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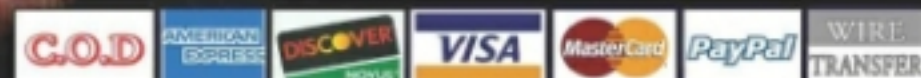
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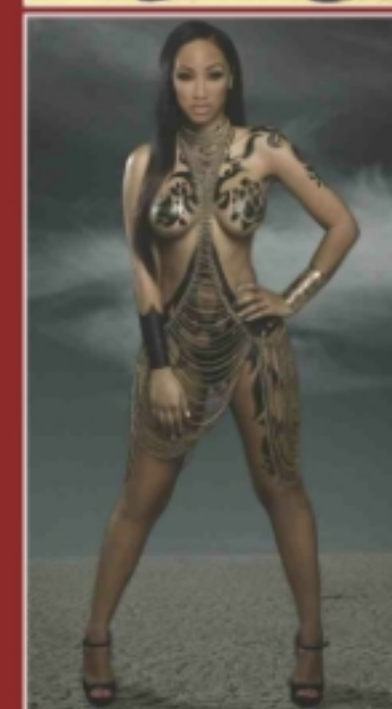
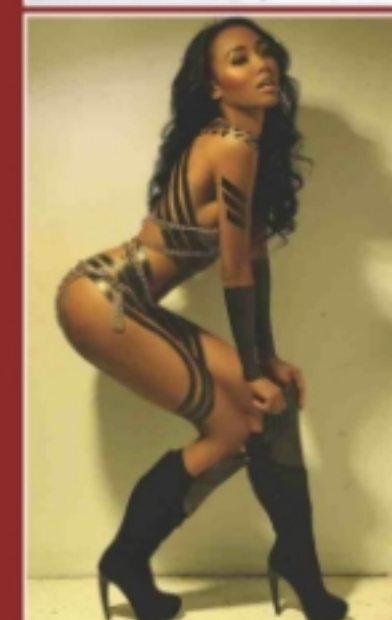
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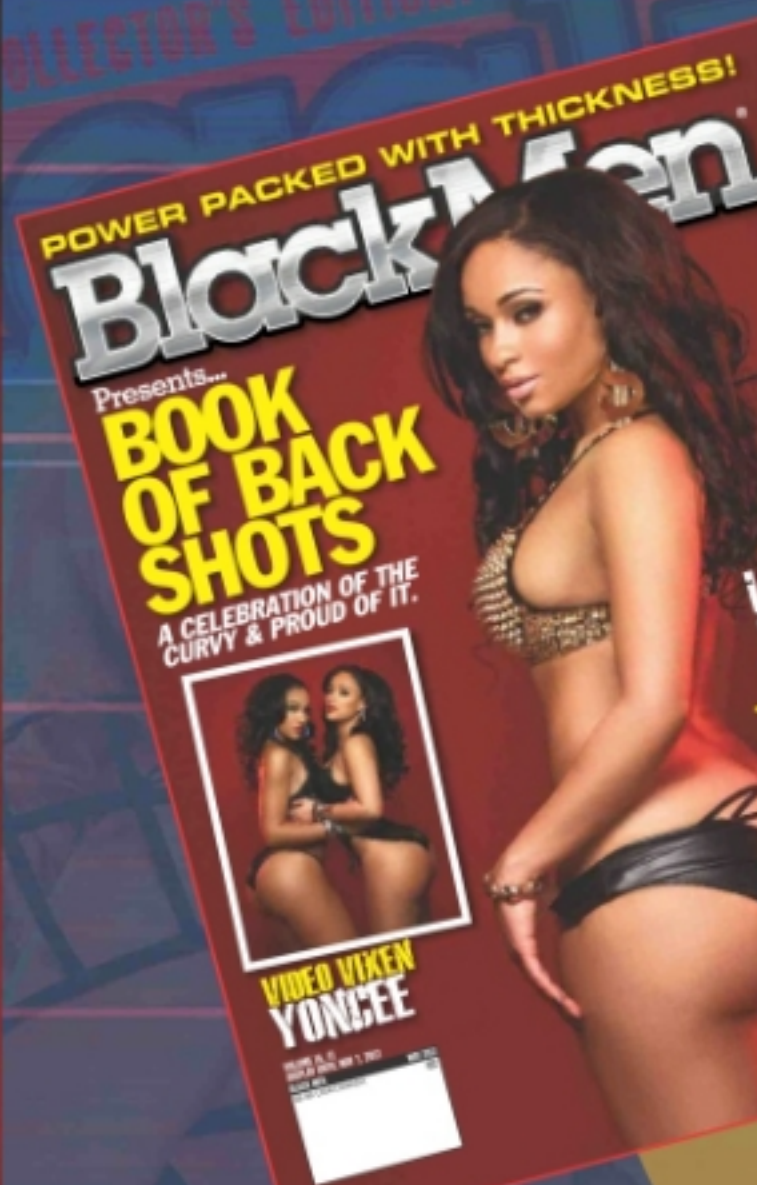
NOTE FROM THE EDITOR

In early Greek and Roman times, sex was depicted in many forms of art in expression of statues of great men and women or mythical gods. In Europe the human body is visualized more liberally than those depicted in the domestication of the United States. We prefer to view the human body as a work of art that can be molded into shape by diet, exercise and well living.

The "Sex Of Art" is a collaboration of artists in our own rights, including visionaries such as Ed The Artist (body painter), (Photographers & Graphic Artists) C. Clark, Jose Guerra, Courage of 2020 Photography, Suliman Hasan of Facet Studios, Joel Alvarez of Venge Media and creator on "The Black Tape Project", Jabari Foster creator of Dynastyseries.com and innovator behind "The Nurses Of Death" Laurel Dewitt Designer of Laurel Luxe brand Couture Fashion body jewelry and myself Marcus Blassingame (creative director and wardrobe coordinator). Together under my direction we created a new theme, an innovative approach to the view of sexy photography and sex depicted in art the way it has historically been presented. It is classy, even though almost no clothing was used in these images.

Enjoy Our Work Of Art.
Chief Editor
Marcus Blassingame

Photographer: Jose Guerra
Theme: Jabari Foster (www.dynastyseries.com)
Artist: Ed The Artist @edtheartist
Stylist: Marcus Blassingame
MUA: Dasha Dash, Lia Cha
Hair: Blair Pena NJ, Aridio NYC



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Adhesive Art

Article by Mannie Pendexter

Joel Alvarez—known also as Venge—has been into all forms of art since he can remember. The Miami based artist did some painting, some drawing, sculpting and he even dabbled in break dancing. He says his interest in the arts were sparked by comic book drawings, and as a teenager he began sketching detailed human figures—that eventually evolved into graphic female figures—which dominated most of his work.

Eventually, Joel transitioned from drawing curvaceous ladies to photographing them. He, then, started experimenting and using black tape during his shoots. Today, Joel has taken this approach a step further releasing a series of photo sets using black tape—and only black tape—as wardrobe for his beautiful models. *Black Men* mag was able to get the 30-year-old artist to collaborate with them on a couple of exclusive shoots, and also sat down with the artist to talk a bit about his life, inspirations, and his highly-revered Black Tape Project.

BLACK MEN: Were there any artists in your family that inspired you?

Joel "Venge" Alvarez: My father was a draftsman. He drew buildings and houses. I loved the lines and the organization. I couldn't help it; I just had to create those designs my way. I think that my past practices like the drawing of the female figure plus the lines of architecture might have been my foundation for the approach in my projects.

Talk to us about the Black Tape Project and how that came about. What was the inspiration behind it all?

