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"Tip the world over on its side and everything loose will land in Los Angeles." - FRANK LLOYD WRIGHT





ULTRAVELVET COLLECTION

PHOTOS BY ERIC ASTON & MEREDITH ROSE

"LA was where The Ultravelvet Collection was born and inspired. We sought to create a collection of art that was a reflection of just how colorful, eclectic, energetic, and sensual this town can be. Saturated with bright reds, blues, oranges, pinks, purples, and yellows, we wanted The Ultravelvet Experience to be like opening a box of candy filled with the perfect mix of what Los Angeles is and has to offer."





HOLDING HEAVEN SMOKE & MIRRORS

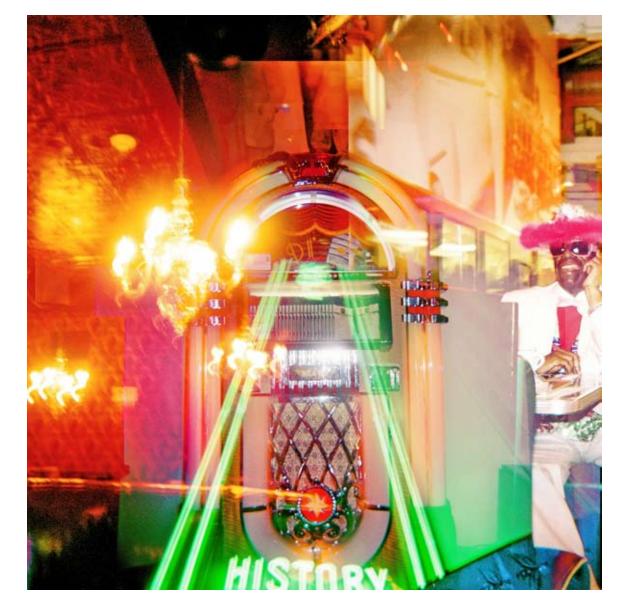


LOCOMOTIVE BREATH

GOLDEN GENERATION





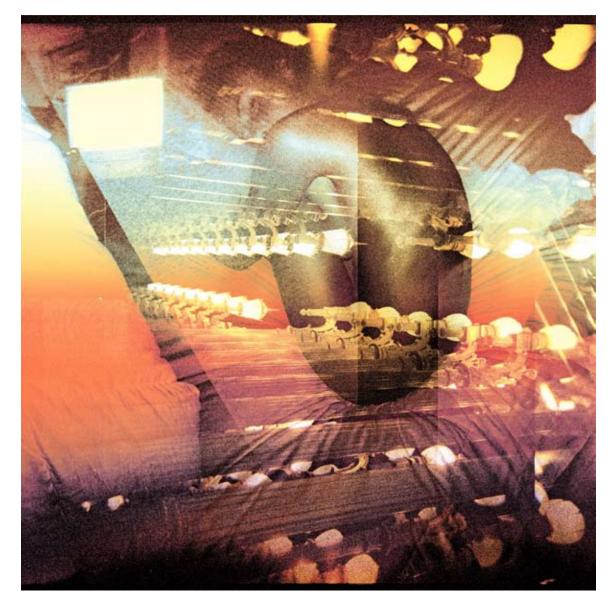


SHAGADELIC JACK





GIRL CRUSH SPANK ROCK



ELECTRONIC LADYLAND

M.I.A.



