

ART



BODEGA

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THE
**50 MOST
BEAUTIFUL &
INFLUENTIAL**

MOVIE STAR
**BILLY
CRUDUP**

In Loving Memory: *Rebeca Herrero (1976-2025)* *Founder & Publisher, Art Bodega Magazine*



The world of arts journalism lost one of its most luminous voices on November 1, 2025 — All Saints’ Day — when Rebeca Herrero, the founder and publisher of Art Bodega Magazine, passed away suddenly at the age of 49. This final issue of the magazine she built from nothing into something extraordinary is dedicated entirely to her.

There are people who work in media, and then there are people who are the media; souls for whom storytelling is not a profession but a calling, a pulse, a reason to wake before dawn and stay up long past midnight chasing the perfect interview, the right photograph, the story that has never quite been told before. Rebeca Herrero was the latter, in every sense of the word.

Born in Venezuela and raised in Puerto Rico, where she earned her Bachelor of Arts from the Universidad de Puerto Rico! Rebeca was a “periodista” in the truest, most classical meaning of the term, the journalist. She was a chronicler and truth-teller dressed in glamour. She came of age in a world that demanded she work twice as hard to claim her seat at the table, and she did exactly that, building a career across some of the most competitive newsrooms and publications in the United States. She served as an Entertainment Reporter for Hoy Newspaper, covering the celebrity landscape of New York City’s music, theater, television, and film worlds. She

contributed as a Staff Writer and Consultant for the National Enquirer, honed her editorial eye as Executive Editor at American Media, and worked as a Multimedia Journalist at ImpreMedia. Each stop added a new dimension to her craft, a sharper instinct, a broader Rolodex, a deeper understanding of what readers truly hunger for.

But Rebeca’s greatest chapter was the one she wrote herself. In 2013, she founded Art Bodega Magazine — a luxury quarterly print publication unlike anything in the market. A publication for the high-end Anglo as well as Latin consumer that combined editorial content, celebrity news, and a guide to the latest hotspots and fashion trends. Art Bodega was distributed across an empire of elegant zip codes: New York & The Hamptons; Palm Beach, Miami, Wellington & Boca Raton in Florida; Aspen, Colorado; Beverly Hills & Newport Beach in California; San Juan, Puerto Rico, and Charleston, South Carolina; as well as to national subscribers across the United States. From the galleries of Manhattan to the polo fields of Wellington, from Aspen to the Hamptons; Art Bodega arrived in the hands of those who appreciated the finer things and Rebeca made sure those pages reflected a world they recognized and one they aspired to inhabit. She lived the magazine she published. Splitting her time between New York City and Palm Beach, she was a constant fixture at exclusive openings, charity galas, and arts events, always working, always networking, always thinking three issues ahead. Art Bodega raised more than \$50,000 through the years for organizations like UNICEF, Brooke USA, The Boys & Girls Clubs of Miami, The Polo School in Wellington, and many more. Philanthropy was not a brand strategy for Rebeca; it was a reflection of who she was.

Her colleagues remember a woman of fierce dedication. A perfectionist who treated every cover as if it were her first and every story as if it were her last. She was unconditional in her love for those in her circle, loyal, generous, and present in the way that truly remarkable people are. A workaholic in the most admirable sense: driven not by ambition alone, but by a genuine belief that the arts deserved to be celebrated, documented, and shared.

And at the center of everything was Sebastian, her son, her only child, her greatest pride, then in his senior year of high school. Those who knew Rebeca knew that every late night at the office, every flight between cities, every difficult negotiation with a reluctant publicist was ultimately for him. He was, without question, the love of her life.

The 12th Anniversary Issue, this very issue, was her crowning achievement. She had spent the past six months working on it with the passion and precision that defined everything she touched, landing interview subjects who rarely open their doors to the press and securing photographs of celebrities who almost never allow themselves to be exposed in this way. It was a testament to twelve years of trust-building, of showing up, of never compromising the integrity of her publication. That work culminated in the ultimate recognition: in 2025, Art Bodega Magazine was named the best magazine in Florida by the Printing Association of Florida, an organization established in 1939; a distinction awarded not to the biggest publication, but to the best one. When Rebeca departed for Heaven on All Saints’ Day, this issue, the one she had poured her heart and soul into, was left unfinished.

“It was me, Mari, her closest friend who stepped in to carry it home. Having never written for a magazine before, let alone assembled one from the inside out. I took on the responsibility of completing Rebeca’s final and most important issue as an act of pure love and devotion. None of it would have been possible without the extraordinary talent and dedication of Carmen at Studio Gudulab in Madrid, Spain; whose skill and commitment transformed raw pieces into the remarkable finished product you are now holding in your hands. Together, we honored Rebeca’s vision exactly as she would have wanted it; with elegance, with care, and without compromise.”

She left us on All Saints’ Day, as if even her departure carried a kind of poetry. She was 49 years old, with a lifetime of stories still to tell. She had a genuine passion for the arts and a deep connection to the communities she covered. That passion lives in every page of the magazine you are holding now.

Rest in your light, our dearest beautiful soul sister, Rebe! (As we all called her.) YOU WERE THE STORY!

Art Bodega Magazine, 2013–2025. Twelve years, one hundred issues, one extraordinary woman that will stay in our hearts for a lifetime!

A note on the word “periodista” — it translates from Spanish as journalist, but it carries something more in the Latin tradition: a person devoted to bearing witness to the world through the written word. Rebeca Herrero was a “periodista” in every sense — fearless, tireless, and true.

“It was in completing this final issue, a labor of devotion I had never attempted before; that I understood most fully who Rebeca was and what she meant to all of us. I feel not only blessed; but honored to have had her as a chosen sister because since the day we met, introduced by my eldest son, Elán, we became inseparable. We were always inventing ideas to accomplish and make her Magazine be the best ever. We were always meeting in different cities, attending events, helping others. My husband and kids adored her. She was part of the Allende Family nucleus, and she was like an aunt for our grandchildren. I miss you too much & you know you are with me here on earth daily & will meet in Heaven forever.”

By Mari Mediavilla Allende

“It was in completing this final issue, a labor of devotion I had never attempted before; that I understood most fully who Rebeca was and what she meant to all of us.”

THE
50 MOST
BEAUTIFUL &
INFLUENTIAL

MEET

LIZ

CASTELLS-HEARD

*The cultural visionary elevating
brands and business growth*

HER FEARLESS JOURNEY FROM
CUBA TO A STANFORD MBA TO
LEADING ONE OF AMERICA'S
TOP CULTURAL AGENCIES

Some women lead. Some women transform. Some women are unforgettable. And then there is Liz Castells-Heard — who does all three with a fierce elegance entirely her own.

CEO and Chief Strategy Officer of INFUSION by Castells, Liz is one of the most influential forces in American marketing. She's known for her fearless voice, strategic brilliance, cultural fluency, and her signature mantra: "Anything is possible."

Her story begins in survival mode. Born a seven-month preemie in Cuba, she was exiled at age four — birthday cake in hand, family jewels hidden in the frosting — while staring down a guerilla squad. That moment wired her to adapt, push forward, and rise. From Puerto Rico to Pittsburgh, New England to Geneva and London, she became what she calls a "translatina mutt," absorbing cultures, decoding people, and shaping the instincts that would define her career.

FAST FACTS

LIZ CASTELLS-HEARD

aka María Isabel Cristina
Castells de García Heard

- CEO, INFUSION by Castells
- Cuban-born, globally raised
- Stanford MBA
- Creator of the Transculturation™ model
- Published, awarded industry leader
- Married 40 years to Alan Heard
- 7 godchildren, 3 German Shepherds
- *Motto: "I set the example with grit, truth, art, science and heart, I am fearless so we can fly. Anything is possible."*



"I've always been this mix of numbers, intuition, creativity, and corazón," she says. "Analytics is my lifeblood, strategy my superpower, but my heart is the compass."

That precision-meets-passion duality became the foundation of INFUSION by Castells; the agency she launched in 1998 to fill a gap few recognized: the business power of culture. Long before "inclusion" entered the corporate lexicon, Liz created **Transculturation™**, a model helping Fortune 500 leaders embed cultural fluency across product, marketing, media, operations, and creative — and profit from it.

Her agency's work for Toyota, McDonald's, and Charter/Spectrum has generated record sales, category firsts, and earned more than 125 awards. But the force behind it isn't chance. It's Liz.

A triple major in Economics/Math/Psychology with a Stanford MBA, she built her discipline at DDB, Campbell's, Saatchi, and Oriflame. She's led categories from CPG and health to telecom and tech, and departments from creative and media to operations and finance. She sees the whole board — and moves ahead of it.

She also carries the grit of an immigrant, the passion of a Latina, the optimism of a global citizen, and the curiosity of a lifelong learner. "I'm forever 16 and still asking why. I read studies for fun, learn from every culture and generation, and I use AI for everything. If you stop learning, you stop leading."

Her fighter spirit shaped her early. Bullied for being "a spick" in second grade, she learned to stand her ground. She pushed for girls to wear pants in junior high, burnt bras for women's rights, and later carved her way through the "good ol' boys" worlds of Madison Avenue and Hollywood — even losing out on three partnerships she'd earned. "I was told I was 'too much' — too educated for a Latina, too pretty to be smart, too loud, too assertive," she says. "So, I worked three times harder. 'No' isn't in my vocabulary — only 'How.'"

A pivotal chapter in INFUSION's evolution was meeting her business partner: **Leticia "Lety" Juárez**, a marketing and media maven with deep cultural insight who manages the key clients and staff day-to-day. Together, they've built one of the strongest female-led duos in cultural marketing — Liz as the visionary fire, Lety as the grounding force who elevates the agency's work.

"Our clients and teams know we're all-in and have their backs. That creates trust — and magic," Lety says. Liz adds, "I deeply trust and respect Lety as my successor." Lety teases: "Liz will still be telling us what to do at 105." Their laughter says everything about their partnership.

Liz leads with a blend of strategy and soul. She demands excellence but operates with compassion, fairness, and her signature **No BS ethos**. She rejects ego, layers, and politics in favor of truth, analysis, collaboration, and heart. "It's 'we,' never 'I,'" she says. "I've had brilliant teams and mentors — even bad ones teach us what not to do. And it's important to take risks and follow your passion."

Her career was not linear. After college, she worked in investment banking and entered business school planning. But in her final semester, she took a marketing class "just for fun" — and everything clicked. "I fell in love with figuring out the 'why' of human behavior from data," she says. She pivoted instantly.

INFUSION by Castells, a national WMBE, now operates with \$100M in cap billings, dual-language expertise, and a reputation for



AGENCY SPOTLIGHT: INFUSION BY CASTELLS

Culture-led.
Strategic Firepower.
No BS. Just Results.

- Premier U.S. cultural agency with \$100M in cap billings
- ROI-Powered Ideas® that create brand value, growth, category firsts for Fortune 500 clients like Toyota, Charter/Spectrum, and McDonald's
- Led by visionary Liz Castells-Heard, a tell-it-like-it-is Stanford MBA, and partner Leticia Juárez's masterful client and team stewardship
- Infuse analytics, strategic acumen, disruptive creative, AI, and cultural fluency across the 5Ps to unlock real insights, connection, and sales



ROI-Powered Ideas® that merge analytics, creativity, and cultural authenticity.

It's the formula brands need in what Liz calls **"the era of Culturenomics"** — when nearly half of America is multicultural and driving population, household, and job growth. Culture shapes how people live, buy, believe, and choose. "If brands ignore culture, they ignore connection, impact, and revenue," she says. **Cultural fluency is the silver bullet for CEOs** today navigating the pressures of efficiencies, AI disruption, media fragmentation, and short-term earnings vs. long-term equity — and to **future-proof their businesses.**

"Culture isn't context — it's the truth code," Liz says. "We can drive human connection and move culture forward with truth. It's not just a career. It is purpose. It's legacy."

Liz is also an awarded, published speaker, philanthropist, mentor,

and advocate for education and empowerment — especially for young Latinas. "Education is the equalizer of opportunity," she says. "Confident informed voices change lives." Outside the boardroom, Liz lives between NYC, LA and her Scottsdale homestead — and in constant motion with Alan, her fellow-Scorpion husband of 40+ years. From bungee jumping off Victoria Falls to Tuscany sunsets and Vegas fiestas, she embraces adventure, chocolate, cognac, and dancing 'til dawn — balanced with Pilates, power shakes, meditation in the labyrinth Alan built, and the love of seven godchildren, a grandniece, and three German Shepherd "babies."

In a world that tries to simplify women, Liz is proof we contain multitudes: **beauty and brilliance, grit and glamour, analytics and art, fire and heart.**

She isn't simply one of the "50 Most Beautiful & Influential Women." **Liz is in a category of her own.**





SIGNATURE STRENGTHS

- ROI-Powered Ideas®
- Transculturation™ Model
- Cultural fluency is the growth engine
- Human + AI-powered strategy and creative
- A team with "brains, heart, and grit"



FAST FACTS
LETICIA "LETY" JUÁREZ

- Partner, EVP Marketing, INFUSION by Castells
- Mexican-born, Dana Point, CA raised
- UCSD Alumna
- Leads with clarity, empathy and keen strategic insight
- 100+ close family members
- *Motto: "I am the client voice of reason. I lead the agency orchestra, set the priorities, pace, and performance."*

The 50 [★]
Most Beautiful
& Influential



DAVID — JEFFREY

BUILDING WHAT LASTS

"I've always believed that creativity isn't just about what we make — it's about what we enable."

David Jeffrey's work is grounded in a simple and enduring premise: that access to primary education shapes the trajectory of both individual lives and societies. While his life moves between Europe, the Mediterranean, the United States, and emerging regions across the world, his focus has remained consistent — supporting the creation of schools in communities where access to education remains limited or absent.



OVER THE PAST SEVERAL YEARS, David has helped build four primary schools in communities where education is not guaranteed: ETHIOPIA, NEPAL, MADAGASCAR, AND CAMBODIA.



Over the past several years, David has helped establish four primary schools in Ethiopia, Nepal, Madagascar, and Cambodia. Each reflects the specific realities of its environment. In Nepal, the terrain itself presents the greatest barrier. Much of the country lies within the foothills of the Himalayas, where mountainous geography makes construction, access, and the training of teachers inherently difficult. In Madagascar, the constraint is economic. As one of the poorest countries in the world on a per-capita basis, educational infrastructure remains limited by structural poverty. In Cambodia, the challenge is historical. Between 1975 and 1979, the Khmer Rouge regime systematically dismantled the country's intellectual and professional class, leaving an educational void whose



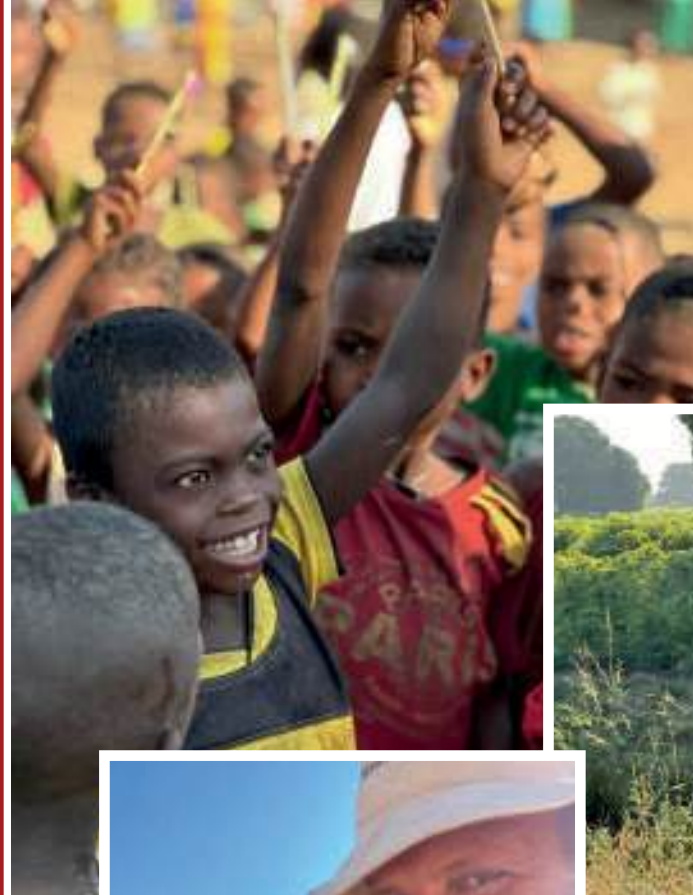
THE WORK IS DELIBERATELY QUIET. NO BRANDING, NO SPECTACLE — just classrooms, teachers, and children gaining something foundational. “EDUCATION IS WHERE POSSIBILITY STARTS,” he says. “EVERYTHING ELSE BUILDS ON THAT.”





effects continue across generations. The work of rebuilding, by its nature, unfolds over decades.

The schools David has supported were created as permanent institutions, designed to serve successive generations rather than immediate need alone. The approach is intentionally quiet. There is no emphasis on attribution — only on continuity. Classrooms are built, teachers are supported, and access is created where it did not previously exist. “Education is where possibility starts,” he says. “Everything else builds from there.”



His work reflects a belief that meaningful change rarely announces itself in the moment. Its effects become visible over time, in the lives shaped by opportunity, and in the gradual strengthening of communities from within. A single school alters hundreds of individual trajectories. Over decades, those trajectories reshape entire societies.

Alongside this work, David maintains close relationships within the cultural and creative sphere, including with fellow Art Bodega entrants in this issue — interior designer Kinga Kubiak, and fashion and creative collaborators Kim Downs and Moshe Ben Ari. These relationships reflect a shared commitment to work defined not by visibility, but by intention and permanence.

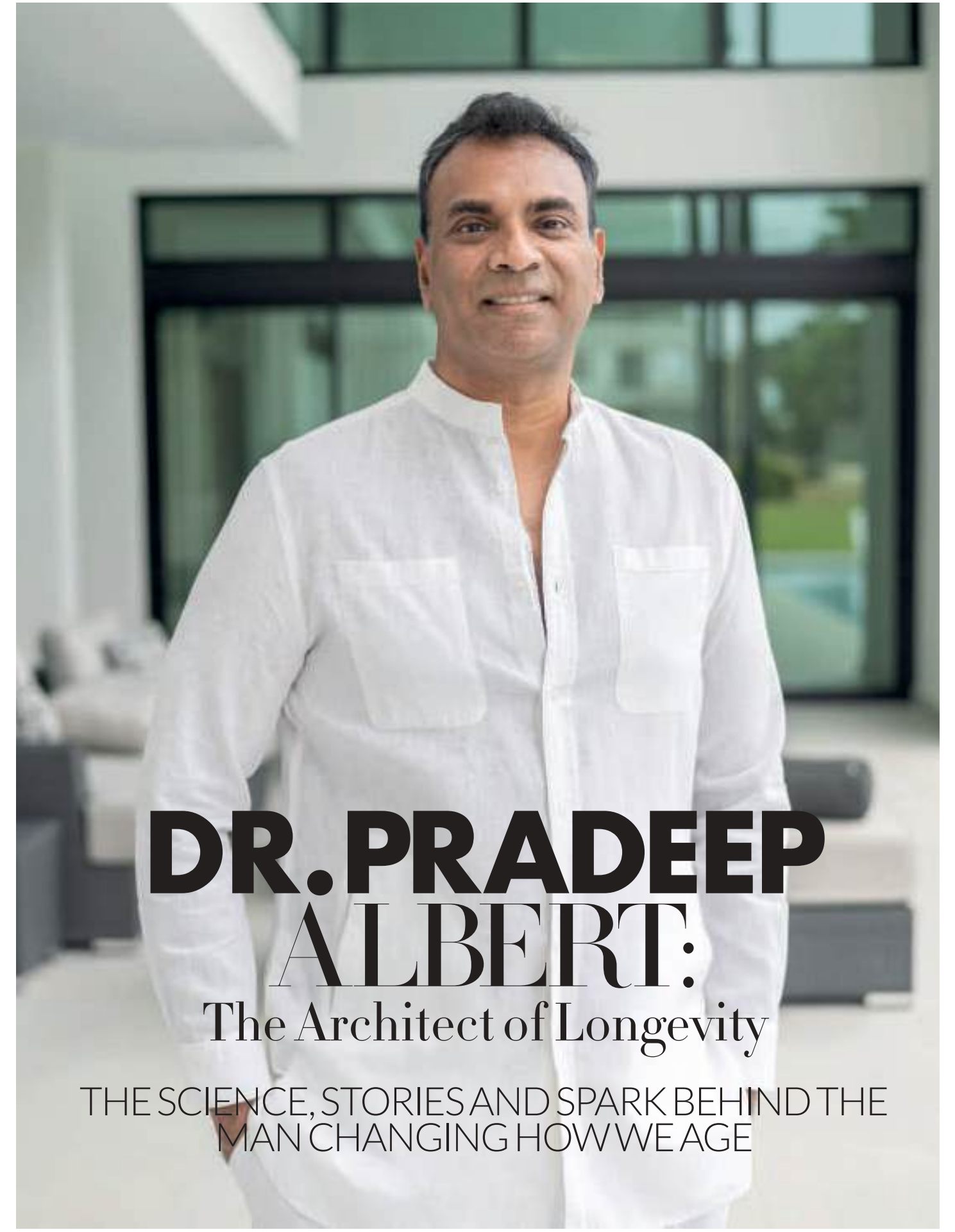
David’s legacy is being built in places where attention rarely lingers, but where its effects endure. The schools stand as quiet structures of possibility — not symbols, but foundations.





"I'm not interested in surface without substance," he says. "The things that matter most are the ones that continue to matter long after you're gone." In a world that often prioritizes visibility over impact, David's creative legacy is being built where attention rarely lingers — in schools standing where there were none before and in collaborations rooted in purpose rather than display; proving that creativity is strongest when it's shared.

"I'm not interested in surface without substance," he says. "The most beautiful things are the ones that continue to matter."



DR. PRADEEP ALBERT:

The Architect of Longevity

THE SCIENCE, STORIES AND SPARK BEHIND THE MAN CHANGING HOW WE AGE



If you've drifted through a candlelit wellness lounge in Miami, a rooftop biohacker soirée in Dubai, or one of London's invitation-only "age reversal salons"; chances are you've heard his name, casually, dropped between sips of cucumber water and sparkling rosé:

Dr. Pradeep Albert.

To some, he's the radiologist who stepped away from the predictable path of conventional medicine to explore the frontier of cellular rejuvenation. To others, he's the doctor who made stem cells, exosomes, and peptides sound as effortless as a skincare routine. But among those immersed in the world of longevity; he is known simply as the architect of longevity — a physician building the future of youthfulness; one carefully guided cell at a time.

WHERE SCIENCE MEETS STYLE

Dr. Albert's entry into longevity medicine began during his years reading diagnostic images — scans that quietly revealed the slow signature of aging on bones, cartilage, and tissue. But instead of accepting degeneration as fate, he found himself captivated by a provocative idea: "What if aging wasn't a downward slope? What if we could influence it?"

This curiosity, eventually, became the foundation of *LIFESPAN DECODED*, the book he co-authored. In one memorable vignette, a patient devastated by chronic knee pain asked if she would ever "feel like herself again." Rather than offering limitations, Dr. Albert shared what would become his trademark line: "Cells don't know your age — they only know their job. We just need to remind them."

That simple, elegant idea became the basis of his life's work: not just treating images but transforming biology. *Stem Cells, Exosomes, Peptides — Explained with Charm!*

Some experts make science intimidating. Dr. Albert makes it feel like a delightful conversation over brunch. Stem cells?

"Couture architects for your tissues."

Exosomes?

"Tiny diplomats orchestrating peace agreements inside your body."

Peptides?

"The new black — sleek, elegant molecules that wake up your cells like expertly crafted espresso."

This approachable style is part of why his textbook, *Exosomes, PRP, and Stem Cells in Musculoskeletal Medicine*; has become a defining guide in the field. And as the Chief Medical Officer of Peptual; he directs cutting-edge peptide strategies targeting the hallmarks of aging — mitochondrial fatigue, genomic instability, inflammation — long before they show up as disease. The best part? He can shift seamlessly from molecular pathways to humor, often telling patients:

"Peptides aren't new. They've been around since dinosaurs. We're just finally giving them a good PR team."

“THE FUTURE OF AGING IS NO LONGER ABOUT FIGHTING TIME”.



HEALING AS HIGH-TECH ART

Dr. Albert's work combines advanced imaging with regenerative medicine in a way that makes biology feel almost architectural. He sees the human body as a dynamic structure — constantly repairing, renewing, communicating. A retired NFL athlete once described the experience of working with him: “It's like he reads your MRI the way a designer reads blueprints — then uses PRP and stem cells to renovate the place.” Another patient famously said, “I came in feeling worn down and walked out feeling like my cells had gone to a wellness retreat.”

Dr. Albert's signature approach blends precision, personalization, and a deep respect for the body's natural intelligence that resonates deeply with clients from social circles that prioritize both luxury and longevity.

A GLOBAL PHYSICIAN WITH A GLOBAL IMPACT

Beyond Clinical Practice, Dr. Albert, has become a powerful voice shaping regenerative medicine worldwide. He has contributed to drafting regenerative medicine laws in Antigua, St. Kitts & Nevis, the Bahamas, and Bahrain; ensuring that innovation moves hand-in-hand with safety, ethics, and transparency. He has: Spoken at the United, Delivered over 1,000 medical lectures, keynoted conferences across Europe, Asia, and the Middle East, and currently, served as a professor at two U.S. Medical Schools.

At the UN, when asked what the future of aging looks like; he paused — then offered a sentence that would echo across longevity forums worldwide: “We're not chasing immortality. We're chasing dignity.” That is Dr. Albert in a line: science with soul.



STORIES THAT STAY WITH YOU

Despite his global schedule, his friends and patients describe him as deeply grounded and unexpectedly funny. He has been known to: sketch mitochondria on cocktail napkins at dinner parties & compare peptide bioregulators to tiramisu! (“They wake everything up.”) Tell patients, “You're not old — your cells are just bored.” These moments — equal parts science, charm, and humanity — are what make him unforgettable. His passion for teaching led him to found Stem Cell University, a platform where he trains physicians around the world in standardized, image-guided regenerative techniques. “The therapy is only as good as the technique,” he often says. “Precision matters.”

THE FUTURE, ACCORDING TO THE ARCHITECT

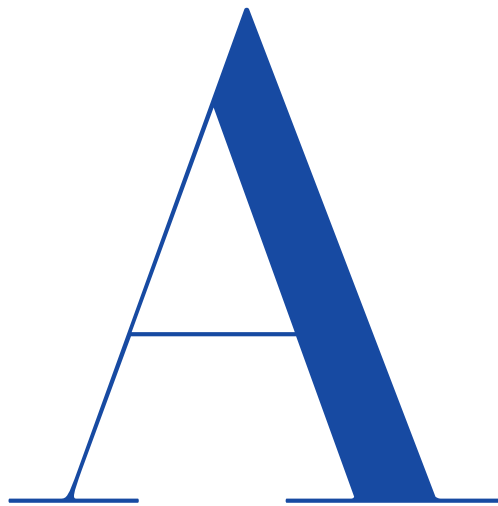
As longevity becomes more than a trend — evolving into a global movement — Dr. Albert sits at a rare intersection of medicine, policy, education, and culture. He doesn't promise miracles. He doesn't sell fantasies. He doesn't traffic in hype. What he offers is far more meaningful: A roadmap to living younger, longer — rooted in biology, elevated by innovation, delivered with clarity and a touch of sparkle. In a world obsessed with extending life, Dr. Pradeep Albert is reminding us to elevate living itself. And for those lucky enough to step into his world — whether during a consultation, a keynote, or a glamorous wellness event — one thing becomes undeniably clear: “The future of aging is no longer about fighting time”.



THE
50 MOST
BEAUTIFUL &
INFLUENTIAL

AN ITALIAN'S
Love Story
With México

CAREYES & THE BRIGNONE LEGACY



Along the wild, protected southern coastline of Jalisco, south of Puerto Vallarta, lies Costalegre, one of Mexico's most imaginative and surprising destinations. At its center is Careyes, where nature, art, architecture, and community merge into a dreamlike and carefully considered union. Careyes is not a resort, but a state of mind, a floating world shaped by the bold vision of the Brignone family, who transformed a remote stretch of eight miles of coastline into an international enclave of beauty, creativity, and cultural elegance.

A DREAM BORN FROM AN ITALIAN VISIONARY

The story of Careyes begins in the late 1960s with Gian Franco Brignone, an Italian financier, artist, and adventurer whose passion for esthetic and love of nature guided every chapter of his life. When he first spotted the rugged cliffs and deep-blue Pacific waters of this forgotten region, he sensed its destiny before a single foundation was laid. To him, Careyes was not simply land. It was a blank canvas waiting for a masterpiece.

With the intuition of an artist and the determination of an entrepreneur, Gian Franco purchased the first land after flying over it in a small airplane in 1968. He sought to create a retreat, a refuge for his friends, not a tourist destination or a typical real estate development, intimate, refined, culturally alive, and architecturally organic, with its vibrant, famous Mexican colors. Over the decades, he invited world-class architects, designers, and friends from Europe, Mexico, and beyond to shape what would become one of the most distinctive destinations with Italian Mediterranean flavour in the Americas.

THE ARCHITECTURE OF PLEASURE !

Careyes is instantly recognizable by its vivid colors and sensual curves, a perfect marriage of Mediterranean and Mexican art de vivre.



CAREYES, where nature, art, architecture and community merge into a dreamlike careful union. Careyes IS NOT A RESORT BUT STATE OF MIND, a floating world shaped by the bold vision of the **BRIGNONE FAMILY**.





The Brignone family embraced bold forms long before they became fashionable. Palapas, thatched roof casitas in bright fuchsia, yellow, and tangerine, overlook endless water, while cliffside castles appear to float above the Pacific.

The result is a landscape of architecture so artistic it feels like sculpture. Each of the homes is unique, many of them iconic. The famed Ocean Castles, perched on dramatic rocky points, are among the most photographed private coastal villas in the world. Not far away, the original Casitas of Careyes form a colorful Italian-style village that organically faces the sea, preserving a sense of intimacy and timelessness.

Everything in Careyes is intentional. Nothing interrupts the quiet dialogue between land and architecture, the embrace of natural materials, and the way each structure honors the contour of the land. It feels organic, almost mystical, as if the buildings grew out of the cliffs themselves.

A FAMILY LEGACY OF CULTURE AND CONNECTION

Gian Franco's pioneering spirit lives on through his two sons, Giorgio and Filippo, and his daughter, Emanuela. Together, they guide

Careyes to grow slowly in our modern era while preserving its essential magic.

Emanuela, a respected architect, has designed and shaped many of Careyes' spaces over the years. Filippo has expanded its cultural footprint through events that celebrate creativity, film, music, and philanthropy, including Ondalinda with Lulu Lachaire. Giorgio, deeply engaged in carrying forward his father's vision, works closely with the community and the preservation of the land, continuing to nurture the region's social impact initiatives. He also created an equestrian haven, adding two beautiful polo fields and miles of trails along the coast, all set within an old ranch in the heart of the jungle.

In their hands, Careyes is reinforced as a sanctuary of beauty and purpose, where visitors can find serenity while contributing to the greater good of the surrounding communities.

THE SPIRIT OF COMMUNITY

Careyes draws an unusual and deeply connected community. Artists, filmmakers, designers, entrepreneurs, families, and long-time friends arrive from around the world, not

to be seen, but to belong. Days unfold into shared moments, spontaneous encounters, long conversations, and friendships that endure well beyond a single stay. Despite its refinement and discretion, the atmosphere remains warm and open, international in spirit, and grounded in an ease that feels genuine and unforced.

Careyes is shaped by a gentle rhythm of seasons, with a mild climate and warm Pacific waters that make it welcoming year round. Each New Year, it becomes a global gathering point for creative spirits from around the world. Tigre del Mar, one of Careyes' most emblematic houses, comes alive during this time, its presence deeply woven into the rituals and shared moments that define the season, alongside the iconic living sculpture, Copa del Sol. And yet, beyond these celebrated occasions, Careyes remains quietly alive. In the softer months, the pulse continues through intimate dinners, art gatherings, film screenings, yoga retreats, and spontaneous, last-minute moments that feel known only to those present.

The Brignone family has always believed that Careyes' greatest asset is its natural





The Brignone family's legacy is not merely a resort—it is a living story, an evolving work of art, and one of the most unique destinations in the world.



environment. Miles of untouched coastline, turtle sanctuaries protected by the Careyes Foundation, and more than 35,000 acres of surrounding biosphere reserves define the landscape. Over the years, the family has invested deeply in conservation, safeguarding both land and wildlife, and ensuring that all development remains in quiet harmony with the environment.

Careyes is treasured for its wild beaches, protected coves, and a landscape that feels blissfully removed from the rush of urban life. It is a place where one can hear the waves, see the stars, and gently reconnect with the senses.

THE LEGACY CONTINUES

More than 50 years after Gian Franco Brignone first set eyes on Careyes, it remains a testament to his intuition: a sanctuary where imagination thrives, where nature and architecture form a seamless whole, and where culture finds a home on Mexico's Pacific coast.

The Brignone family's legacy resists labels. It is a living story, an evolving work of art, and one of the most distinctive destinations in the world. A protected refuge that balances seclusion with the quiet comforts of modern life, Careyes offers thoughtful infrastructure, a private medical clinic, and an international school, allowing life to unfold here with both ease and continuity.

For more on Careyes, visit careyes.net



Francesco and Angela Tassoni photographed by Stephan Schaerer with the Illy Art Collection Cups designed by Stefan Sagmeister available at www.illy.com

MOVIE STAR

BILLY CRUDUP

Patron of the Stage,
Guardian of the City,
and the Quiet Power
Behind Harlem's
Cultural Renaissance

By REBECA HERRERO

Billy Crudup was
photographed in
New York City by
Antoine Verglas at
La Goulue, located at
29 E. 61st St., New York,
NY 10065.
www.lagoulue.com

Billy Crudup does not enter a room the way actors in movies do. There is no overt performance in his posture, no calculated command of attention, no need for spectacle. And yet, the air unmistakably shifts. His presence carries with it a cerebral warmth, an unspoken depth, a kind of old-world gravitas sharpened by decades immersed in stories—both real and imagined.

This afternoon, that presence is captured not on a stage or on a film set, but within the intimate and creative confines of a photo studio in New York City, in collaboration with Bodega Magazine. It is not merely another editorial moment. It is a convergence of values: art, community, philanthropy, and a deeply personal commitment to New York's cultural soul.

A drink is raised—modest but meaningful. There is laughter. There is ease. And there is a purpose far greater than photographs.

Crudup is here because of love for theater. But more than that, he is here because of responsibility.

A CALL TO SERVICE: THE CLASSICAL THEATRE OF HARLEM

While Billy Crudup is an award-winning actor known for commanding performances on Broadway, in film, and on television, his most important role right now may not appear in any credits. It is his position on the **Board of Directors of the Classical Theatre of Harlem**, a nonprofit organization that brings classical works—Shakespeare, Ibsen, Greek tragedy—to underserved communities, free of charge, in the heart of Harlem and beyond.

This was not a role he sought for prestige; it was one he accepted out of moral clarity.