When I started photography, a model wanted to get taped up. She showed me a drawing of two girls wearing what looked like thin leather strips. I wasn't too hot about the idea, but we did it. I think she looked like two Christmas hams wrapped in rubber bands—not cute. I started seeing designs, parts of the body turned into shapes and connecting lines between them. There were unlimited possibilities.

How do you come up with the designs you create with the black tape?

After months of handling tape, I started to see its weaknesses and strengths. How far can I bend it? Where can I place it? So many ideas I can produce. The concept is adding lines to complement the curves of the subject. The body is the inspiration. I really don't plan a design. The point is to go with the flow. Enhance the curves and persuade the eyes to focus on the details.

When did you realize that you could take

this project a step further and present it to a larger audience?

About a year ago. The shows started getting bigger and more known. Miami nightclubs started to show interest. Now, aside from a strong presence in Miami, we have started to expand to the west coast with shows in Vegas, LA, and spots in Europe like Ibiza, Spain and Cannes, France.

What are some of the things you're doing to promote your project?

To be completely honest, all I do is just post up photos of the latest project and the calls and emails start coming in. Currently, I stopped posting photos to give myself time to complete the current project.

What's next for Joel and the Black Tape Project?

So much to tell: Celebrity photo shoots to red carpet events, a two-week tour in Australia, two weeks in the Caribbean, and then back to Europe in the summer.

However, I'm most excited about the concepts and the level the tape is reaching.

Do you plan on working on other types of art projects or transitioning to other mediums?

Definitely! The tape has inspired a lot of designs and more ideas, like fashion designs, so I do see myself being involved in fashion. I will have some pieces this year that are inspired by tattoos. Also, I'm pushing for several photo exhibitions with some of my new concepts.

BLACKTAPEPROJECT.COM

Jade Cole

Internationally Known

Photographer - Joel Alvarez (Vengo Media)

Formerly a contestant on Tyra Banks' "America's Next Top Model," Jade Cole has transcended from the feisty, Philly girl to a world-famous supermodel. The Indian and African-American beauty has since been featured in music videos, clothing line ads, and has walked catwalks across the globe.

As a finalist on "America's Next Top Model" cycle six, Jade became well-known for her notorious personality. The judges and the other girls often criticized her for her arrogant behavior. Her way of dealing with the other competitors almost always led the judges to place her on the bottom two. Nevertheless, her natural talent for modeling brought her all the way to the top three, but she was finally eliminated from the show on the season finale. She was the eleventh contestant to be sent home and, in a unique way of saying goodbye, Jade read a portion of her own poem.

Life after ANTM has been fast-paced and full of opportunities for Jade.

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She has become a highly successful model and has had the opportunity to model abroad—particularly in Greece and India. She has also been affiliated with some of the top modeling agencies in the world—mainly in New York and Hong Kong. She has also opened up her own production company, Biracial Butterfly Productions.

Despite her many setbacks on *ANTM*, Jade always proved herself, and even went on to be on the top three. Her determination and her passion is what ultimately set her apart from everyone in her league. That, and her no-nonsense Philly attitude have catapulted her to international supermodel status.

LeolaBell

Photographer: Joel Alvarez (Venge Media)

Name: Leola
Hometown: Rockville, MD
Raised: Florida
Zodiac: Sagittarius
Sizes: 2
Bust: 36
Waist: 23
Hip: 35



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Resume

Magazine: *Playboy*,
HotMiamiStyles.com,
TheBlackTapeProject.com
TV: February episode of "Playmates"
on Playboy TV.

Do you host events?

Yes, whenever I can. I have done it in
the U.S. and also in Canada.

Tell us about your experience with *Playboy*. How do you feel about being totally nude on Google?

It has been a wonderful experience.
Playboy has become a second family
to me, and now I can say I'm a
bunny forever. Being nude is very
freeing. I'm proud of my body, and I
can say I hide behind nothing.

Web

Twitter: @leolabell
Of Followers: 30,000
Instagram: @leolabell
Of Followers: 15,000
Facebook: Facebook.com/leolabell
Model Mayhem: modelmayhem.com/LeolaBell

What was artistically sexy about your shoot?

Being completely in black tape was invigorating.

Have you ever been shot nude before?

Yes, for *Playboy*. I'm Miss February 2012.

Are you comfortable with nudity?

Yes.

Did you feel naked though you were covered with adhesives or paint?

I was aware, but you still are completely covered.

How did this shoot make you feel?

Grown and sexy. [Laughs.]

Ultimate Goals

Game Plan: My plan is to start my own clothing line.

Marketing Tools

Right now, I'm my own marketing, but I'm most active on Twitter.



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TRINIDAD JAMES GOLDEN CHILD

Article by Kathy Iandoli
Photographer Courage (20/20 Photography)
MUA: yayabeatsface

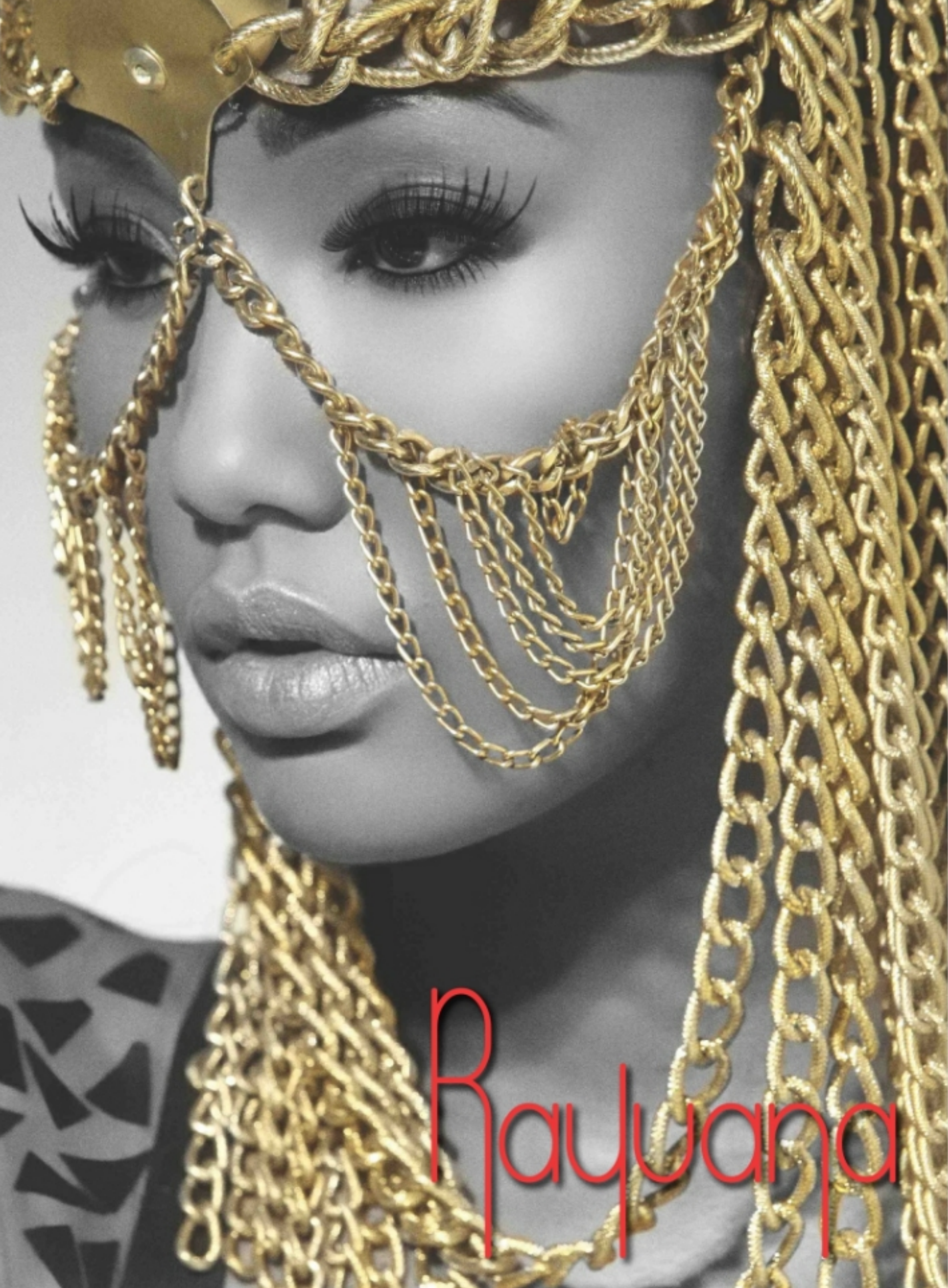
Trinidad James' success arguably felt like it happened overnight. The Trinidad-born (hence the name) artist started his career with a handful of tracks last year. The one cut that broke through the industry skin was the glowing "All Gold Everything," citing the various places you can find gold on his person, from his mouth to his wrists to his neck and so on. The joint spread like wildfire, charting on Billboard's Hot 100 and becoming something of an anthem