PLUSH LEATHER INTERIOR HOTEL COAST



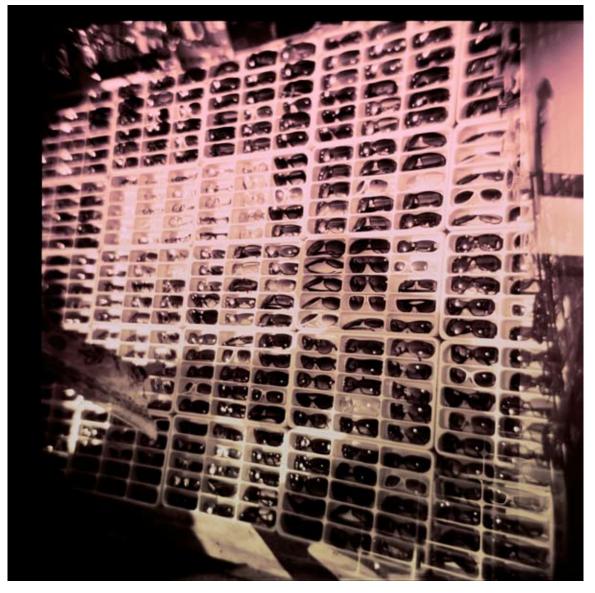


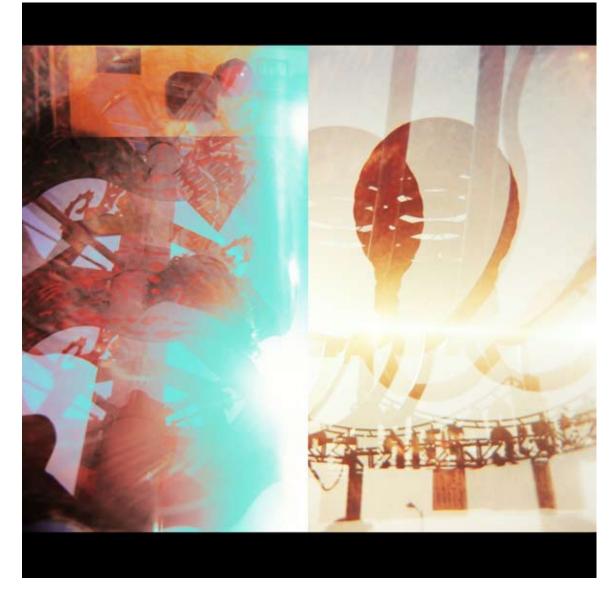
ONE WAY LOVE AND LOSS





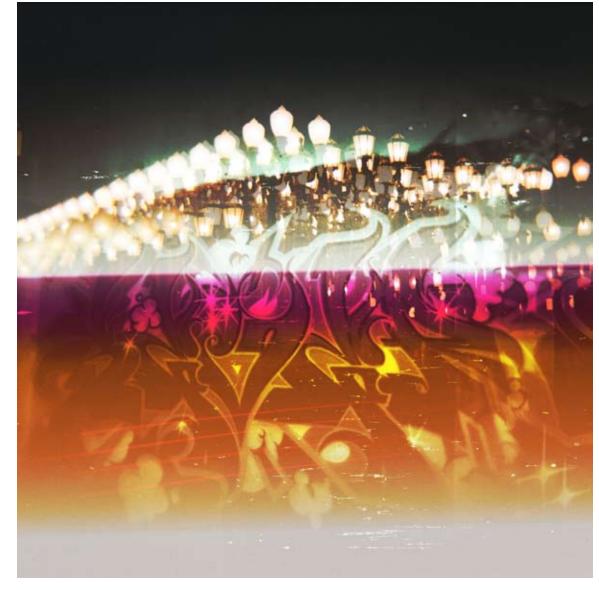
CITRUS BINGE AGENT ORANGE CRUSH





PINK LEMONADE PEPPERMINT NUCLEAR





MICHAEL JACKSON ADRENACHROME





GALILEO PINK CHATEAU



HASSAN RAHIM designer/flaunt

"I was once walking down Melrose past Platinum Motorsports to grab a sandwich and saw an Ed-Hardy'd out Armenian dude taking pictures in front of a Rolls Royce Phantom. I proceeded to ask, 'Whoa, is that yours?' He simply smiled at me and said: 'Fake it 'till you make it, bro,' winking behind his Guido wrap-around shades.

Fake it 'till you make it."







SASHA GREY

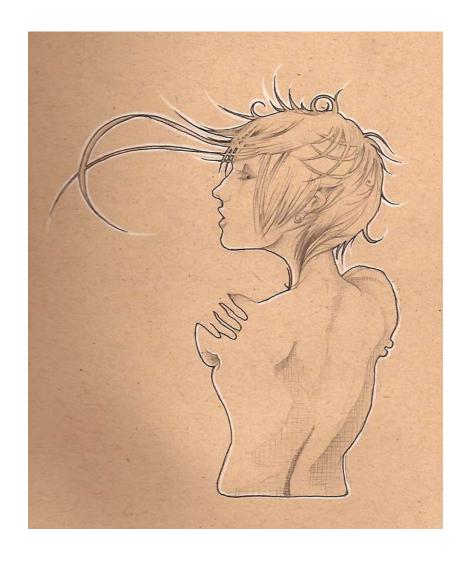
pornstar/model

"L.A L.A, big city of dreams And everything in L.A ain't always what it seems You might get fooled if you come from out of town But I'm down by law and I know my way around

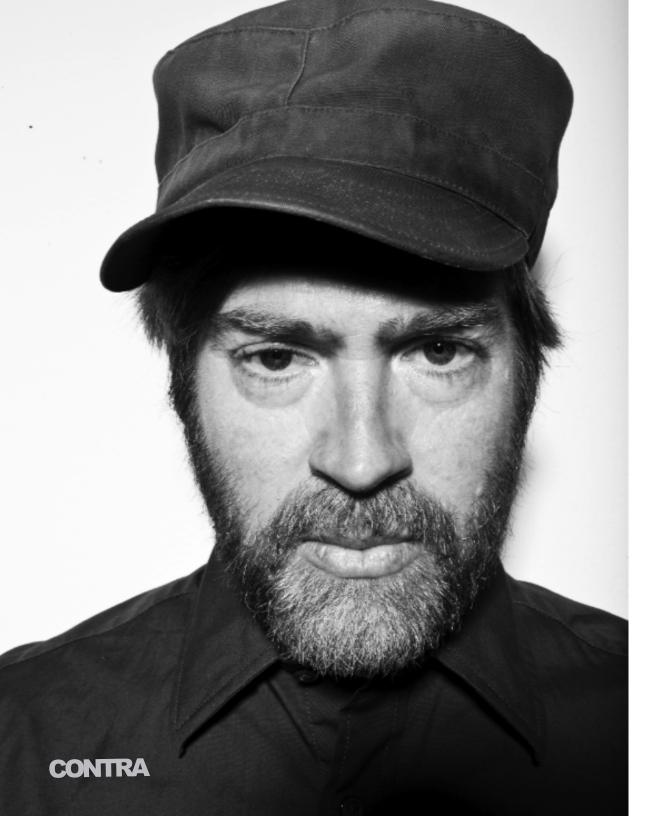
Too much, too many people, too much (aha-ha) Too much, too many people, too much, Raaah!"

HOK dancer/artist

"I was the Asian guy in England, I was the foreigner in Japan. [But] in L.A everything is so jumbled up that I can just not care and be myself. Live your life, you only live once."







PATRICK HOELCK

director/photographer

"Los Angeles is best described by Brett Easton Ellis and Donald Fagen of Steely Dan; "Every time the Santa Ana winds blow, I know I've made the right Decision.""

Photo: Anthony Mandler

MELANIE FIONA singer/songwriter

"When I first left Toronto I went to L.A because that's where my production company was. Put it like this: In the 6 months I've lived in New York, where I am now, I've made more meaningful friendships then I did in the 4 years I lived in L.A. It's a different energy. For me L.A doesn't work.

It's very laid back [...] but when it comes to down time and hanging out with people that I want to hang out with (that is non-work related) it's nearly impossible. In L.A it's all about work. People will associate with you if you can do something for them.

Everybody's trying to do something out there – especially if you're a transplant. If you're from somewhere else [...] you're probably there to follow a dream. So everyone is very focused on themselves to further themselves."

Photo: Ajani Charles







SIGMAR BERG

designer/beryll

"In L.A you can reinvent yourself and ultimately, the world."



Photo: Sasha Grey

IAN PRESTON CINNAMON photographer

"Escape from L.A is not escape from N.Y. I really dig escape from N.Y. I dig N.Y all the way around. L.A is however, the home of a few things I do dig. NWA and Ice T (both pretty important to west coast hip-hop back in the day), Black Flag and X are both great – and from L.A. To live and die in L.A (the film not the song) is no French Connection, but it's still pretty dope. And of course you got the porn industry in L.A. I mean you don't want your porn coming out of motherfucking Poughkeepsie?

