous LPs as well as by coming out with compilations and greatest hits albums. This move, if anything, allowed the band to maintain its presence on the record shelves and subsequently at the back of the mind of the people. The decade also brought about major changes to the band.

While there was another ongoing shuffle in the band's line up with Graham Lear leaving and being replaced by Bryan Hitt, there was also the matter of record label changes. REO Speedwagon lost their contract with Epic Records, got picked up by the Priority/Rhythm Safari label, and later by Castle Records (after Priority went bankrupt). Unfortunately, Castle records also suffered financially thereby making REO Speedwagon decide to produce their own records independently. Despite a good line up (Cronin, Amato, Hall, Doughty and Hitt) and an occasional hit single every now and then (such as *In My Dreams* that reached number 19 in the US charts), the band has since failed to regain the success that they enjoyed in the late 70s and early 80s.

Resurgence

The 90s may have been unkind to REO Speedwagon but the new millennium gave the band a chance to make a comeback via a concept called "co-headlining tours". Slowly easing their

way back to the scene, REO Speedwagon got together with Styx, another successful rock band from the 70s and 80s, and held a concert in the spring of 2000 at the Riverport Amphitheater in St. Louis, Missouri. The nostalgic concert proved to be very successful and it was recorded and released in DVD format entitled "Arch Allies: Live at Riverport". REO Speedwagon's portion of the concert was also released in a separate DVD and sold in three formats and enjoyed a strong following as it reached gold status. It even propelled the once hailed "arena rock kings" back to the limelight via radio shows as well as TV shows such as VH1. Other bands doing the co-headlining route are Journey, Fleetwood Mac, Pat Benatar, Foreigner and Bad Company among others.

Three years after, REO Speedwagon enjoyed another team up with Styx and Journey for Classic Rock's Main Event concert that pitted all the three rock and roll giants side by side. Around this time, REO Speedwagon entertained the idea of coming out with a new album, this time from a more mature and thoughtful perspective. The band members sat down and shared their views on their experience as a band, they stripped down their thoughts, listened to and incorporated everybody's input and then tried to translate everything to music. This was the germinating period of the seeds of what was to be their latest album *Find Your Way Home*.

By 2007, REO Speedwagon had enough material to record their first

studio album in over a decade. The album was named *Find Your Way Home* and home it did find with two songs making it to Billboard's Adult Contemporary chart. The production of this album brought about a catharsis for the band members as well as an opportunity to bond even further. This time, the boys really have found their way home.

In 2008, REO Speedwagon saw themselves on the road again this time joining Def Leppard on their tour to promote their new album. Joining them also is the band Styx.

This year, the band got together with Styx to record a song entitled "Can't Stop Rockin'" and in support of the new song, REO Speedwagon and Styx (and special guests) toured the different states in the US. Currently, they are on their second leg of the tour with Night Ranger.

Looking through their musical history, success did not come to REO Speedwagon laid out on a silver platter – in fact, the road to the top proved to be long and arduous. With the band churning out a significant number of records year after year for almost four decades, leaning back and taking it easy were never part of the band's mantra. Tenacity, though, is. It must be said that although this band has gone through a multitude of personnel changes, they have never given up on the dream to succeed again in the very fickle world of the music industry. Despite having their start almost five decades ago, the members of REO Speedwagon still have the drive, their exceptional musical abilities and their fabulous music to see them through the new millennia.

The Future

REO Speedwagon's song entitled "Blazin' Your Own Trail Again" from their well-regarded album *You Can Tune A Piano But You Can't Tuna Fish* seems to possess the appropriate words to describe the band's indefatigable present situation:

Sooner or later you will find a way
To feel like sunshine even on a cloudy day

To feel like morning in the dead of night
Sooner or later it's gonna be all right.
Now don't go thinking your life's a mess
Rather start thinkin' in terms of happiness

And it's gonna happen



Image by cwoloss/bigstockphoto.com

Just decide where you're goin'
Get out in the open

And start blazin' your own trail again
With over 40 million records sold worldwide and 13 Top 40 Hits, REO Speedwagon does not need to prove anything else. They have shown that they have the mettle to make it in the music business. Almost, but not quite legends, their tenacity and adaptability to the modern music scene just might be the push that they need to secure a spot again in the music charts and who knows, maybe even in the rock and roll hall of fame.