with the chant "Popped a Molly, I'm sweating," an ode to Rap's latest drug of choice. And just like that a star was born, and Trinidad James became a household name.

It didn't hurt that TJ has one of the most eclectic styles presently in Hip-Hop. With gold teeth, gold rings, tinted shades and a snap-back (or bandana depending on the day of the week) holding mountains of hair, Trinidad James brings a Rap Liberace swag to accompany his energetic music. It wasn't long before every rapper wanted to jump on "All Gold Everything." Artists including the likes of N.O.R.E., French Montana, Slim Thug and Paul Wall all took a stab at the torch single. The winners for the official remix, though, were T.I., Young Jeezy, and 2 Chainz who put on for their fellow ATLien and showed the world how Atlanta gets down.

Now, Trinidad James is one of Rap's most sought after artists. He inked a joint venture deal with Def Jam at the close of last year, after much speculation over which major label would scoop him up. The deal was rumored to be in excess of a whopping \$2 million. In addition, TJ has his own label Gold Gang Records, with the title of CEO. His debut mixtape *Don't Be S.A.F.E. (Sensitive As Fuck Everyday)* dropped last summer, but found its way to iTunes following his monumental success. Now, he's currently working on his debut album while touring and popping up on all of your favorite rappers' tracks. So, where does this leave Rap's golden child? The sky's the limit. In the meantime, grab your gold chain, gold ring, and gold watch and show out for Trinidad.





Rayuana

Name: Rayuana Aleyce
Nickname: Raya or Ray
Hometown: Harlem, NY
Born: Atlantic City, NJ
Raised: Atlantic City and Miami, FL
Zodiac: Taurus
Sizes: 2-4
Bust: 34B
Waist: 24
Hips: 36

Resume

Magazine: *Essence*, *Hype*
Hair, *XXL*

Ad/Commercials: Rocawear
style guide with June
Ambrose, The Blay Report,
Revlon, Outre,

Film: *Sex and The City 2*,
Music and Lyrics with Drew
Barrymore, Ellen DeGeneres
for fashion week,

Video: Starred in Lloyd's
music video for "Cupid,"
Unique Zayas' "Maniac,"
Mateo's "Say It So" featuring
Alicia Keys,

Runways: I've walked for
designers during fashion
week such as; Richie Rich,
Laure Luxx, Mataano,
Nordic, Laquan Smith,
Samantha Black, Domonique
Auxilly, and BET's "Rip The
Runway" to name a few.

TV: I am currently a contest-
ant for "Project Runway"
cycle 11.

Do you host event?
I do host events.

Web

Website: rayuana.com (Still
under construction as of
press time.)

Twitter: @rayuanarunway
of followers: 2032

Instagram: @RayuanaAleyce
of followers: 9163

Photographer- Suliman Hasan (Facet Studios)
Studio: True Sound Lounge Bronx NY
ARTIST: Joe Alvarez
MUA: Facet Studios
Hair: Aridio NYC
BODY JEWELRY: LAUREL LUXE
Boots: Je T'aime Shoes Brooklyn @jetaime

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What was artistically sexy about your shoot?

What was artistically sexy about my shoot was that I was totally naked. My privates were completely covered, but I've never shot with black tape before. The metal apparel was designed by one of my favorite designers, Laure Luxx. I felt empowered and a little like a modern day superhero. [Laughs.]

Have you ever been shot nude before?

I've been shot semi-nude before—nothing like this, though. It was absolutely amazing!

Are you comfortable with nudity?

I'm not completely comfortable with being nude, but I must say I'm learning my body, and I love my body. I also like to put myself to a test from time to time. This was definitely a test. In my opinion, I passed with flying colors. Did you feel naked though you were covered with adhesives or paint?

Yes, I felt super naked with the adhesive tape on. It took me awhile to adjust, but when the lights came on, it was lights, camera, fashion!

How did this shoot make you feel?

This shoot made me feel like I've grown a lot. Not just as a model, but as a woman. I felt empowered and in control.



Ultimate Goal

My ultimate goal is to be extremely successful as a model/actress and also take the beauty industry by storm. I graduate at the end of July, so I have a lot of work cut out for me. I'm excited about my future.

Game Plan: My game plan is to complete school, continue to model, and put all my energy into my business and beauty and skin care products.

Accomplishments: My greatest accomplishment I feel like I haven't accomplished it yet. I'm still in the early stages of my career.



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Marketing Tools
Agency: 4 Season Style
Management/TDS Agency
Email: modelsocialmedia@gmail.com



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Jasmin Jaye

Body Paint

Photographer: Suliman Hasan (Facet Studios)
MUA: Facet Studios
Hair: JASMIN
BODY PAINT: @edtheartist
BODY JEWELRY: LAUREL LUXE
Stylist: tsdagency.com

Name: Jasmin Jaye
Born: Detroit, MI, but "learned the game in LA"
Zodiac: Taurus
Bust: 34DD
Waist: 26
Hips: 36

Resume

Magazine: *Black Lingerie* issue #18
TV: "Real Husbands of Hollywood"
and BET's "The Sheards"
Video: Co-starred in Omarion's
"M.I.A.," lead in Ice Cube's "Couldn't
Make It On Her Own" and Bow Wow
and Omarion's "Jump Off."
Commercial/Ad: FTM ad campaign
spokesmodel

Web

Twitter: @Jasmin_Jaye
of followers: 8,000
Instagram: @Jasmin_Jaye
of followers: 70,000
Facebook: Search "Jasmin Jaye"

What was artistically sexy about your shoot?

The way the paint hugged my body
was so sexy to me. I was held up
and covered in all the right places.

Have you ever been shot nude before?

As long as I'm tastefully shot, and
covered up I don't mind.

Are you comfortable with nudity?

I'm comfortable with my body in the
nude because it was god given.

Did you feel naked though you were covered with adhesives or paint?

I absolutely didn't feel naked cov-
ered in body paint. I felt empowered
and ultra sexy in my body paint.

Ultimate Goals

I plan on being on a primetime tele-
vision show and having a huge hair
salon. I know I'm destined for great-
ness. I've already felt God's light
shining on me. I know I am one of a
kind. A leader, independent and
ready to take all.