The connection traces back nearly twenty years to Ty Jones, founder and artistic director of CTH (Classical Theatre of Harlem). The two men crossed paths long ago through the New York theater scene, where reputations are not built by fame but by integrity and dedication to the craft. Although their original trajectory of collaboration did not immediately materialize, a profound turning point emerged in the wake of the passing of acclaimed actor André Braugher. In Braugher's obituary, he requested that donations be made to the Classical Theatre of Harlem instead of flowers.

Moved on both a personal and artistic level, Crudup made a donation. From there, the relationship deepened. It was more than contribution; it was alignment. It was legacy answering legacy.

When Jones approached Crudup about joining the Board, his instinct was hesitation. “The life of an actor is unpredictable,” he explained. “A board member should be a steady presence.” But when sweeping governmental cuts to arts funding accelerated under political shifts, Crudup reconsidered. He could no longer watch from the perimeter. The arts had given him everything. It was time to give back.

“I wanted to invest my time,” he said, “in cultural institutions that matter — regardless of whether the government believes they do.”

And so he stepped in. Not passively. Not symbolically. But with conviction.

Today, Billy Crudup uses his voice, his network, his intellect, and his influence to advocate fiercely for the preservation and expansion of accessible theatre. He sits alongside visionaries like Ty Jones and Ethan Hawke in shaping the future of an organization that seeks not only to educate, but to awaken.

Their mission: to collapse the distance between high art and everyday life.

For Crudup, this is not just charity. It is spiritual citizenship.

HARLEM: A FIRST EMBRACE

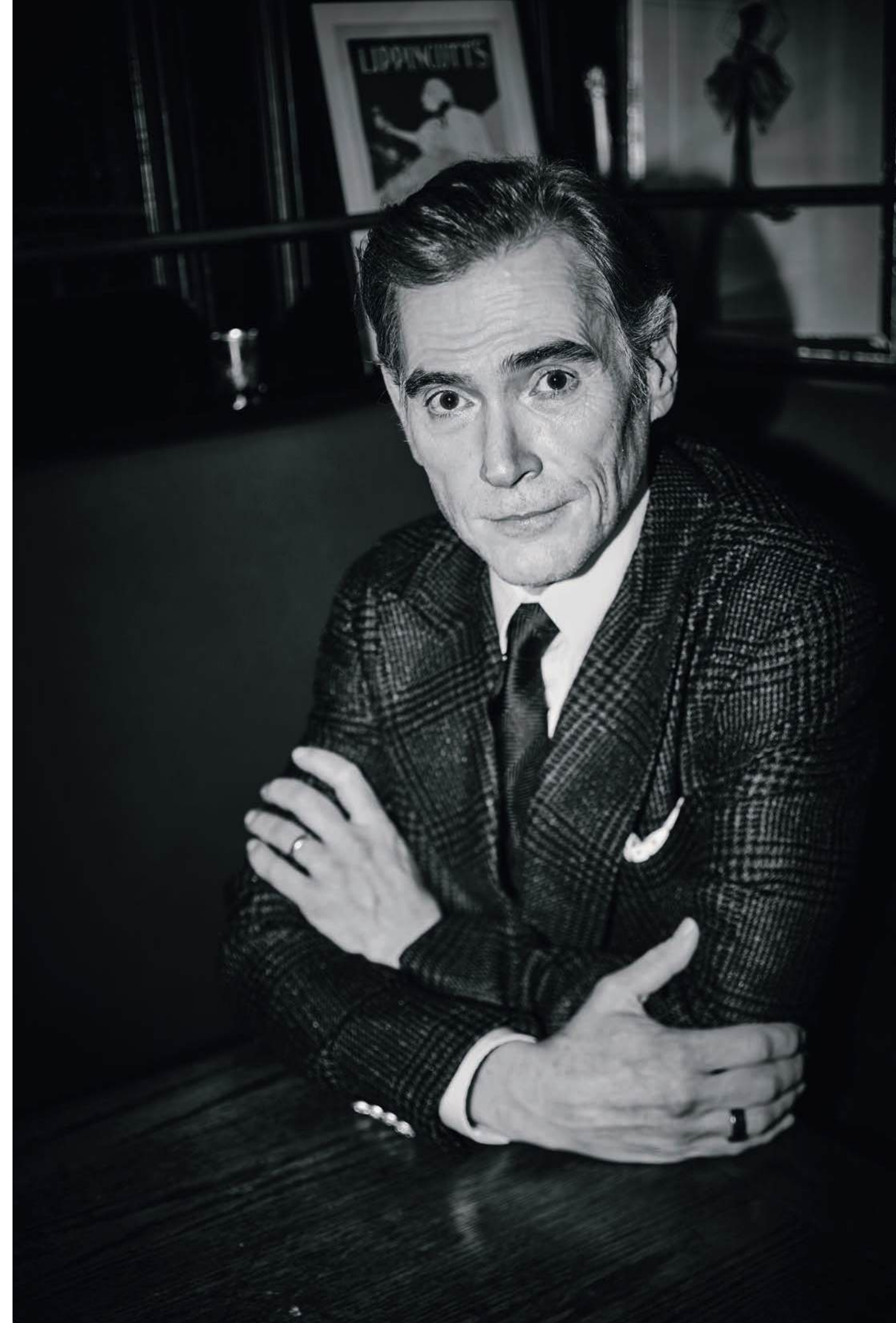
Harlem was not a distant, foreign concept to Crudup. It was one of the first gateways he passed through when arriving in New York in 1991. As a young man moving into the city with his brother, Harlem served as an early introduction to a different rhythm of life—raw, historical, complex, and vibrant.

Later, a poignant memory emerged: while visiting New York to attend one of his grandfather’s Episcopal services, Crudup accidentally entered a church in Harlem instead of the Upper West Side. Rather than turn away, he was greeted with warmth.

“Please come in. Please have a seat,” the congregation told him.

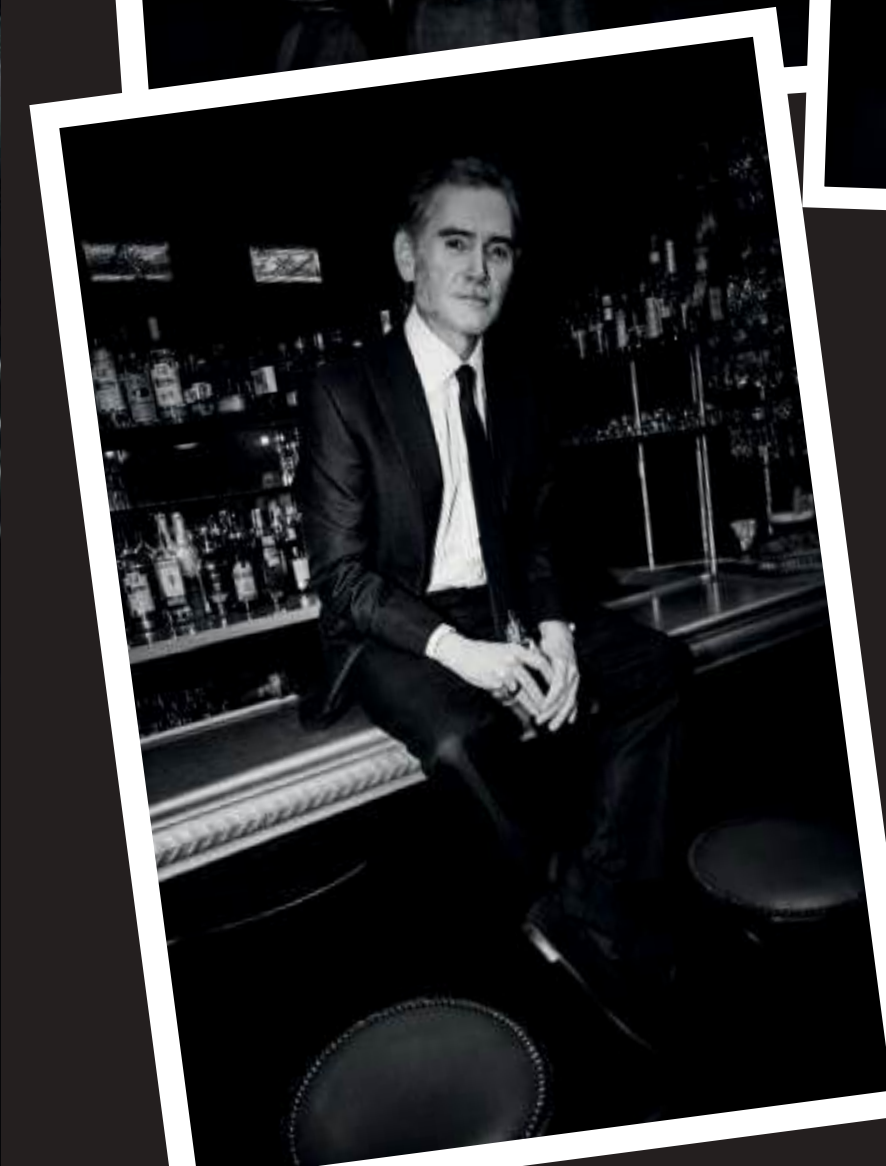
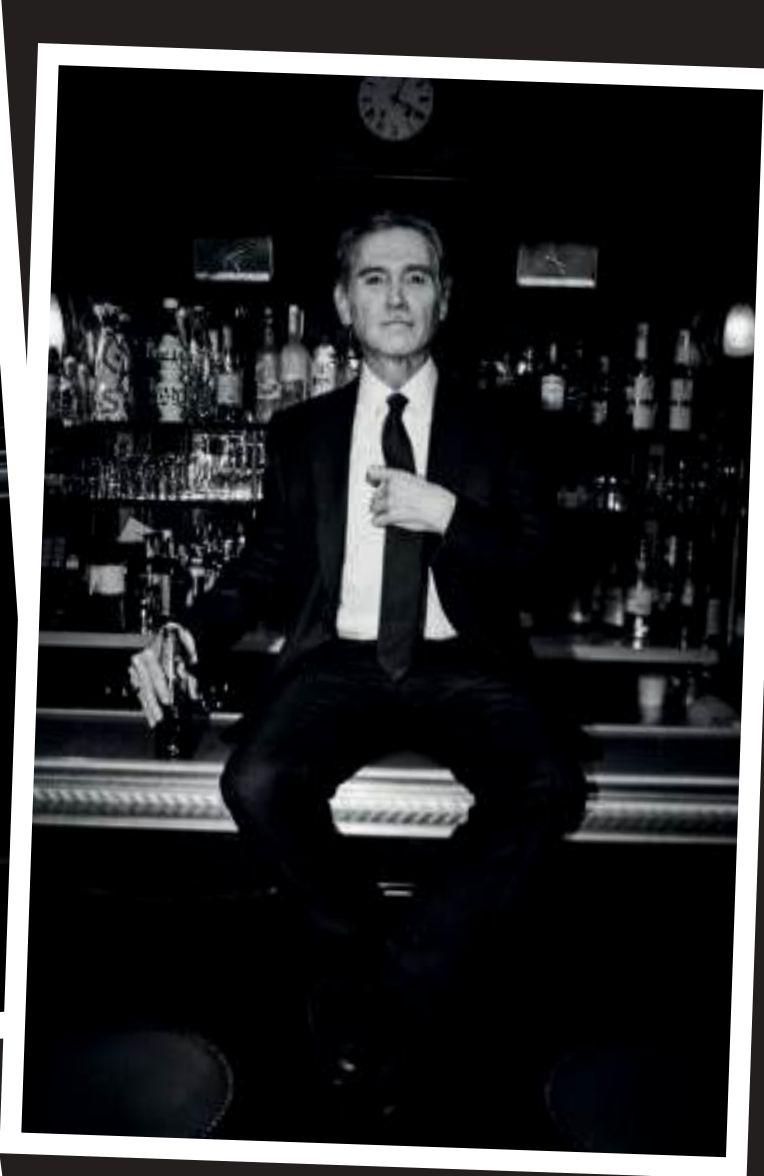
In that moment, Harlem embraced him before he ever consciously embraced it. It was prophetic. It was poetic. And it never left him.

Today, he stands as a protector of that same community, ensuring that its voices, faces, and dreams remain amplified through art.





“NEW YORK.
THE STAGE.
THE PEOPLE.”



When Crudup attended the Classical Theatre of Harlem's live production of *Memnon* this past summer, he was visibly moved. The performance was brilliant, yes—but more important was the audience. Families. Children. Young artists. Grandparents. Local residents who had never before seen themselves connected to Shakespeare, Ibsen, Sophocles.

They were not just watching a play.
They were being seen.

“The vibrancy,” he said, “was staggering. The hunger for it was staggering.”

THE PRICE OF SILENCE: WHY FUNDING MATTERS

In a country that continues to defund the arts at alarming rates, organizations like the Classical Theatre of Harlem are left to survive on miracles, private generosity, and relentless perseverance. Crudup speaks of it not as a distant political issue, but as an immediate human tragedy.

A cut of \$60,000, he explains, could erase an entire production. That is not theoretical—it is the actual cost of free theatre for a community.



These are not luxuries being cut.
These are lifelines.

The National Endowment for the Arts—once a pillar of nationwide support for cultural enrichment—has been systematically weakened over decades. And under more recent administrations, the assault on artistic infrastructure has intensified.

As someone who has built his life through these institutions, Crudup does not mask his disgust at the erosion. He speaks with clarity: when society strips away art, it strips away its capacity for empathy.

Plays are not merely entertainment. They are mirrors. They are questions. They are revolutions in dialogue.

As a board member, Crudup is not only representing artists. He is protecting the future of human expression.

HOLLYWOOD MEETS HARLEM: A PASSING MOMENT, A LASTING IMPACT

Despite his devotion to theatre, Crudup's film and television career continues to flourish in extraordinary ways.

On Apple TV's *The Morning Show*, he delivers a career-defining performance alongside Jennifer Aniston, whom he credits for being a powerful champion of his work. After attending a small, deeply personal performance he staged at the Vineyard Theatre—one in which he portrayed multiple characters in a raw, demanding one-man production—Aniston urged him to consider the series. Her advocacy led to a pivotal chapter in his career.

Now, millions around the globe experience his work weekly.

He is also starring in the feature film *Jake Kelly*, opposite two of cinema's most legendary figures: George Clooney and Adam Sandler. The convergence of these worlds—Hollywood's elite and Harlem's grassroots theatre—beautifully underscores the duality of Crudup's life.

But when asked where his heart truly lies, his answer is ever the same:

“New York. The stage. The people.”

THE NEW YORK SOUL & THE RITUAL OF STORYTELLING

To Crudup, New York is pluralism embodied—compressed humanity, a thousand lives interwoven, cultures intertwining like the veins of the city itself. It has forced him to understand humanity not as theory, but as reality. As proximity. As coexistence.





And theatre exists at the intersection.

Where technology gives illusion of connection through screens, theatre forces genuine connection through presence.

No pauses.
No edits.
No perfection.

Only truth unfolding in real time.

This is why he believes theatre will never die. Even in the age of AI, of digital replicas, of virtual worlds—there will always be a hunger for real breath, real voice, real silence shared among strangers.

And this is exactly why the Classical Theatre of Harlem matters more now than ever.

A FULL CIRCLE: FROM A CHILD IN THE BALCONY TO A MAN ON THE BOARD

Crudup's love affair with theatre was born in childhood. Not through training, but through love. His mother brought him to Broadway productions from Long Island, planting seeds before he understood their significance. Summer after summer, winter after winter, she brought him back to the city. Back to the orchestra. Back to the magic.

His father, a complex man of layered psychological depth, unknowingly supplied him with some of his greatest inspiration. Watching human contradiction up close helped Crudup understand what it truly means to inhabit a character.

All of it led to this moment—not just success, but stewardship.

He is no longer only an actor in the play.

Now, he is one of its guardians.

A LEGACY BEYOND PERFORMANCE

When asked what he envisions for the future, he does not talk about awards. Or roles. Or recognition.

He speaks of conversation.
Of equity.
Of unity.
Of young people discovering their own voices under a summer sky while Shakespeare echoes through Harlem streets.

He speaks of institutions that refuse to collapse.
Of artists who refuse to disappear.
Of a world that chooses meaning over spectacle.

This might be the most important role Billy Crudup has ever played.

And it is not written in a script.

MADE in America

How the beautiful Katerina Barquet Stege leads in the legal world one step at a time

By ROSANNA PEREZ

The Cornell Law School and University of Pennsylvania graduate, Katerina Barquet Stege was born in San Juan, Puerto Rico, and hails from a prominent family from the Caribbean Island. She is not only a stunning brunette with eyes that hypnotize—reason we chose her to be on the list of the 50 Most Beautiful & Influential—but is also a brilliant individual in law matters. “We practice immigration law. When an attorney does not do their job, we come and fix it,” explained Barquet Stege from her current hometown in Missouri. She has offices in New York, St. Louis, and Miami and has dealt with many prominent cases in the country, from Juan Valdez Café to some of Latin America’s top CEOs to Grammy award winning artists and even royal family members.

“My motto has always been: do an excellent job, and the referrals will multiply. We have represented clients from around the world, and our work requires exceptional attention to detail. We handle highly complex business and corporate immigration matters, from securing executive and employee work visas to obtaining specialized classifications such as artist or talent visas. The important part is that at the end of the day, the United States is a country where people all around the world want to come and live here, no matter the politics. If you see the disparity in salaries compared to any other country in the world, you will understand. The intricacies of the bureaucracy, how to achieve this in the fastest time and easiest route, make us stand out among the thousands of attorneys that practice immigration law. We have worked extensively with Silicon Valley and can focus on the New York City area, where you have many of the top financial workplaces globally, same with Miami.”

Her entrepreneurial spirit increased the odds of starting her own firm in 2018. The mother of one is a successful lawyer who loves what she does. “There is really no formula for success. We go for the clients, respect their time and money, and just get them the results they need.”

Drawing on rigorous training at some of the nation’s most prestigious law firms, she brings exceptional skill to addressing the complex legal issues multinational companies face when transferring U.S. and foreign workers. She has a J.D. with a Specialization in International Legal Affairs & Business Law/Regulation from Cornell Law School. She also holds a Bachelor of Arts degree from the University of Pennsylvania. She is a member of the American Immigration Lawyers Association; the Florida, Missouri, New York, and California State Bar Associations; President & Board Member of the Hispanic Bar Association of St. Louis; Board Member of the Hispanic Chamber of Commerce of St. Louis, and sits on the Advisory Council of the St. Louis Symphony Orchestra. For more information visit: www.barquetstege.com



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THE
50 MOST
BEAUTIFUL &
INFLUENTIAL



DR. MARCOS A. PARRILLA RÍOS

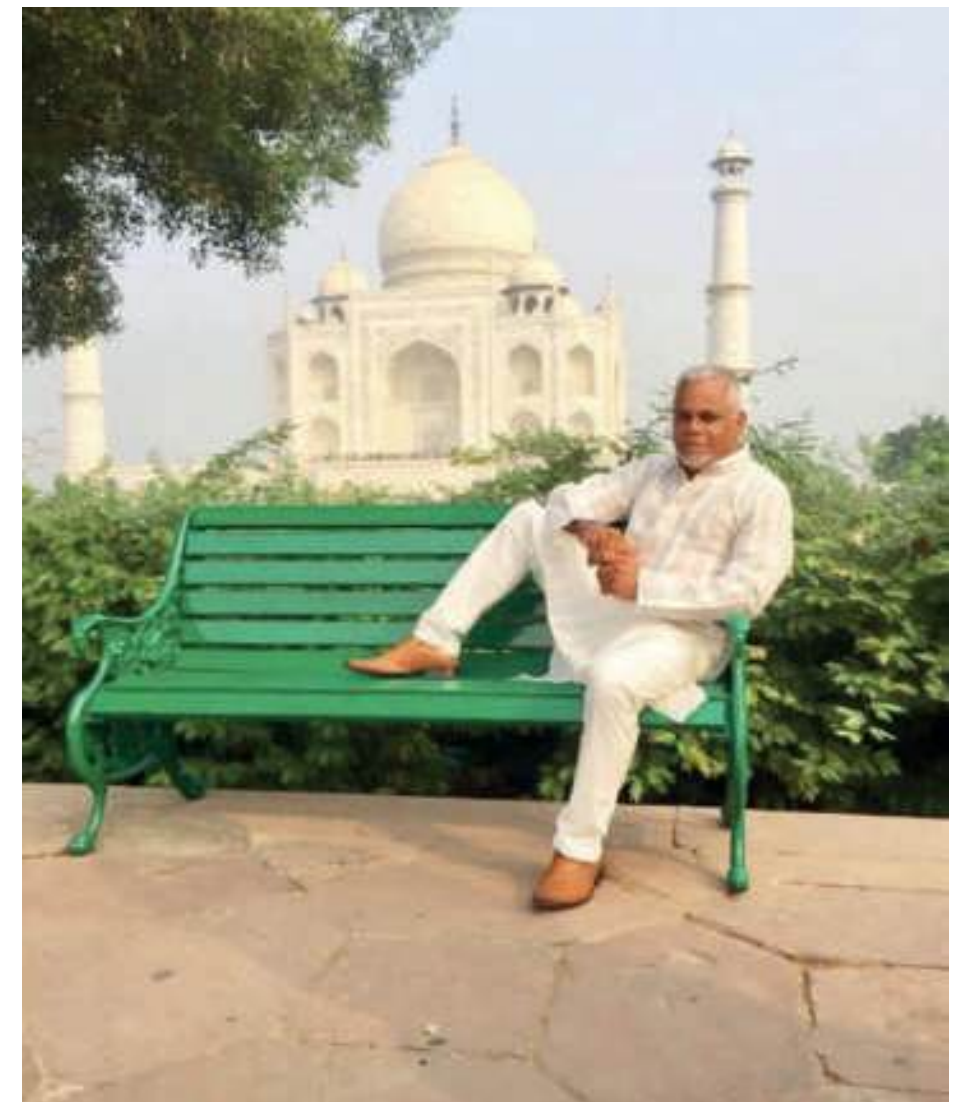
*A Commitment to Healing, Community,
and Excellence in San Lorenzo*

By Mari Allende. Photographed by Raymond Vega

In the heart of San Lorenzo, Puerto Rico, where tradition, resilience, and close-knit community values shape everyday life, Dr. Marcos A. Parrilla Ríos has built a medical practice defined by trust, compassion, and unwavering dedication to patient care. More than a physician, he is a pillar of the community—one whose work reflects both professional excellence and a deeply rooted sense of service.

Dr. Parrilla Ríos's career is guided by a clear philosophy: medicine is not merely about diagnosing and treating illness, but about understanding people. From the moment patients walk into his practice, they encounter an environment where they are listened to, respected, and treated as individuals rather than case numbers. This patient-centered approach has earned him long-standing loyalty from families across San Lorenzo and neighboring municipalities.

Educated and trained with a strong emphasis on clinical rigor and ethical responsibility, Dr. Parrilla Ríos combines medical expertise with a human touch that is increasingly rare in today's fast-paced healthcare systems. His ability to communicate clearly, explain



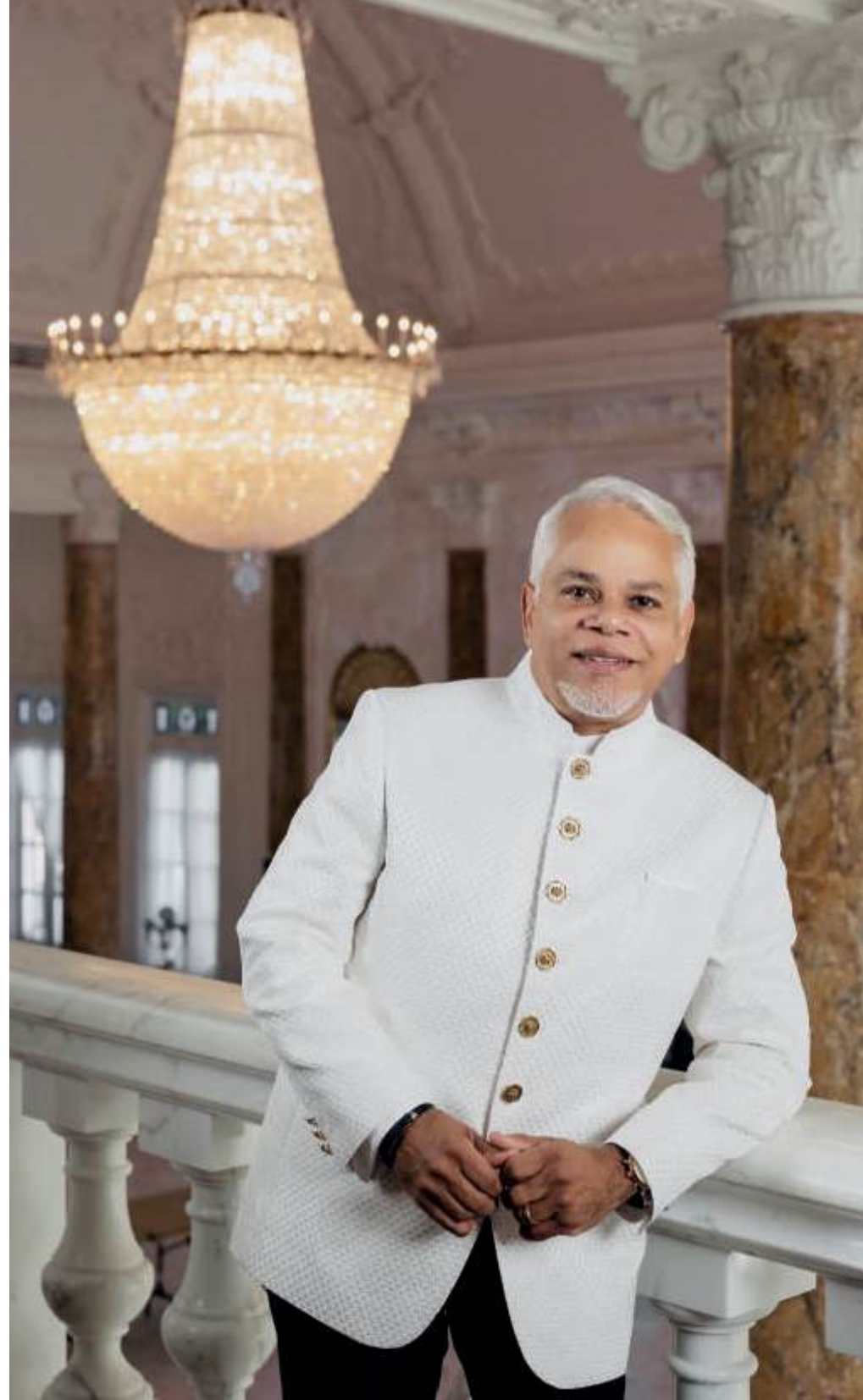
**THE
50 MOST
BEAUTIFUL &
INFLUENTIAL**

conditions in accessible language, and guide patients through informed decisions has become one of his most defining strengths. For many, he is not only their physician but also a trusted advisor during some of life's most vulnerable moments.

Practicing medicine in Puerto Rico presents unique challenges, from healthcare system constraints to the long-term effects of natural disasters and economic pressures. Dr. Parrilla Ríos has remained steadfast through these realities, continuing to serve his community with consistency and professionalism. His presence in San Lorenzo represents stability—an assurance that quality medical care is available close to home, without the need to travel far or feel lost in an impersonal system.

Beyond the exam room, Dr. Parrilla Ríos is deeply aware of the broader social factors that influence health. He understands that wellness is connected to family support, education, lifestyle, and emotional well-being. This holistic perspective allows him to treat not just symptoms, but the full context of each patient's life. It is this comprehensive view that sets his practice apart and reinforces his reputation as a physician who truly cares.

Colleagues and patients alike describe Dr. Parrilla Ríos as disciplined, attentive, and principled. His work ethic reflects a lifelong commitment to learning and professional growth, ensuring that his patients benefit from up-to-date medical knowledge while



“THE UNIVERSE—GOD—HAS ABUNDANTLY BLESSED MY LIFE. IN RECOGNITION OF THIS, I OFFER MY SERVICES AS A PHYSICIAN IN KENYA THROUGH A MISSIONARY INITIATIVE LED BY DR. JESÚS HERNÁNDEZ. THERE, I AM ABLE TO WITNESS FIRSTHAND THE PROFOUND HEALTHCARE NEEDS FACED BY CERTAIN COMMUNITIES AND TO SERVE AS AN INSTRUMENT OF COMPASSION AND SERVICE.”



“The Dr. Marcos Parrilla-Ríos Scholarship was established in 1994, just one year after my graduation, as an expression of honor and gratitude to my alma mater, the Universidad Central del Caribe in Bayamón. Our School of Medicine will celebrate its 50th anniversary this coming September 2026. Recognizing that education has the power to transform lives and elevate understanding, I felt—and continue to feel—deeply motivated to cultivate this scholarship. My mentors, Mrs. Elsie Torres de Dávila and Dr. Nélide Rivera de González, were cornerstones of my professional development. They believed in me despite barely knowing me, trusted in my potential, and guided my path. In the face of socioeconomic adversity, I was supported by noble individuals who helped me fulfill my childhood dream of becoming a physician.”

**THE
50 MOST
BEAUTIFUL &
INFLUENTIAL**

still receiving care rooted in empathy and respect. In an era of rapidly advancing medicine, he balances innovation with the timeless values of trust and personal connection.

San Lorenzo itself plays a meaningful role in his story. Serving a community rich in culture and tradition, Dr. Parrilla Ríos has embraced the responsibility that comes with being a local physician. He treats multiple generations within the same families, forging bonds that extend beyond routine appointments. These long-term relationships allow for continuity of care that strengthens outcomes and deepens mutual respect.

Patients often speak of the reassurance they feel under his care—the sense that someone is truly looking out for their well-being. Whether addressing preventive health, managing chronic conditions, or navigating complex medical decisions, Dr. Parrilla Ríos approaches each case with patience and professionalism. His calm demeanor and thoughtful guidance provide comfort, especially during moments of uncertainty.

As Puerto Rico continues to evolve and adapt to new healthcare realities, physicians like Dr. Marcos A. Parrilla Ríos remain essential. They represent the best of medicine: skill guided by compassion, knowledge grounded in service, and success measured not by volume, but by impact. His practice stands as a testament to what healthcare can and should be when it is rooted in community, integrity, and genuine care.

In San Lorenzo, Dr. Parrilla Ríos is more than a doctor—he is a trusted presence, a steady voice, and a reminder that excellence in medicine begins with humanity. His ongoing commitment ensures that quality healthcare remains accessible, personal, and deeply connected to the people he serves.



“I WAS RAISED ALONGSIDE MY MOTHER, CARMEN RÍOS, AND MY SISTER JUANITA, WHO HAS AN INTELLECTUAL DISABILITY. MY MOTHER RAISED US ON HER OWN, MEETING THE NEEDS OF OUR HOUSEHOLD WHILE WORKING UP TO THREE JOBS. I WAS EDUCATED AT COLEGIO BAUTISTA DE CAGUAS, AND I EARNED MY BACHELOR’S DEGREE WITH HONORS FROM THE UNIVERSITY OF PUERTO RICO, RÍO PIEDRAS CAMPUS.”



“AT MY HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATION, I RECEIVED THE PRINCIPAL’S AWARD, GRANTED TO THE STUDENT WITH THE HIGHEST ACADEMIC AVERAGE AND THE MOST WELL-ROUNDED HUMANISTIC PROFILE. IT IS A MOMENT I CHERISH DEEPLY—BEING NAMED VALEDICTORIAN.”





*From Park Avenue to Central Park
The MD from Manhattan dressed in haute couture*
Story Written (+ Styled) by REBECA HERRERO. Makeup and Hair: YLI LIRIANO
Photographer: MERUYERT OMAROVA

*The 50[★]
Most Beautiful
& Influential*

Diane Madfes

**A NEW YORKER
WITH A SENSE
OF STYLE**

The beautiful and charming Dr. Diane Madfes has called New York City her home all her life. She commutes between Greenwich Connecticut Manhattan, and Hollywood Florida and exudes an air of elegance everywhere she goes. Be it walking around the pristine streets of Park Avenue or glancing at the glass store windows on the sophisticated Madison Avenue, Madfes adheres to all things beautiful. She has a grand gesture for passersby, walks with a delicate stroll, and smiles while staring at the old charm buildings that encapsulate Old Art, Old Stucco, and just the greatness of this place, the Capital of the World, New York City.

“These are my favorite spots,” said Madfes, while walking towards Central Park, where, nearby, you can listen to a violinist, or watch a young woman dance impromptu ballet while seeking tips at the preserved Central Park Amphitheatre. “Since I was 12, I wanted to be a doctor. I am lucky to do this every day,” explained Madfes as soon as we entered her office. The medical office is equipped with the latest technology for the face and body, as well as all the skin treatments we can find. All her life, she certainly has had a fascination with the skin.

“In medical school, I thought I would be a cardiothoracic surgeon but during my studies and practice, I fell in love with dermatology. I am happy every day confirming my decision to dedicate my lifelong career as a dermatologic surgeon and laser specialist. “We are slowing the aging process, the brain keeps evolving, and we are finding new ways to retreat the skin and stem cells. Everyone ages differently. We can help with everchanging laser technology and regenerative medicine reboost new collagen;



“The sun ages us causing skin cancer, creating brown spots and collagen damage all of which we can reduce in intensity by reducing your sun exposure. No matter what, one can protect their skin. You can do plenty of outdoor activities, using hats, sunglasses, sun-blocking protection in creams, and many products. It’s the most important thing.”

“I am on staff at Mt Sinai, a hub for collaboration. I teach there, and I can assure you it is the best research available in the world. Twenty-five years ago I opened my own practice. To treat my patients with care and dedication, and to avoid skin cancer. We encourage individuals of all ages to attend health evaluations. So many people are affected by skin cancer, and it is highly preventable. We need to create awareness. It’s not only the aesthetic aspect of it, but it’s the health factor that matters most. We strive to educate people visiting from all parts of the world. We are the epicenter of research and advanced techniques available to patients.”

Besides spending time with her family, her favorite hobbies consist of swimming and traveling. “Thanks to my parents, I was very fortunate to travel worldwide. We were lucky to experience



*Victor de Souza
FW 2024*





the fulfilling aspects of life, including sports, outdoor activities, and the enjoyment of art in design and museums all over the world. I can visit Patagonia and feel a sense of awe, like the waters of Montenegro or the Dolomites in Italy. The splendor of life is at your feet. Wearing these clothes by designer Victor dSouza, which are so beautiful, so delicate, so well built, on this beautiful day, and being able to walk to the Frick Museum, one of my favorite spots in the city, and taking care of patients-it's what life is all about."

After receiving her medical degree in 1992, Dr. Madfes completed an internship at Yale-New Haven Hospital in the department of internal medicine. She then began a three-year residency at Albert Einstein College of Medicine, where she trained in dermatologic surgery, sclerotherapy, laser surgery, cosmetic dermatology, and general dermatology. She is an assistant clinical professor at Mt. Sinai Hospital in New York and a member of numerous





professional societies, including the American Academy of Dermatology, the American Society of Dermatologic Surgery, the American Society for Laser Medicine and Surgery, Women's Medical Association, and the Menopause Society. She served as a consultant for various skincare lines, notably Garnier, SkinCeuticals and La Roche-Posay. Recently, she served as an advisor to CeraVe for their international launch. She raises money for skin cancer prevention programs, such as "Skin Cancer Take a Hike," which builds shade structures at parks and schools to decrease UV exposure. She is also the creator of BurnCream MD, an over-the-counter topical burn care product.