Odds and Ends

Whatever may be said of REO Speedwagon's number one hit, *Can't Fight This Feeling*, nobody can deny its popularity. It is amazing that in more than two decades after its release, this song is still part of our lives and is still being included in the soundtrack of contemporary movies such as *Not Another Teen Movie* and *Horton Hears A Who*.

REO Speedwagon participated in the Live Aid benefit concert dated July 13, 1985 and rendered two of their original compositions namely, *Can't Fight This Feeling* and *Roll With The Changes*. What made the moment more special was the participation of the members of their own family, the Beach Boys, and Paul Shaffer as back up vocalists. Current members Dave Amato (guitars) and Bryan Hitt (drums) came from illustrious bands Ted Nugent and Wang Chung respectively.

REO Speedwagon and Styx's collaborative effort entitled "*Can't Stop Rockin'*" is featured in the popular game *Wii Rock Band* along with three other original songs namely, *Ridin' The Storm Out*, *Roll With The Changes* and *Take It On The Run*. This is part of a collection of tracks from different bands derived from back catalogs that form part of the highly successful music video game *Rock Band*. This game is produced by Harmonix Music Systems and it allows the players to "play" an instrument (guitar, bass or drums) and even sing as if they were part of the actual performance itself. The inclusion of REO Speedwagon's songs in the roster of hit rock melodies of this game just goes to show that their music is of a certain standard and is obviously timeless as it piques the interest even of the present generation.

For Christmas of 2009, REO Speedwagon released their first ever Christmas album called *Not So Silent Night... Christmas with REO Speedwagon* which is a compilation of thirteen well-loved Christmas tunes (such as *The First Noel*, *God Rest Ye Merry Gentlemen* and *Little Drummer Boy*) as well as obscure ones given that distinct REO sound. A faithful rendition of John Lennon's "*Happy X'mas (War Is Over)*" is also included and all the proceeds from this track will go to the John Lennon Foundation. To support the release of this Christmas album, the band will be participating in NBC's "*Holiday Celebration On Ice*" special where skating stars will be performing

to their music. This show will be aired on Thanksgiving Sunday.

In 2015 Gary Dean Richrath best known as the lead guitarist and a songwriter for REO Speedwagon from 1970 until 1989 passed away. Richrath wrote many of the REO's songs including "*Golden Country*" from 1972, *Ridin' the Storm Out* (1973), "*Son of a Poor Man*" (1973), "*Flying Turkey Trot*" (1976), "*Only the Strong Survive*" (1979) and "*Take It On the Run*" from 1981.[2] In 1977, he and other members of the band took over production, which resulted in the band's first platinum album.

Discography

REO Speedwagon (1971)
R.E.O./T.W.O. (1972)
Ridin' The Storm Out (1973)
Lost In A Dream (1974)
This Time We Mean It (1975)
R.E.O (1976)
Live: You Get What You Play For (1977) Live Album
You Can Tune A Piano, But You Can't Tuna Fish (1978)
Nine Lives (1979)
A Decade of Rock 'n' Roll (1980) Compilation Album
Hi Infidelity (1980)
Good Trouble (1982)
Wheels Are Turnin' (1984)
Best Foot Forward (1985) Compilation Album
Life As We know It (1987)
The Hits (1988) Compilation Album
The Earth, A Small Man, His Dog And A Chicken (1990)
The Second Decade of Rock and Roll (1991) Compilation Album
Keep On Loving You (1991) Compilation Album
Star Box (1993) Compilation Album
Believe In Rock And Roll (1995) Compilation Album
Building The Bridge (1996)
The Ballads (1999) Compilation Album
Arch Allies - Live At Riverport (2000) Live Album
Plus (2001) Live Album
The Essential REO Speedwagon (2004) Compilation Album
Hi Infidelity Then Again...Live (2006) Live Album
Find Your Own Way Home (2007)
Not So Silent Night...Christmas with REO Speedwagon (2009) Compilation Album