Marketing Tools

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Contact Chase@socialmfs.com or
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Brittany Dailey

Photographer: Suliman Hasan (Facet Studios)
Studio: True Sound Lounge Bronx NY
Artist: Joe Alvarez
Studio: True Sound Lounge Bronx NY
MUA: Facet Studios
Hair: Blair Pena
Stylist: tsdagency.com
Boots: Je Taime Shoes Brooklyn @jetaime

Name: Brittany Dailey
Nickname: Britt or BD
Hometown: Los Angeles
Born: Sacramento, CA
Raised: Denver, CO
Zodiac: Aries
Bust: 32D
Waist: 25
Hip: 38

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Resume

Magazine: *Lowrider*, *Black Men*, *KING*, *XXL*, *Smooth*

Video: Young Jeezy - "R.I.P.," Nas - "Cherry Wine," The Dream - "Dope Chick," 4Count - "Snap Back," and so many more.

Commercial/Ad: T.I.T.S. brand collaboration with Estevan Oriol, Joker brand and Taj Stansberry.

TV: "Real Husbands of Hollywood" and "Wild'n Out."

Do you host events?

Definitely.

Web

Twitter: @brittanydailey

Followers 74,580

Instagram: @_brittanydailey

Followers 62k

What was artistically sexy about your shoot?

I thought everything about the shoot was amazingly creative and sexy. The way Joel [Alvarez] has perfected this art is ridiculous. He knows how to accentuate a woman's curves with just black tape and make it look like art all at the same time. He is the originator of this and no one can do it like him.

Have you ever been shot nude before?

I've done implied nudity shots, but not completely nude.

Are you comfortable with nudity?

Absolutely! There is nothing more natural than a naked body. We were born naked, right? So, why be uncomfortable with being naked?

Did you feel naked though you were covered with adhesives or paint?

Once the tape and the paint was fully on my body and dried, I didn't feel nude. But with that being said, I am very comfortable being nude, so I didn't feel naked.

How did this shoot make you feel?

This shoot made me feel extremely sexy; I'm sure everyone will agree.

Ultimate Goals

Game Plan: My game plan is to get into acting and just build my brand into something bigger than I can even fathom. I'm taking the steps to get there slowly and cautiously. You have to pick the right projects and surround yourself with people who want to help you succeed.

Marketing Tools

Email: bdailey87@gmail.com



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Draya Michele

CHAMPIONSHIP

STATUS



Twitter:
[@jc_jewelry](#)
[@drayaface](#)



Instagram:
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[@iceman_nick](#)
[@sodraya](#)



Johnny's
Custom Jewelry
[KingJohnny.net](#)



Body Paint

Living, Breathing Art

These beautifully designed creations painted on our models are the work of Edward Joseph aka, The Artist Ed. Growing up in Prince George's County in Maryland, Ed played sports and enjoyed his favorite passion, art. Surprisingly, art wasn't his main focus growing up. He spent most of his time in high school playing football. Due to some financial hardships with his family, he was forced to move to Washington D.C. and thus his focus shifted from playing football to helping his family out financially.

While living in D.C., Ed noticed a new fashion trend of hand painted shirts. He was intrigued by it's popularity and thought to himself, "Hey, I

can do this myself." A good friend gave Ed fabric paint and encouraged him to experiment. During this time, his family moved back to PG County and Ed attended High Point High School where he finally got an opportunity to start fresh with not only his craft, but also academically. During his stay at High Point, one of his classmates asked him to make a t-shirt that said "Bronx" on it. His other classmates and even the administrators were so impressed that everybody in school started ordering custom shirts.

After high school Ed continued his education at Prince George's Community College where he also sold his custom made shirts. One day Ed went to visit his good friend Justice, who happened to know the owner of the number one clothing company that specialized in custom made shirts, Miskeen Originals. Justice introduced Ed to the owner and the owner was very impressed with his work and offered him a job in Philly.

Ed, now an artist/designer for Miskeen, networked and marketed the brand to build relationships with different artists/celebrities by designing them custom shirts. The owner of Miskeen took notice to Ed's undeniable marketing skills and aided his effort by providing travel for Ed to go to various events. While in Atlanta Ed connected with different Music Video Directors, one in particular was Gabriel Hart. Gabe was shooting "My President Is Black" by Young Jeezy feat. Nas and he asked Ed and his partner Abu to paint a floor mural for the main scene of the video. This led Ed other opportunities to paint for other music videos such as, B.O.B, TI and Playboy Tre's "Bet I Bust", 8Ball, MJG and Young Dro's "DJ Bring It Back", and many more.

One day while in Nashville, Ed was visiting one of the stores who sold Miskeen's merchandise and the storeowners asked him to body paint for their one-year anniversary party. The crowd was very impressed with this form of art, so Ed knew he had to start this new trend in D.C. He painted at various clubs in DC and garnered so much attention that Ed was being hired weekly to body paint at parties. From this exposure various photographers became very interested in working with Ed. He began having professional photo shoots with local models, which took his vision of body painting to another level. With each shoot, his talent evolved and models and pho-

tographers couldn't wait to work with him.

Due to the success of his body painting and photo shoots, Ed's popularity grew and he had a true following. He knew it was finally time to cut ties with Miskeen and take the next step in his journey and create, "The Artist Ed." Ed knew that the perfect location to help him jumpstart his new company was Atlanta.

Ed is currently in Atlanta and continues to design custom shirts, canvases, and murals, and his new niche, body painting, he cannot end his day without giving credit to God. He knows that without HIM, all of the resources and opportunities he has been given would not be possible.

By Kathy Iandoli

Photographer: Saliman Hasan (Facet Studios)

MUA: Facet Studios

Hair: Tisa C. Penn

BODY PAINT: @edtheartist

Stylist: tsdagency.com

Malaysia

Shyness is hard to overcome, but it's something Malaysia Pargo is working on. Married to Charlotte Bobcats' Point Guard Jannero Pargo, Malaysia stars in "Basketball Wives LA." Being in front of the reality TV cameras was a difficult task, but Pargo was up for the challenge. The Compton, CA native has had quite an active tenure with "Basketball Wives LA," but her Three Beats jewelry line has kept her equally busy. As a wife and mom, Malaysia had to find the balance that would lead her to also add the title of entrepreneur. She talks about coming out of her shell with *Black Men* magazine, along with life as a "basketball wife."

BLACK MEN: Did you have a nude photo shoot for the magazine?

Malaysia Pargo: No. I'm a very shy person, and [*Black Men*] didn't really think that I would do the body paint situation. I'm just pretty much at a point where I'm so, so, so traditional and almost old-fashioned to the point where certain things I would never do. So like, you have to ease me into it. So no, I wasn't completely nude, I had on underwear and pasties, but it still was a big step for me, so I'm proud of myself.

Obviously you had pasties and underwear, but did it feel like the paint kind of clothed you in a way?

You know, it did. After the paint was on and it dried and I realized that no one cared that I was standing there with my ta-tas out. At first I'm like, "Oh my god! They're standing here talking to me and I'm completely like, my ta-tas are out!" But they kind of didn't care! No one cared! So, it made it that much easier for me to not care. So yeah...it was *okay*. I'm not going to sit here and lie and say that I was completely comfortable with it because every chance I got, I was wrapping myself up with something. But after a while, like once the cameras started going, I was okay. I was very comfortable. I didn't feel like I was standing there half-naked. I felt like I had a swimsuit on. And coming from a woman that just had three kids, and all of my babies are very young, I'm proud of myself. It takes you a long time to get comfortable in your skin after you have babies. There's women out there that can relate to me. After you have your kids, you are uncomfortable in your body. You have to regain all of that confidence back. So, the fact that I was able to do that, I'm proud of myself.