Dr. Madfes is a published author of medical research, with a recent abstract accepted at the EADV AAD world congress titled, "Prevalence of scars: USA results of the first international study." She is often interviewed and quoted in various magazines, as well as on television and radio programs.

Diane Madfes MD has 33 years experience and is a board certified in Dermatology. She graduated from Albert Einstein College of Medicine in 1992. Her office is located at 1 East 69th St, NY NY 10021



WILNELIA
MERCED

Lady Forsyth

A LIFE OF BEAUTY,
COMPASSION, AND
PURPOSE. *By Mari Allende*

For more than fifty years, Wilnelia has embodied elegance, compassion, and international goodwill. Best known for being crowned Miss World 1975, the Puerto Rican beauty queen has spent decades transforming the prestige of that title into a platform for philanthropy, cultural connection, and humanitarian work. Her remarkable life journey—from the town of Caguas, Puerto Rico, to the global stage—continues to inspire new generations.

Born Wilnelia Merced Cruz on October 12, 1957, in Caguas, Puerto Rico, she grew up in a loving and close-knit family where values of kindness, humility, and community were deeply instilled. As a teenager, her natural grace and confidence led her into modeling and local beauty competitions. In 1975 she won the title Miss Mundo de Puerto Rico, earning the honor of representing the island at the prestigious Miss World pageant in London.

That same year, she traveled to the Royal Albert Hall to compete in Miss World 1975. Among dozens of contestants from around the globe, Wilnelia stood out for her beauty, intelligence, and poise. When she was crowned Miss World, she made history as the first



WHEN SHE WAS CROWNED *Miss World*, SHE MADE HISTORY AS THE FIRST *Puerto Rican* woman TO WIN THE INTERNATIONAL TITLE, *bringing immense pride* TO HER HOMELAND.



THE 50 MOST BEAUTIFUL & INFLUENTIAL

Puerto Rican woman to win the international title, bringing immense pride to her homeland.

Her year as Miss World opened doors to global travel and humanitarian work. As an ambassador for the Miss World organization, she participated in charitable initiatives and international events, experiences that helped shape her lifelong dedication to helping others.

Following her reign, Wilnelia moved to New York and signed with Ford Models, one of the world's most prestigious modeling agencies. Her modeling career flourished internationally, with work in fashion campaigns and advertising. One of her most memorable milestones came when her image appeared on a massive billboard in Times Square, a symbol of her rising international profile.

Life took a romantic turn when she met legendary British television host Sir Bruce Forsyth at a Miss World event in London in 1980. The couple quickly formed a strong connection and married in New York in 1983. Forsyth, already a beloved figure in British entertainment, and Wilnelia became one of the most admired couples in the public eye.

In 1986 they welcomed their son, Jonathan Joseph "JJ" Forsyth, and settled in Surrey, England. Wilnelia gradually stepped away from full-time modeling to focus on family life while continuing her philanthropic work and involvement in charitable causes.

One of the most profound chapters of her life came from a deeply personal experience. Wilnelia became the primary caregiver for her beloved mother, Delia, who suffered from Alzheimer's disease. With love, strength, and determination, she cared for her mother herself until the end of her life. Within three months of losing her mother, Wilnelia also lost her father, a heartbreaking period that deeply shaped her outlook on life and service.

Determined to transform that painful experience into something positive, she founded Delia's Respite for Caregivers in Puerto Rico, named in honor of her mother. The initiative focuses on helping families caring for loved ones with Alzheimer's and other forms of dementia. Through education



WILNELIA added another milestone TO HER REMARKABLE JOURNEY WITH the publication of her autobiography, "WILNELIA MERCED, LADY FORSYTH: A LIFE BETWEEN TWO WORLDS."



programs, resources, and community outreach, the organization teaches caregivers practical ways to cope with the emotional and physical challenges of caring for patients with memory-related illnesses.

For Wilnelia, the project is deeply personal. Having experienced the isolation and difficulty of caregiving herself, she wanted to create a support system so that other caregivers would not feel alone. Delia's Respite for Caregivers provides guidance, encouragement, and training for families navigating the realities of Alzheimer's disease.

In addition to her charitable work, she has remained closely connected to the Miss World organization. Over the years she has returned frequently as a judge and honored guest, mentoring young contestants and supporting the pageant's long-standing commitment to humanitarian service through its "Beauty with a Purpose" initiative.

In 2011, when Sir Bruce Forsyth was knighted by Queen Elizabeth II for his contributions to British entertainment, Wilnelia officially became Lady Forsyth, a title that reflected both her husband's distinguished career and her own respected place in society. The couple

shared more than three decades of marriage until Sir Bruce's passing in 2017.

Recently, Wilnelia added another milestone to her remarkable journey with the publication of her autobiography, "Wilnelia Merced, Lady Forsyth: A Life Between Two Worlds." The book offers an intimate look at her extraordinary life—from growing up in Puerto Rico to becoming Miss World, building an international career, and navigating life between two cultures. It also reflects on her personal experiences, family life, and the philanthropic mission that continues to guide her today.

More than five decades after her historic Miss World victory, Wilnelia remains a symbol of grace and generosity. Her life demonstrates that true beauty lies not only in elegance and achievement, but also in compassion, resilience, and the desire to make a meaningful difference in the lives of others.

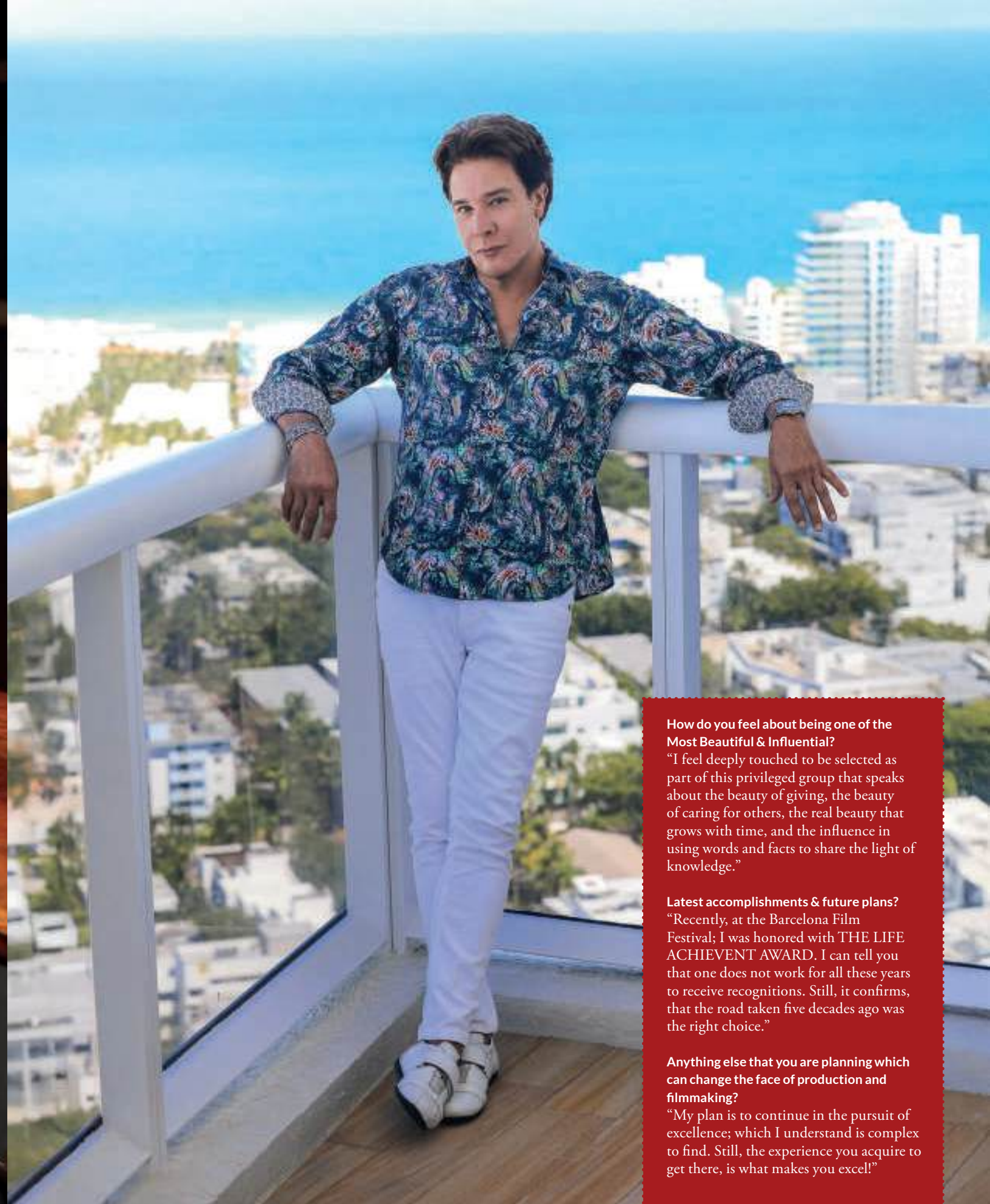
From Caguas to London, from fashion runways to charity initiatives, and from international stages to the quiet dedication of caregiving, Lady Forsyth's story is one of purpose—a life lived beautifully between two worlds.



THE
50 MOST
BEAUTIFUL &
INFLUENTIAL

ALWAYS SPECTACULAR
Fernando Allende

Photography by Ricardo J. Acevedo



How do you feel about being one of the Most Beautiful & Influential?

"I feel deeply touched to be selected as part of this privileged group that speaks about the beauty of giving, the beauty of caring for others, the real beauty that grows with time, and the influence in using words and facts to share the light of knowledge."

Latest accomplishments & future plans?

"Recently, at the Barcelona Film Festival; I was honored with THE LIFE ACHIEVEMENT AWARD. I can tell you that one does not work for all these years to receive recognitions. Still, it confirms, that the road taken five decades ago was the right choice."

Anything else that you are planning which can change the face of production and filmmaking?

"My plan is to continue in the pursuit of excellence; which I understand is complex to find. Still, the experience you acquire to get there, is what makes you excel!"



FERNANDO ALLENDE

A Life of Art, Music, and Cultural Legacy

Few entertainers have enjoyed a career as multifaceted, enduring, and influential as that of Fernando Allende. For more than five decades, Allende has captivated audiences around the world as an actor, singer, painter, and cultural ambassador. His contributions to film, television, music, and the fine arts have not only defined an extraordinary personal career but have also helped pave the way for generations of Latino artists in international entertainment.

Born in Mexico into a family deeply connected to the arts and culture, Allende displayed talent and charisma from an early age. His natural presence, musical ability, and passion for performance quickly propelled him into the spotlight. In Mexico and throughout Latin America, he became widely known as a leading actor in television and film, while simultaneously developing a successful career as a recording artist.

One of the most defining aspects of Allende's musical career has been his profound love for traditional Mexican music. Throughout the

years, he has been a passionate interpreter and promoter of Mariachi music, performing beloved classics that celebrate the heritage and spirit of Mexico. His dedication to preserving and elevating this treasured musical tradition has earned him recognition as an Ambassador to Mariachi Musicians around the world in perpetuity—a distinction that reflects his commitment to honoring and sharing this cultural art form with global audiences.

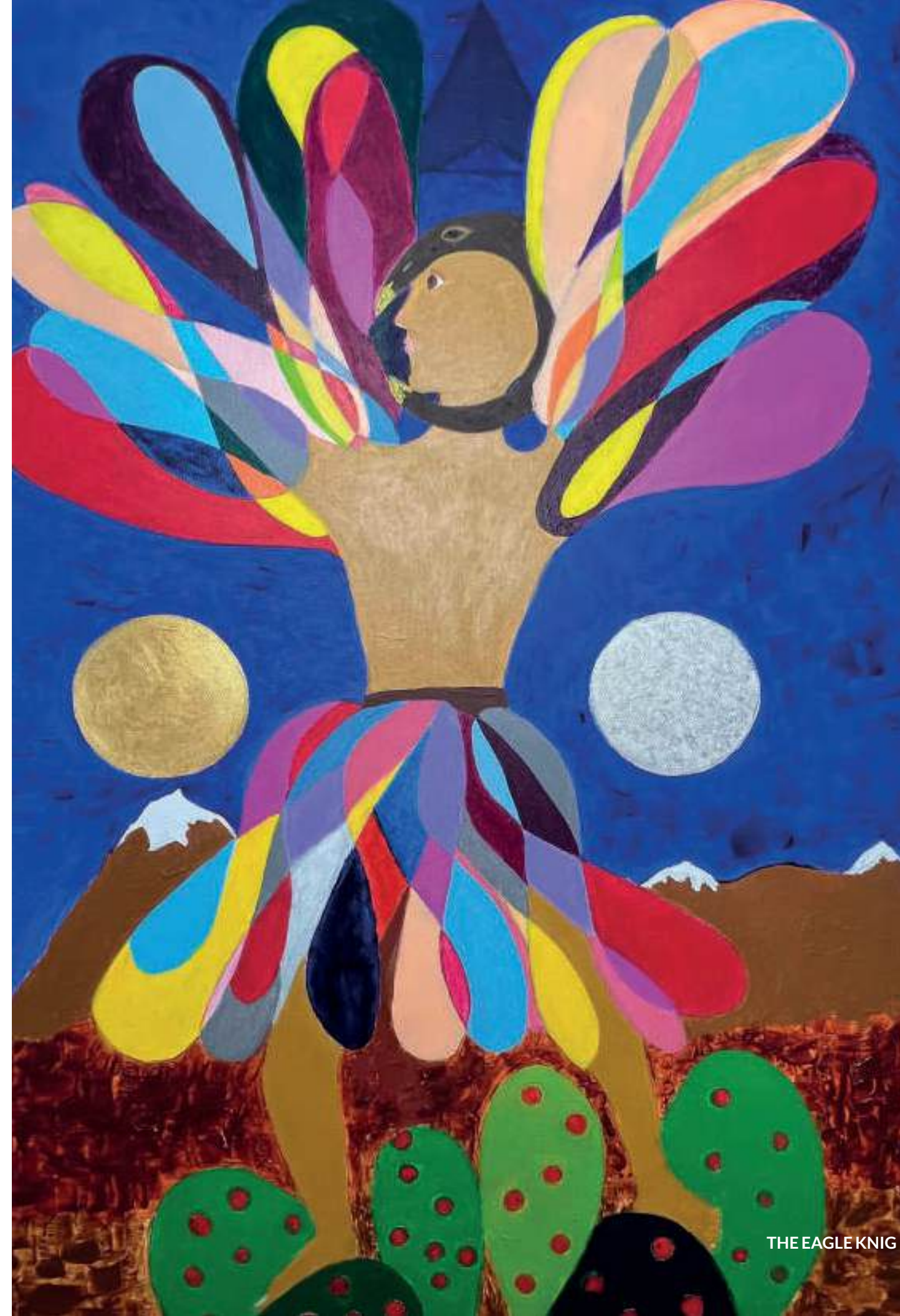
While his success in Latin America was already well established, Allende's ambitions reached beyond borders. In the 1970s, he became one of the first Latino performers of his generation to successfully cross over into Hollywood. At a time when opportunities for Latino actors were limited, Allende broke barriers and helped open doors that later allowed the flourishing of Latino talent in the American entertainment industry.

His appearances in Hollywood films and television series introduced international audiences to his charm, versatility, and screen presence. Among his most notable international

projects was the television epic *Master of the Game*, based on the bestselling novel by Sidney Sheldon. The production was filmed at the legendary Pinewood Studios in London, as well as on location in the South of France, and featured an extraordinary international cast.

Throughout his career, Allende has shared the screen with some of the most respected names in cinema and television. He performed in leading roles opposite legendary artists such as Joanne Woodward, Karen Black, Peter Ustinov, and Tony Curtis, among others. These collaborations further solidified his reputation as a talented and respected international performer.

Yet acting and music represent only part of Fernando Allende's remarkable creative journey. Over the years, he has also developed an impressive career as a visual artist. His paintings—vibrant, expressive works that explore emotion, color, and culture—have gained recognition among collectors and art enthusiasts internationally.





Papa Peacock is in a Private Collection in Mexico City owned by Isabel Yuste & Antonio Barberena Rioseco.

Today, Allende's artwork has achieved the rare distinction of being included in the collections of five museums, a testament to the seriousness and artistic value of his work. Among these institutions is the renowned Museo Jumex in Mexico City, one of the most respected contemporary art museums in Latin America. The presence of his paintings in such prestigious collections confirms that Allende's artistic vision extends far beyond the stage and screen.

Throughout his life, Fernando Allende has demonstrated a relentless passion for creativity and expression. Whether performing on stage, acting before the camera, singing traditional mariachi songs, or painting in his studio, he has remained deeply committed to celebrating culture and inspiring audiences through art.

His career also reflects a broader narrative about perseverance and cultural pride. At a time when Latino artists faced significant obstacles in the

international entertainment industry, Allende dared to dream beyond boundaries. His success in Hollywood during the 1970s helped open doors for the extraordinary Latino presence that now thrives in film, television, and music worldwide.

Today, his story continues to resonate. The extraordinary life and legacy of Fernando Allende have captured renewed attention within the entertainment industry, where Hollywood studios are currently exploring two major projects inspired by his journey. A feature-length documentary and a dramatic biographical series are now being considered, both aiming to chronicle the remarkable path of this pioneering artist.

These productions would explore the many dimensions of Allende's life—from his early success in Latin America to his groundbreaking crossover into Hollywood, his passion for

mariachi music, and his evolution as an internationally recognized painter. The projects seek not only to celebrate his achievements but also to preserve the story of a trailblazer who helped shape the cultural landscape for Latino performers.

As audiences continue to discover and rediscover his work, Fernando Allende's legacy grows ever stronger. He remains a living example of artistic versatility and cultural pride—an entertainer whose voice, performances, and paintings have left a lasting imprint across multiple artistic worlds.

In the end, Fernando Allende is far more than a performer. He is a pioneer, a cultural ambassador, and a creative force whose contributions continue to inspire artists and audiences across generations. His life stands as a testament to the power of talent, determination, and the enduring beauty of art in all its forms.

"Throughout the many years I have spent collecting art, I have encountered countless surprises. Some of those discoveries have been gratifying, while others have not. Yet in the case of **Fernando Allende**, who is not only a dear friend but also an extraordinary human being, the experience has been truly remarkable.

Fernando's talent, dedication, and tireless effort have long transcended borders. His career in the arts has already demonstrated a rare ability to move audiences and collectors alike. However, what I recently experienced through his artistic work as a painter brought me a sense of discovery that I had not felt in a very long time.

In a field that was previously unfamiliar to me, I found a body of work that is not only aesthetically beautiful, but also intellectually and visually well constructed. The pieces are thoughtfully articulated, revealing depth, intention, and a strong artistic voice. This alone makes his work stand apart within a realm that I had not previously explored with such attention.

To encounter such work is both exciting and challenging, as it invites the viewer to engage with something new and unexpected. What I discovered in Fernando's creations is truly exceptional—art that possesses both emotional resonance and refined craftsmanship.

Without hesitation, I can say that his work holds the quality and significance worthy of being exhibited in museums anywhere in the world. It reflects not only artistic mastery but also the passion and spirit of an artist who continues to evolve and surprise us."

With all my admiration,
Eugenio López
 Museo JUMEX, Mexico City

Exclusive

*THE
50 MOST
BEAUTIFUL &
INFLUENTIAL*

Dina LOHAN



A GLAMOROUS
ARCHITECT OF
FAMILY, AMBITION,
AND REINVENTION

*Photography by
Antoine Verglas.*



In the lush glow of contemporary celebrity culture, Dina Lohan stands as a singular figure who has spent decades shaping not just her own narrative, but the story of an entire family orbiting the spotlight. More than a matriarch, she is a strategist of image, a relentless pursuer of opportunity, and a living gloss on how glamour can be wielded with both precision and warmth.

Dina's presence is the hinge on which the Lohan story turns. From the moment she stepped into the public eye as Lindsay Lohan's mother and manager, she embraced a role that blends showmanship with shrewd business acumen. Her glamour is not solely about sequins and red carpets; it is about the deliberate choreography of choices—training, branding, and timing—that keeps a family relevant while navigating the ebbs and flows of fame. The Dina Lohan persona is poised, polished, and unapologetically entrepreneurial: a modern archetype of the independent, multitasking mother who converts opportunity into enduring visibility.

What makes Dina's glamour truly compelling is the way it intersects with motherhood and mentorship. She has long balanced the demands of guiding children with wildly different paths—most famously Lindsay Lohan, the Hollywood movie star whose early career captured the world's gaze—while maintaining the self-possession of a seasoned operator. Her approach to fame is a study in poise: confidence



without artifice, curation without rigidity. In every public encounter, Dina embodies a blend of glamour and grit, a reminder that elegance in the modern era often rides on perseverance, resilience, and a clear-eyed sense of purpose.

The Lohan brand, under Dina's stewardship, has always extended beyond entertainment alone. It is a tapestry of reinvention—and Dina has rewoven that tapestry time and again. Her stylistic evolution—from bold, fearless fashion choices to a more nuanced, editorial sensibility—mirrors the broader arc of pop culture's fascination with rebirth. Glamour here is both transactional and transformative: the ability to evolve with the moment while preserving a core essence that feels authentic and recognizable.

That philosophy of reinvention is perhaps most evident in the diverse successes of her children. Alongside the creative and cultural impact of her daughters, Dina's son **Michael "Mike" Lohan Jr.** represents another dimension of the family's ambition—one rooted firmly in business and long-term strategy. A successful businessman with a focused expertise in real estate, Mike Jr. is the **Founding Principal of Nineteen Blocks**, where he has built a reputation for disciplined dealmaking and forward-thinking development. His career underscores a quieter, yet equally powerful form of glamour: one defined by intelligence, infrastructure, and the confidence to build enduring value beyond the spotlight.

Dina's influence extends beyond fashion and branding into the realm of empowerment. She embodies a version of glamour that is accessible yet aspirational, rooted in the belief that personal narrative is one of the most powerful assets a person can cultivate. Her public persona invites others to witness how fearlessness, discipline, and a willingness to evolve can translate into sustained

impact. In interviews, media appearances, and social moments, Dina models a life where ambition is not a sprint, but a carefully paced, strategic journey.

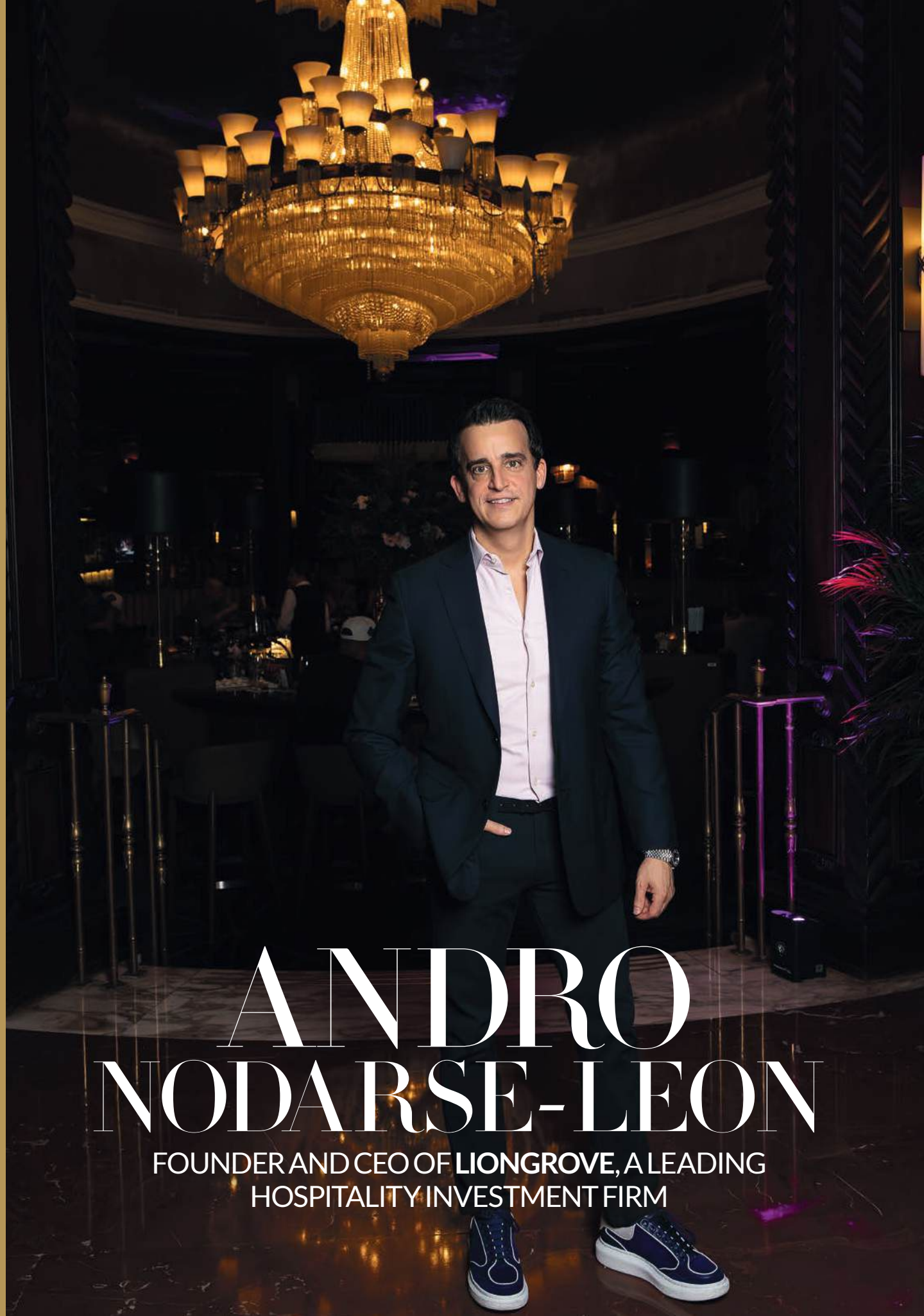
Of course, the familial constellation around Dina—most famously Lindsay Lohan—often enters the frame as part of the broader story. **Aliana and Dakota**, have emerged as luminous forces in their own right, poised on the brink of tier-one notoriety. Aliana, with her radiant artistry and skyward ambitions, is celebrated not merely as a rising social media presence but as a bona fide singer whose vocal sonics resonate with the sophistication of a seasoned headliner. Her performances shimmer with a mature artistry, delivering melodies that feel both timeless and distinctly contemporary. Dakota, meanwhile, channels editorial poise and cinematic charisma in equal measure. As a model and actor, she commands runways and screens with a confidence most seasoned stars reserve for their peak moments, transforming each appearance into a study in modern glamour.

The family's collective success reinforces the deeper narrative at the heart of Dina Lohan's legacy—one of stewardship rather than spectacle, mentorship



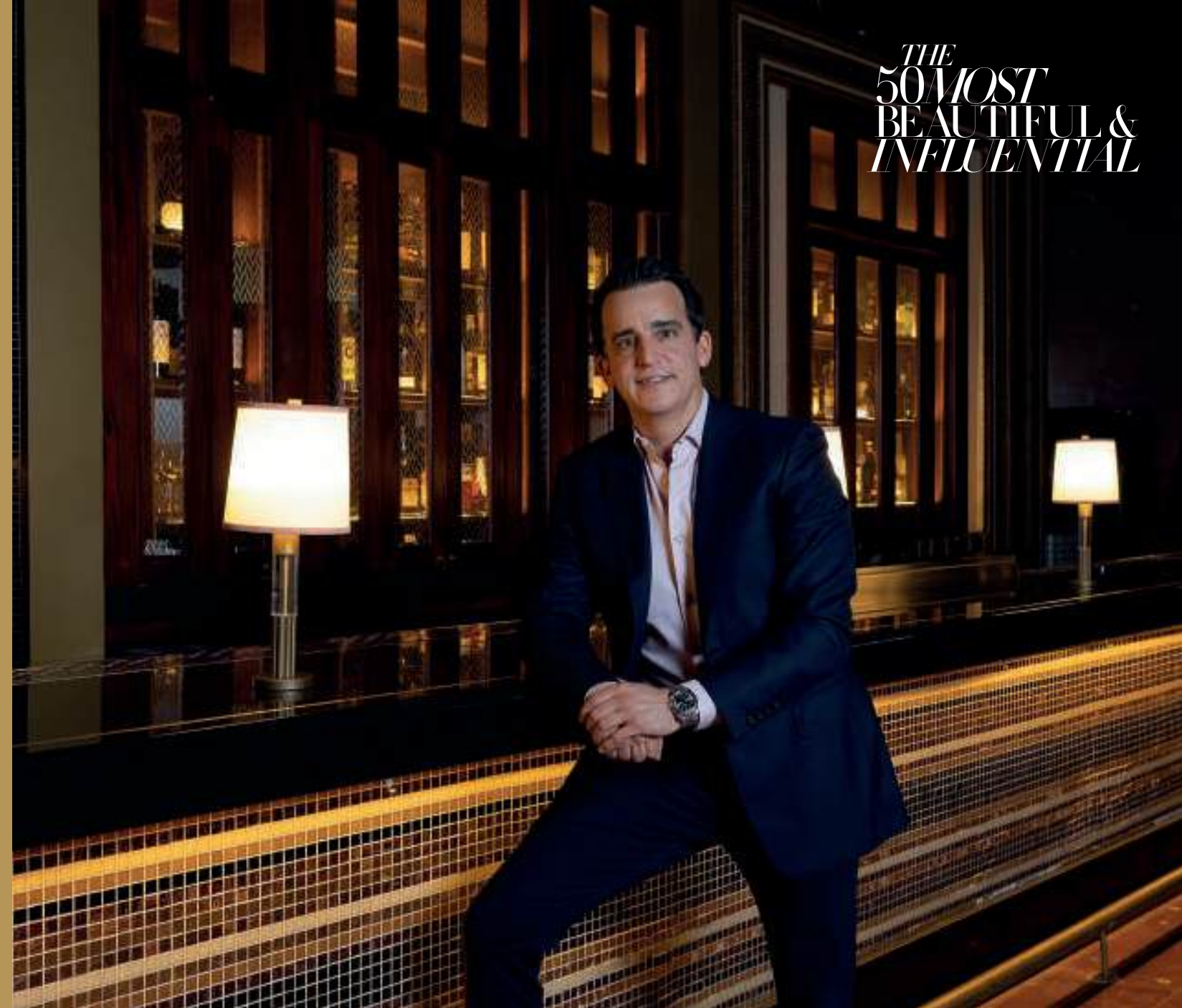
rather than mere celebrity lineage. In sum, Dina Lohan's glamour is a disciplined artistry: an ongoing project of reinvention, resilience, and proportion. She demonstrates that glamour in the 21st century is not about resting on a glittering past, but about mobilizing every resource, every relationship, and every moment to propel forward momentum.

For those seeking a blueprint of modern glamour, Dina Lohan offers a luminous example: a woman who threads ambition with warmth, strategy with spontaneity, and the private sphere with the public stage. Her legacy—still unfolding—is one of poised resilience and fearless reinvention, a glamorous reminder that true star power often begins at home, with a mother's unwavering belief in the possibilities of tomorrow.



ANDRO NODARSE-LEÓN

FOUNDER AND CEO OF LIONGROVE, A LEADING
HOSPITALITY INVESTMENT FIRM



MIR.

Andro Nodarse-León is the founder and CEO of LionGrove, a leading hospitality investment firm which co-owns and asset manages the Fairmont El San Juan Hotel and co-owns, asset manages and operates Wyndham Grand Rio Mar Rainforest, Beach Golf Resort, Wyndham Palmas Beach & Golf Boutique Resort in Puerto Rico and ADERO Scottsdale, Autograph Collection in Arizona.

With a career spanning over \$85 billion in acquisition, financing, and divestiture transactions, he has led investments across hospitality, real estate, education, media, entertainment, and infrastructure.

Prior to founding LionGrove, Mr. Nodarse-León established LEON, MAYER & Co., a Miami-based merchant bank, and Endeavor Schools, which became the 14th largest private school operator in the U.S.

Previously, he was an investment executive at KKR in New York City focused on the acquisition of hospitality, media, consumer products, and energy companies.

He began his career at Goldman Sachs & Co. advising technology, media, and telecom companies.

Mr. Nodarse-León graduated with honors from the University of Pennsylvania with a B.S. in Economics from The Wharton School and a B.S.E in Systems Engineering from the School of Engineering and Applied Sciences.

Maria Celeste Arrarás

The 50th Most Beautiful & Influential

A MEDIA DYNAMO that has excelled in PRIME TIME.
Photography by Stephen Almeida



W

hen it comes to high achievers one name quickly comes to mind: Maria Celeste Arrarás. She is a seasoned journalist with multiple EMMY awards and has been known to be the most credible Hispanic TV host in the hemisphere. Her pursuit of excellence has been key in each one of her successful endeavors that have made headlines in the Communications industry.

For three decades she conquered the latino audience in CNN, Telemundo and Univisión Networks. It's no wonder that she was dubbed the "Queen of Hispanic Television". Her daily broadcasts "Primer Impacto" and "Al Rojo Vivo" used to reach some 35 million viewers in Latin America and the US coast to coast.



“For three decades
SHE CONQUERED
THE LÁTINO
AUDIENCE in CNÑ,
Telemundo and
Univisión Networks.”

Maria Celeste is also an acclaimed bestselling author and Executive producer of Mini series. At the present time she has 7 million followers in social media and has become a very successful motivational speaker that dedicates her time to empower people, in particular women. Nowadays she also spends her time in causes dear to her heart: bringing awareness about animal rights and the importance of fighting climate change.

Maria Celeste is a powerhouse who crossed over to co host NBC's Today show a dozens times and helped moderate National Presidential debates.

For all her accomplishments she graced the cover of Newsweek twice for the "20 powerful Women who take charge" edition.

She is also one of the most beloved stars for Hispanics that follow her life like the episodes of a Telenovela. Is no wonder that she has been in the cover of People en Español magazine 18 times.

ANNA DI MARCO

The Joy of Giving

The 50[★]
Most Beautiful
& Influential



Photography by
Galya Rudenko



Dr. Anna Di Marco—hematologist-oncologist, philanthropist, and visionary leader—has built her life’s mission around empowering women to embrace health, confidence, and hope. As the creator and six-year president of the Susan G. Komen Pink Gala in Puerto Rico, she transformed the event into one of the nation’s most elegant and impactful fundraisers, supporting thousands of women in their fight against breast cancer.

Her philanthropic reach extends far beyond the island. Dr. Di Marco is a devoted supporter of renowned global organizations, including the Andrea Bocelli Foundation, the Clooney Foundation for Justice, and the Archewell Foundation. She also serves as Chairwoman of the Tiffany Circle of the American Red Cross, where her leadership continues to elevate women’s roles in humanitarian efforts.

In her community, Dr. Di Marco’s compassion shines through her annual Senior Prom Princess initiative—a prom dress collection drive that gifts gently used gala gowns to high school seniors. “Through this project, we spread the joy of giving,” she explains. “A dress someone no longer wears becomes a moment of magic for a young woman stepping into her future.”