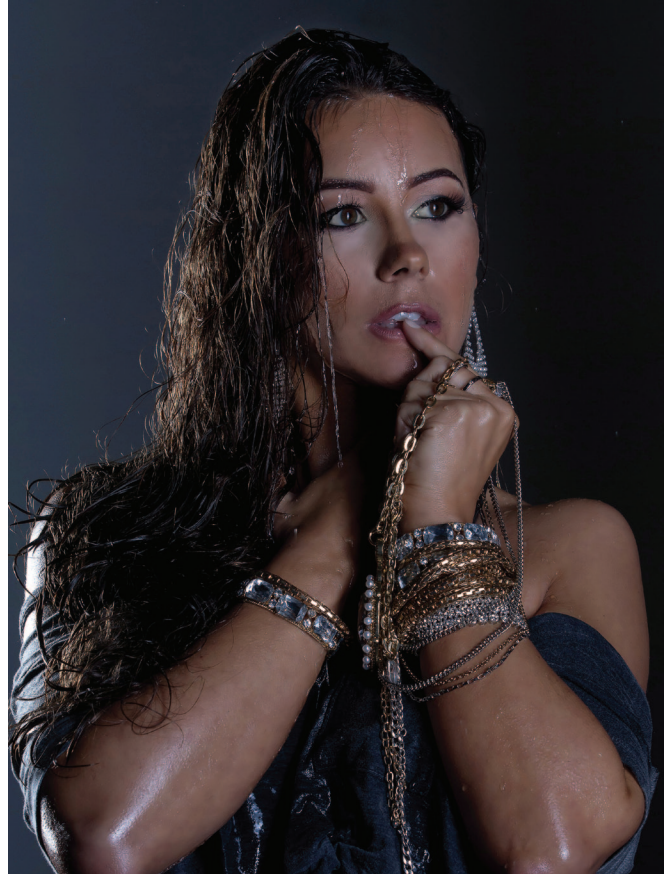


SAY HELLO TO

Nina Joseph

Photography by Rick Trottier
Makeup and Hair Design of Sarah Desmarais





Nina Joseph
“The Delight in Synergy”
Written by Rick Trottier

I have often stated that I believe that creativity resides in spiritual aquifers deep within our essence and like water, those reservoirs must be replenished on a fairly regular basis. Unlike water, which depends on a natural cycle of a substance changing its state, creativity is restored in many ways, most of which require persons engaging in activities that ignite passion, exhilaration and joy. Too often though, people tend to think of the restorative process of creative energies as something that they must do alone, without the presence or aid of others. Certainly the path of solitude has its advantages, but it is not the only way to a higher plane of innovation and inspiration. One of the most successful ways to become re-energized and find that spark once more is through synergistic professional relationships. And one of the most rewarding, exciting and delightful of all the artistic associations I have experienced is the one I share with Nina Joseph.

Nina does precisely what I wish each and every model could do each and every time we shoot. First, she plans out the kinds of concepts she most wants to achieve, not copying any type of look, but finding inspiration in beauty and arriving at satori through contemplation. Her ideas and plans are always ones that I find compelling, work beautifully with my own artistic style and philosophy and challenge me to be a better photographer without fail. It is such a pleasure to meet someone halfway in the creative process and have ideas come together in such a manner







Nina Joseph

Interview and Feature

that they take flight like two intertwined birds. Few things are more electrifying than that. In addition, Nina has come to appreciate and value the talents of my HMUA Sarah Desmarais and the addition of a third partner in this exchange makes the triangle complete and brings balance to all we seek to achieve. There is a mutual respect and affection between Sarah and Nina, each very different in how they see our Industry, but finding fabulously interesting common ground, making each experience that much more stimulating. To see colleagues work together so well and with such elation is one of the most fulfilling of professional experiences.