You're known for your shyness, right?

Yeah, I am. Like, I'm trying to shake it, but I guess as an adult, it's just not working out fast enough for me—but I am. I'm shy, but I get the job done. When it all boils down to it, I'm a perfectionist so I make sure that I get the job done and get it done well. So that's one thing about me. I'm shy but I don't let my shyness hinder me from doing what I need to do.

Body Paint

What were you like as a kid?

The same way! I've just always been pretty much a shy person. In high school, I kind of loosened up a little bit more, got comfortable with myself. In college I was like, "Oh yeah!" and I came out of my shell. But then after I had my kids, I got shy all over again. I don't know what the hell happened. So I'm working on it.

So, how did you handle being on TV thus far for "Basketball Wives LA"?

You know what? I took "Basketball Wives" as almost being in the family room, meeting all the other new wives and like, starting over with new teams and meeting people. So like, me walking on the first season, I thought it was going to be like that. Like me walking into a new team and meeting other wives and you know, we'll kind of bond and we have similarities. We can share each other's stories and I figured that we all were working toward a goal of getting somewhere as women, as individuals, and be like a sisters' circle. But...it turned out not to be that.

What is it like being a basketball wife?

Being a basketball wife has its ups and downs. For the most part, I love it. I mean, it's written. It's my life; I wouldn't trade it in for the world. I don't really know what else to say.

Do you feel like you get judged being on a reality show, leading a life in the spotlight and being married to a basketball player?

I do. I think that people are going to form their opinions no matter what you do. I always told myself you're damned if you do, damned if you don't.

What would you say is one misconception about you from the TV show?

You know what? I'm very happy with the way I've been portrayed on the show because it's me. I am a very sweet and kind person, but everyone knows that if you piss me off, I turn into something totally different. So, I'm either a gift or a curse. I think that they were dead on accurate with who I am on the show. So, yes, I mind my business and they show that. Yes, I like for everyone to get along. But yes, if you disrespect me, then I'm going to pop off.



Body Paint



Photographer: Sultan Hasan (Facet Studios)
Artist: Ed The Artist (edtheartist)
Hair: Tea C. Penn

Camillalolindexter

Goes Hard in the Paint

By Michael Nguyen



Camilla Poindexter is the fireball that could. Many know her as the feisty, tough newcomer on season eight of the drama-filled "Bad Girls Club," but Poindexter is here to prove that she's more than just a girl who can throw down. Yes, her win-loss fighting record on BGC can make Floyd Mayweather proud, but the Long Beach, CA, actress/model—nicknamed "The Cali Cutthroat"—is slowly transforming her preconceived image and showing us her unedited, uncensored side. With new projects on the horizon such as a new reality show and print magazine features, we caught up with Poindexter to speak about her career goals, biggest obstacles, how losing a family member shaped her career, and much more.

BLACK MEN: What type of projects are you currently working on right now?

Camilla Poindexter: Right now, I'm currently working on a project that revolves around a reality show, but we can't really talk about it since everything is not put together as of now. It's one of those things that's under contract where we can't speak about it. It is in the projects and I'll be on Oxygen again for another "Bad Girls Club Top 10 Moments."

Are you still modeling?

Oh yeah. In April, I'll be featured in Black Lingerie and of course Black Men.

A lot of time has passed by since your appearance in "Bad Girls Club." How has appearing on that show helped your career moving forward?

It gave me a stepping stone as far as being able to host parties, and continue with modeling. I've always been modeling, doing runways, catalogues, print, and commercial, so this is a bit different than a reality show. It's made my life in the spotlight. [Laughs.] I can't do anything without people judging me on Instagram or Twitter.

The show also carried somewhat of a negative stigma, so did the backlash from that season ever catch on and affect your career in any way?

No. A lot of people saw me for who I am when I first came on the show. They saw that I was being picked on and they took it as me stepping up for myself as opposed to me being a bully. I think a lot of people respected me because a lot of the girls didn't like me and I handled myself accordingly.

What's your business side like?

My business side is very professional. I'm always on time. I try to maintain a professional matter at all times, and I'm an entrepreneur. I want to strive for my best and not let the negative things get out of control. **When you're on projects, do you ever get into disagreements and your**

feisty side comes out?

We all have disagreements, so things like that always happen, but as long as we can come together and make a decision at the end of the day, and do it in a timely manner so we can be successful and make our money. Life would be too easy if we walk through it without any problems. Everyone has disagreement, but you got to make sure you can come together with a solution at the end of the day.

Speaking of problems, what would you say has been your biggest obstacle or roadblock in your career?

For myself, when I first started off, it was how to balance my money. Like not spending on so much stuff and when you get a big check, you don't want to go spend it all. Balancing my money and making sure I save and invest in something so this 15 minutes—as they say—can turn into a lifetime.

Do you have a preference between modeling or acting?

Yes, right now I feel I have a passion for modeling. I'll always love it because that's what I've always done. Now I'm going into acting to challenge myself to learn lines and be perceived as that character on TV. I did a couple of roles before, but they weren't large roles. I want to find myself on sitcoms or series, or even have my own series and executive produce it.

What are some things that bring inspiration into your life?

My family inspires me. I get inspired by traveling because it helps me see different places and people. I like to mingle with people and have fun. I'm also inspired by my grandpa. Before he died, he taught me so much about how to be open, how to not be a girly girl, how to climb rocks, fish, and do boys stuff and have fun. He gave me that attitude. I looked up to him a lot. **How did his passing affect your career?**

At the time, I was only 15-years-old, so I didn't have a career, but it did

affect me in my life because that's someone I looked up to as a father figure. It really makes me sensitive when I talk about my grandpa so when you see me on "Bad Girls Club," you'll think I'm bad, but there's things in my life that I'm sensitive to as well. I'm not just some girl who likes to fight and I don't want to be known by that. I'm human and I go through problems, too. **What was artistically sexy about your shoot?**

My shoot was very sexy because they painted a bikini on me which had designs and looked exactly like a real bikini. People wouldn't even know it was body paint.

Was that the first time you've done a shoot with body paint?

I did do one with body paint with Ed Hardy.

Have you ever been shot nude before?

No. I've been shot semi-nude, but not really where I'm just showing it all.

Are you comfortable with nudity?

Yeah, I'm very comfortable. It's very different because I had to realize I was naked and I was taking a photo where I'm like, "Oh my God, everything is hanging out," even though everything is covered up. It's the weirdest thing ever. I think it's another form of being sexy and having another venture under your belt. I don't think of it as just being nude. It's like an illusion.

Did you feel naked though you were covered with adhesives or paint?

Yeah of course. Your nipples are hard. You just try to forget about it. I'm comfortable with my body so it's cool because it was a closed set with just friends around so I was okay with it.

How did this shoot make you feel?

Overall thoughts? I'm thankful Black Men magazine reached out and had me be a part of the magazine. I'm thankful to be in it and I thought it was great. We rocked it. It took awhile to get on the body paint, but when we did, everything flowed.