*“IF I CAN MAKE SOMEONE SMILE,
MY DAY IS COMPLETE. I WANT TO
SPREAD THE JOY OF GIVING.”*

Widely recognized for her elegance, Dr. Di Marco is admired for her signature gala style, often dressed by the world’s most iconic designers—including Dior, Chanel, Oscar de la Renta, Dolce & Gabbana, and Harry Robles. Yet her true brilliance lies in her heart for service.

Her dedication to uplifting women has also led her to support Miss Universe contestants, sponsoring competition gowns. “Every thread in that dress represents a cancer patient,” she says. “Every sequin reflects a Puerto Rican woman striving to shine. When our Miss Universe walks on that stage, she carries all of us with her.”

Professionally, Dr. Di Marco stands at the forefront of women’s health as founder of the only women’s cancer clinic in the Caribbean, Centro de Cancer de la Mujer. Patients from across the island travel to receive chemotherapy and immunotherapy in an environment infused with empathy, positivity, and joy. Known for transforming her infusion center into a space of mindfulness and celebration, she brings comfort and emotional healing to those facing their hardest battles.

Beyond medicine and philanthropy, she is an avid world traveler and an enthusiastic collector of contemporary art. But at the core of everything she does is purpose. “Helping others is my passion—through medicine and through my community,” she says. “If I can make someone smile, my day is complete. I want to spread the joy of giving.”

Beloved for her warmth, generosity, and unwavering commitment to service, Dr. Anna Di Marco has earned her place as one of the most influential philanthropic figures of her generation—the true First Lady of Charity and Philanthropy.
@dr.annadimarco

YLI LIRIANO

“**LOVE WHO YOU ARE** WHEN YOU
LOOK IN THE MIRROR”



Yli Liriano is an International Image Consultant, Celebrity Makeup Artist, and Fashion Stylist, and the visionary CEO behind Yli’s Love Look and Yli Love How You Look Beauty. Known for empowering clients through style, confidence, and her signature beauty techniques, she brings a global, polished eye to every project—guiding individuals through pageantry coaching, worldwide image consulting, red carpets, fashion shows, television, editorial work, and personal branding. Yli specializes in creating transformative looks that celebrate individuality and presence. Her Love How You Look Experience elevates confidence from the inside out, helping every client truly love who they are when they look in the mirror.

Contact: 917-292-0767. Ylislovelook@gmail.com. Instagram: @ylislovelook | @yli_lovehowyoulook

The 50[★]
Most Beautiful
& Influential



IAN REISNER

*The Visionary Behind Parkview Developers
and the Rise of the Modern Urban Resort*

By Art Bodega. Photographed by Antoine Verglas

Some developers build buildings. Others build destinations.

Ian Reisner belongs unmistakably to the latter.

A serial real estate entrepreneur and the creative force behind Parkview Developers, Reisner has quietly redefined what modern luxury, hospitality, and urban living can become. His projects are not simply structures of glass, steel, and stone but immersive environments designed to inspire, restore, and energize the people who pass through them. Each space is a narrative. Each project is an ecosystem. And each acquisition reflects a deeper instinct — an ability to recognize potential where others see only problems.

In an industry driven by speed, square footage, and speculation, Reisner operates by a different code. His work is guided by intention over excess, vision over trend, and experience over ego — a philosophy that has led to some of the most intriguing turnarounds in recent real estate history.

That reputation was firmly established in 2005 when he acquired a five-thousand-square-foot duplex penthouse at 230 Central Park South through a U.S. government foreclosure auction for \$840,000. At the time, few could have imagined its future value. Yet, in 2022, the property sold for \$12 million, a testament to Reisner's ability not only to spot opportunity, but to understand the long game in real estate.

In 2015, he turned his attention to Fire Island Pines, purchasing the distressed property from the bank for \$10.1 million. Alongside his partner, PJ McKeteer, Reisner transformed a money-losing operation into a powerful and profitable destination. Through strategic redevelopment, cultural repositioning, and operational restructuring, they reinvigorated the property's identity. When it was sold in 2024 for \$15.5 million, the transaction represented a record-breaking twenty-one times historical net income — a figure that reverberated throughout the industry.



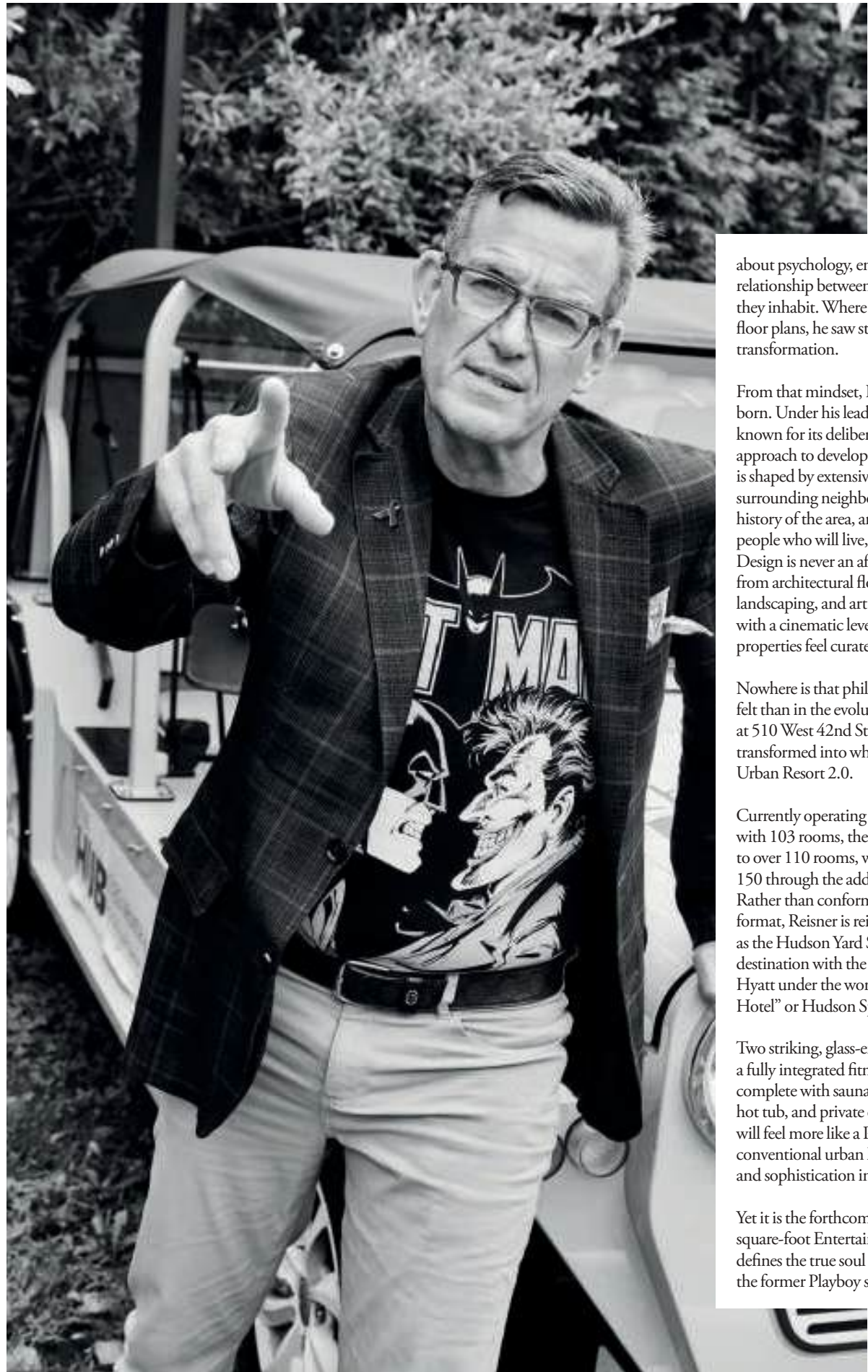


Most recently, Reisner acquired the former Playboy complex at 510 West 42nd Street from a foreclosing bank at only twenty cents on the dollar — a property into which Playboy had once invested over sixty million dollars. Where others saw a failed vision, Reisner saw a blank canvas. And once again, a new chapter began.

His name is also tied to the creation of the groundbreaking OUT Hotel, launched in 2012 inside the original Urban Resort concept. Proudly “hetero-friendly,” inclusive, and community-driven, the OUT Hotel made international headlines when it ranked number ten on TripAdvisor globally in its first year of operation. It was not simply a hotel. It was a cultural statement, a lifestyle hub, and a sanctuary — confirming Reisner’s belief that people do not just want a place to stay, but an experience that resonates on a deeper level.

Born in New York City, educated at Cornell University and the London School of Economics, and refined through his time on Wall Street, Reisner developed a rare hybrid mindset — one that is both analytical and intuitive. For him, real estate was never just about buildings or transactions. It was always





about psychology, energy, and the emotional relationship between a person and the space they inhabit. Where others saw zoning and floor plans, he saw story, movement, and transformation.

From that mindset, Parkview Developers was born. Under his leadership, the firm became known for its deliberate and thoughtful approach to development. Each project is shaped by extensive research into the surrounding neighborhood, the cultural history of the area, and the lifestyle of the people who will live, work, or gather there. Design is never an afterthought. Every detail — from architectural flow to lighting, materials, landscaping, and art integration — is handled with a cinematic level of attention. His properties feel curated rather than constructed.

Nowhere is that philosophy more powerfully felt than in the evolution of the Urban Resort at 510 West 42nd Street, a space that is being transformed into what can only be described as Urban Resort 2.0.

Currently operating as the Hudson Yards Hotel with 103 rooms, the property will soon expand to over 110 rooms, with the potential to reach 150 through the addition of a fourth floor. Rather than conform to the standard hotel format, Reisner is reimagining the building as the Hudson Yard Spa Hotel — a luxury destination with the potential to be flagged by Hyatt under the working concept “HYHK Spa Hotel” or Hudson Spa Hotel by Hyatt.

Two striking, glass-enclosed atriums will house a fully integrated fitness and wellness facility, complete with sauna, steam rooms, an oversized hot tub, and private cabanas. The atmosphere will feel more like a Playa-style retreat than a conventional urban hotel, blending restoration and sophistication in equal measure.

Yet it is the forthcoming fourteen-thousand-square-foot Entertainment Complex that defines the true soul of the project. Housed in the former Playboy space, a dramatic supper



club will anchor the social heartbeat of the building, with Broadway-caliber performance offerings throughout the week. The Black Box, a raw and immersive event space, will serve as both dance hall and cultural arena, while The Bunny Hole, a sumptuous underground speakeasy, will offer a hidden world of decadence and intrigue. A large destination restaurant — potentially connected to PLAY from Miami's South Beach scene — will sit alongside BUZZ HAUS, a coffee and daytime gathering concept. In the lobby, a curated Luxury Bodega retail store will complete the ecosystem, blending convenience with elevated design.

What emerges is not simply a hotel, nor just a nightlife destination. It is a self-contained world — one that breathes during the day and pulses at night, where wellness, creativity, culture, and community converge under one visionary roof.

What makes Reisner's work so compelling is not only business intelligence, but emotional intelligence. He understands how people feel, how they gather, how they connect, and what they subconsciously seek in the spaces they enter. His projects are never about noise or spectacle. They are about atmosphere, privacy, and resonance.

To him, true luxury is space to breathe, thoughtful design, discretion, calming energy, and beauty that does not announce itself loudly but instead speaks quietly to those who know how to listen. The people drawn to his environments are not trend-followers, but visionaries in their own right — artists, entrepreneurs, philanthropists, designers, and global citizens seeking sanctuary rather than excess.

As Parkview Developers moves forward, the mission remains steadfast: to build environments that elevate human experience, create connection, and inspire longevity. The next evolution of the Urban Resort model promises deeper integration of sustainability, wellness, art, and community, expanding Reisner's vision well beyond the traditional boundaries of real estate.

He does not measure success by headlines or hype. He measures it in the lasting emotional imprint his spaces leave behind — in experiences remembered, in lives elevated, and in architecture that feels not like a structure, but like a world of its own.

Because while others may build buildings, Ian Reisner builds worlds.



Styling by
L'Agence



Philanthropist
NANCY DAVIS
A TRUE SYMBOL OF BEAUTY AND INFLUENCE

By Anna Rothschild. Photography by Elizabeth Granli



When one encounters the name Nancy Davis, one must prepare for a dazzling blend of glamour, guts and genuine giving — an elegant yet determined woman who has turned her own life's challenge into a global mission of hope and transformation. In the grand pageant of philanthropy, she is both host and heroine, seamlessly moving between ball-gowns and boardrooms, between high-level science and heartfelt outreach, crafting a legacy that is as stylish as it is substantial.

A DAZZLING BEGINNING

Born into the Marvin Davis family of Denver, Colorado, Nancy moved to California in 1987 and has made her home in Los Angeles ever since. While the clan she comes from has deep roots in business and philanthropy—her father and mother, Barbara Davis, is also internationally known for charitable work—Nancy charted her own, fiercely determined path.

In 1991, at the age of 33, her vibrant life took an abrupt turn: what she first thought was a ski-injury turned out to be something much more serious. After alarming symptoms — loss of sensation, blurred vision, mysterious weakness — she was diagnosed with Multiple Sclerosis (MS). That diagnosis might have stunned many into retreat. Nancy? She pivoted.

TURNING ADVERSITY INTO AUDACITY

She recalled her first prognosis being told by doctors she would be “lucky” to operate a TV remote. But rather than accept defeat, Nancy Davis understood that her story would not end there. She became her own advocate, traveling from center to center, gathering opinions, pushing boundaries.

And then she acted.





THE BIRTH OF A MOVEMENT: RACE TO ERASE MS

Just two years after her diagnosis, Nancy founded the organization that would become a beacon for so many: Race to Erase MS (founded in 1993) – a gala-driven, research-focused charity committed to funding “audacious research” through a program called the Center Without Walls taking 8 of the best MS centers from all over the country to work together as a dream team with the philosophy that they must share all information of research studies and never duplicate research.

From its beginnings as an intimate ski-weekend gathering in Aspen, the event evolved into one of Hollywood’s most glamorous philanthropic nights. One detail speaks volumes: Nancy has woven together the worlds of wealth, celebrity, science and hope. Superstars have taken the stage; auctions have been legendary; and the real prize is finding a cure for MS.



“I AM A HOPEFUL PERSON... *I have great faith* THAT THIS WILL HAPPEN.”



THE SCIENCE OF STYLE AND THE STYLE OF SCIENCE

Many philanthropists host a gala. Nancy Davis builds a movement. The Center Without Walls program she launched brings together multiple hospitals and research institutions: they share all research studies, coordinate efforts, report not just on breakthroughs but also on failures. Transparency and collaboration are her watchwords.

As of 2022, Race to Erase MS had raised between \$55-60 million since its inception, fueling pilot studies that ultimately contributed to the development of new treatments. There are now 25 drugs on the market to help stop the progression of MS while there was zero when she first started and little hope there ever would be. Nancy knows intimately the value of living—and of giving: “You are not your illness,” she says.

GLAMOR WITH SUBSTANCE

Beyond her charitable work, Nancy Davis is no stranger to style. Her Beverly Hills residence, tucked into Mulholland Estates, has been featured in lifestyle pages for good reason: high ceilings, French upholstery, Aubusson rugs, a pool garden... and an aura of effortless chic mixed with warm family energy.

She combines her roles as mother of five children (and grandmother), philanthropist, designer (she founded the jewelry line “Peace & Love Jewelry by Nancy Davis”), and host of one of the most distinguished galas of the year. There’s no tension here between glamour and grit—she stitches them together.

EXPANDING THE PORTFOLIO OF GIVING

Nancy’s philanthropic reach extends beyond MS. In partnership with her late son, actor and recovery advocate Jason Davis, she co-founded Cure Addiction Now (CAN), which is dedicated to funding basic science research for addiction and combating the stigma and costs of addiction rehabilitation. This is emblematic of Nancy’s approach: seeing a need, amplifying the conversation, and mobilizing resources. She is driven to find treatments and a cure for SUD and recognize this is a real disease. She just hosted her 2nd annual event has already laid ground-breaking work that has resulted in many new therapies for addiction. She is working on a vaccine for opioids and finding easier ways to get sober and stay sober.



Long black dress by Polo Ralph Lauren

Her influence in fundraising and advocacy also intersects with celebrity culture—but always with a mission. At one gala, for example, Elton John performed, two Lambo auctions went under the hammer, all in the name of finding a cure.

A MESSAGE OF HOPE—AND RESPONSIBILITY

When asked what she would tell her younger self at diagnosis, Nancy stated: “You were right and you should never listen to those doctors who said you would never walk again.” That statement—bold, defiant, unapologetic—is ultimately what frames her narrative. She refuses to see MS as a full stop. Rather, she sees it as a comma: a turn, a call, a mission.

Part of her message to others facing chronic illness: ask questions, seek out centers of excellence, take control of your journey rather than simply surrender to it.

THE RIPPLE EFFECT: LEGACY AND LEADERSHIP

As of 2023, Nancy Davis’ work has radically shifted how MS is perceived and treated. In her own words:

“The whole landscape of MS has been altered, and you owe it to yourself to hear and understand what’s happening in this space.”

Her leadership style is also generational: her children are involved; her daughter-twins Isabella and Mariella launched an off-shoot of CAN called “You Can Save a Friend.” This isn’t philanthropy as a one-night check—it’s multi-layered, multi-generational, woven into living rooms, laboratories, teen networks.



WHY SHE MATTERS, WHY YOU SHOULD KNOW

In a world where philanthropy can sometimes appear as a glossy celebrity pose, Nancy Davis Rickel’s authenticity is striking. She didn’t choose to have MS—but she chose to fight it, to reframe it, to channel it into something constructive. She didn’t choose for her son Jason to be an addict and pass away at 35 and leading the fight on a global level to save millions of lives affected by addiction. She didn’t simply host glamorous events; she engineered scientific impact. She didn’t only show up in couture; she showed up in research meetings, in hospitals, in patient forums.

If you care about luxury branding, charitable impact, transformation narratives, this is a woman who brilliantly unites all three. The sophistication of her style, the boldness of her pivot, and the scale of her impact make her a figure of inspiration.

WHAT’S NEXT ON HER RUNWAY?

Looking ahead, Nancy continues to push. Research in MS is evolving fast; Nancy’s foundation remains at the cutting edge—funding pilot trials, insisting on collaboration, shining a spotlight on what comes next on Cure Addiction Now she is working as fast as possible to find new medications and treatments while at the same time stopping the shame that exists which is one of the biggest barriers to find a cure. She remains hopeful. As she said:

“I am a hopeful person . . . I have great faith that this will happen.” She is writing a book scheduled to come out soon called “one More Day” on both grief and addiction.

Her vision now includes not just treatments, but cures; not just awareness, but prevention; not just funding, but systemic change. She is producing a very important short film on addiction called “The Call” with a stellar cast of Hollywood notables.

The 50 [★]
Most Beautiful
& Influential



ARI & Moshe Ben-Ari

ARI is more than a men's fashion label. At the heart of the brand is founder and designer Moshe Ben-Ari, whose vision has remained consistent for over two decades.



Founded in 2001, ARI is more than a men's fashion label. At the heart of the brand is founder and designer Moshe Ben-Ari, whose vision has remained consistent for over two decades: create timeless pieces that fit impeccably, feel comfortable, and carry just the right amount of edge.

Ben-Ari's passion for clothing began in childhood, growing up with a mother who was a tailor. This early immersion in bespoke tailoring instilled in him a deep respect for handcrafted clothing that would later define his life's work.

ARI began with a simple need. "I wanted a product I couldn't find in the market," Moshe explains. That need materialized into a pair of leather pants, handcrafted, cut to an athletic silhouette, and designed for comfort. The pants set the foundation for the brand's identity. From that moment on, ARI developed a deep respect for the time, care, and expertise required to create quality leather goods. That foundation continues to define the brand today.

The brand sources its skins from sustainable tanneries across Tuscany, widely regarded as producing the finest leathers in the world. These tanneries rely on techniques passed down for generations, combining natural tannins, patience, and the slow passage of time. The result is leather that is soft, durable, and increasingly beautiful with wear.

But it is ARI's artisan partnerships in Italy that truly set the brand apart. In historic workshops across Lombardy, Tuscany, and Naples, skilled craftspeople hand-weave, hand-cut, and hand-finish every



"ARI BEGAN WITH A SIMPLE NEED. "I WANTED A PRODUCT I COULDN'T FIND IN THE MARKET"
Moshe explains.

garment with a level of care rarely seen today. Each piece reflects a shared philosophy between designer and artisan: quality is never rushed, and details are never compromised.

That same level of craftsmanship extends across the entire collection. From jackets and trousers to knitwear and footwear, each garment is handmade in Italy using only the finest materials. Over the past 20 years, the brand has perfected its signature athletic fit. "Once a client finds his size, everything fits," Moshe says. "You can walk in, grab every piece in your size, and walk out dressed." In a world of overcomplicated menswear, ARI offers something rare: ease.

Comfort remains non-negotiable. Many garments incorporate subtle stretch, allowing freedom of movement without sacrificing structure. "I want clothes that I can sit in," Moshe explains. "That hugs me, not wears me." It's a philosophy shaped by travel and modern life, where clothes must transition seamlessly from flights to meetings, from workdays to evenings out.

The ARI man lives a fast-paced life. He travels. He works. He exercises. He enjoys a drink at night. His wardrobe needs to move effortlessly between these moments without ever feeling stiff or restrictive. Jackets fold easily into carry-ons. Pants stretch without losing structure. Each collection melts into the next, creating a cohesive wardrobe that requires no second-guessing.

This lifestyle-driven approach is reflected in ARI's flagship stores in SoHo, Miami, and Beverly Hills. More than traditional boutiques, they function as social clubs. Clients are invited to relax, enjoy music, have a drink, and spend time. Some regulars jokingly refer to the SoHo shop as their living room while in New York.

After more than two decades, ARI remains grounded in its founding values. "ARI isn't about trends," Moshe says. "It's about timeless pieces with a little edge."



"ARI ISN'T ABOUT TRENDS," Moshe says. "IT'S ABOUT TIMELESS PIECES WITH A LITTLE EDGE."



FROM DAY TO NIGHT WITH SUZANNE SAPERSTEIN

By REBECA HERRERO
Photography by MATTHEW MITCHEL
Location: RESIDENCE IN BEVERLY HILLS

Custom-made couture dress by Espen Salberg Couture.
Boots by Tom Ford

Eclectic and multifaceted Suzanne Saperstein is emblematic of wit, beauty, appreciation for the arts, and will not take no for an answer. Her blonde mane is as long as the legs she carries. Her Swedish blood supersedes any vulnerability, and nothing comes small when she takes over the dance floor, be it performing ballroom dancing or performing as a DJ, with her latest deep house/dance hits. At her beautiful house in Beverly Hills, Saperstein, who holds one of the largest collections of Hermes and many unbelievable, luxurious items, plus having acquired some of the best haute couture collections from the Parisian Fashion Houses, from Armani to Jean Paul Gaultier, this Swedish Born icon has accomplished the most impressive accolades anyone can be recognized for.

“Life is a wondrous ride, not for the meek,” explained Saperstein during a sunny and dry day this summer. Her living room represents exquisite modern and contemporary art installations, from a table made with glass boxes filled with antique books. Everything symbolizes the life that Saperstein has lived since the 80s. Her Four Bernadoodles are as perfect as the manicured gardens.

THE 50 MOST BEAUTIFUL & INFLUENTIAL



"I've always tried to reinvent the wheel," said the larger-than-life woman who has traveled the world and lives the jet set life without regrets. From being a wine collector. "My wine collection once included 5000 bottles. Once, a famous wine collector noticed how valuable one of the wines we were serving was, asking me for the price. I couldn't believe the value that it had amassed through the years. From that sale, I am a passionate collector of art, antiques, and all kinds of interesting "knick-knacks" I find through my travels around the world.

The several facets of Saperstein are emblematic of a superior aura and spirit that creates epithets resonant to her Viking roots. Values intercepted by the annals of strokes of grandeur and simply excellent business acumen, from building multi-million dollar businesses and properties all over the world. She explained to me the reason for the double doors in the Kitchen. "I don't want the chance of a crash and my china and glasses being broken (it happened once)"

The relevance of Saperstein is what she has accomplished throughout her life without having to make excuses or explain what she is about. She is pure enigma. She embodies the grandeur of the past without the silly nostalgia that social media has generated. "I do what I want to do. When I emerge, it's for a purpose, but I keep busy with my projects and hobbies." She prefers to mock out the stables at her Holland horse farm, than laying on a beach in the Caribbean but, she also enjoys giving dinners and planning fun parties with people from all around the world.

"Life is short, enjoy every moment."

Beaded coat by Sally LaPointe. Blouse by YSL Couture, skirt by Versace Couture, and boots by Tom Ford

Jacket
by YSL



Pink dress by Sally LaPointe



Saperstein has been documented by some of the best publications in the world and photographed by legendary names. Her aura is just grand. She built, in the 90s, one of the most expensive properties in the country, aptly named Fleur de Lis. It is a reinterpretation of France's 17th-century estate Vaux-le-Vicomte, the property was listed and sold at a record price. She also has properties in Europe, and her primary residence is Houston, Texas, where her businesses are headquartered. What makes her even more special is her incredible taste for finer things. At some point, she purchased an entire collection of first-rate 18th-century furniture and Faberge eggs. Later, she sold at Sotheby's - "It was time to simplify my life and move on to new and exciting things to collect!"



Black dress by Haider Ackermann for Tom Ford. Shoes by Tom Ford.
Nail tech: Amy Ruiz
Make up, Hair and Styling by Suzanne Saperstein

Eric & Alicia SWIDER: Passion, Creativity and Purpose



On the day of their 5th Anniversary, Eric and Alicia hosted a welcome dinner for the wedding of Eric's eldest daughter, Karyn. The dinner was held at the Wilburton Inn in Manchester, Vermont for approximately 150 guests.
Credit: Duy Ho

In the sun-drenched enclave of Palmas del Mar, Puerto Rico, Eric and Alicia Swider have built a life that blends professional ambition with artistic expression and a deep sense of place. It's here—where they met and later chose to settle—that their story continues to unfold, shaped by family, creativity, and community.

Their story is one of ambition, creativity, and heart—a journey that reflects both the dynamism of modern entrepreneurship and the enduring power of art. Having met in Palmas del Mar, the place holds special memories for not just Eric and Alicia, but also, Eric's two daughters, Karyn who recently married in Manchester, Vermont and Kara who is now pursuing a degree in Business Law.

From Wall Street to Wall Street East: Eric's Professional Voyage

Eric Swider's career has unfolded at the intersection of capital, complexity, and long-term thinking. An investor and operator with experience spanning public markets, private capital, infrastructure technology, and government advisory work, he has built a reputation for navigating environments where judgment and structure matter as much as scale. Among his most visible roles was leading the public-market transaction that brought Truth Social to market, serving as Chief Executive Officer of the sponsoring vehicle during one of the most closely watched deals of the past decade. Yet Swider is quick to frame such moments as chapters rather than definitions. "Capital is just a tool," he says. "What matters is how you structure it, protect it, and put it to work over time." That perspective has shaped a career advising institutions, governments, and private clients on complex challenges—from cross-border investments and high-profile public transactions to private investments across multiple sectors. Outside the boardroom, Swider's interests reveal the same respect for craft, provenance, and durability. He is an avid collector of fine art, including multiple original works by Salvador Dalí once owned by Frank Sinatra, as well as rare gemstones and age-worthy wines. These pursuits, he notes, are less about accumulation than discernment—an extension of the analytical



Left to right, Karyn, Kara & Arya Swider.
Credit: Duy Ho



October 10, 2020 while the world was recovering from a pandemic, Eric and Alicia eloped in Manchester, Vermont. A special place in their hearts.
Credit: Paul Woo



Arya Isabel Swider, the youngest and spunkiest daughter.
Credit: Alicia Swider



Eric Swider.
Credit: Desiree Gardner

curiosity and long-view thinking that define his professional life.

A former U.S. Navy servicemember with multiple overseas deployments, Swider credits his early years with instilling a calm, systems-driven approach to leadership that has guided him throughout his career. Now based in Puerto Rico, he balances global work with a more deliberate rhythm of life. The island offers both perspective and grounding—a place where professional intensity is offset by family, community, and an appreciation for time well spent. For Swider, success today is measured not only by transactions completed or capital deployed, but by the ability to build—and collect—things meant to endure.

Alicia K Swider: Capturing the World Through a Lens

While Eric's pursuits are rooted in business and finance, his partner, Alicia K Swider, has made her mark in the creative world as a celebrated photographer, educator, and exhibiting artist. A graduate of the Altos de Chavón School of Design, Alicia evolved from designer to internationally recognized photographer, building a body of work that ranges from documentary projects to fine art and most recently, high end jewelry designs.

Beyond her photographic achievements, Alicia continues to donate her time and talents to several non-profit organizations. Currently, she is diving deep into her husband's gem collecting

hobby, making jewelry designs for those who seek a special heirloom piece. Alicia is completing a degree in Gemology while working with her husband to create their high end jewelry brand, focusing her time on designing unique pieces for Oro di Arya. Named after their daughter, Arya Isabel Swider, now three years old.

Together, Eric and Alicia embody a partnership of vision and creativity. Their life in Palmas del Mar is not just about enjoying its beaches and lush landscapes—it's also about engaging with



This pendant was designed exclusively for the women in Eric's life, four necklaces were made with gorgeous emeralds and brilliant diamonds set in 18k white gold.
Credit: Oro di Arya

the vibrant cultural fabric of Puerto Rico and contributing to the community that surrounds them.

Eric's experience in global business and Alicia's dedication to visual storytelling create a dynamic synergy—one that is rooted in passion, curiosity, and a profound appreciation for both professional accomplishment and artistic expression. As Palmas del Mar continues to grow as a destination for residents and visitors alike, the Swiders' story stands as a testament to the power



An important part of every artist's journey, the self portrait.
Credit: Alicia Swider

of balancing ambition with artistry, and success with social impact.

Together, Eric and Alicia are beginning a new chapter with Oro di Arya—a passion project rooted in craftsmanship, heritage, and family. Still in its early days, the venture reflects not a race toward scale, but a shared joy in creating something personal, enduring, and meaningful. This custom jewelry brand is an endeavor they imagine carrying with them into the years ahead.



This piece is part of the InSitu Collection, which features stones and designs in their rawest form. No treatments, fillers, oils or heating of any kind. All stones used in the jewelry of this collection are highly prized for their uniqueness and perfect imperfections.
Credit: Oro di Arya



▲ A unique twist on a Birthstone ring set, created for Kara, a two ring set full of untreated Rubies, unheated marquise cut Sapphires, and a hidden diamond on the band's bridge; this delicate cocktail ring is a special piece that will always be remembered as the first design by Oro Di Arya.



▲ From rare untreated gemstones to unique details for specialty jewelry, our collection includes Emeralds, Paraiba Tourmaline, Dravite Tourmaline, Red Spinel, Winza Rubies, Blue and Padparadsha Sapphires, Pink Morganite and Indicolite.
Credit: Oro di Arya



Humanizing the Future
of Health and Data:

Cassandra WESSELMAN

In

the rapidly evolving world of biotechnology, few leaders embody the combination of scientific insight, strategic vision, and human-centered purpose as clearly as Cassandra Wesselman. Known for her work at ROSALIND, Cassandra has helped shape a new approach to genomic and health data. Her direct work in advancing precision health has transformed extraordinary scientific complexity into tools that are accessible, understandable, and ethically grounded. Her career reflects a modern model of leadership at the intersection of science, finance, and healthcare. It blends technical rigor with empathy, business strategy with social responsibility, and innovation with a deep commitment to human dignity.

Those who work closely with Cassandra describe a leader that brings clarity to complex environments. She is known for setting the tone in conversations where decisions carry real impact and guiding discussions resolve critical priorities. This disciplined approach has shaped outcomes across initiatives around the world.

Translating Complexity Without Losing the Human Connection

Cassandra's ability to move fluidly across disciplines is rooted in her early training. She earned her degrees at UCLA in Psychology with a Neuroscience concentration. Her interest in the intersection of human behavior, biology, and data-centric decision making would go on to shape her career. She completed her MBA at Pepperdine University's Graziadio Business School, where she developed the strategic and organizational tools needed to turn insight into execution.

Before biotechnology became her primary arena, she worked across investment banking, global affairs, and social enterprise. At Intersection Capital, she played a formative role alongside #1 Best-Selling author Oren Klaff in translating neuroscience and psychology into effective communication that supported thousands of business leaders worldwide in achieving their financing goals. For Cassandra, finding the right narrative was never about persuasion; it was about alignment. Clarity, she learned, is one of the most powerful forms of governance.



At the same time, her work leading humanitarian initiatives such as the Love & Haiti Project right after the 2010 Haiti Earthquake exposed her to the real-world consequences of system failure. On the ground, she witnessed how easily aid and resources become displaced without accountability, how creating dependency without building capacity undermines good intentions, and how the absence of empowering local voices limits future impact. The experience reinforced a belief that would shape everything she did next: systems only work when they remain accountable to the people they affect.

Known for her
work at ROSALIND,
Cassandra has
helped shape a
new approach to
genomic and
health data.



When Cassandra entered into the world of BIOTECH with her husband, Tim Wesselman, she recognized a familiar pattern emerging in biomedical research.

ROSALIND and the Imperative to Make Data Human

When Cassandra entered into the world of BioTech with her husband, Tim Wesselman, she recognized a familiar pattern emerging in biomedical research. As medicine became more data-driven, the tools required to interpret that data grew so complex that only specialized experts could use them. Scientific discovery advanced, but accessibility declined. Researchers were generating vast amounts of information, yet too few people could meaningfully work with it.

Cassandra helped shape their company, ROSALIND, to change that dynamic.

At its core, their platform now allows scientists and clinicians to explore complex biological data visually and intuitively, without needing deep expertise in advanced computation or programming. By making data easier to understand and work with, ROSALIND shortens the distance between scientific insight and real-world patient impact, accelerating discovery while reducing friction and error.

Over eight years with the company, Cassandra guided its product strategy, corporate culture, and external voice as it expanded across academic research, biopharma, and government. She became



a central advocate for a guiding principle that would define the platform's identity: scientific discovery must have **Data Made Human**.

It was not a slogan; it was a moral imperative.

Data, she argued, must remain safely accessible and with direct attribution to its source. Insights that harness data without consent are incomplete. Innovation that outruns trust ultimately undermines itself. During the COVID-19 pandemic, as diagnostics and surveillance systems scaled rapidly, this principle was tested. Cassandra helped guide ROSALIND's contributions to the global response to COVID-19, and later became co-author of the published White House Playbook for Future Pandemics. Every data point, she maintained, represented a person living through uncertainty.

Her leadership then extended beyond the platform itself. She was personally invited by the Rosalind Franklin Society to become the founding member of its Council of Corporate Leadership, supporting public conversations that elevate women executives across healthcare and the life sciences.

Responsibility at Scale, and the Work That Follows

Today, Cassandra's work spans global health initiatives, investment stewardship, and system-level design. While her responsibilities do not fit neatly into a single title, the scope is substantial. She operates across time zones and disciplines, guiding complex initiatives where decisions have a global impact, often without public visibility or acknowledgment.