Beyond being stunning, sexy, beautiful and mesmeric in the physical sense, it is Nina's depth of intellect and spirit that makes her even more sensational as a creative partner, helping to fuel so much of what can and should be accomplished when shooting content for publications. For feature and article content must meet the criterion of being "magazine-worthy", but it must also satisfy the needs of the artistic soul and not be simple sexy fodder for the pages of Men's Magazines. Nina is so much more than that, so much better than that and it is her desire to reach inside and show the world a face, figure and spirit that lives life to the fullest that makes her such a synergistic delight and an inspiration to those who would follow her creative lead to better things.







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Brittany Taylor

Photography by Rick Trottier







**In Praise of an Adventurous Spirit
Brittany Taylor
Written by Rick Trottier – RJT Images**

A great deal of lip service is given to “wanting to stand out” and “being different”, but it takes a lot more than just wearing a different color bra to a shoot or heels that are a little out of the ordinary. Truly standing out from the crowd requires a courage that isn’t commonplace anymore, because most people don’t have the slightest notion what courage is. They are well-acquainted with empty bravado, but not true fearlessness. To achieve success and truly rise above the herd, a model must be willing grow from her strengths, address weaknesses and truly progress. She must be willing to be a part of the creative process, trying new genres in modeling and letting her personality show in her artistic choices. A model must make bold decisions about content, knowing the responses from family and friends will likely run the gamut from shocked to incensed. A model has to be willing to accept what her fans love about her looks (in both face and figure) and work within that context, experimenting with her appeal to keep her look fresh and exciting. Being a model is ever easy, but being a model that commands that perfect blend of attention for her enticing sensuality and respect for her willingness to be her own woman is an almost Herculean task.

Brittany Taylor is just such a model and person.

And it isn’t just because Brittany is playful about her use of color in her hair or is daring in her application in styles of makeup. Certainly both are fabulous qualities. And her willingness to embrace her bewildering curves also is a wondrous and pleasing characteristic too. Brittany definitely puts the “Kaboom” in the tired and excessively used term “Blonde Bombshell”. Brittany’s exuberant and eclectic personality shines through in her many selections for modeling looks. She always chooses attire that is something other than the usual fare I see hanging on the racks in my studio, but she will also intrepidly pose nude, captivating the camera with her loveliness and daring. Brittany can look as breathtaking as the classic glamor girl but as riveting as the alternative model whose facets are all turned up to full power. Whether it’s a soft and fuzzy sweater nearly pulled off or leather bondage gear, Brittany is open-minded, eager to brave new trails and an inspiration in the studio with her energy and charm, all of which translate into images that are unlike anyone else’s, something for which I am inordinately thankful and proud.

Like most people today with a small business, I spend a fair amount of time marketing it on Social Media. And what I see on Instagram and Facebook often sickens me when it comes to the lack of originality and the tendency to ape the ideas of others. As I have stated in many an article, a little gentle emulation has benefit, but outright copying is simply pathetic in the extreme. With someone like Brittany as part of my studio, I am so very fortunate to have a creative soul and energetic essence who wants to break out of the usual mold and try different styles and looks. It benefits us as artistic partners and business associates, but more than anything it lends a spark to the spirit that makes each and every experience that much brighter. Such people always need their praises sung and in this feature, I wanted to make certain that such a tribute was as honest, forthright and sincere as I could make it.

Thank you Brittany for being that Adventurous Young Lady who adds so very much to my studio.















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A Celebration of Life

Written by Rick Trotter – RJT Images

Maternity Imagery is a joyous occasion in so many ways. Mothers-to-be are happy, filled with excitement and anticipatory glee at the arrival of a newborn. Taking pictures of a woman who is all smiles, filled with enthusiasm and is less self-conscious about her “condition” makes the shoot far less stressful and a great deal more delightful. A palpable sense of hope is brought into being by the knowledge that a new life is joining the Family of Man, as well as that mother’s immediate family circle. Every newborn child is potential incarnate, with an unlimited chance to be something special and a wonderful addition to the community of the human race. Whether the mother is married, living with someone or a single mother, that sense of family is still tangible, a delight in the commit-

ment to fostering happiness, success and love in a new life. It is impossible not to be caught up in the wonder of such a moment, and for that reason, I deeply enjoy the chance to shoot maternity images. But my most recent pair of maternity sessions brought a whole new level of joy to the process, a sharing of experience that is everything my studio has and always will stand for.