Body Paint

Sharri Jones

Destiny's Child

Article by Kathy Iandoli

MUA/Photos: Suliman Hasan Facet Studios
Hair: Blair Pena, Stylist: tsdagency.com
Film Shots: Aston www.ASTONishingPhotos.com
MUA: Dassel, Hair: Blair Pena

Hollywood is tough, and nobody knows that better than Sharri Jones. The Texas native first got her start in the modeling world before making the migration to film. Once in the film/TV world, Sharri noticed that many Black female actors were being pigeonholed into roles. In fact, Black Hollywood recycled the same cast of women, rarely diverting from that formula. She decided to manifest her own destiny and create her own films. She started her production company Lionstale Productions and with it comes her feature film *While the Cat's Away*. Initially, Jones started this company to create roles for herself. However, she had a knack for placing other actors into roles and discovered a hidden talent as a producer. As she makes her way through Hollywood, she discusses her journey and where it might take her next.

BLACK MEN: You wear many hats in this business.

Sharri Jones: Yes! I am a model first, turned actress. I still model every now and again, but now that I'm producing, that's been kind of my main thing. I haven't been taking too many gigs lately just because I'm trying to get this second film up and going.

How did your career path take so many turns?

I've been modeling for years, and then I just wasn't fulfilled. I felt like I needed more, so I started acting. It got to a point where two of my films came on BET the end of last year. Well, one was BET and one was ASPIRE TV, which is Magic Johnson's network. So, I'm thinking things are going good, but then it's like an up and down. Like, I'll get a TV series—I got a series for Investigation Discovery—and then it ended up getting cancelled. So, I'll get these really good opportunities and then something falls through and I'm like, "I'm right back at square one!" Even though I have all this great stuff on my reel and all these great credits on IMDB, it's like, always waiting for that next job and it kills me! So I figured I needed to start making my own films, because I got tired of auditioning for Black films that I knew weren't really going to book me. As you know, Black Hollywood mainly kind of reuses the same actors. I woke up one day



and I'm like okay, let me find a writer. Let me see what writers are out there that can kind of give me something great to start off with.

Do you feel like there's a stigma attached to being a model and trying to move into Hollywood?

Yes. I do not market myself as a model in any way for that reason, because I don't feel like they're taken seriously enough. There are so many models who say they act and they can't really act. It also doesn't even help that you're attractive half the time because that also kind of goes against you. It's the same as being put in the model category because people just assume, "Okay, it's a pretty face. She's good at that, but what else is she good at?" So it's a big stigma. I don't like to refer to myself as a model. I do keep things separate; a lot of my agencies are even separate. I have my TV/film agencies that are completely separate from my high-fashion agencies for that reason. I don't even want it to mix.

What can you tell us about *While the Cat's Away*?

It's very *40-Year-Old Virgin*, but as you know, films like that, they rarely ever have too many African-American roles. I was able to incorporate a role for myself and another Black actor, but still have something that's funny and that's diverse and that everyone would love. Then I also have my action film, which I'm still getting things together for. It's very *Colombiana* in a way, but once again, I'm giving myself a role like that, but still make it a diverse enough cast where any and everyone will be entertained by it for the most part.

Is it hard to switch gears and switch your hats so to speak?

It wasn't hard to switch into producing, because I've been on so many sets that I kind of know what everything entails. But it's hard to go back to an audition. My agent just called me for an audition for "Army Wives." I just got the call last night, they needed to have me on camera by 12 o'clock today. Any other time I'd be like, "Oh my God, yes!" I'm gonna jump for it. But I mean, my film is so much more important than this "Army Wives" audition, so I do notice that it's harder for me to jump back in that direction, as much as I want to. I feel like my passion is more so toward producing now. Even modeling, it's kind of hard now with the shoots. I used to be so excited about like "Rip The Runway" and about all these different photo shoots, but now I'm just like, "Oh, you know. It's cool." I don't know, it's a whole different feeling.

As long as it keeps you fulfilled.

You know what's funny? When I knew that I was more passionate about producing was when I originally picked this script because I saw myself as the lead. I knew okay, I'm going to put myself in the title role as the lead actress. Of course, I'm financing it, perfect. Then when I started auditioning actors, there was this one actress Tiffany that was absolutely amazing! The role that she was auditioning for, I don't even think that it fulfilled her talent. I saw her doing my role better than me, and I want my film to be good. So, I had to call her agent and send them the full script and say, "Hey, I really want Tiffany as my lead." And we were able to make it happen, but that's how I knew that acting was less important. Because any actor who's financing a film would give themselves the lead role without a question. I literally gave myself the cameo role at the end of the film, because I wanted my film to be good and I wanted to produce a better project. So that's how I knew, okay, producing might just be my thing.

Is there any other field in entertainment that you want to tackle?

I think this is it for now. I don't know if I'm ready for directing. I more so just like to be in control of the project overall. It's funny, two of my agencies didn't even know I was producing films, and they sent their actors to my project.



WHILE THE CAT'S AWAY

TIFFANY HODGES

SHARRI JONES

Just when you thought things couldn't get any worse...

LIONSTALE PRODUCTIONS & TSD PRESENTS A LIONSTALE & MELVIN JAMES FILM "WHILE THE CAT'S AWAY"
TIFFANY HODGES SHARRI JONES ANDREA KFOURY ROMAN JOHNSON SEAN KLEIER & MARTIN HARVEY
WRITTEN BY SANURA HARRIS EDITED BY TREY HALEY/TRIDESTINED STUDIOS PRODUCTION DESIGNER NELCIE SOUFFRANT DIRECTOR OF PHOTOGRAPHY MICHAEL CLEVINGER
EXECUTIVE PRODUCERS MARCUS BLASSINGAME PRODUCED BY SHARRI JONES SCREENPLAY BY JAMES PICKERING DIRECTED BY MELVIN JAMES

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Some material may be inappropriate for children under 13

DOLBY DIGITAL

Tamara Jay

Photographer: Suliman Hasan (Facet Studios)

Artist: Ed The Artist @edtheartist

MUA: Facet Studios

Hair: Self

BODY PAINT: @edtheartist

Stylist: tsdagency.com

Name: Tamara J. Guillory
Nickname: Tamara Jay
Hometown: Sacramento, CA
Born: Sacramento, CA
Raised: Sacramento, CA/Houston, TX
Zodiac: Aries
Bust: 34B
Waist: 25
Hip: 38



Body Paint

Resume

Magazine: *Black Men* is my very first magazine.

Do you host events?

Yes.

Web

Twitter: @Tamara_Jay
Instagram: @TamaraJay
Facebook: Search "Tamara Guillory"

What was artistically sexy about your shoot?

The freedom of expression without classic restriction—yet classy and sexy.

Have you ever been shot nude before?

No, I have not.

Are you comfortable with nudity?

Full on bare it all to the camera nudity, no. Tastefully captured maybe covering the breast with my arm type nudity, yes.

Did you feel naked though you were covered with adhesives or paint?

I actually forgot I was naked many times.

How did this shoot make you feel?

Confident.

Ultimate Goals

My ultimate goal is to include a Tamara Jay brand, from modeling to television, business ownership and charity.