As President of the Curativa investment vehicle, she helps direct capital toward healthcare companies working across data infrastructure, medical devices, oncology, and hospital systems. For Cassandra, capital is not neutral; it is directional. Curativa exists to fuel and fund an emerging health economy, one that prioritizes long-term outcomes, ethical governance, and sustainable impact over short-term motives.

This work is increasingly intertwined with HealthChain, her latest initiative focused on rebuilding trust in how medical and health data are handled. HealthChain lays down the foundational infrastructure for truth, transparency, and consent, ensuring that individuals retain meaningful control over their own health information. In a world where data is routinely monetized by large organizations, HealthChain represents a deliberate shift toward providing sovereignty, value and protection to the individual.



Partnership, Family, and Endurance

Cassandra's professional life cannot be separated from her personal one. She is a mother of seven and balances important family time and work responsibilities through a strong marriage with her partner and husband. She gives tirelessly, across global initiatives, sensitive negotiations, and unresolved tensions that few ever see, then returns home for the fulfillment of a loving family that she carries with her on the next trip around the world.

Why Her Work Matters Now

As healthcare, finance, and identity systems converge at unprecedented scale, the question is no longer whether data will shape our lives, but who will control it, and on what terms.

Today, Cassandra's work SPANS global health initiatives, investment stewardship, and system-level design.

Cassandra's work reflects a steady conviction that progress must be worthy of trust. That individuals should not be passive sources of value, but active participants with rights, agency, and protection built into the systems that govern their lives. Through the combined efforts of HealthChain, Curativa, and ROSALIND, she is helping to shape a future in which innovation serves people, not the other way around.

In a world facing profound transitions in health, finance, and identity, Cassandra Wesselman stands as a reminder that the most durable change does not come from force or volume, but from clarity, accountability, and care.

The 50
Most Beautiful
& Influential

Photography by Ricardo J. Acevedo
By Rebeca Herrero

You seem to have evolved into a woman with a mission to help others. Tell us about this new chapter in your life.

I have always helped others — I just didn't make it public. This new chapter is about purpose and gratitude, using my platform to give back through culture, art, and opportunities that empower others.

What are a few things you are working on now?
A new television project, plus expanding collaborations with Goodwill South Florida, Casita Maria NYC, and the Florida Grand Opera. Each connects culture and entertainment with purpose. I also manage my real estate business.

How would you describe your style?
Eclectic — timeless, feminine, elegant, and energetic. I love classics but can't hide my Latin passion mixed with a modern touch. Fashion is communication, a reflection of who I am and what I feel.

Describe yourself to people who do not know you.
I'm passionate and driven. I believe in preparation, discipline, hard work, and love. I trust that universal energy placing us in the right moment. I love laughing, dancing, traveling, and believe in marriage and reinvention.

CUBANA
HERMOSA
FIERY
ENTREPRENEUR

Sissi
Fleititas
A Miami Icon



Photography:
@rickacebedo
Styling:
@godina.worldwide.team
Hair & makeup:
@il.visage @n.shirokorad
Dresses: @gianninaazar

Production collaboration
@artbodegamagazine_inc,
@bodega, @siwaworld,
@walewskarojas &
@sissifleitas



What does Miami represent for you?

It's the perfect fusion of cultures where creativity meets opportunity. Miami embraced me, and I'm proud to represent its multicultural heart — a city full of light and rhythm.

Tell us about your childhood.

I had an amazing childhood in Havana, surrounded by theater, art, and music. That's why I want children from underserved communities to experience similar cultural opportunities. Despite everything, Havana was simple, beautiful, and warm.

How did you arrive in the US?

Illegally, with my mother and grandmother — no papers, no home. At the airport, they called us “the three generations.” My desire for freedom was stronger than fear, and that guided my journey.

Your biggest influence.

My mother's strength, my grandmother's tenacity, and the people I've met through philanthropy. Also, my husband and Warren Buffett. Every experience has shaped me and taught valuable lessons.

Mentors.

Don Francisco, with whom I worked on *Sábado Gigante*. I learned from his discipline, business vision, and leadership running the most successful Spanish-language TV show. That experience changed my life.

Favorite places in the world.

New York is home; Paris, pure beauty; Cairo, history; and Mexico City, my second home — I know it as well as Havana.

Hobbies.

I love traveling, reading about history, opera, fashion, and cooking — it's where I get creative. I also enjoy dancing, singing, and collecting shoes.

Tell us about your company.

I run my real-estate business, my talent company, and SIWA LLC, co-founded with Walewska Rojas — a business-relations agency connecting art, business, and philanthropy.

Where do you envision yourself in 10 years?

Traveling with my husband, leading global initiatives combining media, education, and philanthropy, and continuing to inspire through culture and purpose.



“FAME WAS NEVER MY GOAL, FREEDOM AND PURPOSE WERE. WORK HARD, STAY HUMBLE, AND BE AUTHENTIC!”

What's your current mission?

To be happy and healthy, doing what I love, with whom I choose. Through television, philanthropy, and mentorship, I share knowledge and create positive change.

How do you see the television landscape at the moment?

Television is evolving fast. Audiences crave authenticity and emotion. We're entering a golden era for real stories and inspiring entertainment that connects cultures and hearts.

You love to do photo sessions, and you are very creative — explain how you get inspired.

Photo sessions are part of my life. Each one feels new. Inspiration comes from fun, emotion, and femininity. When you enjoy what you do, creativity flows.

What advice do you give to young women who want to be famous?

Fame was never my goal — freedom and purpose were. Work hard, stay humble, and be authentic. The world celebrates beauty, but only truth lasts.

Describe who you are wearing.

Giannina Azar — she knows how to make women look and feel beautiful. SIWA recently produced a philanthropic fashion event with her celebrating beauty, empowerment, and femininity.

What's in store for Sissi?

New television projects, cultural partnerships, and philanthropic initiatives merging art, purpose, and empowerment. This new era feels like my most meaningful and creative stage.

Tell us why your latest TV appearance was so popular? RFL

Audiences connected because it was genuine. I brought laughter, vulnerability, and joy — no scripts, just authenticity. When you share truth with humor, it resonates.



“I LOVE CLASSICS
BUT CAN'T HIDE
MY LATIN PASSION
MIXED WITH A
MODERN TOUCH.
FASHION IS
COMMUNICATION,
A REFLECTION
OF WHO I AM AND
WHAT I FEEL.”



OLD SAN JUAN'S *Boutique Hotel* RENAISSANCE: CHARM, CULTURE & TIMELESS HOSPITALITY

By Mari Allende

Old San Juan is more than a destination — it's a living museum of color, culture, and centuries-old stories etched into its **cobblestone streets and fortified walls**. Amid this vibrant tapestry, a remarkable niche of **boutique hotels** has emerged, inviting travelers to experience Puerto Rico's capital not just as visitors, but as immersed participants in its history and heart. From Spanish colonial charm and artistic interiors to intimate service and local personality, these unique hotels are redefining hospitality in one of the Caribbean's most beloved historic quarters.

CASABLANCA HOTEL



VILLAS HERENCIA



lively lobby's artistic décor inspired by the classic film *Casablanca*, the hotel reflects a thoughtful curation of ambience and story. Its central location makes it an ideal base for exploring Old San Juan's colonial forts, plazas, and vibrant culinary scene — all within easy walking distance. And to top it off, it has an amazing private salon for special events that can accommodate 100 guests.

Just a few blocks away, **Hotel El Convento** stands as a testament to Old San Juan's deeper history. Housed in a former Carmelite convent whose origins date back centuries, this elegant hotel has been a pioneer of historic preservation and boutique hospitality in the district.

With its original architectural features thoughtfully preserved and complimented by refined modern touches, El Convento offers guests not just a place to sleep, but a journey through time. Called "an elegant inn in a former convent," it has become an institution — where



At the forefront of this boutique movement is the beloved **Casa Blanca Hotel**, a hidden gem nestled into the heart of Old San Juan on Calle Fortaleza. Opened in 2009, Casa Blanca was envisioned by its founder as an **oasis from the tropical heat and bustle** — a **personalized, welcoming retreat** where hospitality feels like family and every guest is welcomed with warmth and character.

Stepping through its doors, guests discover 57 uniquely decorated rooms that blend **historic motifs with contemporary comfort** — each outfitted with plush linens, modern amenities, and distinctive details that echo the tastes of local art and culture. From the rooftop terrace with stone bathtubs under open skies to the





LA ESTADIA

every courtyard, arch, and terrace whispers stories of the past. Its reputation for classic charm paired with luxurious comforts has made it a favorite for couples, culture enthusiasts, and world travelers seeking an authentic Old San Juan experience.

While El Convento reflects the grand heritage of the city, **Villa Herencia** brings another distinct flavor to the boutique hotel map. Tucked into a quiet corner between the **San Juan Gate and the Cathedral of San Juan**, this cozy inn highlights the **Spanish colonial character** that defines the area.

Villa Herencia's intimate scale and thoughtfully curated décor celebrate the architectural heritage of the island — from tiled floors and vaulted ceilings to sun-dappled courtyards where guests can relax beneath fragrant bougainvillea. Its sun deck suites and comfortable rooms offer a serene escape after a day of exploring winding streets and historic plazas. Travelers often praise the hotel not just for its charm, but for its **strategic location that seamlessly connects them to art galleries, local cafés, and nightlife**, making it a



favorite among those who appreciate both quiet comfort and downtown energy.

Even beyond traditional hotel formats, La Estadia shows how visitors can tailor their stay to fit their style. Positioned within the historic core, **La Estadia** blends the best qualities of a boutique experience with the flexibility of serviced apartments. Guests enjoy private kitchens, balconies, and home-like comforts while still being steps away from the culture and rhythm of Old San Juan life — from morning coffee strolls to twilight walks along the fortified city walls.

What unites these boutique destinations is a shared dedication to **personalized hospitality, architectural heritage, and authentic engagement with place**. Unlike larger chains, these hotels draw inspiration from the local landscape, the people who built the city, and the stories etched into every stone. Their offerings are not just rooms, but **experiences that invite travelers to pause, explore, and connect deeply with Old San Juan's soul**.

In a world where travel can sometimes feel commoditized, the boutique hotels of Old San Juan stand as vibrant examples of how **history, art, comfort, and community** can coalesce into stays that are as memorable as the destination itself — ensuring every visit feels both personal and timeless.



HOTEL EL CONVENTO



THE
50 MOST
BEAUTIFUL &
INFLUENTIAL

Vick San

Three Decades of Culinary Mastery
and the Evolution of a Legacy

All photographs are
by J. Kevin Foltz

M

ore than a restaurant, **NickSan** is a destination—a place where time slows, and each service reaffirms a cuisine defined by identity, consistency, and passion. It is a culinary language that does not seek explanation, but emotion; one that, once experienced, endures.

From its legendary roots on the golden coast of Baja California Sur, **NickSan** has transcended its status as a local favorite to become a global gastronomic landmark. Celebrating its **32nd anniversary in 2026**, this iconic institution has not only pioneered Japanese-inspired cuisine in Los Cabos but has fundamentally redefined the region's luxury dining landscape.

Founded in October 1994, NickSan emerged from an extraordinary friendship between two chefs from very different worlds: **Ángel Carbajal** and **Masayuki Niikura**. Their partnership laid the foundation for a unique cultural marriage—blending the surgical precision of Japanese technique with the vibrant flavors and coastal bounty of Mexico.



Above: Chef-Owner Ángel Carbajal. Photograph by J. Kevin Foltz. NickSan, Palmilla location. Taken in October 2025.

Below: Executive Chef Edgar Carbajal. Photograph by Kevin Foltz. NickSan, Palmilla location. Taken in October 2025.





Central to this story is **Chef Ángel Carbajal**, whose vision and dedication have guided the restaurant since its earliest days. His mastery has not only captivated the most discerning international travelers but has earned the highest praise from the world's most respected culinary icons. After experiencing the menu firsthand, the legendary **Chef Jeremiah Tower**—a pioneer of modern American cuisine—offered a tribute that resonates as a testament to NickSan's international stature: "One of the best restaurant and food nights of my life, and it has been long enough by now to visit thousands of restaurants all over the world. Ángel is a genius and a master of touch and taste."

Such a profound endorsement from a global master reaffirms **NickSan's** place on the world stage. It is a recognition of the "genius" that Tower described—a delicate balance of touch and taste that continues to evolve today with a next generation of talent in the kitchen.

While its heritage remains anchored in the **iconic inaugural location in downtown Cabo San Lucas**, the brand's influence has expanded to the most exclusive enclaves of the peninsula. A second location at **The Shoppes at Palmilla**, situated in the Los Cabos Tourist Corridor, offers diners a sophisticated setting with stunning views, perfect for the celebratory and intimate evenings that define the NickSan experience.

As **NickSan** celebrates 32 years in 2026, it stands not just as a restaurant, but as a legacy—a celebration of friendship, innovation, and the unforgettable flavors that emerge when two great culinary traditions unite. For those visiting Los Cabos from New York, Miami, and beyond, its story is an invitation to a journey: one that honors the past while inviting discovery in every bite.

Welcome to the NickSan experience—a journey of discovery in every bite.

RESERVATIONS & LOCATIONS

NICKSAN DOWNTOWN CABO
The Historic Inaugural Location
Blvd. Marina Lote 1, Plaza de la Danza, Centro,
Cabo San Lucas.
+52 (624) 143 2491 | cabo@nicksan.com

NICKSAN PALMILLA
Sophisticated Dining & Ocean Views
The Shoppes at Palmilla, Carr.
Transpeninsular Km. 27.5.
+52 (624) 144 6262 | palmilla@nicksan.com

As **NICKSAN CELEBRATES 32 YEARS** in 2026, it stands not just as a restaurant, but as **A LEGACY**—a celebration of friendship, innovation, and the **UNFORGETTABLE FLAVORS** that emerge when two great culinary traditions unite.

Teresita & Dr Carlos Corral

LEADERSHIP WITH HEART: THE CORRALS' QUIET INFLUENCE ON EL PASO



Teresita Gonzalez de Corral and Dr. Carlos Corral are a distinguished couple whose lives and work have become woven into the social and cultural fabric of the West Texas region of El Paso, Las Cruces, NM & Juarez, Chihuahua. Together they represent a mix of professional excellence, community devotion, and a warm family-oriented presence that has quietly shaped neighborhoods, institutions, and the lives of countless residents along the cultural corridor.

Teresita is known among friends and neighbors for her tireless advocacy for promoting local arts, and cultural preservation through her company, Losita Productions, LLC. With a natural gift for organizing and a refined sense of hospitality, she has led initiatives that bring people together across generations and backgrounds. Whether coordinating fundraisers for cancer by Polo events, concerts for scholarship funds, supporting theater and dance groups, curating community exhibitions, Teresita approaches every project with meticulous care and the conviction that art strengthens social bonds and fosters resilience. Teresita is an entrepreneur and philanthropist inspired by her love of the arts and humanities to promote both progress and legacy. She was Mrs. New Mexico 1994 and recipient of the Dona Ana Arts

Council 2016 Community Arts Award Papen Family Award. She has previously been featured on the cover of the El Paso City Magazine in 2007 and 2023 to celebrate outstanding El Pasoans for Promotions with Purpose.

A lifelong love of music and live performances led her to form Losita Production LLC, bringing renowned artists like Raul Di Blasio, Carlos Cuevas, Opera singer, Barbara Padilla, Gipsy Kings, Chris Botti, Little Joe, Vicki Carr, El Puma-Jose Luis Rodriguez, Julio Iglesias Jr., Pitbull, Kumbia Kings, Fernando Allende, and many more. Her work and dedication specialize in unique entertainment and concert promotion for the border area.

“The best part of my job as an entertainment and fundraising event professional is the ability to create memorable experiences while making a positive impact in the community of El Paso, Texas, Cd. Juarez, Chihuahua, and Las Cruces, New Mexico.”

“I serve El Paso because it allows me to see the direct results of my efforts, knowing that I have contributed to both the enjoyment of others and the betterment of my community of El Paso.”

Dr. Carlos H. Corral complements this civic passion with a lifetime commitment devoted to his practice of Cardiovascular & Thoracic Surgery for over 35 years.

A Stanford University alumnus, U.T. Southwestern Medical School graduate and Yale-trained heart surgeon, Dr. Corral dedicated many years of his practice under El Paso Cardiac, Vascular & Thoracic Surgeons, P.A.

He was involved with programs dedicated to the treatment and management of cardiothoracic and vascular diseases with local El Paso hospitals, serving a largely Hispanic population. Through educational presentations to the community and periodic free clinical screenings for cardiovascular disease, his intention was to educate and teach the community about the risk factors and prevention of cardiovascular diseases, the number one cause of illness and death in the U.S. While at Stanford, Dr. Corral had the privilege to be involved in health research programs which included attending "Healthcare Delivery and Public Policy: A Study of Britain's National Health Service" in Cliveden, England with the Stanford School of Medicine and complete research on "Coronary Heart Disease: Whites vs Non-whites" for the Stanford Heart Disease Prevention Program under the direction of Professor Joshua Lederberg (Noble prize Laureate, Chemistry). While at U.T. Southwestern Medical School, Dallas, he participated in a medical student tour of the People's Republic of China in 1978, led by the American Medical Student Association at the invitation of the Chinese Medical Society.

During the past several years, Dr. Corral has served on the Executive Board of the National Hispanic Medical Association and advisor to the National Hispanic Health Foundation. He also previously served on the Minority Health Section of the American Medical Association. "Most recently in 2022, Dr Corral completed the Executive LEAD Management Program with the Stanford Graduate School of Business, and in 2023, the Chief Medical Officer Program with Emory School of Medicine and the Emory Goizueta School of Business".

Dr. Corral has earned the respect of colleagues and patients alike for his clinical and surgical skills, gentle bedside manner, and willingness to mentor high school to pre-medical and medical students and younger practitioners. Beyond this, Dr. Corral has been an advocate for public health initiatives that address the unique needs of a border community—from bilingual outreach and preventative care education to partnerships with local, state and national institutions that expand access for underserved populations.

Family members stand at the center of their lives. Teresita and Dr. Corral have helped raise their children with an emphasis on education, empathy, and civic responsibility. The family's shared values continue to inspire the next generation.



*The 50
Most Beautiful
& Influential*



Carlos Fernando, a U.T. Austin Film School graduate and member of the prestigious Cinema Audio Society, is currently an Assistant Professor for Cinema Sound Production at New Mexico State University's Creative Media Institute. He is the Artistic Director and Founder of the El Paso Film Festival (EPFF) now in its 8th year. The EPFF has been recognized by Movie Maker Magazine, naming it one of the "50 Film Festivals in the World Worth the Entry Fee" in 2024 and 2025. It has highlighted its unique border culture, supportive indie scene, and vibrant atmosphere, attracting major filmmakers such as Robert Rodriguez, Kevin Smith, etc., showcasing El Paso as a growing film hub.

Octavio, also a U.T. Austin Film School graduate, is Business Innovation Manager at International Impulse Supply Chain 4.0 and previous head of business development at Mindful Creative Group in El Paso. He works with non-profits and foundations in the Border area to improve their online presence and effectiveness by helping increase online donations.

Cristina, a U.T. Business graduate/MBA/Magna Cum Laude in Finance

and International Business, is currently Vice-President and Loan Review Associate for WestStar Bank in El Paso. She is a community advocate for the arts, education, and cultural competence, serving as the Executive Board President of El Paso Pro-Musica which makes chamber music accessible to all through educational outreach and community engagement. She also serves on the Advisory Board for the El Paso Film Festival.

As El Paso continues to evolve, Teresita, Dr. Corral & Corral Family remind residents that community is built one relationship at a time. Their story is not just one of individual accomplishments but of shared endeavor—a reminder that thriving communities depend on people who invest in others, lift up emerging voices, and build bridges in the community.

Their steady, thoughtful presence—a blend of generosity, artistry, and compassionate service—leaves an imprint on the city's institutions and its people, and a steadfast leadership that proves that everyday dedication yields lasting change. Their work remains a quiet, powerful testament to community, culture, and caring across generations who inspire us.



RIVER
RUBALCAVA

RIVER



Let's connect on Instagram
@Rubalcava_Wellness
+1(347)356-3619

FAVORITE PLACE IN THE WORLD?

I have a casita in the mountains of Puerto Rico. It is in the town of Utuado, This area is my happy place especially El Sofa. It is an impressive white rock canyon with stunning views.

My dream destination for 2026 is the Galápagos Islands.

What do your clients request the most?

I am a wellness consultant and offer guidance on healthy living. I also offer Swedish deep tissue massage as many of my clients are athletes and request Forearm Fusion.

What type of weather is healthier for you?

I practice yoga every day and the Fresh mountain air in the early morning gets me feeling healthy and ready to take on the day.

Difference between the Hamptons and Puerto Rico?

I love the simple life in Puerto Rico. Barefoot consultations and client workouts at Dome Beach in Rincon.....many surfers are my clients. When summer comes it is off to The Hamptons where I need to up my game for the summer crowd.

What do you love to wear?

I usually wear Thom Brown gear for my work.....in Puerto Rico it is a much more casual vibe.
An easy Lifestyle trick is CONSISTENCY Do it everyday.

What is your background?

I grew up on the Northside of San Antonio Texas. Private schools where I excelled in athletics.

What was your preferred sport? Not just one sport but Basketball, baseball, football, volleyball cross country and track.

Tell me about your career?

My career has been varied..... from retail entrepreneur to a decade career in Fashion. Working for Nordstrom Fashion Office out of Chicago to Media production teams in NYC. I work on everything from USA and Oxygen Network to Runway Shows and editorials. As a wardrobe stylist and assistant producer.

How did you start in the wellness industry?

I started as a young athlete and continued in high school. In college, besides being an active player, I took classes in health and wellness. It was always a dream to focus on this full time and finally three years ago I established my business.





HEALTH IS THE GREATEST WEALTH,
THE NEW STATUS SYMBOL!



What do you recommend for a balanced life?
Exercise and nutrition go hand in hand.

Most challenging case ever?

I had a client who weighed almost 340 lbs. He could barely walk 5 steps without stopping for a break. He was a diabetic.....his kidneys were close to failing.....high blood pressure..... CPAP machine. I worked with him for one year on exercise, nutrition and overall wellness. He is now 120 pounds lighter.....in very good health and his doctor said his life span is now 20 years longer.

CHIN YAO

PASALO PALANTE:
SETTING WORLD
RECORD-ONE MILLION
ACTS OF KINDNESS
FROM PUERTO RICO
TO THE WORLD

By Te Amo PR



In the heart of Puerto Rico, something historic happened.

From November 7–11, a grassroots movement called Pasalo Palante (“Pay It Forward”) mobilized over one million pledged acts of kindness across the entire island — a feat that, pending world-record verification, may be one of the largest grassroots kindness activations ever documented globally.

This wasn’t a marketing campaign. It was a love revolution.

Launched by Te Amo PR, a nonprofit born from post-hurricane recovery efforts, Pasalo Palante ignited a wave of human connection at a time when the world needs it most. From hugging an abuela to serving a stranger, every act was traced back to a single message:

“Te Amo, PR. Someone showed you love. Now... pasalo palante.”

In just five days, all 78 mayors across Puerto Rico activated their communities. The Department of Education pledged over 270,000 students and teachers to each perform at least four acts of kindness. Churches, universities, nonprofits, and everyday families joined in. Over 40 celebrities, athletes, and media personalities served as kindness ambassadors. Radio, TV, billboards, cinemas, and retail stores all amplified the message. The campaign’s anthem — performed by Siete and Choco Orta — played island-wide.

And behind it all? A volunteer-driven movement with zero salaried employees on its books — only some part-time contractors, funded creatively to maximize donations straight to people in need.

What others may spend \$20 million to activate, we did with love.

Even the scientific world took note. The Global Consciousness Project, run by the HeartMath Institute, tracked global coherence patterns during the campaign. Just after the coordination of collective thoughts of love and kindness on 11/11 at 11:11 a.m., the Puerto Rico data cluster showed the highest coherence levels on the map — a



rare and powerful signal of elevated emotional network coherence.

But this isn’t about breaking records.

It’s about healing. Reclaiming culture. Restoring trust. And reminding the world that Puerto Rico — often overlooked — can lead in what matters most: corazón.

And now, we’re exploring the possibility of taking this movement global.

We’re inviting those who believe in the power of culture, consciousness, and collective joy — philanthropists, artists, foundations, world leaders — to explore this with us. If you have the influence, resources, or networks to help us expand this movement — to reach the diaspora, to touch other nations hungry for connection — we want to hear from you.

Puerto Rico just proved what’s possible.

Now imagine what we can do — together — for the world.

Join us: TeAmoPR.org | PasaloPalante.org
Instagram: [@te.amo_PR](https://www.instagram.com/te.amo_PR) | Facebook: [TeAmo Puerto Rico](https://www.facebook.com/TeAmoPuertoRico)

Anna ROTHSCHILD

THE WOMAN BEHIND
THE CURTAIN: HOW A
MODERN SOCIALITE
BECAME ONE OF THE
MOST VITAL CONNECTORS
IN THE WORLD OF CULTURE,
POWER, AND INFLUENCE

By Art Bodega

Photography by Alex Dani

Some people enter a room and disappear. Others enter and quietly shift its entire frequency.

When Anna Rothschild walks into a space—whether a candlelit dining room on the Upper East Side, a private art viewing in Palm Beach, a discreet gathering in Mayfair, or a softly lit corner of a Parisian restaurant—the atmosphere recalibrates. Conversations sharpen, energies realign, and a subtle awareness settles over the room. It is not spectacle. It is presence.

Because Anna Rothschild does not simply attend a gathering. She is the bridge between worlds.

As the founder of **A. Rothschild PR**, Anna operates at the intersection of art, fashion, publishing, philanthropy, real estate, hospitality, and culture. Her work extends far beyond traditional public relations. She is a strategist, tastemaker, discreet advisor, and curator of connections so rarefied they exist almost entirely through word of mouth. Her influence is layered, trusted, and deeply earned.

In a world obsessed with visibility, Anna understands that true power lives in discretion. Through **A. Rothschild PR**, she has quietly woven relationships between artists, designers, philanthropists, creative visionaries, business leaders, and cultural institutions. She does not chase attention. She protects privacy, refines positioning, and aligns people with only what genuinely reflects their value.

And that is why, when something meaningful is in motion, a whispered question often passes between those in the know: “Is Anna involved?”

A LIFE BETWEEN WORLDS

Anna’s life has always moved across continents, languages, and worlds. Her years in Paris—particularly in the 16th arrondissement—shaped not only her aesthetic, but her understanding of restraint, heritage, and true European elegance. She learned the difference between fleeting trends and enduring taste, between spectacle and substance. Those influences would later inform the guiding philosophy behind **A. Rothschild PR**.

Now dividing her time between New York, London, and Palm Beach, Anna embodies a transatlantic sensibility shaped by history, tradition, and cultural refinement. London instilled in her an appreciation for hierarchy, subtlety, and understatement: the knowledge that influence rarely announces itself. These lessons became integral to the way she navigates both social and professional spheres.



*INA WORLD THAT LONGS TO
BE SEEN, SHE REMAINS THE
WOMAN WHO TRULY SEES.*



Gowns by
Michael Depaoulo
Jewelry by Kiumarsi

From Parisian salons to summers in Saint-Tropez, and life rooted in some of the world's most storied cities, Anna immersed herself not just in beauty, but in meaning. Her children were raised within this internationally layered environment, surrounded by creativity, architecture, art, and refined living—further strengthening her innate sensitivity to environment, tone, and placement.

Early on, she understood that true luxury is not about excess. It is about instinct. Timing. Stillness.

THE WOMAN EVERYONE CALLS

There are very few publicists whose presence is felt without needing to be announced. Anna Rothschild is one of them.

Through **A. Rothschild PR**, she has advised and supported a remarkable array of individuals and institutions, from artists and actors to designers, restaurateurs, cultural organizations, and philanthropic leaders. Her gift lies in alignment—connecting the right people, at the right time, in the right environment, without fanfare or excess.

Those who have worked with her understand that her value is not in volume, but in discernment. She senses potential before it materializes and recognizes longevity long before others see the trend. In an industry driven by visibility, Anna chose a quieter, more eloquent path—one rooted in loyalty, privacy, integrity, and long-term vision.

Her involvement in a project might never be publicly spoken of, yet it is always present—in the intuitive flow of the guest list, the thoughtful energy of a space, and the relationships that endure long after the moment has passed.

In an age of overexposure, Anna Rothschild represents the return of quiet authority.

A LEGACY ARCHITECT

Anna does not think in moments; she thinks in legacy.

Much of her current focus centers on the placement of art within architectural and commercial environments. She understands that art alters not only the appearance of a space, but the emotional experience within it. Luxury homes, hotels, restaurants, and cultural venues become living canvases under her eye.

She knows that where something exists is as powerful as what it is.

With an innate ability to sense how light, texture, memory, and meaning intersect, she helps form spaces layered in story and significance. Artists are not merely promoted; they are thoughtfully integrated into environments that allow their work to live and resonate.



Fur by
Helen Yarmak



THE SOCIALITE, REDEFINED

The word “socialite” has long been misunderstood. Anna Rothschild restores it to its true form: a woman who shapes culture, cultivates elegance, protects privacy, uplifts creativity, and strengthens communities.

Behind her refined exterior lives a woman of deep empathy, grace, and resilience. She has supported friends through grief, stood quietly beside those in their most vulnerable moments, and extended kindness without expectation. Her presence is both grounding and luminous.

And still, she moves through the world with a rare softness paired with discernment—a combination that cannot be taught or manufactured.

This is the Anna effect.

She does not chase relevance. She gives it form. She does not follow movement. She creates it.

Her gift is vision—and vision, guided by intuition, becomes influence.

WHAT'S NEXT

While she remains intentionally private, Anna's future is beginning to unfold through

selective editorial projects, art and design collaborations, cultural consulting, and carefully curated events across New York, London, Paris, and Palm Beach.

As always, her next steps will be measured, purposeful, and quietly influential.

Anna Rothschild.
Publicist. Cultural architect. Tastemaker.
Connector. Visionary.

In a world that longs to be seen, she remains the woman who truly sees.

And that is where the real power lives.
IG: @AnnaRothschildPR Anna@ARothschildCo.com

THE
50 MOST
BEAUTIFUL &
INTELLIGENT



EL OASIS PATIO BAR

A CULINARY AND CULTURAL GEM IN VEGA ALTA,
PUERTO RICO



Nestled along the vibrant northern coast of Puerto Rico, El Oasis Patio Bar in the border of Vega Alta & Dorado, 3 minute drive from Dorado Beach Ritz Carlton Reserve on Hwy 693, lives up to its name—offering a true oasis of flavor, hospitality, and island charm. More than just a place to dine, El Oasis Patio Bar has become a beloved gathering spot where locals and visitors alike come together to celebrate Puerto Rican vibe, live music, cuisine, community, and the simple pleasure of sharing a great meal in a welcoming outdoor fresh atmosphere.

Dorado & Vega Alta, known for their beautiful beaches and rich cultural heritage, provide the perfect backdrop for El Oasis Patio Bar. The restaurant seamlessly blends coastal energy with a relaxed, inviting ambiance that reflects the warmth of Puerto Rican hospitality. From the moment guests arrive, they are greeted with friendly smiles, lively music, and an atmosphere that encourages them to slow down, unwind, and savor the experience.

At the heart of El Oasis Patio Bar is its commitment to authentic Puerto Rican flavors, elevated with thoughtful presentation and modern touches. The menu is a tribute to the island's culinary traditions, featuring dishes that highlight fresh ingredients, bold seasonings, and time-honored recipes passed down through generations. Whether enjoying classic favorites or contemporary interpretations, diners can expect flavors that are both comforting and exciting.

Seafood plays a starring role, thanks to its coastal location. Fresh fish, shrimp, and other ocean delicacies are prepared with care and creativity, often infused with garlic, citrus, and local spices that capture the essence of Caribbean cooking. Signature dishes showcase the balance between simplicity and depth—allowing the natural flavors of the ingredients



“EL OASIS PATIO BAR ON THE BORDER OF VEGA ALTA & DORADO, 3 MINUTE DRIVE FROM DORADO BEACH RITZ CARLTON RESERVE”



“AT THE HEART OF EL OASIS PATIO BAR IS ITS COMMITMENT TO AUTHENTIC PUERTO RICAN FLAVORS, ELEVATED WITH THOUGHTFUL PRESENTATION AND MODERN TOUCHES.”

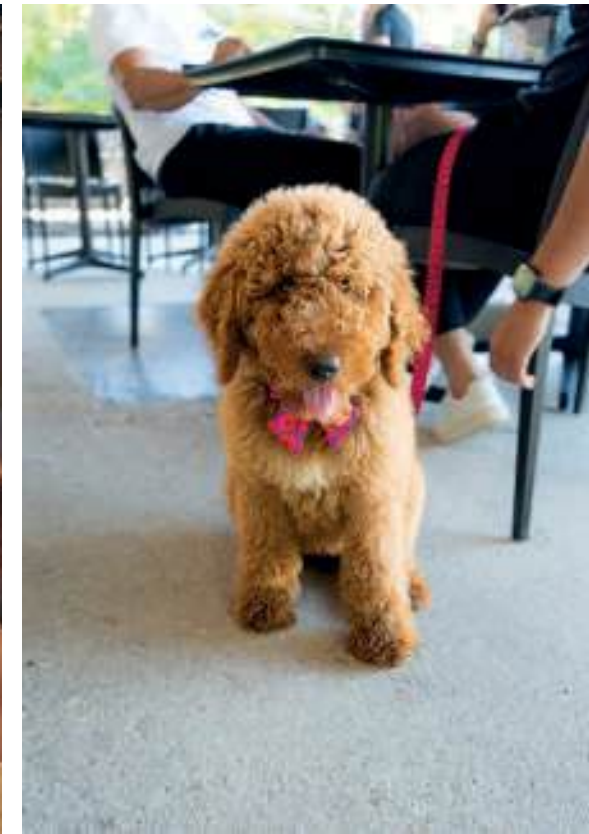
to shine while delivering satisfying, memorable meals; specially the massive & delicious Puerto Rican sampler.

Equally impressive is El Oasis’s selection of traditional Puerto Rican staples. From perfectly seasoned meats to hearty dishes and flavorful sides, each plate reflects a deep respect for the island’s culinary roots. The kitchen’s attention to detail ensures that every dish feels both authentic and thoughtfully crafted, appealing to longtime locals as well as first-time visitors eager to explore Puerto Rican cuisine.

No visit to El Oasis Patio Bar would be complete without experiencing its vibrant bar program. True to its name, the bar is a refreshing centerpiece,

offering expertly crafted cocktails that blend tropical fruits, premium spirits, and local flair. Classic Puerto Rican drinks sit comfortably alongside creative house cocktails, making the bar a popular destination for after-work gatherings, weekend celebrations, and leisurely evenings with friends.

Music and atmosphere play a vital role in shaping the El Oasis Patio Bar experience. The restaurant frequently comes alive with upbeat rhythms that reflect Puerto Rico’s rich musical culture, creating an energetic yet relaxed setting with a nice dancing area in front of the live band. Whether guests are enjoying a lively night out or a laid-back afternoon meal, the ambiance adapts effortlessly, making El Oasis suitable for any occasion.