When I was a teacher, one of the books I loved to use in Reading Class was Katherine Patterson’s “The Great Gilly Hopkins”, for it explored fascinating characters, powerful actions and emotions and one of the most important themes I’ve ever come across in Children’s Literature. An enormous amount of lip-service is given to the concept of “The Family”, especially by those who preach “Family Values” and so often do not even come close

to living up to the talk they let fall from their sugary sweet and grotesquely glib mouths. But in “The Great Gilly Hopkins” a wonderful theme is established exploring the idea that “Family” is not just about blood, it is about Love! The main characters of that marvelous tale develop powerful and positive attachments far more impressive than what is often seen in blood-related “families”. And it is that Family Atmosphere that I see flourish and blossom from shared experiences like maternity shoots.

Pregnancy is just as much a challenging and trying time as it is a wonderful thing. Ask any woman who has gone through it and most have just as many righteous complaints as they do pleasant or joyful memories. And women often will lend each other strength, advice, support and caring as a result of this unique shared experience. While I often decry the miserable qualities of

Social Media, when it is at its very best, some wonderful residual outcomes arise from that manner of contact. Hillary and Elaine, who live hours apart, formed a strong bond through Facebook, built first upon the foundation of their modeling experience through my studio, but then constructed in an even more glorious and wonderful style and scope by their recent pregnancies, Hillary's second and Elaine's first. I meticulously encourage models to establish relationships through my studio, to lend experience and support in such a way that they can navigate waters that are not always calm in this Industry. But watching friendships grow even brighter, based



on stronger bonds found through life-affirming experiences like maternity and motherhood is as wonderful as it gets. For a man who has spent a lifetime trying to educate people cognitively and affectively, through both my classroom and my studio, such moments reinforce all my efforts to build an ethical, caring and serious professional studio. Irreplaceable instances like this remind me what my mission is and always must be and lead me away from all the foolishness I see in the popularity contest of imagery on Social Media.

I imagine that both Hillary and Elaine's "families" will be even more connected, broadening the range of their humanity and making the world their children are born into a warmer, better place. In today's world where emotional and personal distance is deepened by our reliance on media and technology, the kinds of ties formed that link people

spiritually help us to overcome our decline as a people brought on by ease, affluence and spiritual inertia. Americans like to celebrate diversity more than ever these days, but when it comes right down to it, we are ALL part of the Family of Man, one species of animals whose complexity of intellect and ability to communicate sets us apart from the rest of the Animal Kingdom and "binds us with mighty chords that only omnipotence can break". Each and every time a familial branch is extended, interweaving with others around it, that connection must be fostered and tended to help it flower and bear fruit. Such things make us stronger as a people and keep us from walking that much further on the road leading to The Abyss.

Congratulations to both Hillary and Elaine on the new additions to each of your lives and the wider sense of Family you are nurturing and celebrating.



LOVE FOR SUGAR!



Most of the people out there love sweets. They consume them daily and often try to avoid them, to not gain extra weight. But even by performing a large amount of effort to not consume as much sugar, our body craves it even more. The question is: Why?

Studies have shown that sugar, like drugs, can become addictive. Sugar offers little to no nutrients and extra calories that lead to weight gain and its associated to health problems. Sugar also causes heart disease, tooth decay, weakened immunity and various other conditions. So, if it can cause so many problems why do we keep adding it to our lives? The answer is simple. When

we eat food high in sugar, a substance called dopamine is released in the brain area. After eating food high in sugar these receptors start to down-regulate. That means that the next time we eat these foods, the effects of the dopamine receptors will be blunt and so we will need more of these foods to activate them. Sugar also raises the blood pressure, which means if you suffer a coronary disease it would be better if you don't consume a lot of it.