I was at a Q&A with filmmaker Mike Leigh once and someone in the crowd asked him 'What do you think of L.A?' Leigh replied: 'it's one big fucking parking lot, I hate it!'"

bboys/supreme soul



'BIONIC'

"Los Angeles is the perfect place to truly hone your skills and fine tune them. Everyone around you is doing the same thing, so it's an extremely inspiring environment to be in. Unfortunately, it can also be quite discouraging because more than likely, there's someone here who is better than you at what you do. People are also incredibly blunt, and many don't take that type of honesty well...especially those who came from other places and are accustomed to atmospheres where people are more sheltered and sugar coat everything.

But, once you learn to take it all as criticism, it is the aspiring entertainer's perfect boot camp. It's one of the greatest places to do what I believe we're all here to do – and that is to become who you are."

'KOOL

"L.A never ceases to surprise me. Just when I think I've got it all figured out, another curve ball catches me off guard. I still have much to learn, and L.A has a lot to teach me, but here's what I've learned so far: Everyone here is hustling, grinding, and hoping they'll get paid to do what they love. This city undergoes ruthless and endless scrutiny because of people's tendency to get lost in all its glory. But what they fail to realize and acknowledge is that the reason that people get so lost in it is because this city breeds talent, and everyone will stop at almost nothing to be a part of it – everybody wants their piece of the pie. That's the beautiful irony of it... the fact that this city and its core industry are so cutthroat and harsh, and yet it emits an undeniable allure and universal appeal that is so mesmerizing people would move mountains to experience it.

L.A is the heart of the industry, its streets are its veins, and the people walking through it are the blood that keep it alive. Welcome to my dream called life. Game."





COTRELL GUIDRY

actor/promoter

"As far as Hollywood goes, I am a beach kid, but there is so much a person like myself can do in L.A I have three different hustles: I promote on Wednesday nights, I buy for a clothing store, and I do some modeling. But my main goal is acting. All my side jobs have linked me up with so many people that I can learn from and bring me closer to my goal. If it doesn't further my acting, then I don't fuck with it.

The best thing to do while being in L.A is to not get sucked into the party scene – it is so easy to do. I was lost for so long but I found my path. I always remember what my mother told me as a child, 'you are classed by the people you hang around with'.

That is the statement I live and breath."

MIKE SOOPS

designer/artist

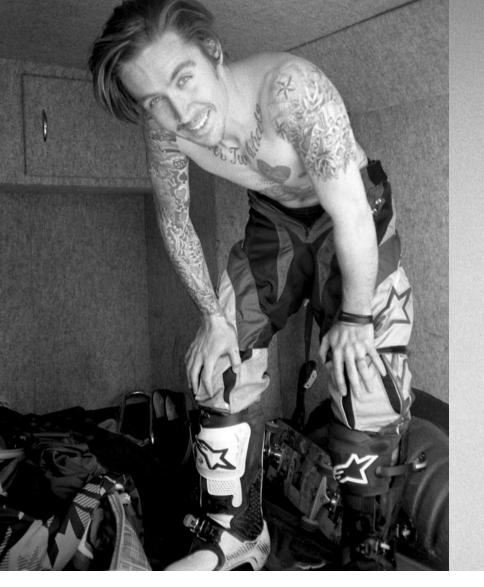
"Everything you've thought or heard about L.A, is true. It's wonderful and it's horrible. It's all about who you know and don't know, what you have and don't have.

L.A is where all your cool inventions and creations are being praised and accomplished, but then being exploited and stolen from you, all at the same time. It's also where all the talented and untalented are being exploited and misguided by the "everyone is expendable" mentality that rules this town.

Being born in Montreal, growing up in Toronto and living in Tokyo, I've somehow gotten myself implanted into this city of angels, surrounded by demons. I hate it and I love it."











DRAKE MCELROY pro motorcross rider

"I like to ride in L.A because if Jesus had a bike he would like to ride here too. And the old oak looks like it could be magic."

SHAUN NEFF

creator/neff headwear

"I love L.A! In L.A it's an instant injection of inspiration as the town is filled with all walks of life and it lets my mind wander into creative places while seeing so many crazy faces. L.A is my creative think tank room. When I get home I can get out of the crazy traffic and chaos and go for a surf in the sunset and chill with my wife and kid. Gotta love my life."





PAOLA MENDOZA

designer/thesmokingsection

"Andy Warhol said once that he loved Los Angeles because 'everyone was plastic'. I guess everyone who feels the same way landed in Hollywood and failed to venture elsewhere. It's easy to get caught up in the limelight, but the city has so much more to offer if you're willing to look. L.A likes to play dirty too and I couldn't imagine calling anywhere else home because Los Angeles owns real estate in my heart."

MIKE DASH E

rapper/producer

"L.A bound to turn my dreams into reality. With music, you're either grinding in the mecca of Hip Hop - New York, or under the bright lights of Hollywood. Being from the Bay Area, L.A is the next big step to creating your legacy. But make sure you know your purpose in this city, because many who chase their dreams, get lost in it."





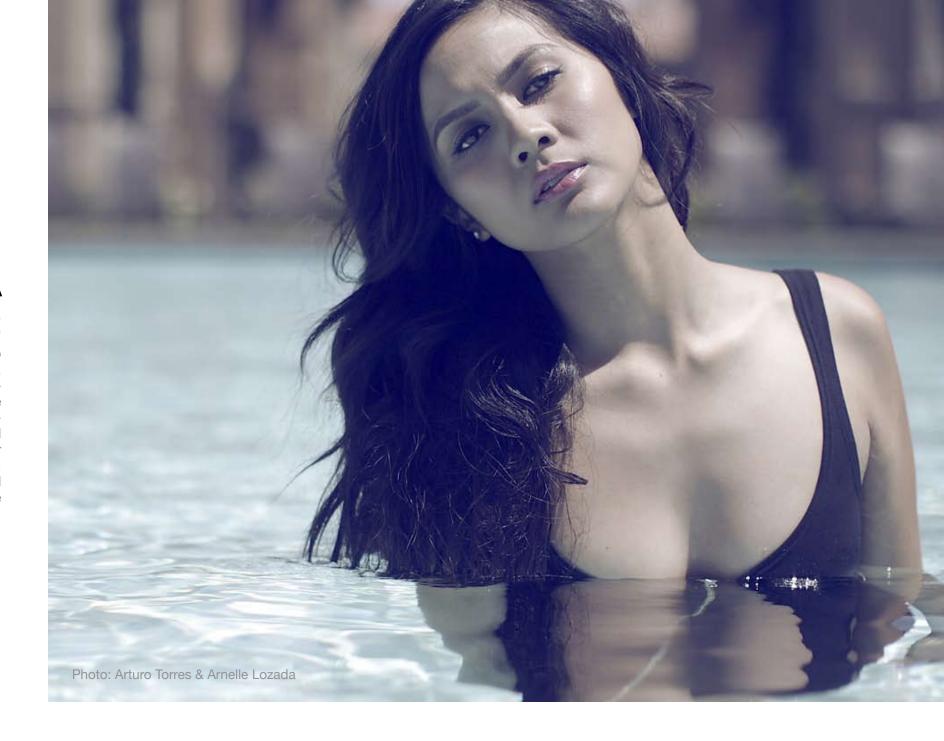


JOHN WESTsinger/musician

"Los Angeles is a beautiful beast of a city. Its beaches will never be Santa Barbara. Its downtown will never be San Francisco. But there is only one Los Angeles. And even as it challenges me, I call it home every day – and with love."