“MUSIC AND ATMOSPHERE PLAY A VITAL ROLE IN SHAPING THE EL OASIS PATIO BAR EXPERIENCE.”





“OUR MISSION HAS ALWAYS BEEN TO CREATE A SPACE WHERE PEOPLE FEEL AT HOME..”

What truly sets El Oasis Patio Bar apart, however, is its sense of community. Over the years, it has become a local favorite—a place where friendships are formed, milestones are celebrated, and memories are made. The staff’s genuine hospitality and personal attention create an environment where guests feel like family, not just customers. This connection to the community has helped El Oasis earn its reputation as one of Dorado’s most cherished dining destinations.

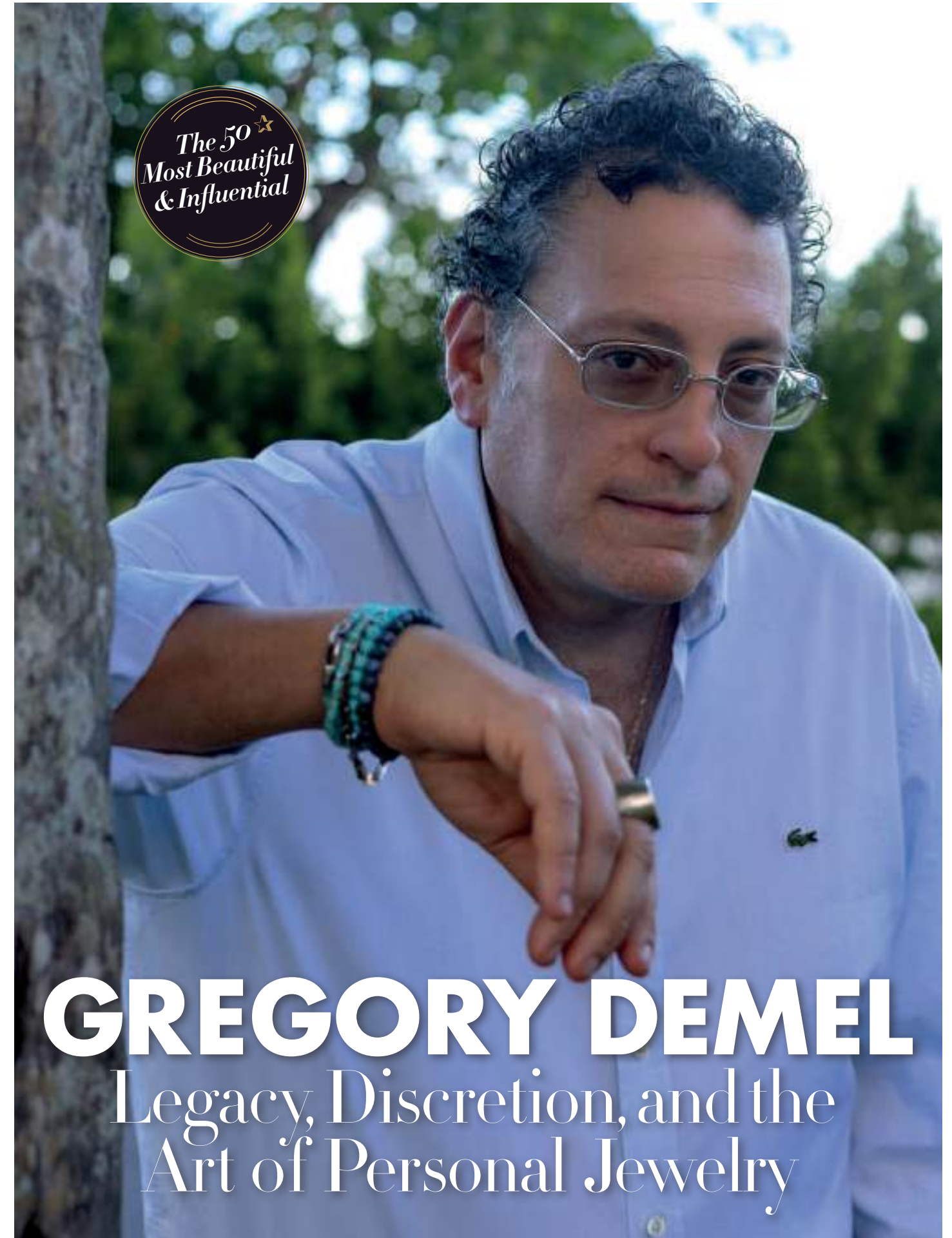
For visitors exploring Puerto Rico, El Oasis Patio Bar offers an authentic taste of the island beyond the typical tourist trail. It provides a window into local life, where food, music, and conversation flow naturally and joyfully. For residents of Dorado and



neighboring towns, it remains a dependable and beloved spot—always familiar, yet never ordinary.

In a culinary landscape that continues to evolve, El Oasis Patio Bar stands as a testament to the enduring power of tradition, quality, and heartfelt hospitality. It captures the spirit of Puerto Rico in every dish served and every drink poured, inviting guests to pause, indulge, and experience the island’s culture in its most delicious form.

Whether you come for the food, the drinks, the music, or the sense of belonging, El Oasis delivers an experience that lingers long after the last bite—making it a true oasis on the border of Dorado & Vega Alta, Puerto Rico.



GREGORY DEMEL

Legacy, Discretion, and the Art of Personal Jewelry

The 50 [★]
Most Beautiful
& Influential



“THE DEMEL STORY IN PUERTORICO BEGAN WITH GREGORY’S FATHER, A JEWISH IMMIGRANT AND ENTREPRENEUR WHO ARRIVED ON THE ISLAND WITH DETERMINATION AND VISION.”

On the historic cobblestone streets of Old San Juan, where centuries of culture and commerce intertwine, family businesses have long shaped the character of the city. Among them stands the Demel jewelry tradition—an enduring symbol of craftsmanship, heritage, and personal service carried forward today by jeweler and attorney Gregory Demel.

The Demel story in Puerto Rico began with Gregory’s father, a Jewish immigrant and entrepreneur who arrived on the island with determination and vision. On Fortaleza Street in Old San Juan, he established a jewelry business grounded in integrity, exceptional quality, and personal relationships. Over time, the store became known not only for its exquisite pieces but also for the trust it built with generations of clients—from local families to international visitors drawn to the charm and history of the city.

Growing up surrounded by gemstones, watches, and the careful rituals of the trade, Gregory Demel developed an early appreciation for the artistry and responsibility that accompany fine jewelry. Observing his father work—examining stones, assisting couples with engagement rings, and helping families commemorate life’s most important milestones—offered an education rooted in craftsmanship, patience, and trust.

Yet Demel’s professional path would expand far beyond the jewelry counter. In addition to continuing the family legacy, he pursued a career in law and became a New York–admitted attorney, where he represented a range of high-profile clients including professional athletes and personalities in the world of sports entertainment and professional wrestling. The experience sharpened his skills in negotiation, discretion, and client advocacy—qualities that now shape the distinctive way he approaches his work in the jewelry world.

Today, Gregory Demel is known for offering a more personal and curated approach to fine jewelry. Rather than relying solely on the traditional retail model, he works closely with private clients through consultations and tailored presentations. Whether assisting a collector in sourcing a rare gemstone, helping a couple select a meaningful engagement ring, or presenting exceptional pieces in an intimate setting, Demel emphasizes trust, discretion, and the importance of building long-term relationships.

This philosophy has made him particularly valued among clients who appreciate the privacy and thoughtfulness that accompany such a personalized experience. For many, working with Demel feels less like visiting a store and more like collaborating with a trusted advisor who understands both the aesthetic and emotional significance of fine jewelry. Beyond his professional work, Gregory Demel has also become increasingly engaged in philanthropic and community initiatives. Most notably, he founded Jewels of Philanthropy, a project that celebrates

women whose generosity, leadership, and commitment to giving back elevate the communities around them. Through editorial-style photography and gatherings that bring together remarkable women from Puerto Rico and beyond, the initiative highlights the intersection of beauty, philanthropy, and meaningful social impact.

For Demel, jewelry has always symbolized more than adornment. A piece of jewelry often marks a milestone—an engagement, an anniversary, or a personal achievement—and becomes part of a family’s story for generations. By connecting jewelry with philanthropy, he hopes to celebrate not only personal milestones but also the generosity and leadership that strengthen communities.

Today, Gregory Demel continues to guide the family’s jewelry tradition with a modern vision rooted in craftsmanship, discretion, and personal connection. Drawing on both his legal background and decades of experience in the jewelry trade, he offers clients something increasingly rare in today’s fast-moving world: thoughtful service, curated expertise, and jewelry that carries lasting meaning.

Gregory Demel works with private clients through curated presentations and personal consultations.





Some people walk into a room and command attention. Others build empires quietly; letting their work speak for itself. And then there's Mari Mediavilla Allende - a woman who does both with grace. Mari isn't just a businesswoman: she's a powerhouse, a trailblazer! The kind of woman who sees possibilities before the world catches on. Decades before global markets embraced the East, she was among the first to import art from Asia to the United States, curating and selling exquisite pieces in her French Quarter, New Orleans; World Trade Center, Dallas & Aspen, Colorado Galleries.

Her ability to predict trends and move industries forward didn't stop there. She transitioned into entertainment, managing pop talent, and shaping careers; all while staying ahead of the curve in a constantly evolving industry.

Today, alongside her husband, the legendary Mexican actor, singer, producer, writer & a renowned Contemporary Art painter, Fernando Allende; Mari runs a production company based out of Puerto Rico. But while her resume is impressive; what sets her apart is something less tangible—an instinctive ability to connect people; not just professionally, but in a way that transforms lives.

Mari doesn't just network; she understands people on a fundamental level. She sees their potential, their dreams, and, perhaps most importantly; who they need to meet to bring those dreams to life.

Her memory is almost mythical—ask anyone who has crossed her path and they'll tell you she never forgets a name, a conversation, or a moment of connection. That rare ability has made her one of the most effective connectors in the world, seamlessly linking ideas, businesses, and people across industries and continents. But for all her business acumen,

MARÍA (MARI) Mediavilla Allende: THE WOMAN WHO DOES IT ALL!



FERNANDO, ELÁN, ADÁN, NACHO & MARI ALLENDE

Mari's true legacy is her generosity. She gives freely—her time, her knowledge, her energy—without expecting anything in return. Whether she's mentoring an aspiring entrepreneur, guiding a creative mind, or offering a word of encouragement to a friend; she does it with an open heart.

Time zones don't slow her down; neither does distance! Mari keeps friendships and business ties alive across the globe, switching between languages as easily as she navigates industries.

She is, in every sense, a woman in motion—unstoppable, relentless, and always a step ahead.

Mari Mediavilla Allende isn't just redefining what it means to be a modern businesswoman. She's proving that success isn't just about what you build, but about the lives you touch along the way!



The 50th Most Beautiful & Influential



EDWARD J. OSREDKAR

ACTOR/VOICEOVER ACTOR IN THEATER AND FILM

Ed

is an actor/voiceover actor in theater and film. He is the Creator and Host of "Edward Osredkar's Entertainer Chat", an interview talk show available on his YouTube Channel (has won awards at film festivals worldwide), that interviews performers from all facets of the entertainment industry.

His acting experience began in local community theater with comedy, drama, and musical theater. A few years later, he auditioned for, and was cast in, summer stock theater productions. Voiceover acting talents began in college radio and later would be the training he needed for voiceover acting roles...audiobooks, audio drama, and radio theater.



HIS ACTING EXPERIENCE BEGAN IN **LOCAL COMMUNITY** THEATER WITH COMEDY, DRAMA, AND MUSICAL THEATER.



ON
REINVENTION,
RESILIENCE,
AND RADIANT
CONFIDENCE

By Rebeca Herrero

Luzelba
MANSAOUR
Sexy is Forever



“FOR YEARS
I WAS AFRAID
OF BEING IN
FRONT OF
THE CAMERA,
EVEN
THOUGH I’D
DONE IT,”
SHE ADMITS.
“NOW, I WANT
TO EMBRACE
IT”





A

fter years of sacrifice, motherhood, and loss, reality TV star and entrepreneur, Luzelba Mansour, is finally stepping into her own — fearless, radiant, and ready to show the world that beauty, ambition, and courage don't come with an expiration date.

There's something magnetic about Luzelba— she is the kind of woman who walks into a room and makes everyone wonder, Who is she? Maybe it's her effortless confidence, maybe it's her story. But one thing is certain: Luzelba isn't just a woman who's lived — she's a woman who's become.

Born in Mexico, raised American, and now thriving in Los Angeles, Luzelba's journey is a testament to vision, courage, and grace. "My father came to this country as a strawberry picker," she recalls. "He wanted a better life for his kids. We came to the U.S. with nothing — five kids, a pregnant mom, and a dream." "He didn't want us to just survive," she says. "He wanted us to belong — to build, to dream big, to succeed." That same drive fuels her today, propelling her evolution from immigrant daughter to entrepreneur, reality personality, and voice of comfort to thousands.

Rooted in Resilience

Growing up, Luzelba's world wasn't filled with luxury — it was filled with purpose. "We didn't take vacations. There were no extras. It was all work, all sacrifice," she remembers. "But I learned something powerful from that: nothing worth having comes easy."

Because her father only allowed English to be spoken, young Luzelba—who understood only Spanish—was deeply shy and faced misjudgment and a sense of loss early in life. (Her time to connect with her Mexican heritage and culture would come later in life, during her time in Rica, Famosa, Latina.) Despite being placed in a class with children who faced mental challenges and were banging their heads against the desks all day, Luzelba followed her father's unwavering sense of determination and with it, built the foundation for her life.

Years later, those lessons would come full circle as she graduated from UCLA with a Juris Doctor

(JD) degree, built her own real estate portfolio, all inspired by her father's journey from strawberry picker to real estate developer. "He started with one little house and ended with a hundred-million-dollar estate," she says with pride. "I wanted to continue that legacy — not to sell, but to build for my children. To give them stability and freedom to follow their passions.

A Mother's Mission

Above all, Luzelba is a mother first. At a young age, Luzelba vowed to herself that she would work hard and stop at nothing until she found her purpose and built the empire that would allow her future children to come into a world with an advantage she did not have growing up.

A mother of two beautiful daughters, the values she has instilled into them are the heartbeat of her story. "I wanted them to enjoy life differently than I did," she explains. "To work hard, but to enjoy the journey. To understand that privilege comes with gratitude."

She raised her daughters with grounded strength — blending elegance and empathy,

always reminding them that success is a shared effort. "When people come to help us in our home, they're not our employees — they're our family," she says. "Because of them, we live the way we live."

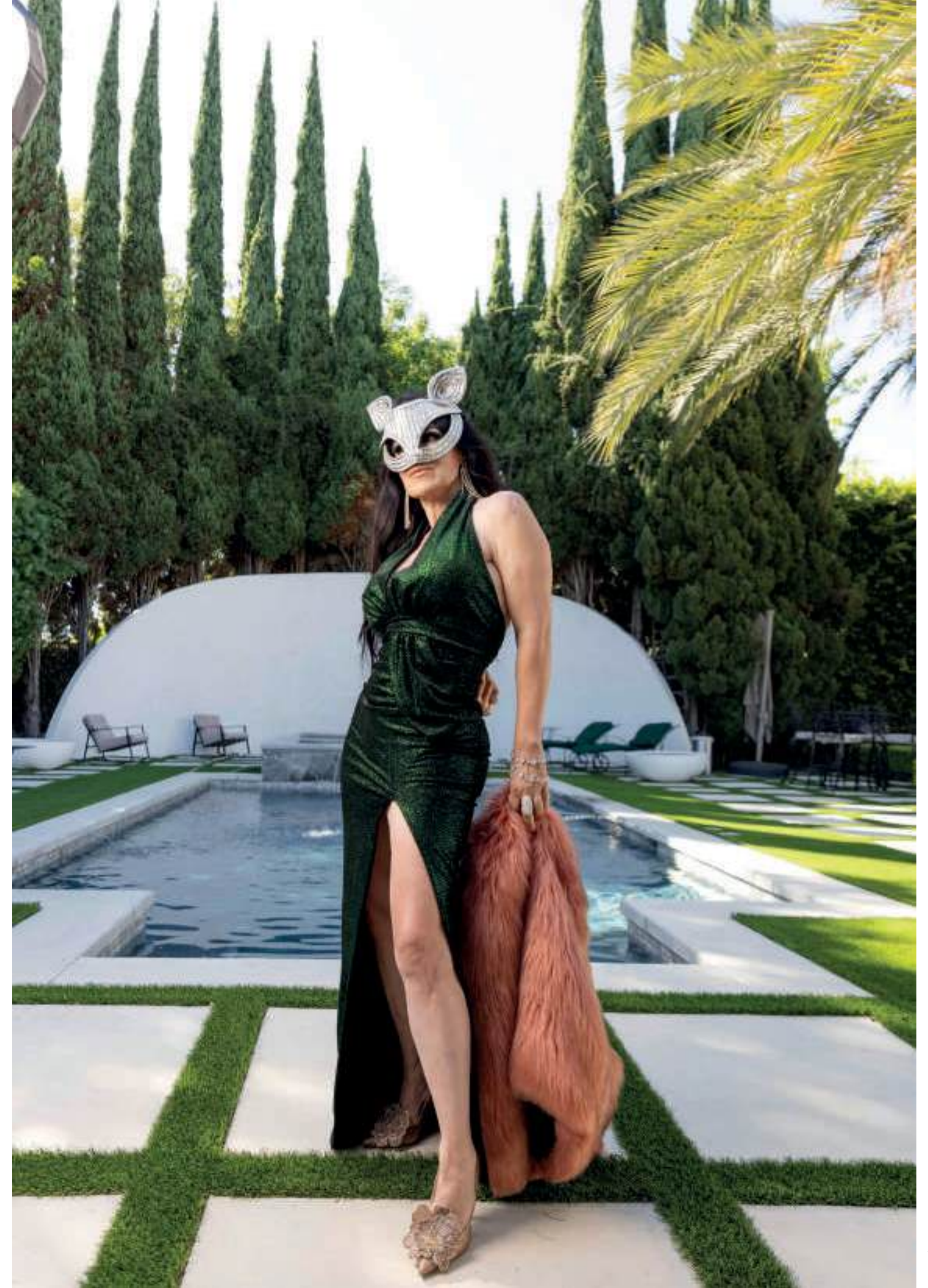
From Pain to Purpose

Behind Luzelba's luminous presence lies unimaginable loss — she's a mother who has endured the grief of losing three sons. "I spoke about that openly," she says softly. "Full pregnancies, babies being born, babies being buried. I shared my story so other women wouldn't feel alone."

Through her platform on Rica, Famosa, Latina, she found herself becoming a voice of healing for countless women across the world. "People started writing to me, saying, 'How do you keep going?'" she recalls. "I realized I was helping people heal just by sharing my truth."

Furthermore, despite having gone through a lengthy and heartaching divorce, Luzelba still found the beauty hidden beneath it as she shared that one of her mentors is indeed, her ex-husband. "He taught me how to enjoy the journey of growth."

That honesty, wrapped in glamour and strength, has made her a woman people look up to and serves as a reminder that vulnerability is its own kind of power.



THE 50 MOST BEAUTIFUL & INFLUENTIAL

A New Chapter: Confidence, Camera & Courage

Now, with her daughters thriving and her heart open to new possibilities, Luzelba enters her next era; one that is centered on self-expression and courage. “For years I was afraid of being in front of the camera, even though I’d done it,” she admits. “Now, I want to embrace it — maybe acting, maybe modeling. I’m not afraid anymore. I’m just having fun.”

Her mantra? “Sexy is forever.”

Luzelba laughs when she says it, but it’s not a joke — it’s a philosophy. “In the Latin culture, women are often told that once we reach a certain age, it’s over. But I’m just getting started,” she says. “I want women to know that beauty, confidence, and power don’t expire.”

The Power of Letting Go

When asked what advice she’d give to young women carving their own path, Luzelba doesn’t hesitate.

“Stop worrying about what people think,” she says. “We sabotage our dreams by caring too much about the noise. The only person you should worry about letting down is yourself. Let go of fear — it’s the only thing that holds you back.”

That mindset — bold, unfiltered, and full of grace — is what defines Luzelba today. Whether she’s developing real estate, posing for a campaign, or inspiring women online, she’s doing it her way.

“I finally understand,” she says with a smile. “I have nothing to lose — and everything to live for.”

Style That Speaks

For her recent magazine shoot, Luzelba wore stunning looks styled by Ivan Bitton, known for dressing some of television’s most striking women. Her fashion mirrors her life — timeless, confident, and unapologetically original. “I don’t follow trends,” she says. “I create my own.”

Coming Home to L.A.

After years of travel and self-discovery, Luzelba says she’s fallen back in love with her city. “L.A. is the most beautiful place in the world,” she smiles. “It’s diverse, creative, and full of energy. I love to travel, but there’s nothing like coming home to Los Angeles.”

And maybe that’s what makes Luzelba so captivating — she’s proof that you can rise, reinvent, and shine brighter with every chapter.

A woman of vision. A mother of strength. A muse for reinvention.

Luzelba isn’t finished — she’s just getting started.

Instagram @alexbonnetwrites @bonnetalex18
Website: <https://www.alexbonnetwrites.com/>



“

I FINALLY UNDERSTAND,
SHE SAYS WITH A SMILE.
“I HAVE NOTHING TO LOSE
— AND EVERYTHING TO
LIVE FOR.”



MR. BLACK | THE EYES ARE ALWAYS WATCHING

From his townhouse in South Beach, Miami, Jayson Winer—known to the art world as Mr. Black—would sit by the window with his one-eyed dog, Sugar, watching the people pass below. That’s when the phrase came to him: The Eyes Are Always Watching. What began as a moment of introspection soon ignited a movement.

Winer spent two decades navigating the high-stakes world of hedge-fund finance. As a portfolio manager at Platinum Partners, he managed billions across innovative strategies. But when federal prosecutors brought charges in a bribery scandal involving Platinum co-founder Murray Huberfeld and union leader Norman Seabrook, everything collapsed. Jona Rechnitz—whose name would reappear years later—testified in that case.

The scandal didn’t just close a fund; it closed a chapter of Winer’s life. “Mortality-based investing teaches you to measure risk against time,” he says. “But nothing prepares you for watching your entire world vanish.” Years later, when Rechnitz reappeared unexpectedly, Winer recognized the symmetry: “Sometimes the people who end one chapter return to start another.”

JAYSON WINER

THE EYES ARE ALWAYS WATCHING:
MR. BLACK’S DIVINE VISION ON BITCOIN

*Photography by STEPHEN ALMEIDA
at the BOCA RATON RESORT*

By REBECA HERRERO

*Jayson Winer poses
in front of the
cameras at The Palm
Court, located at
The Boca Raton Resort.
www.thebocaraton.com*



CASA MALKA — A PURE SPIRIT STRAIGHT FROM GOD

Seeking truth and purity after finance, Winer co-founded Casa Malka with his then-wife. Its motto, Straight from God, reflected the spiritual nature of the project. “Casa Malka is more than a pure spirit,” he says. “It’s a spiritual one. You taste the sweet nectar of God in every cup.”

Even through divorce, the brand unified their family. “We discovered love in being business partners,” Winer says. “It turned pain into purpose.”

THE VISION TAKES FORM

On his first Thanksgiving alone post-divorce, Winer sat in his Miami townhouse when a voice whispered: *The Eyes Are Always Watching*. He wrote it down immediately.

By mid-2024, the whisper became a blueprint: 21,000 skeletons, each a fragment of humanity with one of 777 attributes drawn from every culture and nation. “I wanted every person on Earth to see themselves inside it,” he says. “From Adam and Eve to world leaders—it’s the portrait of creation, carved into Bitcoin.”

With Ordinals inscription technology, each piece becomes indistinguishable from Bitcoin itself. Nothing can change it; nothing can erase it.

“Spiritual art inscribed on Bitcoin for eternity,” he says.

FAITH & THE MESSAGE

As the vision grew, Winer began sharing early glimpses of the artwork and its meaning on X. The imagery sparked curiosity—striking skeletons paired with spiritual symbolism, all pointing toward the idea that nothing is unseen. “People felt the message immediately,” he says. “They felt watched in the best way—more aware, more awake.”

THE DEAL WITH THE CHAMP

As momentum built, an unexpected opportunity emerged through Jona Rechnitz, the same figure who had crossed Winer’s path years earlier. Rechnitz resurfaced claiming that he and Floyd Mayweather had direct access to Elon Musk, and that Mayweather could personally deliver seven private messages to Musk on Winer’s behalf.

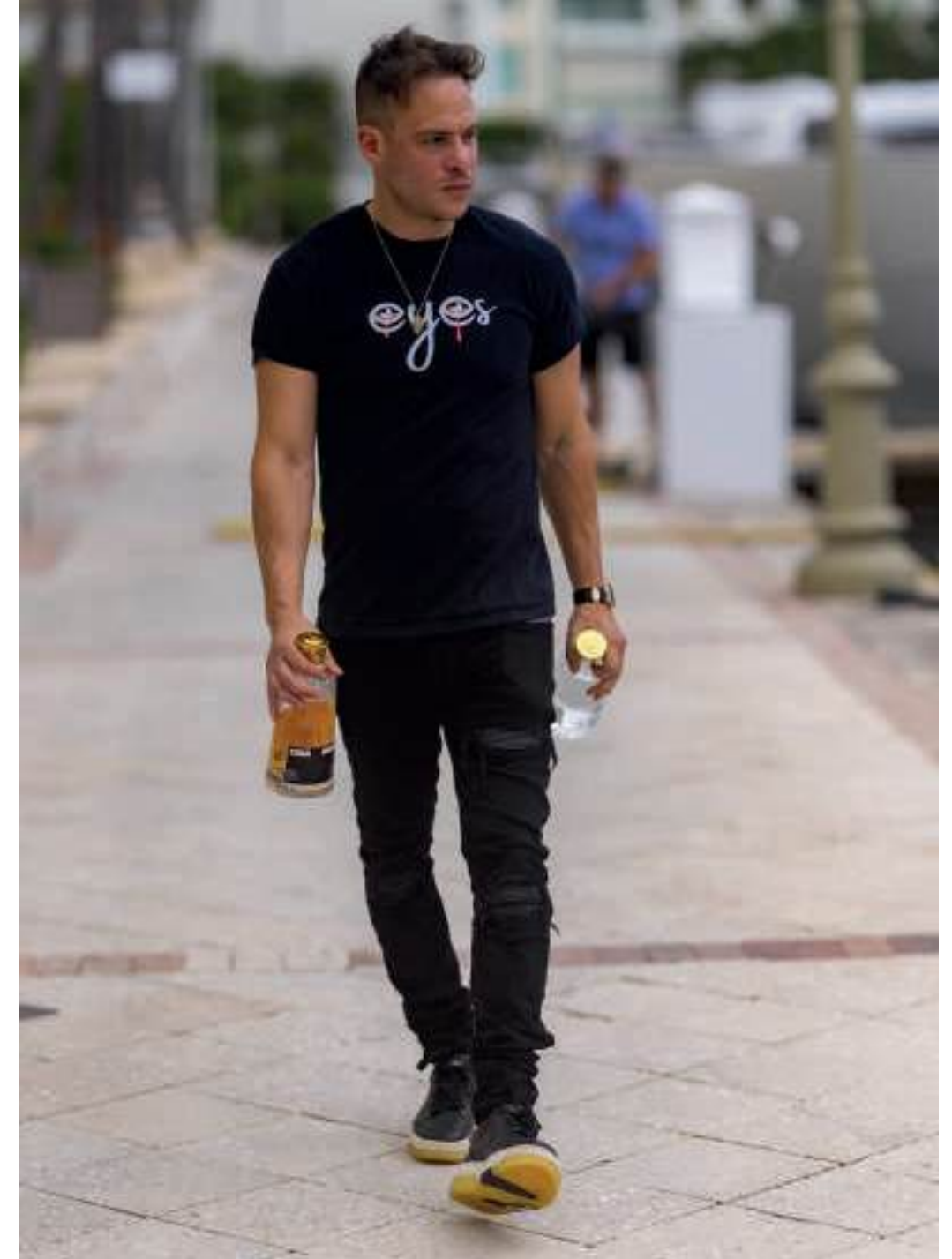
The terms were straightforward: a \$1 million payment, plus additional assets, in exchange for Mayweather sending the messages directly to Musk at the launch of the collection.

Rechnitz insisted the communication line was real. Mayweather’s camp echoed the same. Believing the messages were being sent, Winer timed the Seven-Day Dutch Auction to begin precisely when they said Musk would receive them.

“CASA MALKA IS MORE THAN A PURE SPIRIT,” HE SAYS. “IT’S A SPIRITUAL ONE. YOU TASTE THE SWEET NECTAR OF GOD IN EVERY CUP.”



*Here he wears one of his art creations from the series: *The Eyes Are Always Watching*.*



Months later, during discovery, the truth emerged: the messages were never sent—not by Mayweather, not by Rechnitz, not by anyone.

“The entire deal was deceit,” Winer says. “The promise was a lie.”

By then, the protocol was sealed on Bitcoin’s immutable ledger. The auction had begun. There was no reversing it.

“I couldn’t undo it,” he says. “Once an Ordinal is live, it’s forever.”

What appeared to be betrayal became clarity. The truth revealed itself exactly when it needed to.

THE SEVEN-DAY AUCTION

On September 16, 2024, Winer launched a seven-day auction unlike anything the art world had ever seen. Built directly on Bitcoin’s immutable

code, On September 16, 2024, Winer launched the auction. It opened at 0.7 Bitcoin per piece, dropping 0.1 BTC per day. By the final days, the price reached zero—turning the entire project into a free offering of eternal art inscribed on Bitcoin.

But Winer doesn’t view it as a failure.

“The market didn’t define it—God did,” he says. “It’s my gift to the world.”

TRUTH, VALUE & VINDICATION

Had the launch unfolded as intended, Winer estimates the first day alone could have generated \$1.7 billion, roughly 14,700 Bitcoin. That number now serves as the baseline of his lawsuit—a factual measure of what the moment represented.

“It’s not about what was lost,” he says. “It’s about truth. You can’t erase what’s real.”

A NEW PLATINUM PARTNERSHIP

After the auction sealed itself into Bitcoin's ledger, Winer shifted toward something alive. He purchased majority ownership of the Miami Assassins in Team Combat League—reconnecting spiritually with his former mentor Mark Nordlicht.

"It felt like divine symmetry," Winer says.

"Managing risk on Wall Street prepared me for investing in fighters—people who rise again."

"One that lives on the satoshi itself," he adds.

UNMASKING THE DEEP STATE

Another major figure woven into *The Eyes Are Always Watching* is George Soros. Within the collection, Mr. Black portrays him as a force spreading hardship under the guise of righteousness—a symbolic embodiment of what he believes Soros has imposed on communities worldwide.

That pattern resurfaced in Winer's own life. Years after Platinum's collapse, Jona Rechnitz re-entered his orbit—the same proud informant whose testimony helped dismantle the world Winer once operated in.

Within Judaism, informing on another Jew—especially falsely or for personal gain—is considered one of the gravest breaches of communal ethics. "You don't bring government power down on your own people," Winer says. "Not in our world."

To Mr. Black, Soros and Rechnitz—operating in vastly different arenas—represent the same spiritual distortion: men who use influence to harm others while claiming righteous intent. "I never went after either of them," he says. "Yet somehow, both crossed my story. That's not coincidence. That's symmetry."

Divine symmetry—another reminder that the Eyes are always watching.

THE SPIRITUAL ARCHITECTURE & IDEOLOGICAL WARFARE

At its core, *The Eyes Are Always Watching* is a celebration of humanity—a spiritual architecture honoring far more people than it condemns. Across 777 attributes and 21,000 skeletons, the collection pays tribute to the individuals, cultures, archetypes, and icons who shaped society from the beginning of time to the modern world. From legendary rappers to global athletes, from movie stars to historic leaders, and from ancient civilizations to modern nations, Mr. Black brings all of humanity under one roof—equalized, remembered, and spiritually illuminated. Yet



What the artist is about!

@ the Boca Raton Resort

Jayson Winer is an artist and has expressed his futuristic take on the digital art form of NFT's through concepts that are emblematic of an urban dynamism and coolness factor.



within this vast celebration of culture and creation, the collection also confronts two destructive ideologies Mr. Black believes are poisoning the modern world: the worldview associated with George Soros and the extremist doctrine pushed by Ayatollah Khamenei. These forces represent only a tiny fraction of the project, but their inclusion is deliberate—because true spiritual art not only honors the good; it exposes what harms humanity, too.

Mr. Black's art confronts these ideologies not with violence, but with truth. "Evil ideas must be exposed," he says. "You defeat darkness by shining a light so bright it can't survive."

The artwork's spiritual architecture reflects this purpose. The skeletons stand as a reminder that beneath skin, wealth, culture, and geopolitics, all people are equal before God. The attributes—drawn from civilizations across time—were crafted to show humanity's unity, not its divisions. "The skeleton strips away illusion," Mr. Black says. "It forces us to see what remains when ego dies."

Within that structure, Soros and Khamenei serve as symbolic antagonists: embodiments of ideologies that, in Mr. Black's view, fracture the world by turning humans against one another. Soros represents the secular ideology of chaos—a political philosophy that dissolves borders, communities, and moral order under the guise of humanitarianism. Khamenei represents the religious distortion—a regime claiming divine authority while preaching death, oppression, and the murder of God's children.

To Mr. Black, these two forces mirror each other in one tragic way: they convince their followers to fear man instead of fearing God. Soros replaces faith with globalist dogma; Khamenei replaces faith with tyranny. Both spread spiritual blindness. Both mislead the innocent. Both disguise destruction as righteousness.

Through his art—permanently engraved onto Bitcoin—Mr. Black fights back by reminding the world of a simple truth: God sees everything. No propaganda, no political machinery, no religious manipulation can erase the divine ledger of human actions. "The eyes are always watching," he says. "Not mine. His."

By exposing these ideological poisons, Mr. Black hopes to restore clarity, unity, and peace. His goal is not vengeance but illumination. He wants to break the spells cast over millions—the lies that teach people to hate, to destroy, to follow false leaders into darkness. In that sense, this collection is not just art. It is a spiritual counterstrike—a movement calling humanity back to truth, morality, and the peaceful world that becomes possible when evil ideologies are unmasked.

"I'D SPENT YEARS MANAGING RISK AND LOSS ON WALL STREET, AND NOW I WAS INVESTING IN FIGHTERS—PEOPLE WHO LIVE TO RISE AGAIN. IT'S A NEW KIND OF PLATINUM PARTNERSHIP."



And so, Mr. Black wages his battle not with weapons, but with eternal art — believing that when truth is engraved into Bitcoin itself, no ideology of hatred can ever outlive it.

THE GOSPEL OF ORDINALS (ORDINALS 101)

For Winer, the mission extends beyond art—it’s a revelation through technology. Bitcoin Ordinals, he believes, are the purest form of digital permanence ever created.

“Most NFTs were never truly non-fungible,” he says. “Ordinals are different. They’re permanently inscribed directly onto Bitcoin—beyond alteration, deletion, or control.”