But sugar can't be all that bad, right? I mean it can't be because it's so delicious! So what good comes out of consuming sugar? First of all, sugar is the main source of energy for our bodies. That also means that sugar gives us

calories that have to be controlled so that we do not gain weight. Sugar can help you raise your blood pressure. That means that if you feel like fainting or you already have fainted, if you receive sugar then you will instantly feel better. Sugar can also help you feel better when you feel depressed, since it makes you feel high as soon as you consume it. Be careful though not to consume too much of it and become addicted. In sugar we can find a substance called glycolic acid that helps maintain a healthy look to your skin, by restoring the balance of the skin's oil and also by eliminating blemishes. Sugar is also considered to be a biological product since it is created from natural resources.

As the ancient Greeks used to say "All in good measure," which means too much of something is not good just as too little of something isn't good either. So consuming sugar isn't that bad after all and can help you gain energy and actually helps you remain healthy. But how much sugar are we supposed to consume in one day?

According to the American Heart Association (AHA) the maximum amount of sugar that we should consume every day is 150 calories for men (that equals to 37.5 grams or 9 teaspoons) and 100 calories for women (that means 25 grams or 6 teaspoons).

So it seems that sugar isn't all that bad if you just are aware of how much of it you consume a day. Contrariwise sugar can help you remain healthy, give you temporary energy and keep your skin conditioned.



YIPPEE!!! I'M GOING TO PRODUCE SOME MIND-BLOWING MOVIES IN THE COMING MONTHS

CHECK OUT THE TITLES AND CHARACTERS INVOLVED

1. Act like a madman. I have never had a second thought as to who to be the major character in this movie. He is no other person than Kanye West. Having him act as a mad man will be so easy for me because he has the potential in him. You can see that from the torn clothes he put on in the name of fashion.

2. If I had known. This movie would be about two superstars who got involved in a fierce battle of words. One of them received more than he bargained for. Of course these two characters must be no other persons than 50 cent and meek mill.

3. How is the mighty falling? This will be about the oil producing nations that solely depend on oil and the effect of the free fall of oil price in the international market on them. These countries will be the ones begging nations to buy their products if not there will be submerging of nations due to economy collapse.

4. Beef up security. This movie will focus on the impact of terrorism in this present day world. It will be fun to watch this movie. You will see where workers are trekking a 4KM journey just to get to their working place. Why? The rate which these terrorist are bombing buses and cars may compel men to start doing compulsory exercise by avoiding vehicles.

5. His fart always leaves me confused. This will be a high school movie. There is this fat dude that farts in class on daily basis; the smell emanating from it is strong enough to change your thought. A biology teacher entered their class to teach them but at the release of the atomic bomb, the teacher found himself teaching Mathematics.

6. What a Christmas. This is about a

single parent that is so poor that he could not afford buying clothes and gifts for his children on Christmas' day. To save him from embarrassment, on the 23rd of December, he prepared a meal for his children and added some sleeping drugs to it. When the children woke up after eating the meal, it was on the 2nd of January the following year. They missed both the Christmas and New Year celebrations. They never forgave their parents. This single parent will be Eddie Murphy.

dog and his clothes were torn to the extent that his ass was left exposed. He ended up missing out of that special day he had dreamed of.

8. I am the president. This is a comedy movie to look out for. This movie is about a critic of the government who always counters the plans of the government. He believes the country was poorly ruled and wished he could become the president. Luckily for him, his dream became a reality and he was asked to rule just for one month. In his



7. Going out for a date. The man going out for this special date is no other person than Mr Bin. He was lucky enough to convince a lady he has been admiring a long time ago into going out with him. On their way out, with his entire swagger, he was attacked by a stray

first week in power, all his hair on his head turned from black to grey. In the second week, he was admitted for over stress and in third week, they never saw him in office again. He ran!!!!!!!. I give this role to Martin Laurence.

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