MARIANE GARCIA makeup artist

"Los Angeles is the beloved city that opened my eyes to bourgie stardom – whether it be someone humble or vain, it's really all the same story. I admire the natives of this notorious community, and with that said, I thrive on a more wholesome moral: to find myself, accept my femme quirkiness and embrace my character when conquering the road of facades and vulnerability. Los Angeles is infamous for its ability to tarnish one's individuality for money and fame. When in my eyes, it's a playing field of self-expression and ongoing success. This city keeps me on my toes and I've learned to love it for what it is."







ADAM RINDY photographer

"Los Angeles is pretentious and fake, in the most real way ever."

JOEL LEE

illustrator/ceasebreath

"L.A has this reputation for being fake and plastic. But that notion changes after you experience unexpected earth-quakes, accidental turns onto the wrong exit into Compton, and seeing the slums of Hollywood. There're many sides to L.A besides stardom, the glitz and glamour, but you can only realize it and see it by living and experiencing L.A"





THINK CONTRA .COM

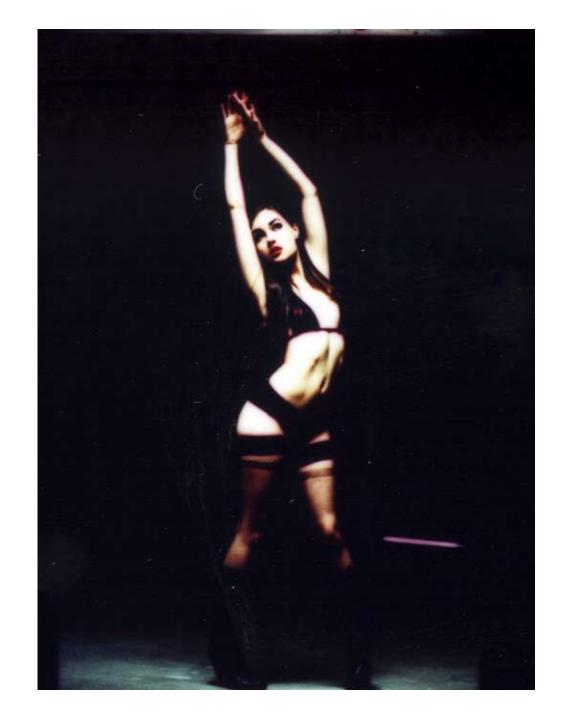






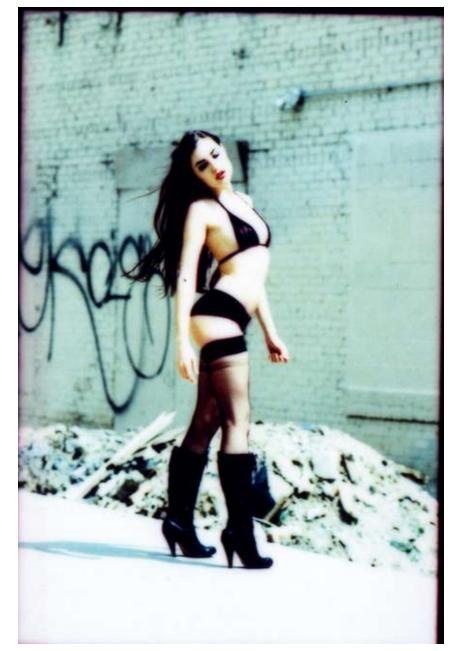




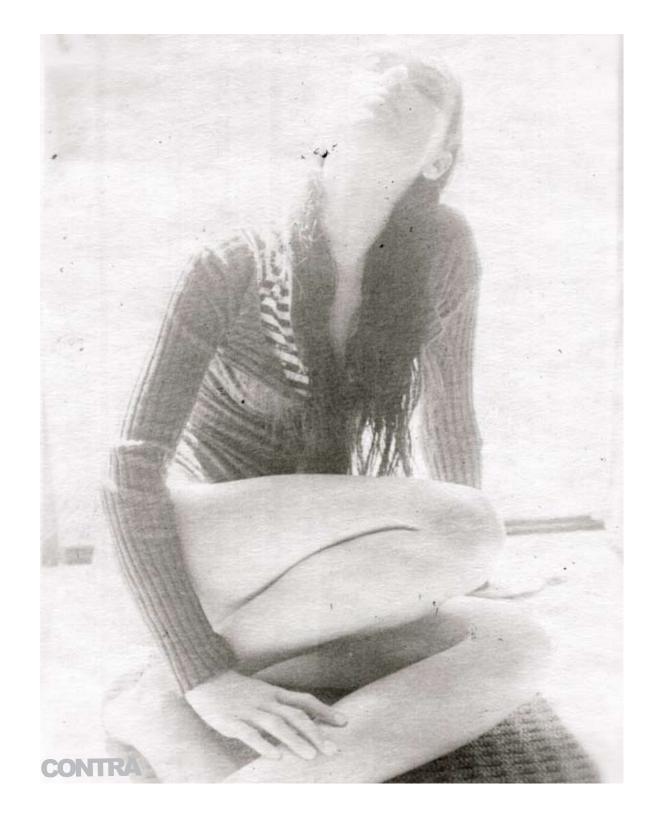
















THE WORLD WE LIVE

Photography by Abdul Smith Makeup by Allison Bengtsson Styling by Yoko Model - Kelly Ash (Q)