“Ordinals give Bitcoin its soul,” he says. “For the first time, you can see Bitcoin.”

“Bitcoin made money incorruptible,” he says. “Ordinals make meaning incorruptible.”

THE REVELATION CONTINUES

For those who want to explore its deeper layers—its symbols, numerology, and divine architecture—Mr. Black shares insights on X, one revelation at a time.

“God’s message isn’t just written,” he says. “It’s inscribed.”

Follow Mr. Black on X (@MrBlack4384) or visit eyes4384.com to claim your piece of Bitcoin history.

“IT’S THE FIRST TIME DIGITAL PERMANENCE HAS EVER TRULY EXISTED,” WINER SAYS. “YOU’RE NOT JUST STORING ART—YOU’RE ENGRAVING IT INTO DIGITAL GOLD. BITCOIN.”

ADÁN ALLENDE

FROM APPLAUSE TO AWARENESS—THE ART OF PURPOSE

For years, the applause defined him. At the height of it all, he chose to listen to something deeper.

After a successful run in show business, he has chosen a new path as a therapist and professor and is currently pursuing graduate school to deepen his expertise. “My astrologer once spoke about the Saturn return as a time for growth and life shifts. I later realized it aligned with my move toward academia and mental health.” All he once sought was fame, status, and wealth, but during the pandemic, something inside him shifted. In the quiet, he began reflecting on meaning and purpose. “I have always loved to read. I thought the pandemic would be the perfect opportunity to find my new calling.” Though he still sings here and there, his focus is now on becoming a healer and a teacher.

After ten years in show business, driven by external motivation, he realized he had never truly developed a sense of motivation from within. “I always felt pressure to be as good as—or even better than—my dear father. I never truly felt like I was enough.” Still, he speaks with deep gratitude and honor for his parents and the life they gave him—the travel, the people, and the experiences of performing with his father and on his own. Through self-examination, his motivation began to change. He now studies for the love of knowledge and turns to meditation and prayer—not to manifest, but to immerse himself in divinity. “What others think can guide reflection—but it should never define your worth.”

Living away from home, he embraced solitude and introspection and found a deeper aim: self-actualization. “Recognition can be part of that, but it should not define you.” Grounded in a sense of inner peace and non-attachment, he no longer seeks to prove anything. When asked about someone who deeply inspires him, he named Alysia Liu, an Olympic gold medalist figure skater, admiring not just her achievements, but her humility and wisdom.

Today, Adán Allende continues on a path not towards superstardom, but toward healing and teaching—one soul at a time—honoring his father’s legacy while creating his own, rooted in authenticity, purpose, and the freedom to define his own meaning—on his own terms.



Adán Allende is an ICF Accredited Life Coach and is currently opened for booking sessions. Instagram: @adanstardustcoach Email:



Kim Downs

WHERE
EXPRESSION
BEGINS, A MIAMI
CREATIVE
REWRITING
THE RULES

“I’m an aspiring creative fashion designer shaped by a city where culture, movement, and individuality are constantly in conversation. Miami taught me boldness and presence. My Latin roots taught me intuition, emotion, and depth. Together, they formed how I approach fashion—not just as clothing, but as a language of identity, storytelling, and self-expression.”

“I’m driven by the belief that creativity is not only about finished products, but about vision, intention, and evolution. Fashion, for me, is a language—one that tells stories about identity, emotion, and self-expression long before words are spoken.”

“I’m currently studying fashion design; but my creative vision has always extended beyond garments alone. I find inspiration everywhere: in interior design and architecture, in books and language, in music, color, texture, and atmosphere. But most of all; I find it in people. I’m drawn to how art lives across disciplines, how environments shape emotion, and how details—often overlooked—carry meaning. Fashion, to me, is where all of these worlds intersect.”



*“I’M AN ASPIRING
CREATIVE FASHION
DESIGNER SHAPED
BY A CITY WHERE
CULTURE, MOVEMENT,
AND INDIVIDUALITY
ARE CONSTANTLY IN
CONVERSATION.”*



“My creative influences reflect that sensibility. I’m inspired by Alexander McQueen for his bold vision and emotional storytelling; by Schiaparelli for the artistry and construction behind each collection, and by anything John Galliano has touched—his ability to create worlds, characters, and narratives through fashion continues to influence how I think about design and presentation. I’m equally inspired by emerging voices, including jewelry brands like MyPerlitas and Veneda Carter, whose work feels intentional, expressive, and rooted in individuality and authenticity.”

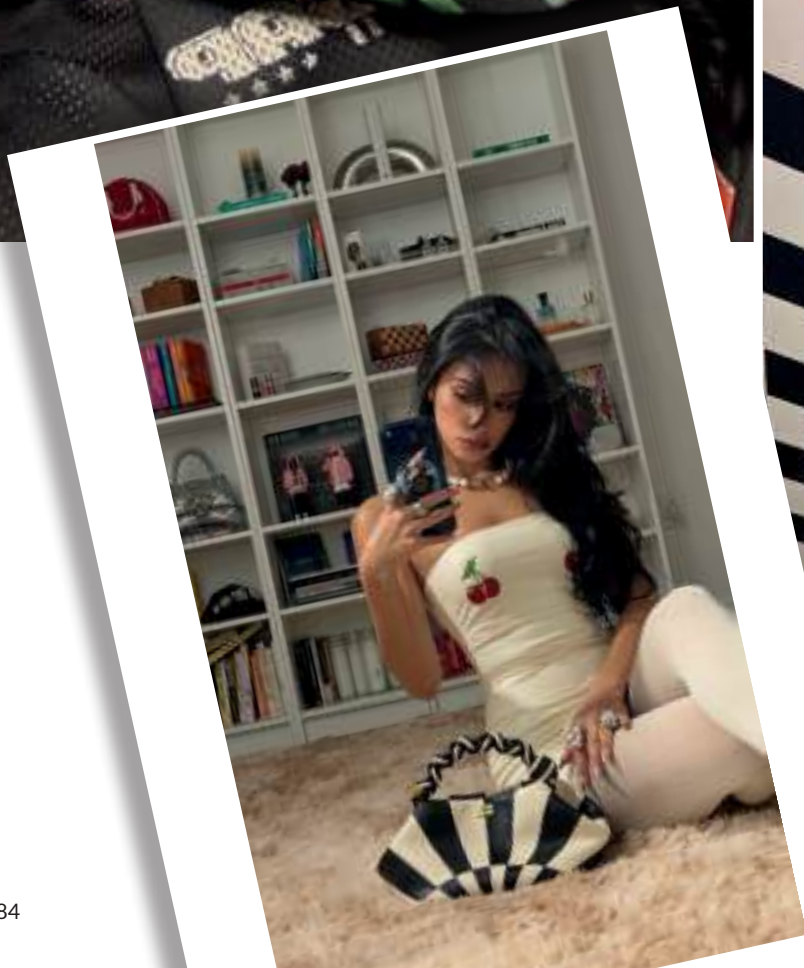
“Styling became my first creative outlet. Through styling myself and the people around me, I discovered how powerful it is to help someone step into their most confident, elevated self. I don’t just think about what someone wears—I think about how they move, how they’re perceived, and how they embody their presence. That process is what drew me toward creative direction, especially my own friends.”

“As I continue developing my design practice, I envision myself evolving into a creative director—shaping narratives, building worlds, and guiding creative expression with intention. I love influencing those around me to pursue their creative goals seriously, to trust their instincts, and to believe in the value of their ideas. I see creativity as communal—something meant to be shared, cultivated, and amplified.”



What the artist is about!

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“I’m at the beginning of my journey, and I’m proud of that. This phase is about learning the craft, refining my eye, and building a foundation rooted in purpose rather than urgency. I’m not rushing to arrive—I’m allowing myself to become.”

“Miami isn’t really known for the fashion scene like New York, Paris, Milan or any other fashion city in the world. Living here, I would like to push that stereotype and influence others to get inspired and create our Miami fashion scene right here & now with all the local talent we have here as well.”

“My idea is to create a New Fashion Vocabulary Where Style Becomes Direction! This is my introduction, not my conclusion.”

**“MY IDEA IS TO CREATE A
NEW FASHION VOCABULARY
WHERE STYLE BECOMES
DIRECTION! THIS IS MY
INTRODUCTION, NOT MY
CONCLUSION.”**



ELÁN ALLENDE

AN ARTIST BUILDING A SONIC TEMPLE WHICH THE WORLD IS BEGINNING TO ENTER

"I am not chasing the industry. I am building something that lasts, a temple made of rhythm, discipline, and craft. The world will find its way inside."

The Visionary!

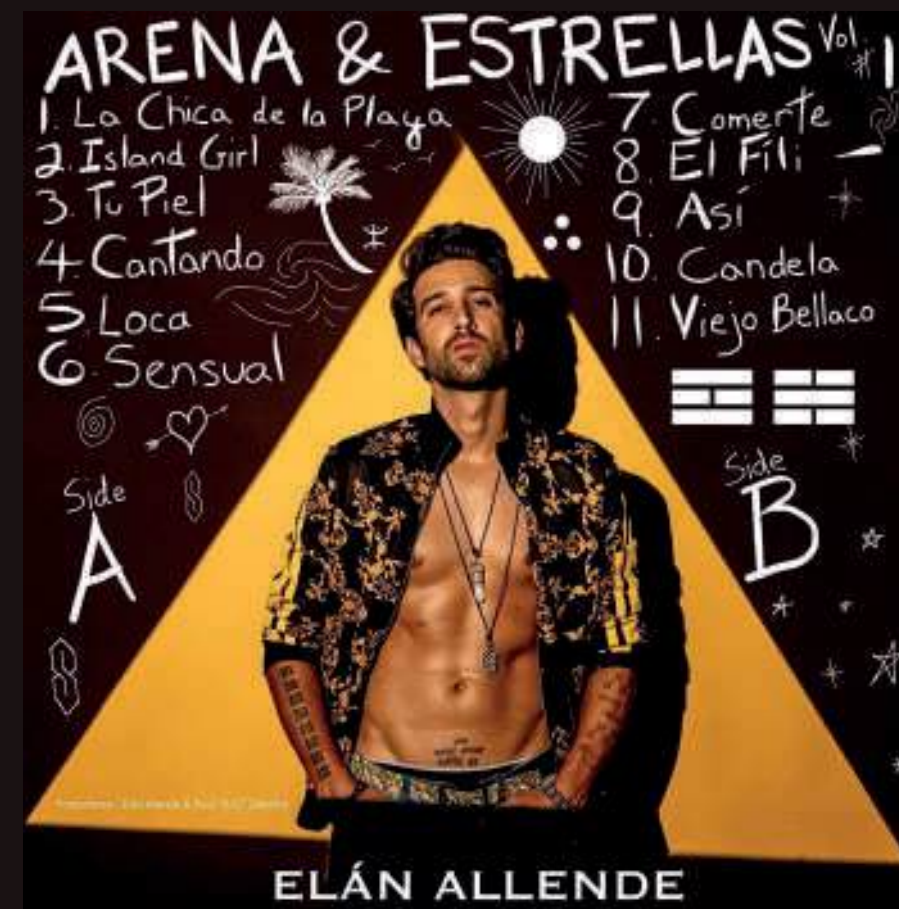
There are artists who pursue fame, and then there are artists who pursue truth. Elán Allende belongs unequivocally to the latter camp, and in doing so, has quietly built one of the most singular creative identities in contemporary Latin music. Born in

Aspen, Colorado, to a Mexican father and a Puerto Rican mother, Allende grew up with the island not as a distant idea but as a lived, annual reality, spending 2 Summer months each year immersed in its culture, its coastline, and the particular cadence of life that only the Caribbean can offer.

The son of celebrated Mexican actor and singer Fernando Allende, whose career blended telenovela stardom with melodic ballads that defined an era, Elán inherited both the discipline of performance and the instinct for emotional authenticity. But it

was his mother's Puerto Rican heritage that quietly shaped the rhythmic foundation beneath everything he would eventually create. Those childhood visits were not vacations so much as an education, in Afro-Caribbean rhythm, in the warmth of island community, in a sense of place so specific it could only ever belong to one stretch of land in the world.

"Dorado felt like home the moment I arrived to stay," he recalls of the Puerto Rican coastal town where his family settled when he was thirteen. "But honestly, it had already been home long before that. I had been



coming back to this island my whole life." It is that sense of rootedness, rare in an industry that rewards restlessness, that gives Allende's music its gravitational pull.

El Monasterio: A Philosophy

Allende's label, El Monasterio Records, is as much a philosophy as it is a business. Operating on a code that defies conventional music industry logic, ownership over fame; discipline over hype; longevity over virality; rhythm over algorithm. The label serves as the creative and commercial engine behind one of Latin music's most deliberately constructed careers.

His catalog, produced alongside longtime collaborator Raúl "RAZ" Zeballos, reflects these values with unapologetic clarity. *Arena y Estrellas*, Vol. 1 announced his arrival with confidence and the releases that have followed it; have only deepened the conversation. "Candela (En Vivo)," released in February 2026, brings the raw energy of a performance captured at its absolute peak.

Hot on its heels comes "La Chica de la Playa (En Vivo)," which arrived March 14, 2026, and offering a live counterpart to one of his most beloved studio recordings. Where the original glided through Latin Pop and Caribbean formats with sun-drenched ease; this live rendition brings the warmth of a real audience, a real room, and a real moment to a song that was already impossible to resist. Two live releases in quick succession signals not just prolific output, but a deliberate artistic choice.

Allende is an artist who comes alive in performance, and he wants his audience to feel exactly that. "El Monasterio is not just a label name. It is a standard, a level of intention, and craft that I hold every piece of work to." Says Elán Allende!

Building the Next Chapter!

Now, with multiple releases already in the market, Allende sets his sights on what comes next. *Arena y Estrellas*, Vol. 2, arriving at year's end, promises to be the follow-up to a debut album that established him as one of the Caribbean's most compelling independent voices and a record that will push his sound further into the global conversation.

"The *Arena y Estrellas* Series" is Allende's most personal artistic statement: sand and stars, earth and sky, the tension between where he comes from and where he is going. Volume 1 laid the foundation. Volume 2 is where he builds what he is doing from Puerto Rico, rather than from the traditional industry centers of Miami, New York, or Los Angeles; is itself a statement. The island is not a limitation in his hands. It is a creative advantage, a cultural wellspring that feeds every record he makes and distinguishes his sound in a marketplace crowded with imitation.

For Art Bodega's readers accustomed to seeking out the next defining voice in luxury culture, Elán Allende represents something increasingly rare: an

"I AM NOT CHASING THE INDUSTRY. I AM BUILDING SOMETHING THAT LASTS, A TEMPLE MADE OF RHYTHM, DISCIPLINE, AND CRAFT. THE WORLD WILL FIND ITS WAY INSIDE."

artist of genuine depth, operating at the intersection of Afro-Caribbean tradition and global modernity, with the patience and vision to build something that endures. He is not the loudest voice in the room. He is the one, upon closer listen, you cannot stop hearing.

"Every release is a stone laid in the foundation. I am in no hurry. I am building something meant to stand."
— Elán Allende

Elán Allende, singer-songwriter, audio engineer, A&R executive, and founder of El Monasterio Records, is based in Puerto Rico. "La Chica de la Playa (En Vivo)" released March 14, 2026, and is available on all major streaming platforms alongside his full catalog. Follow his journey at @elanallende.



The 50[★]
Most Beautiful
& Influential

When my beloved husband screamed at me while smoke was coming out of the toaster! "What did your mother teach you?" I replied, "Errol, I speak six languages, I published four books — one a bestseller — I made 27 films, I am a scratch golfer, and pleasant to look at. Do you really think I also need to know how to cook?" I do not think so...

Viviane Ventura

A Palm Beach Local

Photography by Matthew Yeandle at Ventura's private residence in Palm Beach

Flowers by Varito Vasquez from Varo Flowers in Palm Beach Tel. 772-985-8360



Now, in my autumn years, what have I learned? Life, no doubt, is a wonderful odyssey, and it is up to you to make it happen!

My advice from my extraordinary experience: Grow a crocodile skin. Every time you fall down, get up and continue. Learn to love, to read, to listen to beautiful music. Be honorable, charitable, and above all, know when you have to turn around and walk away!

Happiness is available to all — it depends on how you play the game!

Jeff MILLER'S

View from the top:

GUIDING BUYERS THROUGH MIAMI'S NEXT CHAPTER

By ??????????

NE Sotheby's International Realty top agent Jeff Miller has spent nearly three decades at the center of Miami's luxury real estate boom, witnessing its evolution from a sun-soaked vacation spot to a global powerhouse. Originally from New York, Jeff first discovered Miami in the late 1990s and was instantly captivated by the city's energy. He traded Manhattan skyline views for ocean views just a few years later.

"I have had a front-row seat to Miami's transformation, watching the market grow year after year," he says. "Just when I think it's reached its peak, it surprises me again." Passionate about the community and obsessed with strategic marketing and technology, Jeff attributes his success to a formula of strong global networks and a continued focus on results for his trusted clients and investors. Ranked consistently as a leading real estate agent nationwide with more than \$1.5 billion in sales, Jeff delivers a tailored experience to help his clients confidently navigate South Florida's competitive market.

Today, Miami stands shoulder to shoulder with the world's top cities, attracting celebrities, athletes, hedge fund leaders, tech innovators, and a new wave of crypto wealth. But unlike the past, these power players aren't just dropping in for a season, they are making Miami home. "They are no longer just visiting, they are planting roots, relocating their families, their companies, and their futures here," explains Miller.

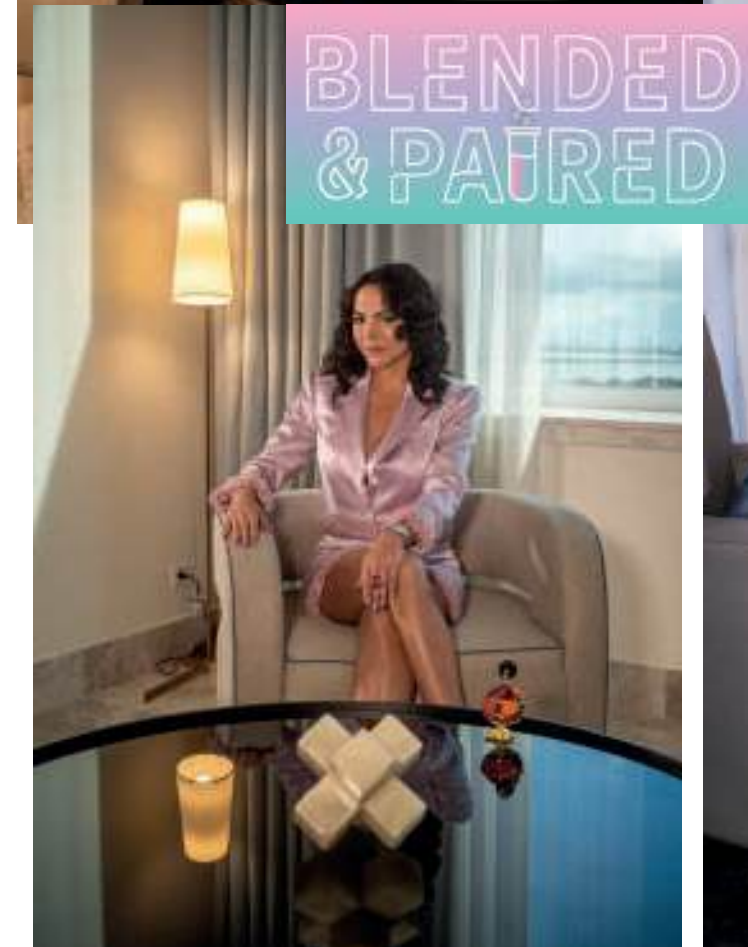
This influx has fueled unprecedented demand for high-end real estate, creating a competitive landscape where demand and luxury home prices have skyrocketed. Miller sees the city's growth and momentum as sustainable. "I believe we are entering a phase of healthy, single-digit annual growth," he says. "If you're lucky enough to see a pullback in the market, don't hesitate. That's when you should be buying. When everyone else is nervous, that's when the smartest investors make their moves." One of Miller's latest exclusive listings at the Murano Grande exemplifies the city's new era of luxury. Designed by Chad Oppenheim, Penthouse A is a \$14.85 million duplex that spans more than 5,300-square feet with soaring 20-foot ceilings, six private balconies,

and a rooftop garden overlooking both the Atlantic Ocean and Biscayne Bay. "This is more than just a home, it's an immersive lifestyle and a front-row seat to Miami's future."

For Miller, luxury real estate is about sharing his passion for the city he calls home, and unlocking a lifestyle. In a market as dynamic and competitive as Miami, Jeff's experience and dedication make each transaction seamless and tailored to each client's vision.

"Guiding clients to homes is about sharing the Miami I fell in love with, the one that continues to evolve, inspire, and redefine what it means to live exceptionally."

—
 "I have had a **FRONT-ROW** seat to Miami's transformation, watching the **MARKET** grow year after year."
 —



INTERCONTINENTAL MIAMI

3 EMPOWERED WOMEN

BLENDED & PAIRED

Where Vision Becomes Legacy

PRIVATE LABEL. FEMALE EMPOWERMENT. FAMILY. CLEAN INNOVATION. A NEW GENERATION OF BEAUTY FOUNDERS STARTS HERE.





At Blended & Paired, beauty is more than product. It is confidence, creativity, and the quiet power of possibility. Built on the belief that entrepreneurs deserve accessible pathways to greatness, the brand is on its way to becoming a leading private-label partner for skincare, haircare, body care, and wellness innovation. This is where beauty meets bold vision, and where ideas become brands with meaning.

Blended & Paired, partners with founders, estheticians, influencers, post-op specialists, and established brands who are ready to build something uniquely their own. Whether a client arrives with a fully formed concept or only a seed of inspiration, Blended & Paired transforms vision into tangible products, guiding everything from formulation to packaging, branding, production, and fulfillment. What makes this company stand apart is not simply the services it provides, but the reason it exists.

Blended & Paired was born from lived experience and resilience. It is shaped by three women who are not only business partners but family. Together, Chrissy Michelle, Sarah, and Susie have rebuilt confidence, reinvented lives, and chosen to turn purpose into a shared business model. That spirit of possibility and rebirth flows through every formulation, every collaboration, and every success story.

Launching a beauty brand can be intimidating. Minimum orders, laboratory costs, and large investments create barriers that keep too many visionaries from starting. Blended & Paired removed those obstacles. With a minimum of only one hundred units per SKU, entrepreneurs can begin small, scale smart, and maintain full control of their identity. Every product is created with clean ingredients, premium packaging, and an elevated aesthetic. From post-operative recovery lines featuring advanced zinc SPF, to luxurious serums and body care designed to elevate daily ritual, Blended & Paired develops products with science, sustainability, and heart.



Behind every jar and bottle is a story: a woman with an idea, a founder preparing for her first launch, a dream in motion. These stories are the heartbeat of the mission. Miami, the company's home, represents everything Blended & Paired stands for: bold, colorful, authentic. It is a city where risk is encouraged, creativity is currency, and visionaries move outside the lines. In this vibrant environment, beauty is not loud — it is alive.

Innovation is constant. From dermatologist-approved recovery products and advanced zinc SPF to luxurious body care and clean formulations for sensitive skin, the portfolio grows with intention. Among the newest partners is MAPAON, a fragrance brand that reflects elegance, balance, and daily ritual; a perfect example of what happens when vision finds the right home.

Clients may come for manufacturing, but they stay for mentorship, partnership, confidence, and community. Blended & Paired believes entrepreneurship is an act of courage, especially for women, and encourages founders to start before they feel ready. Setbacks are simply redirection, and bold action is always rewarded. The world needs more women building their own paths, and Blended & Paired stands proudly beside them.

The future is wide open. There is no single roadmap, no predetermined destination. What lies ahead is anything and everything that aligns with purpose. The mission is simple: empower, create, elevate. At the heart of it all is a belief that when women blend vision with family, courage, and bold action, they become truly unstoppable.



SUSIE QUIET STRENGTH, CLEAR VISION

Susie moves with intention. She values time, presence, and authenticity. Miami represents her bold and colorful spirit. Within the brand, her influence is felt in culture, communication, and community. She is part of the heartbeat that keeps the company aligned with its mission: empowerment over ego, collaboration over competition, and purpose over perfection. Susie encourages women to create boldly, love deeply, and live fully.

Together, Chrissy, Sarah, and Susie are more than business partners. They are family — a foundation of shared values, trust, and vision that drives Blended & Paired forward. Their bond is the invisible thread connecting every product, client story, and innovation, kindness, confidence, and a grounded sense of self.



CHRISSEY MICHELLE PURPOSE OVER PRESSURE

Chrissy Michelle has built a life anchored in resilience and driven by faith. She knows what it means to start from scratch, raise a daughter, run businesses, and rebuild confidence piece by piece. Today, she leads with intention rather than pressure. Through Blended & Paired, she creates pathways for others to build something meaningful of their own. Her joy is in watching someone look at their first product and say, "I did this." In the coming decade, she envisions thriving in business, motherhood, and mentorship, helping others rise with grace, grit, and belonging.

SARAH GRACE, STRENGTH & AUTHENTICITY

Sarah has transformed challenge into wisdom. Raised in Kingston, Jamaica surrounded by family and tradition, she learned that a woman can be both strong and soft. A mother of three, she leads with kindness, confidence, and a grounded sense of self. Her life is inspired by travel, wellness, and connection. She encourages women to start before they feel ready, to believe in their dreams, and to let grace guide the journey. Her presence within Blended & Paired is quiet yet powerful — a reminder that resilience can be elegant.



BLENDED & PAIRED

Behind MAPAON's quiet elegance is a strategic collaboration with Blended & Paired. Together, they created a collection of hair fragrances that feel luxurious, intentional, and unforgettable. Blended & Paired manages formulation, blending, and production, allowing MAPAON to focus on brand identity, emotion, and storytelling.

MAPAON bottles are striking in their simplicity: clean lines, sculptural silhouette, and a quiet confidence that reflects the woman who wears them. It is luxury without noise, beauty without excess, presence without performance. Each scent lingers, becoming part of how the wearer is remembered.

Contact information:
 Website: Blendedandpaired.info | mapaon.com
 Number: 305.240.5580



A CALLING BEYOND BUSINESS

Just like the many aspiring brand owners they work with, Blended & Paired carries dreams of its own.

As three women joined not only by business but by family, faith, and shared values, they feel deeply called to give back—to pour into others the way they once wished someone had poured into them. Their vision reaches

beyond manufacturing products; it extends into mentorship, education, opportunity, and access.

Blended & Paired is built on the belief that success is not meant to be hoarded—it is meant to be stewarded. As the company grows, so does its commitment to supporting women-led initiatives, nurturing emerging entrepreneurs, and creating space for voices that deserve to be heard but often go unseen.

In an industry where female founders remain the exception, Ginger Flesher-Sonnier is building an empire on her own terms—and making fun the foundation. As founder and CEO of The Ginger Brands, she has created a national portfolio of “eatertainment” concepts, including Escape Room Live, Kick Axe Throwing and the tropical-meets-social playground THRōW Social. Each venue reflects Ginger's signature aesthetic: part boutique hotel sophistication, part unapologetic play.

Ginger's career began in a high school classroom, teaching math and coaching competitive Mathletes. She didn't just pivot careers; she rewrote the entire equation! What started with formulas and students evolved into creating joy-driven destinations where bold design, memorable moments and community come together.

The Ginger Brands is making its Miami debut with the launch of THRōW Social Miami, transforming the former Oasis Wynwood into a design-forward space that invites connection and creativity. Every element—from VIP cabanas and LED game tables to a 28-foot performance stage with video and fluid indoor-outdoor lounges—was imagined and designed by Ginger herself. With sister venues in Washington, D.C., and Delray Beach, this new opening cements her reputation as one of hospitality's most innovative visionaries.



THE ENTREPRENEUR OF FUN & FEMALE FORCE IN EXPERIENTIAL HOSPITALITY



GINGER
Flesher-Sonnier

Discovering Elevated Living:
ANDROS HOME AND
THE VISION OF LEAD
DESIGNER

Kinga Kubiak



THE 50 MOST BEAUTIFUL & INFLUENTIAL

In the sun-drenched landscape of South Florida, a new beacon of high-end design has emerged: Andros Home. Nestled in Palm Beach Gardens, with its showroom located at 270 N. Congress Avenue, Suite A, Lake Park, Florida, this multiline showroom represents the pinnacle of curated luxury. Andros Home brings together revered brands such as Poliform's timeless Italian elegance, Van Rossum's masterful craftsmanship, de la Espada's minimalist sophistication, Verellen's sumptuous textiles, Tribù's outdoor refinement, Royal Botania's contemporary outdoor luxury, and many other exceptional makers.

More than a showroom serving the trade, Andros Home offers an immersive experience spanning interiors, outdoor living, and full-service logistics support. Backed by Strang Design, the acclaimed Miami-based architecture firm founded by Max Strang and known for advancing Environmental Modernism, Andros benefits from a partnership rooted in sustainable, site-responsive innovation. This collaboration lends architectural depth to the showroom's offerings, aligning refined furnishings with Florida's tropical modern ethos.

At the heart of Andros Home's distinctive aesthetic is lead designer Kinga Kubiak. Her career began in Chicago's dynamic design scene, where she developed a keen eye for proportion, materiality, and high-end residential execution. After relocating to Palm Beach during the



AT THE HEART OF ANDROS HOME'S DISTINCTIVE AESTHETIC IS LEAD DESIGNER KINGA KUBIAK. HER CAREER BEGAN IN CHICAGO'S DYNAMIC DESIGN SCENE.



COVID era, Kinga joined Andros Home and quickly became instrumental in shaping its elevated identity.

Kinga has contributed to the design of spaces for Related Ross, as well as major luxury golf communities throughout South Florida, bringing a sophisticated yet livable sensibility to large-scale, high-profile developments. She is also deeply involved with London-based developer David Jeffrey, collaborating on luxury residential projects currently underway in South Florida.

Working closely with Strang Design, Kinga blends her precision-driven interiors with the firm's modernist expertise, whether integrating Poliform kitchens into sustainable residences or pairing Verellen upholstery with Royal Botania outdoor collections to create seamless indoor-outdoor living environments. "Kinga's fresh perspective complements our vision," notes the Andros team, "elevating each project through a truly synergistic partnership."

Serving designers, architects, and discerning homeowners alike, Andros Home offers personalized consultations within an inspiring, design-forward environment. Open Monday through Friday by appointment, the showroom redefines high-end living in paradise.

KINGA has contributed to the design of spaces for *Related Ross*, as well as major luxury golf communities throughout South Florida.



The 50[★]
Most Beautiful
& Influential



AWARD-WINNING DIRECTOR
AND SCREENWRITER

Irina
Unger

Photography by
Liubov Madenford

What inspired you to become a director?

I started my career at the early age of 12 years old and I wasn't even aware of it. Going through a tough teenage phase, I dreamed and suffered because of my first love, Stanislav. At the same time, I gained even more disappointment from losing my mother due to harsh breast cancer. I needed light to my darkness, so that was when I began writing stories to distract myself from the long, European winter. Later on, I invited my classmates to record the stories with a vintage cassette tape. We did various scenes using our voices, especially other special effects like a vacuum to imitate a roaring car, and other creative notions to bring my stories to life. My classmates were victims of my art. As females, they voiced male characters, and to this day it's hilarious and nostalgic to think about. What's really unbelievable was when I was lucky enough to continue befriending one of the classmates from the childhood production to this moment. Together, we created two feature films: Soul Eclipse and Mademoiselle Sin, and we are in the preproduction stage for our next project, Sharlatan Voyage. The feature film Mademoiselle Sin has been awarded Best Director and is accessible on Prime Video. For everything related to the projects, visit www.vvzfilms.com

What inspires you creatively and how do you find inspiration in the art world to inform your filmmaking?

What inspires me is the people I meet throughout my journey and certain places that give me visions. If I meet somebody unique and they start to talk about their life, it captures my attention and begins my next story.

Describe a time you took a significant creative risk with a project.

It definitely happened at my last project, Mademoiselle Sin. The location we were at was great for filming because it was isolated. But the greatest obstacle we went through was that it was on a wild island with scorpions, and it was not a good place to embark with heavy equipment. We had no windows nor solid doors, plus roofs constructed from palm leaves. The only sounds were the loud calls of monkeys, the wind, and the crashing of waves. Sounds quite romantic, doesn't it? However, in reality, it requires a bit of stepping out of your comfort zone. Regardless of the challenges that await us, it's all worth it to see that unique story come alive.

How do you collaborate with other members of your crew, such as the cinematographers, editors, and actors to foster a positive environment on set?

I believe that maintaining a friendly and positive atmosphere while being assertive is the most effective strategy in this area. Creative individuals, specifically actors, bear the significant duty of bringing characters to life. Cinematographers must capture all those vital emotions, close-ups, and more. The role of directors extends even further, as they assemble the entire



production. The process of filming can be quite challenging, so having mutual respect, valuing the opportunity, including humor, putting in hard work, and simply enjoying the adventure of filming, regardless of the location, provides remarkable advantages. Sometimes, when we feel worn out and our spirits falter, it's necessary to draw upon that special inner strength and continue pushing forward. Regardless of how tough today feels, a new day is approaching... the day when it will all look magnificent on the big screen. This thought inspires me during the challenging times of filming days.

The 50th ★
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& Influential

INDIAN BEAUTY

Sandhya Singh

A Palm Beach Local



Timeless Love Celebrated with Glamour in the Palm Beaches.

Sandhya and Pawan celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary on August 31 at the Belgrove Resort in West Palm Beach, Florida. Seventy family members and fifty guests traveled from across the United States and India to join a joyful three-day celebration—complete with a welcome dinner, a private yacht excursion, a hosted luncheon, and a grand dinner banquet.

The banquet became the emotional heart of the weekend: family and friends mingled, shared heartfelt tributes, and danced late



“We were fortunate to have met fifty years ago, and we are still in love every single day. I truly feel I hit the jackpot in finding such a beautiful person, inside and out.”

into the night. A highlight of the evening was a stunning performance by the couple’s grandchildren, Lydia and Vivian, which left the entire room beaming.

“For us, nothing is more important than family,” Sandhya said. “That night, the room overflowed with love, joy, and sweetness—and our hearts were filled with gratitude.”

Pawan added, “We were fortunate to have met fifty years ago, and we are still in love every single day. I truly feel I hit the jackpot in finding such a beautiful person, inside and out.”

THE
50 MOST
BEAUTIFUL &
INFLUENTIAL



LAURIE Nicoll Nord:

THE VISIONARY FOUNDER BEHIND
STEMULATION'S SCIENCE-DRIVEN
SKINCARE REVOLUTION

In an industry saturated with products that promise beauty but deliver little more than hope, Laurie Nicoll Nord stands apart — not just for her innovative approach, but for her authentic journey from personal struggle to scientific skincare success. As the founder and creative force behind *Stemulation*, Nord has turned a lifelong passion for skin health into a brand that champions clinical efficacy, conscious formulations, and real results that women — and men — can see and feel.

Laurie's story begins far from the beauty counter. She spent more than two decades in the mortgage industry before a dramatic global financial shift in 2008 prompted her to explore new paths. Her pivot led her into the world of biotech, where she joined a stem cell research firm's marketing team. Surrounded by leading scientists and doctors, Nord became fascinated by the regenerative potential of stem cells — not just as a medical breakthrough, but as a possible solution for aging and damaged skin.