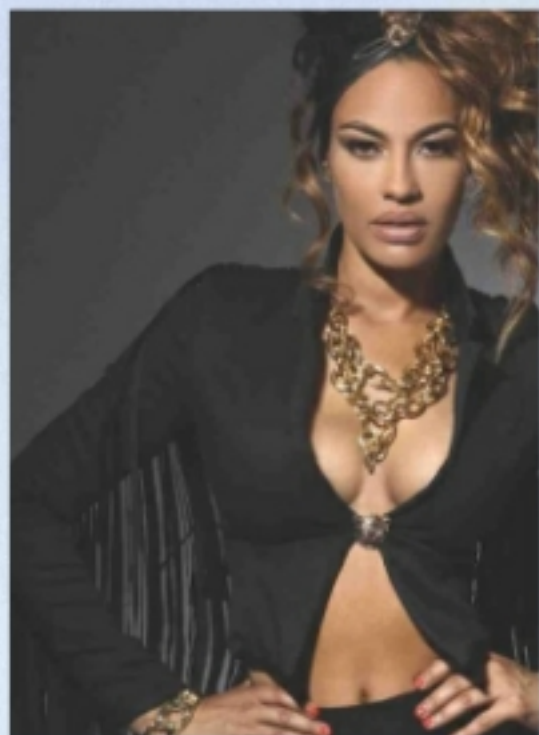


Body Paint



Body Paint





Photographer: Suliman Hasan (Facet Studios)
Studio: True Sound Lounge Bronx NY
MUA: Felicia La Tour - ehenryiv@gmail.com
Hair: Andrea Jones @al_hair
Stylist: Scooter Stylist LA

Adrianne Michelle

Hot for Haute! Making Waves, One Head at a Time By Dove "Sheepish Lordess of Chaos"

As a hair stylist to the stars, Adrianne Michelle has always been on the cutting edge (pardon the pun) of the latest looks. With a mean work ethic, quick thinking and creativity working in her favor, Adrianne has been able to take her Haute Headz brand to new heights with a line of hair extensions and stunning, goddess-like headwear. In less than a year, Adrianne's Haute Headz Chainz have been featured prominently on model, Draya Michele, of VH1's "Basketball Wives LA" and the demand is often more than she can keep up with, since each piece is crafted by hand.

As Adrianne tells *Black Men*, she came up with the idea for Haute Headz Chainz after an impromptu styling move at a photo shoot.

"I was actually doing a photo shoot for a jewelry line and I had an H&M bracelet in my bag," Adrianne explains. "I put it around one of the model's heads. When the pictures came out it just looked beautiful, and most people were looking at the headpiece rather than the earrings that the photo shoot was initially for. I went to downtown Los Angeles with like \$100, literally, and bought a bunch of different chains, went back with my friend, and we just started getting creative."

Soon after, Adrianne had her friend and client, Draya, wearing the looks, as well as Rosa Acosta; and the demand for products was immediate. While Haute Headz business is picking up online, Adrianne has also been able to place her unique pieces in Toya Wright's store in New Orleans and The Chic Little Devil Style House in Los Angeles.

As her business booms, will we see Adrianne branching out into a full-scale clothing line?

"No, because I'm a big believer of staying in my lane," she explains. "Ideally would love Haute Headz to be an overall hair product line, accessories—like a one-stop shop. I just look at it as a one-stop shop for females - Black, White, Asian, doesn't matter - to come get your hair accessories. We have kids' accessories, we have hair. I feel like sky is the limit when it comes to the hair industry."

Adrianne has already made three custom wedding headpieces, and can foresee branching out in that area as well. She will be opening pop-up shops throughout the U.S. in coming months, and is planning collaborations with some jewelry lines like The Rich Girlz, Mesa and LoveMuse. If too much work is a problem, then it's the best problem Adrianne can ask for!

"I have gotten a lot of offers, it's just at this point people want to pay pennies for product that I am actually hand-making myself, so sometimes it's not beneficial. If it's going to happen it's going to happen. How it's going to happen? I don't know, but right now, it's working for me."

Name: Shereen Murphy
Nickname: Reen
Hometown: Philadelphia, PA
Born: Philadelphia, PA
Zodiac: Taurus
Sizes: Small, Size 6 Dress and Pants
Bust: 34
Waist: 25
Hip: 42

Resume
McKinzie Chic Fashion Model, Special Events Hostess, Charities,
Fundraisers, Music and Entertainment

Web
Twitter: @Forever_Reen
of followers: 335 Followers
Instagram: @_Reen_1
of followers: 7270 Followers
Facebook: facebook.com/Forever-Reen



Body Paint

Photographer: Suliman Hasan (Facet Studios)
Studio: True Sound Lounge Bronx NY
BODY PAINT: @edtheartist
MUA: Felicia La Tour -ehenryiv@gmail.com
Hair: Tisa C. Penn
Stylist: Scooter Stylist LA

Shereen Murphy



What was artistically sexy about your shoot?

The fact that I was completely nude and covered in body paint was super sexy and artsy. The illusion that I was laced in lingerie was enticing and the body art emphasized some of the sexiest and intriguing parts of my body. Also, the poses and angles that I used for this shoot look like a work of art.

Have you ever been shot nude before?

No.

Are you comfortable with nudity?

Yes.

Did you feel naked though you were covered with adhesives or paint?

Yes.

How did this shoot make you feel?

The shoot was amazing—it made me feel sexy. I was very comfortable. It made me feel confident. I felt powerful. It just brought out the sexy in me.

Ultimate Goals

My ultimate goal is to continue modeling and work in the entertainment industry. I want to be on the cover of *Black Men* magazine, and I would also like to be the face of a lot of respectable and popular mainstream magazines.

Game plan: My game plan is to work hard, and then, work harder. I'm going to stay focused, be patient and remain humble. I plan to do as many photo shoots as possible. I want to be featured in every other issue of *Black Men* until I make the cover. I am going to keep putting myself out there by attending more industry events and increasing my social media reach. I want to be at the top of the model Google search.

Accomplishment: My biggest accomplishment is that I'm featured in *Black Men* magazine. That's a major accomplishment.

Marketing Tools

Email: foreverreen@gmail.com



Sharri Jones

Photographer: Sullivan Hasan (Facet Studios)
Studio: True Sound Lounge Bronx NY
MUA: Facet Studios
Hair: Blair Pene
Stylist: tedagency.com

Name: Sharri Ana Natalia
Born/Raised: San Antonio, TX
Residing: NY/NJ
Zodiac: Leo
Height: 5'9.5
Sizes: 2
Bust: 34
Waist: 25
Hip: 36

Resume
Training: Stella Adler
Conservatory, Susan
Batson Studio,
Marishka Phillips
Theatrical Preparatory,
Tony Greco, etc.
Magazine: *Today's
Black Women, Black
Men, Jett*
Commercial/Ad:
RichGirlz, Sprint,
Alenver, EyeMasters,
Corona, Maxim
Film/TV: *He's Mine, Not
Yours* (BET
Networks/Swirl Films),
"Father's Day" (ASPIRE
TV), *POTNAH* (Best Film
Poconos Film Fest),
Married a Mobster
(Discovery ID), *The Club*
(Black Noise Media),
Still A Teen (Melvin
James Filmworks)
Minds of Men
(ModyMod Productions)
Runway: BET RIP THE
RUNWAY, Roberto
Cavalli, G-Star, Nicole
Miller, ETC

Do you host events?
Yes; mostly in Texas
and New York markets.

Web
Website: www.sharri-jones.com
Twitter: @Sharrijones
Instagram:
@Sharrijones
Followers 4k+
Facebook: Search
"Sharrijones"
Model Mayhem: Search
"Sharri Jones"



What was artistically sexy about your shoot?
I loved the simple shot with the leopard faux. It shows that you should be comfortable in the skin that you're in. It was very to the point no jewelry or accessories nothing to distract you from my long legs.

Have you ever been shot nude before?
Yes, it was an art piece sold to Louis Vuitton. I did an artistic nude shoot for well-known artist Vanessa Beecroft. We had to shape ourselves into the alphabets. I happened to be the "V."

Are you comfortable with nudity?

Yes; very.

Did you feel naked though you were covered with adhesives or paint?

I did not get to do body paint on this shoot, however, I've done it in the past and it's fine.

How did this shoot make you feel?

It felt great to be able to express myself. I love showing my body, but lately with the route my career is going, it's really hard for me to even do swimwear shoots like I used to.