BLUE SUN DA

Photography by Ron Pruitt & Ryan Aylsworth

Styling by Jessica and Kelly (Exclusive Artists Management) Makeup by Lauren Andersen using MAC cosmetics Hair by Tara Jean



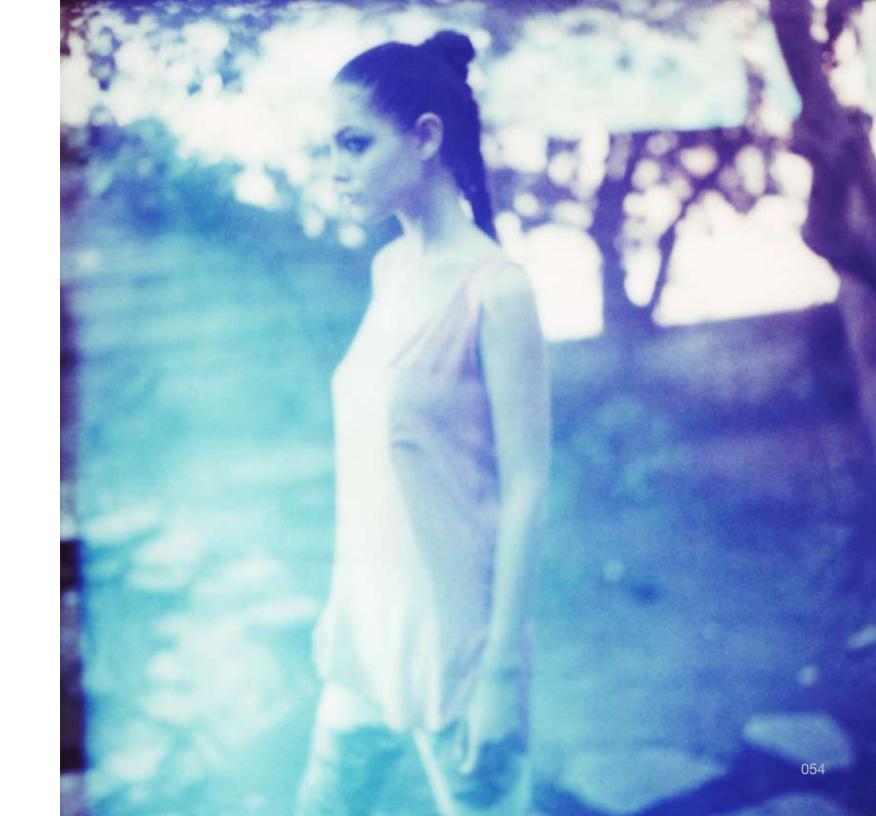


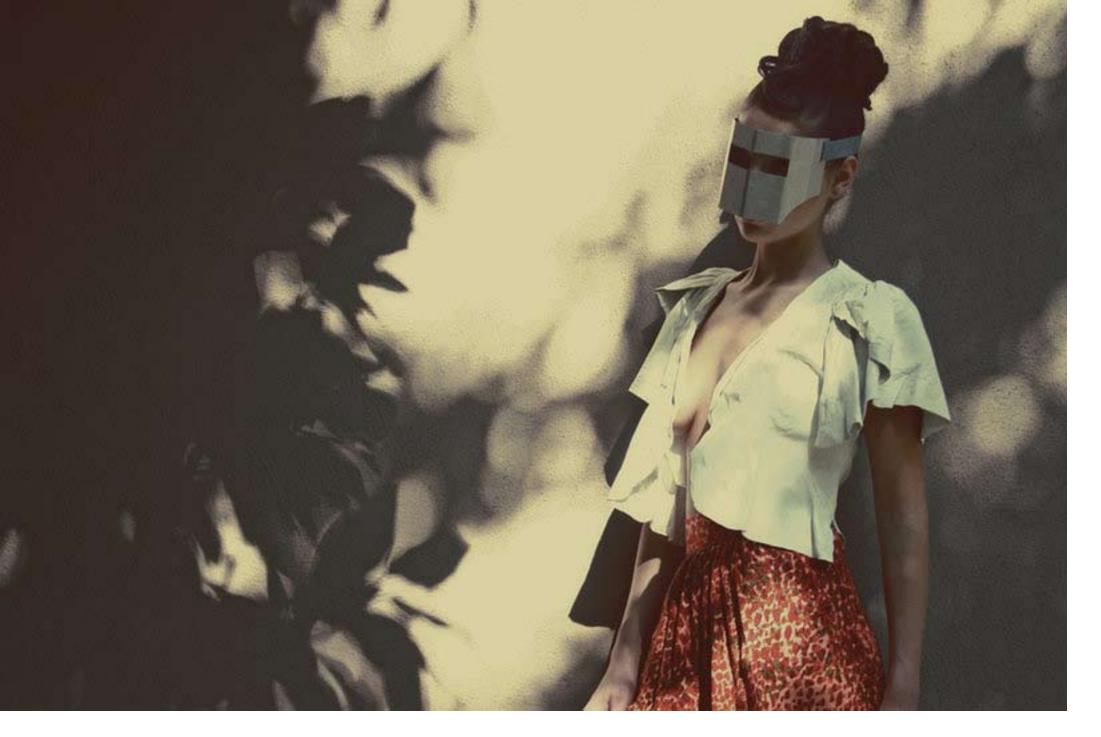
Metal Mask by and_i Leather capelet by Grai Leopard silk pants by Whitley Kross