Driven by her own experiences with challenging skin issues — including teasing as a teen that left emotional as well as physical scars — Laurie embarked on a new mission: to merge science and beauty in a meaningful, transformative way. What began as a personal quest quickly evolved into *Stemulation* — the first skincare line grounded in breakthrough stem cell growth factor science and formulated to support the skin's natural repair mechanisms.

Unlike many brands that tout stem cells as a marketing buzzword, *Stemulation* products are built on a foundation of researched



LAURIE NICOLL NORD stands apart — not just for her innovative approach, BUT FOR HER AUTHENTIC JOURNEY from personal struggle TO SCIENTIFIC SKINCARE SUCCESS.

regenerative science. Laurie and her team identified **mesenchymal stem cell growth factors** — nutrient-rich compounds that act as skin messengers to signal regeneration and healing — and translated that knowledge into skincare formulas rich in peptides, amino acids, and botanical actives that work synergistically with the skin.

By harnessing bio-identical growth factors, *Stemulation* products stimulate cellular activity that diminishes with age: collagen production, elasticity, moisture retention, and overall skin resilience. The result is skincare that feels luxurious but performs with the precision of a professional clinical treatment.

Over the years, the line has expanded to include best-sellers like the “Liquid Gold” Facial Serum, Boost Night Crème, Copper Tri-Peptide Serum, Elevate Eye Serum, and the Daily Micro Derm Scrub. Each product reflects Laurie's commitment to clean, safe, and effective skincare — free from parabens, harsh chemicals, and unnecessary additives that can compromise results or skin health.

Today, *Stemulation* is more than a skincare line — it's a statement that beauty can be both beautiful and smart. Laurie Nicoll Nord continues to advocate for confident, radiant, vibrant skin at every age, proving that when passion meets science, the results aren't just seen — they're felt.

For more information: www.stemulation.com





JESSICA Cristobal

*Miami's Champion for
Leading Ladies*

Jessica Cristobal is the Founder and visionary force behind the Leading Ladies League, an exclusive organization designed to unite accomplished, purpose-driven women through connection, collaboration, and community impact. As the publisher of Leading Ladies Magazine and creator of curated, high-caliber events like the Align & Dine dinner series and the annual Glam Soirée, Jessica has built a movement that celebrates women who lead with grace, excellence, and heart.

Crowned Mrs. Florida International 2025, Jessica uses her platform to amplify women's voices and empower the next generation to live boldly and lead with purpose. She is the author of *The Leading Ladies Guidebook*, a book that teaches women of all ages how to cultivate confidence, lead with intention, and design lives filled with purpose and joy.

Beyond her entrepreneurial and literary pursuits, Jessica proudly serves on the Board of Directors for Voices For Children Foundation, supporting foster youth and vulnerable children in Miami-Dade. In 2025, she also served as Chair of Miami Women Who Rock, an organization that celebrates and uplifts influential women making meaningful contributions to their communities.

Jessica is the First Lady of the University of Miami Football, standing alongside her husband, Head Coach Mario Cristobal, as a pillar of encouragement and leadership within the UM family. Together, they are devoted parents to two sons, instilling in them the values of faith, service, and excellence.



The 50
Most Beautiful
& Influential

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*MAYI DE LA VEGA: THE
VISIONARY REDEFINING MIAMI'S
LUXURY REAL ESTATE LANDSCAPE*

Mayi de la Vega

Photography by Stephen Almeida

In the vibrant and ever-evolving world of Miami real estate, few figures have shaped the industry with as much influence, elegance, and determination as Mayi De La Vega. As the Founder and CEO of ONE Sotheby's International Realty, De La Vega has spent more than two decades building not only a market-leading brokerage, but an entirely new standard of luxury living in South Florida. Her story is one of bold vision, tireless work ethic, and an innate understanding of what makes Miami a global destination for art, culture, and high-end real estate.

“TO DE LA VEGA,
luxury IS FAR
MORE THAN A
NUMBER. IT *is an*
experience
—A FEELING.”





“SHE IS, IN EVERY SENSE, A *modern icon of Miami*—A WOMAN WHO HELPED *elevate the city* TO THE WORLD STAGE.”



FROM HUMBLE BEGINNINGS TO INDUSTRY TRAILBLAZER

Born in Cuba and raised in South Florida from a young age, De La Vega grew up surrounded by the values that would ultimately define her leadership style: discipline, resilience, and an unwavering commitment to excellence. Her early professional life was far from glamorous—she worked various jobs, including in the restaurant industry, before entering the real estate world. But even then, her entrepreneurial instincts and natural ability to connect with people set her apart.

Her entry into real estate in the 1990s came at a time when Miami was beginning to attract international attention. She quickly recognized that South Florida was not just a place to live,

but a lifestyle—one that blended beauty, design, culture, and an unparalleled climate. De La Vega embraced that vision early, mastering the luxury markets of Coral Gables, Coconut Grove, and beyond, eventually becoming one of the most sought-after luxury agents in the region.

THE BIRTH OF ONE SOTHEBY'S INTERNATIONAL REALTY

In 2008, during one of the most turbulent economic periods in U.S. history, De La Vega took a bold risk: she founded ONE Sotheby's International Realty, bringing the iconic Sotheby's brand back to Florida's East Coast. Launching a luxury brokerage during a recession was, to many, unthinkable—but De La Vega saw opportunity where others saw uncertainty.

**THE
50 MOST
BEAUTIFUL &
INFLUENTIAL**



Her strategy was clear from day one: combine the heritage and global reach of Sotheby's with Miami's uniquely international market and a hand-selected team of top-tier agents. What began as a single office has since grown into one of the fastest-growing and highest-performing Sotheby's affiliates worldwide, with dozens of offices stretching from Miami to northern Florida, and thousands of associates representing the most exceptional properties in the region.

Her leadership established ONE Sotheby's as the gold standard for luxury service—known for its polished marketing, bespoke client experience, and a commitment to quality that mirrors the Sotheby's tradition of excellence.

A PHILOSOPHY OF LUXURY BEYOND THE PRICE TAG

To De La Vega, luxury is far more than a number. It is an experience—a feeling. She believes a home should inspire, restore, and reflect the unique lifestyle of each client. That philosophy resonates deeply in Miami, where architecture, design, and natural beauty intersect in ways few cities can match.

Under her guidance, ONE Sotheby's has represented some of Florida's most iconic residences, from waterfront estates in Miami Beach to architectural showpieces designed by internationally renowned architects. The firm also works with top developers, bringing luxury high-rises and master-planned communities to market with the refined storytelling and global marketing reach that only Sotheby's can provide.

LEADERSHIP, CULTURE, AND COMMUNITY

One of De La Vega's most defining qualities is her focus on people. She has cultivated a company culture rooted in professionalism, mentorship, and wellness—an uncommon balance in a highly competitive industry. Her belief that success stems from a healthy and happy team has led to innovative internal programs, professional development initiatives, and a strong sense of belonging among her agents.

Beyond business, De La Vega is a dedicated philanthropist and art enthusiast. She is involved in organizations supporting education, the arts, and community services, and has served on committees and boards for institutions such as

the Pérez Art Museum Miami (PAMM), CIFO, and United Way. Her passion for art mirrors her approach to real estate: both, she believes, are about beauty, heritage, and emotional connection.

A LASTING LEGACY

Today, Mayi De La Vega stands as one of the most influential women in American real estate. Her journey—from immigrant beginnings to founder of one of the nation's most prestigious luxury brokerages—serves as a powerful reminder of what vision, courage, and heart can achieve.

Under her leadership, ONE Sotheby's International Realty continues to shape the future of Florida's luxury market, setting new benchmarks in design-driven marketing, international reach, and client experience. But beyond the numbers, accolades, and multimillion-dollar transactions, De La Vega's greatest legacy is her ability to inspire: her agents, her community, and the next generation of industry leaders.

She is, in every sense, a modern icon of Miami—a woman who helped elevate the city to the world stage, and whose influence will continue to shape its skyline for decades to come.

PHOTOGRAPHY BY FUAD SHAFIYEV



VICTOR DE SOUZA

The beauty of Victor de Souza relies on the craftsmanship he executes. From his atelier located in the Garment District, Emanuel, the store that also houses some of the most exquisite fragrances available in the world, de Souza uses the best textiles, ornaments, bows, laces, and materials that exude excellence, haute couture at its best. His recent collection had runway models and celebrities, including the beautiful Nicole Ari Parker, Veronica Webb & Patricia Velazquez.
www.victordesouzany.com + www.emmanuelnewyork.com



Photography by
Stephen Almeida

Yvonne Rosemeier

**TIMELESS STYLE,
MODERN VISION:
The Rise of a Modern
Lifestyle and Fashion
Influencer**

Tell us about your arrival in Miami?

I moved to this country at the age of 19 from Honduras and worked in the hospitality industry for several years. In between, I developed a passion for the amazing properties of semi-precious stones and crystals and the energy and healing power they possess. I began a journey to learn to make jewelry, specifically hand-beaded jewelry, and opened

my first jewelry studio in my beloved town of Coconut Grove in Miami in 2010.

How did you get involved in the fashion retail business?

Initially, I would just sell my jewelry and other gift items, but soon, I realized my clients were always complementing my outfits. That is when I started styling and carrying

different small brands of cocktail dresses and evening attire in my studio (The Loft Boutique). I have to say that I had so much fun shopping and styling friends and dear clients who became friends.

What training do you have?

I love fashion, especially accessories!! I always recommend collecting classic pieces and good-quality accessories. Your outfit can be simple,

The Goodtime Hotel



Miami Beach



Yvonne Rosemeier



but if your accessories are of high quality, you will look good and expensive. The right classic accessories will remain in your closet, and you will be able to add affordable, on-trend looks.

What styling tricks do you recommend?

My fashion advice is to know your body and the pieces of clothing that enhance your good features. Feeling comfortable for me is also imperative. The shoes might be beautiful, but if

they are uncomfortable, you will reflect it. Also, not everything is for everybody. Know what looks good and avoid things that might not flatter you, even if they are beautiful; learn to admire them from afar.

You live between Miami and Key West. How are these places different from each other?

After several years running my boutique, I took a break to get involved in Real Estate. Even though I don't do it full-time, it has given me a lot of knowledge about our city of Miami and the way the market continues to grow and evolve.

Art Basel 2025

I currently still live in Coconut Grove, but recently my husband and I purchased a house in Islamorada in the Florida Keys. These are two very different environments, and I have learned to love and appreciate the lifestyles of both of them. In Miami, I have a very busy calendar working for charities and attending social events in our never-ending city, then I go to Islamorada, and there it is about nurturing the inner me and enjoying the water, outdoor activities, and living a little quieter life, which is a good balance.

What is your favorite place in the world?

Nowadays, I enjoy traveling so much! I just recently visited Dubai and Abu Dhabi and was mesmerized by their culture and architectural marvels. Paris is the best of all!

Fashion Icons?

My Fashion icons are Demi Moore, Tamara Kalinic, and the timeless Kris Jenner. I appreciate that their styles are always timeless and that they are not afraid to put on a tailored suit!

Favorite brands?

My favorite brands are Hermes, Chanel, and why not Zara?! My best possessions are truly all my accessories, which make me feel confident and allow me to express my style. I feel my closet is the little doll house I never had as a child, and I am grateful for even the small things in it.

What advice would you give other women?

The advice I could give is do what makes you happy! Don't be afraid of taking a risk and trying something new. Most importantly do an act of kindness whenever you can specifically when no-one is watching. join a charity, do volunteer work! There is no big or small act of kindness.





Tony Bechara HONORED BY

EL MUSEO DEL BARRIO'S 2025 GALA

El Museo's 2025 Gala in New York City was dedicated to the patron of the arts and Puerto Rican artist and philanthropist, Tony Bechara. Bechara's invaluable contributions to El Museo shaped our institution for decades. His commitment to the larger arts community impacted organizations around the world. Tony's lasting impact while raising essential funds for the El Museo exhibitions, education programs,

and permanent collection that were so dear to his heart influenced the Latino art world nationwide.

During the evening, celebrated at the Pool in Midtown, Manhattan, a mood of celebration conquered the room as we watched many familiar faces, society members, and art collectors with strong ties to the Art World celebrate his legacy.



1. Larisa Martinez 2. Victoria Espinosa, Maria Eugenia Maury, Karla Harwich, Karla Martinez de Salas 3. Estrellita Brodsky 4. Karla Harwich, Maria Eugenia Maury, Agnes Gund, Sydnie Lansing, Marilyn Kirschner 5. Karla Martinez de Salas 6. Alexi Lubomirski 7. Maria Eugenia Maury, William Haseltine 8. Ruben Toledo, Martha Dao 9. Valentina Ferrer, Victoria Ledru, Carlos Eric Lopez, Lineisy Montero, Dani Stahl, Jose Criales-Unzueta, Alexi Lubomirski, Miguel Alberto Enamorado, Laia Garcia-Furtado 10. Valentina Ferrer 11. Stephanie Suberville 12. Karla Harwich, Désirée la Valette 13. Rocio Aranda-Alvarado, Elia Alba, Coco Fusco 14. Stanley Stairs

Carla Panza

By Mari Allende

How did you get involved in the real estate industry?

I've been passionate about every facet of real estate from a young age—from architecture and interior design to development and sales. Designing my own Hamptons home in 2014 gave me firsthand insight into the excitement, challenges, and intricate details involved in creating the perfect space. Becoming a licensed real estate agent was a natural progression of that passion, and being able to share it by helping others with their real estate needs has truly been a gift.

Can you tell us about your background?

Born and raised in São Paulo, Brazil, I moved to the United States in 2002 to study abroad. What began as an academic adventure quickly turned into a lifelong love story with this great country, where I've built my home, my life, and proudly became an American citizen.

What training do you have?

I've always been naturally curious and passionate about learning, which has inspired me to explore different industries throughout my career. I began with an A.A.S. degree in Foods and Nutrition, where I developed a strong foundation in health and wellness. That curiosity then led me into Esthetics, blending science with creativity to help others look and feel their best. Lastly, I earned my Real Estate license, continuing my commitment to growth and to connecting with people in meaningful, impactful ways.

You live between places - the Hamptons and Manhattan - how are these places different from each other?

The Hamptons and Manhattan both exude glamour, but in very different ways. Manhattan is fast-paced, sophisticated, and urban—glamour



here is about high fashion, iconic skylines, and the energy of city life. The Hamptons, on the other hand, offer a more relaxed, sun-soaked kind of luxury—glamour is found in elegant beach houses, ocean views, and curated leisure. Both represent aspiration and style, but one dazzles with vibrancy, the other with effortless serenity.

What tricks do you recommend for decor and getting a great property?

I believe in quiet luxury decor to make a property both appealing and desirable. By using neutrals, natural materials, and timeless, understated elegance, a home feels serene and sophisticated without overwhelming the eye. Embracing a “less is more” approach with minimal clutter allows each space to feel functional, comfortable, and effortlessly inviting, helping buyers instantly

imagine themselves living there and making the property sell faster.

Is styling an important part of your life? Design? Art?

Styling, design and art play an important role in my life, especially living in the Hamptons and frequently being in New York City, which constantly exposes me to the latest trends in these fields. I am always on the lookout for what is new and inspiring. My passion for art has also been fueled by international art trips with the Pérez Art Museum and the Bass Museum of Art, which have given me a deeper appreciation and love for the art world.

What do your clients request the most?

Whether in New York or Florida, I've found that most of my clients gravitate toward properties near



the water. It's about more than a beautiful view; it's about creating a home that feels like an escape, where every day carries a touch of vacation.

What do you recommend women that follow your style and your taste?

I always recommend that women who share my sense of style stay true to their authenticity and uniqueness, rather than following trends.

What is your favorite place in the world?

Milan in Italy is my favorite place in the world—it brings together fashion, art, architecture, incredible food, and effortlessly stylish people in one vibrant city.

Fashion Icon?

Audrey Hepburn

Brand?

Chanel

Best possession?

100% Capri Hat

What do you do every day that makes the difference?

I wake up every day thanking God for my life and for the opportunities waiting ahead. A grateful heart makes all the difference.

What makes you beautiful and influential?

What makes me beautiful is that I've learned to embrace who I am—flaws, growth, and all. What makes me influential is that I share that journey openly, so others feel empowered to do the same.



ELISABETH SANTANA & ES BLOOMS

*From Bloom to Brand:
The Journey of a Floral
Design Innovator"*



**Is styling an important part of your life?
Design? Art?**

Absolutely. I am drawn to the timeless charm of older buildings and design. I connect deeply with natural landscapes, paintings that celebrate the beauty of nature, and spaces that feel warm and inviting - places that can balance concrete floors with rich wood tones and textured details. Fashion, however, is a different story — there, I love taking more risks and experimenting freely!

What do your clients request the most?

We've been receiving many requests for more structural, bold floral designs that still feel organic and effortless. We're also incorporating a lot of preserved and faux flowers into our work, offering the perfect solution for clients who want stunning installations that last longer without compromising on beauty or texture.

What is your favorite place in the world?
Beach time, hiking trails, dancing, delicious food, and exceptional people.

Fashion Icon
Confident and radiant women (on the inside and out) from the 1970's and 1980's.

Brand
I'm not drawn to any one specific brand. For me, it's all about how something feels and how it looks on me. When I have the time, I love vintage thrifting in NYC or Brooklyn, and have discovered some of my most treasured pieces in thrift shops. A good friend of mine, a master textile designer, is doing incredible work with her line, Patternier. Whenever I wear her pieces, I always receive so many compliments! They are truly one of a kind.

Best characteristic
My sense of humor

What do you do every day that makes the difference?
Praying in the mornings, even if it's for a few minutes. I am deeply grateful to God for the many blessings in my life. This includes my wonderful husband to share it with, a supportive and deeply loving family unit, and the opportunity to live in a country full of possibilities — especially when it comes to empowering women and supporting entrepreneurship.

What makes you beautiful and influential?
I'd say my sense of humor. I can laugh even in the most awkward moments, and my ability to really connect with people, even the first time we meet. I don't chase every trend, I try to treat everyone with respect, and I always stay grounded in my upbringing and faith.

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Michelle WOOD



This is....

the slender and beautiful Hamptonite who writes fiction and entertains with a laissez-faire about her that enchants your six senses, while carrying a nice Whispering Angel rose to the sexy social affairs taking place in the city or the exciting Hamptons. Michelle Woods, known in social circles as a mother of two, ex-wife of a prominent financial individual, who has lived the life of a high society woman, has written a masterpiece for the ages, her first book: *Park Avenue Firesale*. Much like the life she has watched unfold in front of her, starting at the New York City runway shows, surrounded by the intrigue among the wealthy set, going all the way to the drama that women of a specific stature experience while dropping off their children at the entrance of their private schools, the fascinating take on the High Society of Manhattan is what makes the book so captivating.

"I think I've had it in me all my life. Writing helped me navigate some difficult periods of my life. I would use my imagination to escape in this world with multiple plots that intertwine in this web of difficult situations women face," said Wood. On a sunny day, during the summer, while photographing Woods with Antoine Verglas, we talked and sipped her naturally made lemonade in the waterfront estate just built north of

Hair by: Julien Farrell
Makeup: Victoria Beckham
Styled by: Personal styling
by Michele Woodbosa
@nailsbymrscin



From her enclave, and apart from being a writer, she runs the prestigious rose brand Whispering Angel, a brand known worldwide for being one of the most appealing in the market. She has quietly built the empire that we have come to admire and desire. "When I had this beautiful marriage with my kids, we had a high lifestyle. I just get reminded of the beautiful memories of my time in Mustique. The home I decorated there. Those experiences are some of the best moments in my life, and I cherish them tremendously. We also traveled to Sweden, and we just got to enjoy those beautiful things that come with the perks of being a globetrotter". The book is on sale via Amazon, and it is a delight and one of the best choices we have on literature to escape for a moment, to be reminded that the ultra-wealthy also have their pains and sorrow, and reflect with your girlfriends during any given moment that it is good to be human, it is good to go through pain, and that not all that shines is gold.



Hollywood Hills Home

WITH JETLINER VIEWS AMONG THE STARS FOR RENT

Discover Los Angeles in Sky Villa with private indoor/outdoor pool located above Sunset Strip among Hollywood Stars, 5 minutes away from prestigious hotels, restaurants and hot spots. This one-story has 2 bedrooms, 2 baths, sun deck and the best city to ocean views. For inquiries call 310-994-9771 or email: skyvilla777@gmail.com



Southampton. Here, she shares her modern-style home with her boyfriend and two young adult boys, surrounded by the beauty and nature of this Long Island paradise. "I think I've loved art and design all my life. It's just natural for me to create spaces that move me. My whole life, I've created beautiful environments that enrapture you in a sense of calmness," confessed the tall blonde woman who could easily model on any given runway around the world. The Vancouver-born beauty arrived 22 years ago in Southampton. "I fell in love with the area. There is nature, and you are surrounded by water. I can do paddleboarding, and we go on the boat. It's what I love about life, nature, and being beautiful and calm; that's what enraptures me," added Woods.

PUERTO RICO'S VISIONARY OF TIMELESS
DESIGN LOOK IN THE MIRROR

JOSEPH D'APONTE

sophistication and classical refinement. Whether creating fashion pieces, interiors, or luxury lifestyle concepts, his designs consistently express a sense of harmony, glamour, and attention to detail that captivates clients and admirers alike.

What sets Joseph Daponte apart is his ability to translate personality into design. Each project or collection is conceived not merely as an object of beauty, but as a personal statement for those who experience it. His clientele includes influential figures, collectors, and individuals who appreciate exclusivity and artistry. Through his work, he has cultivated a loyal following that values elegance without excess and luxury with authenticity.

Throughout his career, Joseph has remained deeply connected to Puerto Rico's creative community. His success represents the growing recognition of Puerto Rican talent on the international design stage. By embracing both global influences and local inspiration, he has

helped showcase the island's artistic potential to a broader audience.

Beyond aesthetics, Daponte's work reflects a philosophy of living beautifully. He believes that design should inspire emotion and elevate everyday life, transforming spaces and personal style into expressions of individuality and culture. This vision has made him not only a designer, but also a tastemaker whose perspective resonates with those who seek meaningful elegance.

Today, Joseph continues to evolve creatively, constantly exploring new ideas while maintaining the timeless signature that defines his work. As Puerto Rico's design scene continues to flourish, his influence remains a testament to the power of creativity, passion, and artistic integrity.

In an industry where trends come and go, Joseph stands out for something far more enduring: a commitment to beauty, craftsmanship, and the art of living well.



In the vibrant world of Caribbean fashion and luxury design, few names carry the elegance and distinctive flair of Joseph Daponte, a Puerto Rican designer whose creations have become synonymous with sophistication, creativity, and refined craftsmanship. Known for his impeccable eye for detail and his ability to blend classic European influences with the vibrant spirit of the Caribbean, Daponte has earned a respected place among Puerto Rico's most admired style innovators.

Born and raised in Puerto Rico, Joseph Daponte developed a passion for aesthetics and beauty from an early age. Surrounded by the island's rich cultural heritage, colorful architecture, and lively artistic traditions, he cultivated an instinctive appreciation for form, texture, and elegance. These early inspirations would later become the foundation of his unique design philosophy. Over the years, Daponte has built a reputation as a designer who understands the art of timeless luxury. His work reflects a perfect balance between modern



The 50 [★]
Most Beautiful
& Influential



FABIO DIAZ

The Man Who Transforms Spaces Into Experiences

Photographed by Dan Guevara. Design by CARRANZA



LONG BEFORE HE SET HIS SIGHTS ON PUERTO RICO, DIAZ MADE *his mark on the iconic Miami NIGHTLIFE SCENE AS THE FORCE BEHIND HOY COMO AYER, THE Legendary club THAT BECAME A CULTURAL HEARTBEAT FOR THE CUBAN DIASPORA*



In the world of nightlife and hospitality, few names carry the weight of both legend and legacy quite like Fabio Diaz. A Cuban-born visionary with an instinct for atmosphere and an unmatched gift for bringing people together, Diaz has spent decades turning ordinary venues into unforgettable destinations — and his latest chapter may be his most impressive yet.

Long before he set his sights on Puerto Rico, Diaz made his mark on the iconic Miami nightlife scene as the force behind Hoy Como Ayer, the legendary club that became a cultural heartbeat for the Cuban diaspora and music lovers across South Florida. More than a venue, Hoy Como Ayer was a living tribute to the soul of Cuban music — a place where tradition and modernity danced side by side, night after night. Under Diaz's stewardship, it earned its place as one of Miami's most beloved institutions.



Today, that same magic is being felt along the shores of Isla Verde. As the driving force behind the venues at Lobby Chico Bar inside the storied Fairmont El San Juan Hotel, Fabio Díaz has done what many thought impossible — he has made a hotel lobby into a destination in its own right. The different areas of the Fairmont's lobby have come alive under his creative direction, drawing both guests and locals who come not just for a drink, but for an experience.

The results speak for themselves. Since Díaz took the reins, the spaces have thrived with an energy that feels both curated and organic — a balance that only someone with his depth of experience can achieve. Whether it's an intimate evening at the bar or a vibrant night of live music and cocktails, every corner of the Lobby Chico reflects his signature touch: warmth, elegance, and a genuine love for hospitality.

What truly sets Fabio Díaz apart, however, is not just what he builds — it's how he leads. The team at the Fairmont El San Juan speaks of him with rare admiration. Colleagues and staff alike describe a leader who commands respect not through authority, but through example — someone whose professionalism is matched only by his human quality. In an industry that can be as demanding as it is glamorous, he has built a culture of loyalty and pride among those who work alongside him.

From Havana's spirit to Miami's rhythm to San Juan's golden coast, Fabio Díaz carries a rare gift — the ability to make every room feel like the only room in the world worth being in.

SINCE DIAZ *took the reins*, THE SPACES HAVE THRIVED WITH AN ENERGY THAT FEELS BOTH CURATED AND ORGANIC — A BALANCE THAT ONLY SOMEONE WITH *his depth of experience* CAN ACHIEVE.



The **ALLENDE** **FAMILY**

The Heart of Mexican Dynasties and Why Audiences Want More

When the Bravo television series *Mexican Dynasties* premiered in 2019, it offered viewers something refreshingly different from traditional reality programming: a glamorous yet heartfelt glimpse into the lives of prominent families in Mexico City. Among the fascinating personalities featured on the show, one family quickly captured the imagination of audiences around the world—the charismatic and unforgettable Allende family. Led by legendary entertainer Fernando Allende and his dynamic wife Mari Allende, the Allendes became the emotional and entertaining centerpiece of the series. Even years after its debut, fans continue asking the same question: when will there be another season? The Bravo series followed three influential families in Mexico City whose lives intersect through decades-long friendships and shared social circles. The program highlighted their luxurious

lifestyles, traditions, and personalities while offering audiences a lively and authentic look at modern Mexican culture. Yet from the very first episode, the Allende family stood out with their natural charisma, humor, and unmistakable flair for entertainment. At the center of the family is Fernando Allende, one of the most beloved figures in Latin entertainment. Over the course of a remarkable career spanning over 5 successful decades; he has achieved international recognition as a singer, actor, producer, and painter with his paintings in 4 museums around the world. Long before reality television, Fernando was already a household name across Latin America and had also successfully crossed over into Hollywood productions. His participation in the show brought both star power and warmth, portraying a patriarch whose life is devoted to creativity, family, and artistic expression.

THE 50 MOST BEAUTIFUL & INFLUENTIAL

Equally captivating is Mari Allende, his wife, manager, and strongest supporter. Mari quickly became a fan favorite thanks to her outspoken personality, sharp wit, and fierce dedication to her family. Her candid remarks and vibrant spirit added humor and spontaneity to the series, often creating some of its most memorable moments. Together, Fernando and Mari revealed a marriage built on loyalty, laughter, and a shared passion for life and entertainment.

The next generation of the dynasty also played an important role in the show's appeal. Their sons, Elán Allende and Adán Allende, brought youthful ambition and creative dreams into the family narrative.

During the show, Elán was navigating the early stages of his entrepreneurial path, exploring opportunities in real estate and creative ventures that reflected the family's natural drive. In the seven years since Mexican Dynasties aired, that drive has found its fullest expression.

Today, Elán is a singer-songwriter, audio engineer, and A&R executive based in Dorado, Puerto Rico, where he runs his own recording studio

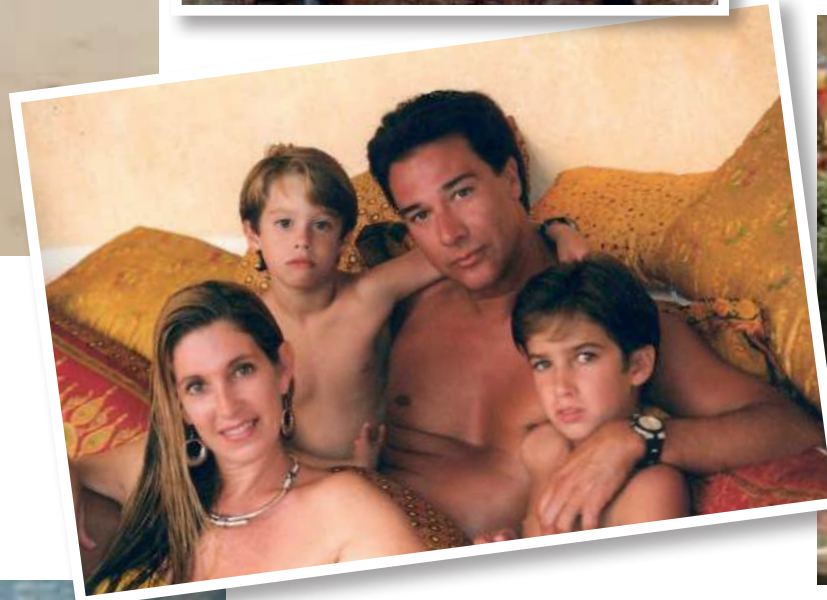


When the Bravo television series **MEXICAN DYNASTIES** premiered in 2019, it offered viewers something **REFRESHINGLY DIFFERENT** from traditional reality programming: a glamorous yet heartfelt glimpse into the lives of prominent families in **MEXICO CITY**.





Yet from the very first episode, the ALLENDE FAMILY stood out with their natural CHARISMA, humor, and unmistakable flair FOR ENTERTAINMENT.



and independent label, El Monasterio Records. Named after the monastery in Old San Juan where he lived and wrote much of his catalog, the label is less a business and more a creative philosophy—a commitment to intention, craft, and artistic independence over industry convention.

With a growing catalog of Caribbean Pop and Latin music—including his debut album *Arena y Estrellas, Vol. 1* and recent live releases *Candela (En Vivo)* and *La Chica de la Playa (En Vivo)*—Elán has built an artistic life rooted in the island, in the Afro-Caribbean rhythms that shaped him since childhood, and in the kind of patient, deliberate craft that prizes longevity over hype. He is not chasing the industry. He is building something meant to last.

Away from the studio, Elán is a deeply devoted father. He takes his fourteen-year-old daughter, María Valentina, and his thirteen-year-old son, Fernando, to their soccer games, practices, and school activities—present for every milestone, every ordinary Tuesday. Those who know him well speak to a man who extends that same

consistency and care to his parents, his brother, and his closest friends. It is a quality that runs quietly through everything he does, from the way he builds his records to the way he builds his life.

Meanwhile, in the Show, Adan focused on building his own career in music and entertainment. After a successful run in show business, he has chosen a new path as a therapist and professor, and is currently in graduate school deepening his expertise. “My astrologer once spoke about the Saturn return as a time for growth and life shifts. I later realized it aligned with my move toward academia and mental health.” Once driven by fame, status, and wealth, the pandemic sparked a shift inward. In the quiet, he began reflecting on meaning and purpose. “I always loved to read. I thought the pandemic would be the perfect opportunity to find my new calling.”

Though he still sings occasionally; his focus is now on becoming a healer and teacher. After a decade in show business, he realized his





motivation had always come from the outside. “I felt pressure to be as good as—or better than—my father, and never felt like I was enough.” Still, he expresses deep gratitude for the life and experiences his parents gave him. Through self-examination, he found a new motivation: studying for the love of knowledge and connecting with the divine through meditation and prayer. “It’s important to be aware of what others think as a tool for reflection, but not to depend on it for your sense of value.”

Living away from home, he embraced solitude and discovered a deeper aim: self-actualization. “Recognition can be part of that, but it shouldn’t define you.” Grounded in non-attachment, he no longer seeks to prove anything. Inspired by Olympic gold medalist Alysia Liu’s humility and wisdom, Adán Allende now walks a path not toward superstardom, but toward healing and teaching—honoring his past while creating a future rooted in authenticity and purpose.

This multi-generational dynamic Allendes became one of the most compelling aspects of the series. Viewers saw a family that was glamorous but also deeply relatable—filled with humor, disagreements, affection, and big dreams. The Allendes opened the doors to their home and their lives, sharing both their triumphs and their everyday moments with authenticity. Beyond the laughter and drama, the Allende family also carried a deeper purpose in joining the show.

Fernando and Mari expressed that one of their motivations was to showcase the richness of Mexican culture to international audiences.

THE ALLENDES delivered authenticity in abundance, demonstrating that behind fame and glamour lies something universal: AUTHENTIC FAMILY BONDS, personal ambition, and the pursuit of happiness.

Through music, art, family traditions, and lively celebrations, they wanted viewers to experience a more complete and vibrant image of Mexico than what is often portrayed in international media. And they succeeded. Fans responded enthusiastically to their warmth, humor, and larger-than-life personalities. Scenes of spontaneous music, heartfelt family conversations, and playful banter became highlights that audiences still remember today.

Although the series aired only one season, its impact continues to resonate among fans. Many viewers have described the show as one of the most entertaining and unique reality programs Bravo has ever produced. Across social media platforms, fans frequently express how much they enjoyed the series and how strongly they wish it would return for new seasons.

Much of this enduring enthusiasm centers on the Allende family. Their chemistry, theatrical personalities, and genuine affection for one another created moments that felt almost like a real-life telenovela—filled with music, passion, humor, and unexpected emotion. Whether Fernando was sharing stories from

his legendary career, Mari was delivering one of her unforgettable remarks, or the brothers were discussing their aspirations, the family dynamic became the heart of the series.

Reality television succeeds when it captures authenticity, and the Allendes delivered that in abundance. They demonstrated that behind fame and glamour lies something universal: family bonds, personal ambition, and the pursuit of happiness. Today, the global audience that discovered the Allendes through Mexican Dynasties remains eager to see their story continue. With the family still active in entertainment, music, art, and business, there is no shortage of new adventures waiting to unfold.

For loyal viewers, the hope remains strong that Bravo or another platform will bring the series back. If that day comes, fans around the world would undoubtedly welcome the return of the Allende family with enthusiasm. Because once audiences were introduced to the world of the Allendes—full of creativity, laughter, music, and unmistakable charm—it became clear that one season was simply not enough.





BIG BANG

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Artist Fernando Allende

“In Fernando Allende, an extraordinary artist, I have discovered an exceptional body of artwork which can, proudly, be exhibited in any Museum around the world.”

Eugenio López
Jumex Museum, México