Silk Tank by Fremont Floral Leggings by Brian Lichtenberg





Metal Mask by and_i Leather capelet by Grai Leopard pants by Whitley Kross

Dress by Brian Lichtenberg Metal cuff by and_i











Hooded Lace Trim Top in White by Lia Molly Dress in Cerulean by Susana Monaco





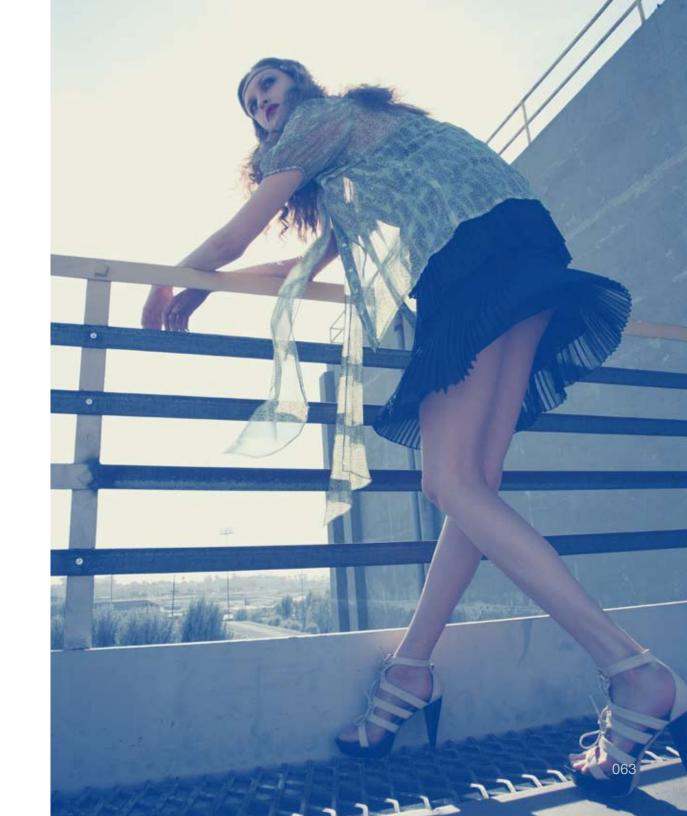
Top in Mauve by Kyumi Victorian Knit Top in Brown by Lia Molly Skirt in Midnight by Fremont Booties in Lilac by Prada







Headband in Green by Dominique Duval Dress in Midnight by Susana Monaco Top in Green Print by Kyumi Heels in Daze Beige by Andrea & Joen









Andrea Dress by Malene Birger Fur Vest by Harricana Belt by Nougat London

Jazz Dress by Nougat London Fur Scarf by Harricana Hat by Big it Up









Andrea
Jumper by Sweetface
Head band by American Apparel

Jazz Tank by Religion Vest by Autumn Cashmere







Styling by Shea Hurley (Judy Inc) Models - Sarah B & Sarah M (Elmer Olsen), Lauren (Next)

Assistants
Makeup/Hair - Michelle De La Cruz
Wardrobe - Marienne Buslon,
Justine Dayao, Robyn Shanks
Production - Nikolas Caballes

Special Thank You Christina Cho, Mckenzie James

> Sarah B Scarf as head wrap by Hoss





Lauren jeans Cheap Monday scarf as head wrap Hoss

Sarah B Jeans by Cheap Monday Scarf as head wrap by Hoss

Sarah M
Blouse by Debbie Shuchat
Jeans by Cheap Monday
Necklace by Daniel Espinosa
Scarf as head wrap - stylists own
Shoes - stylists own

L to R
Tights by Missoni
Shoes by Mimosa
Leggings by Betsey Johnson
Shoes by Stuart Wietzman
Shorts by American Retro
Socks by Betsey Johnson
Shoes by Mui Mui





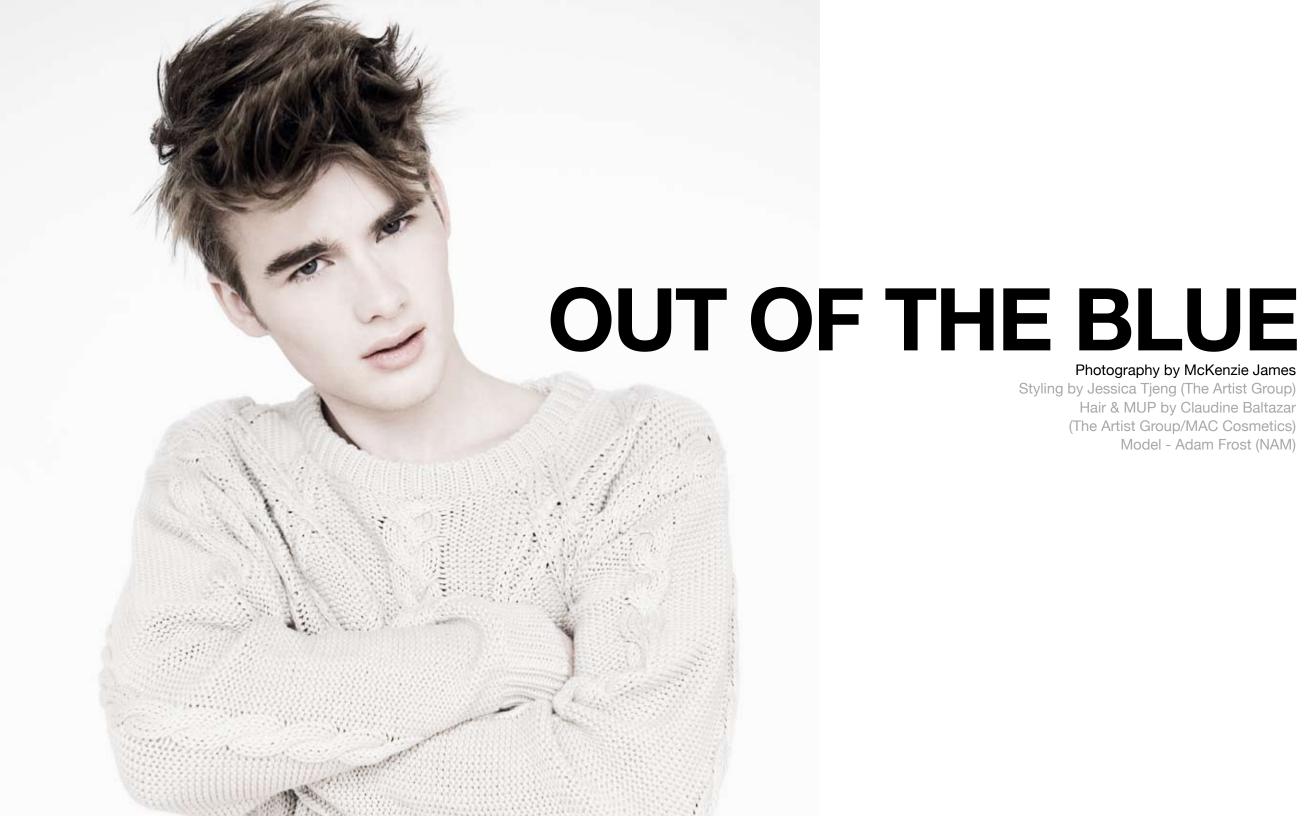
Blouse by Debbie Shuchat Skirt by Votre Nom Leggings by Betsey Johnson Shoes by Manolo Blahnik Bracelet by Daniel Espinosa











Photography by McKenzie James

Styling by Jessica Tjeng (The Artist Group) Hair & MUP by Claudine Baltazar (The Artist Group/MAC Cosmetics) Model - Adam Frost (NAM) Cable knit sweater by Velour Black shorts by French Connection





Black cardigan by 5Th Avenue Shoe Repair Coral cotton pants by H&M Black and white scarf by Aldo Accessories





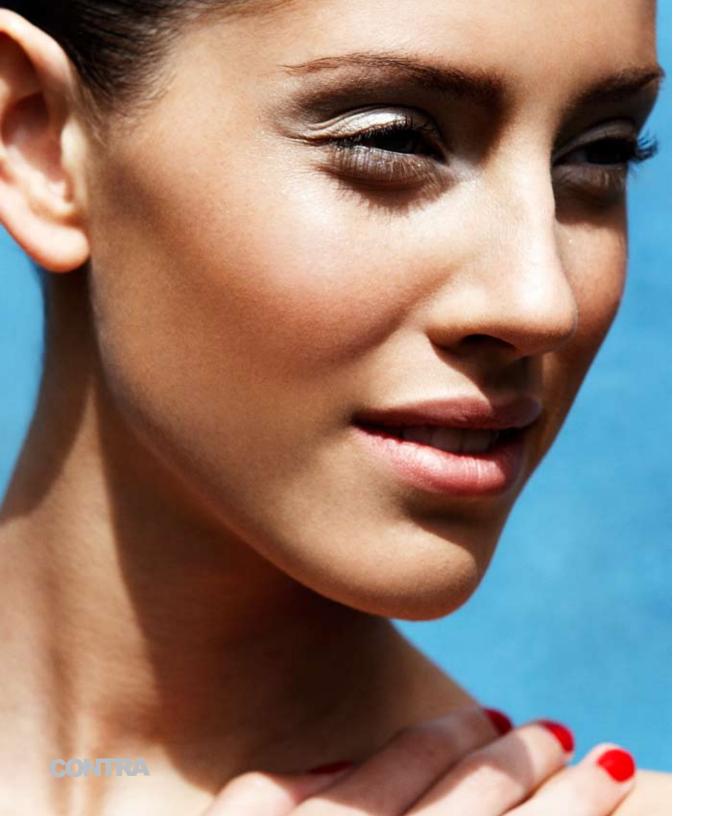


Oversize blue cardigan by Cheap Monday Black shorts by H&M Beige loafers by John Fluevog

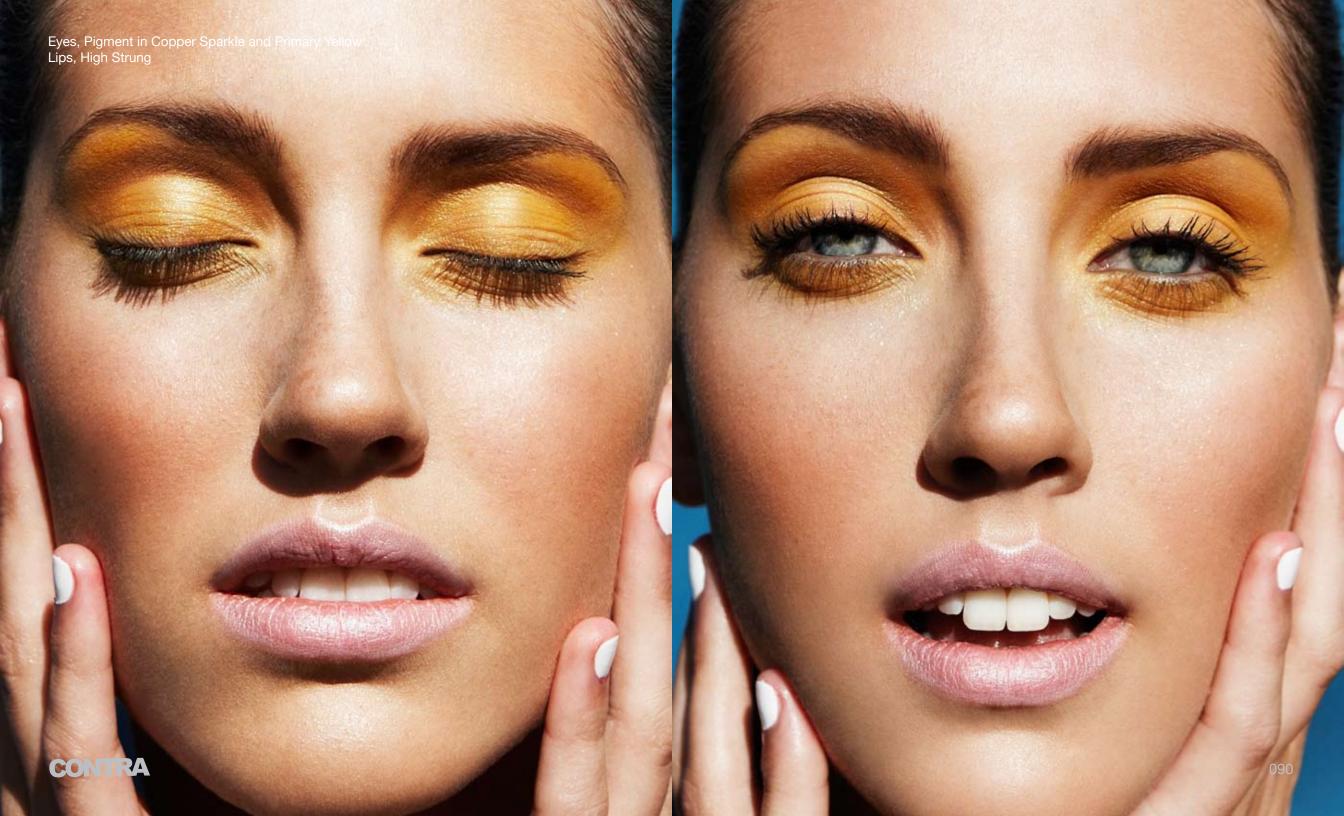








Eyes, Pigment in Polished Ivory Lips, Way to Love





Eyes, Eye Shadow in Blue Calm Lips, Chatterbox









Eyes, Eye Shadow in Electric Eel Lips, Vegas Volt



CASTING Photography by Mila Victoria Hair & Makeup by Claudine Baltazar Model - Jazz (Elmer Olsen)

















































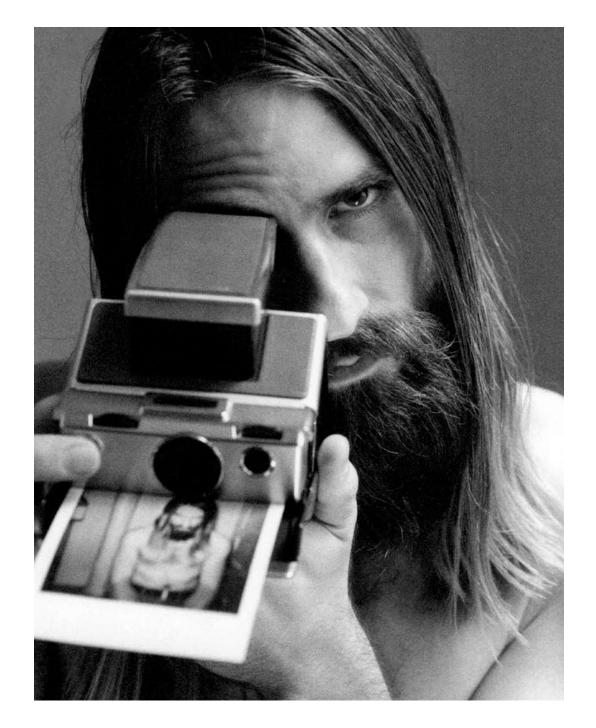










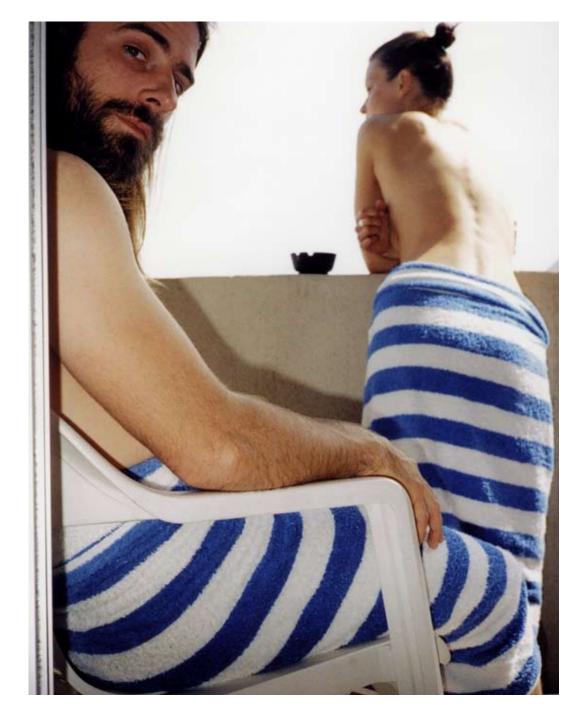






CONTRA























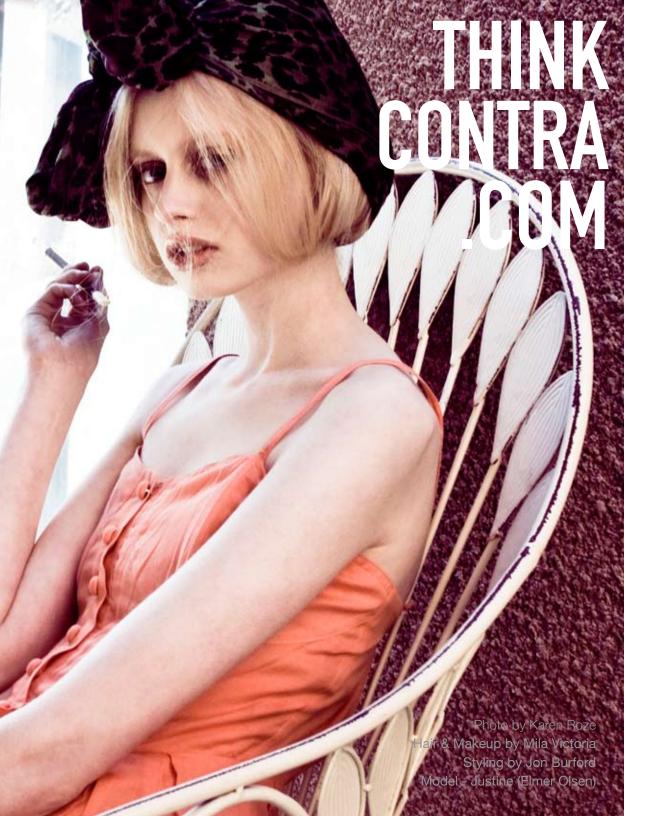












LINKS

Sasha Grey sashagrey.com

Patrick Hoelck patrickhoelck.com

Adam Rindy adamrindy.com

Melanie Fiona melaniefiona.com

Mike Soops mikesoops.com

John West myspace.com/johnwestsongs

Hok myspace.com/hok

Beryll beryll.com

Neff neffheadwear.com

Supreme Soul supremesoul.tv

The Smoking Section smokingsection.uproxx.com

Cease Breath ceasebreath.com

Fame Forecast fameforecast.tumblr.com

Mila Victoria milavictoria.com

Ultravelvet Collection ultravelvetcollection.com

Abdul Smith abdulsmith.com

Ninelle Efremova ninelleefremova.com

Magdalena Wosinska dripbook.com/magda

Ron Pruitt dripbook.com/Robotmotel

Ryan Aylsworth ryanaylsworth.com

Rachel Waniewski rachelwphotos.com

Manolo Ceron manolophotography.com

Mckenzie James mckenziejames.com

Eva Kolenko evakolenko.com

Ejen Chuang ejenchuang.com

Karen Roze karenroze.com

Claudine Baltazar claudinebaltazar.com

Jessica & Kelly jessicaandkelly.com

Jennifer Frances jenniferfrances.com

Mac Cosmetics maccosmetics.com

The Artist Group artistgrouplimited.com

Judy Inc. judyinc.com

Ford Models fordmodels.com

Sutherland models sutherlandmodels.com

Elmer Olsen elmerolsen.com

Next Models nextmodels.ca

Photogenics photogenics media.com