Ultimate Goals

Since starting my production company, I have drifted further from acting and more into producing. I want to make movies that entertain, enlighten and keep you wanting more.

Game Plan: My game plan has never been more simple. I just have to stay in route and on track with exactly what I'm doing now.

Accomplishment: I'm in post-production of my first short and in pre-production for my next full-length feature film.

Marketing Tools

Agency: TSD

Contact: tsdagency@gmail.com

Website: www.tsdagency.com

Fan Site: www.sharrijones.com

Email: bookings@sharrijones.com





Photographer: Suliman Hasan (Facet Studios)
Studio: True Sound Lounge Bronx NY
MUA: Facet Studios
Hair: Blair Pena
Swimwear: @lilanikole
Stylist: tsdagency.com

Vanessa Banket

Name: Vanessa Banket
Nickname: Bonnie
Born/Raised: New York, NY
Zodiac: Aries
Bust: 34
Waist: 26
Hip: 42

Resume

Video: I was in a video for Jim Jones,
Fred Da Godson and French
Montana.

Web

Twitter: @Bonniv
of followers: 7684 Followers
Instagram: @Bonniv
of followers: 5300 Followers



What was artistically
sexy about your shoot?
I got to shoot with bikes
and still look sexy at the
same damn time.

Have you ever been shot
nude before?

Never shot nude.

Are you comfortable with
nudity?

Yes.

Did you feel naked
though you were covered
with adhesives or paint?

No.

How did this shoot make
you feel?

I felt sexy and classy.





It's a Family Affair

By Kathy Iandoli

When husband and wife entrepreneurial duo, Suga J and Nessa, decided to start their respective companies – Member's Club apparel and Rich Girlz jewelry – it was with the intent to develop small businesses that would yield big results. Suga J, an industry veteran as part of Rap outfit Harlem World, solidified his contacts in the game and used them to support his brand. His wife, Nessa, became a fashion staple in the reality TV world, lending her styles to a number of stars from the VH1 series "Love & Hip-Hop." The power couple checks in with *Black Men*, elaborating on their businesses and how they function as a unit.

BLACK MEN: What can you tell us about each of your companies?

Nessa: Well, Rich Girlz has been out for about three years. It's a jewelry company based on girl power. We usually network with other girls that have t-shirt lines and makeup and all kinds of women in business. So what we do is we have a blog and we shout them out on Instagram, Twitter and all social networks, and they usually get sales. It's a good way to promote each other.

Suga J: Members Club Clothing is a high-end clothing line, exclusively sold online. We actually launched in September of 2012, and within the last six or seven months, it exploded. We got all the celebrity branding, got all the top models, athletes—everybody in the industry. They're loving it right now. We only have a few pieces made in each design and after that design we offer a new print. So, you'll never see the same print for over a month. Everybody wants something that they can't get, and when you can't get it, it's more exclusive and more in demand. So I just felt that was something missing in the clothing business. Personally, I don't want something everybody else has and I know a lot of people that are like that. So it'll be more in demand when the next piece comes out.

Who are some of the celebrities that have worn your clothing?

Suga J: Well, right now we have the Super Bowl champs from the Baltimore

Ravens, Brian McKinney, wearing it, super Grammy award winner, Rico Love, is actually wearing it, and Joe Budden from "Love & Hip-Hop." We have Floyd Mayweather, we have Draya from "Basketball Wives: LA." She's worn it throughout the show. We have Fabolous supporting us. So, we have a great list of clientele and we're definitely blessed and thankful for it.

Nessa you've had any familiar faces supporting the Girl Power as well.

Nessa: Yeah, we started with Draya, and then we got Kimbella from "Love & Hip-Hop," "Basketball Wives: LA." We have Kyra—who's a top model from all the videos. Cassie, Coco wore them on "Ice Loves Coco." We have it like, all over the place.

How did the two of you decide to start these businesses?

Suga J: We've always been motivated to expand brands. Actually, Rich Girlz happened to launch first. [Nessa] has been a social networking sensation. She started off doing blogs on YouTube. She had millions of hits, millions of fans so basically she just tried to figure out how she's going to capitalize off it and turn it into money. And she always loved jewelry so she said, "I'm going to start my own jewelry line. I'll start an accessory line. I've been collecting accessories for so long..." She was kind of the first one to launch an accessory line. As for myself, I've always been into fashion. I've been doing it for so long, and then so many stylists and so many designers started running with some of my clothing lines that I'd been doing, as far as personally custom work I'd been doing for myself. I said: "Well, you know what, I gotta put a tag behind it." Every time I would step it, I'd get, "Where did you get that from? Where's that from?" So, I decided basically it's time for me to start my own line and it's coming together as it's moving. We look at it more as the modern Russell Simmons and Kimora Lee. It's a new day and time. But it's not easy.

So you're a new school power couple?

Suga J: Yeah, and that's what people love. They're loving the lifestyle. That's the truth, we're not even painting it. It's something that we're living and we're not afraid to show it. It's possible basically. You can do it.

For more information, check out MembersClubClothing.com and ItsRichGirlz.com.



76 BLACK MEN



BLACKMEN 77

Photographer: Jose Guerra
Theme: Jabari Foster (www.dynastyseries.com)
Artist: Ed The Artist @edtheartist
Stylist: Marcus Blassingame
MUA: Dassi Dash, Lia Cha
Hair: Blair Pena NJ, Aridio NYC



Originally featured and created by the masterminds behind DynastySeries.com, the "Nurses of Death" pictorial has made its rounds on the Internet, captivating viewers across the globe. The brainchild behind the stunning project, Jabari Foster, launched DynastySeries.com in 2008 to serve as a behind the scenes DVD series covering the lives of industry models on- and off-camera.

The website quickly took off, becoming one of the main online sources for model content. Today, DynastySeries.com is known for exclusive photo and video series featuring some of the hottest, curvaceous mamacitas in the industry.

In an attempt to come up with a Halloween-themed series, Foster threw around a bunch of different ideas. The plan was to create something that had sex appeal, but didn't come off as hokey.

"I came across a poster for a movie titled *Nurses 3D*, and figured that the creators of this film could be on to something," Foster tells us. While our shoot featured the very beautiful Brittany Dailey, Gracie and Sophia Marie as the dark, first aid seductresses, the original "Nurses of Death" pictorial featured Gracie, Model Bubbles, Jennifer Skye, Laeann Amos, Erica Mena, Maliah Michel and Bernice Burgos—which was shot by Frank D. Photo and Jose Guerra, who shot the *Black Men* spread as well.

When asked how he thinks the project came out, Foster excitedly stated, "It turned out better than expected." We couldn't agree more.

Name: Sophia Marie
Nickname: Soph
Hometown: Brooklyn, NY
Born: New York, NY
Raised: Brooklyn, NY
Zodiac: Scorpio
Sizes: 2-4
Bust: 34D
Waist: 25
Hip: 37

Resume

Magazine: XXL 2012 Eye Candy of the Year, XXL March 2012 Eye Candy King Magazine, Maxim Magazine - April 2013, Hip Hop Weekly Swimsuit Edition, Smooth Magazine
Video: Rick Ross, Drake, Wale - "Diced Pineapples" - Featured Talent, B.O.B. - "So Good" - Featured Talent, Big Sean ft. Nicki Minaj - "Dance (Ass) Remix", The Dream - "Long Gone", Fat Joe ft. Trey Songz - "If It Ain't About Money", Lloyd Banks - "Beamer, Benz, or Bentley", Drake - "Best I Ever Had", Serani - "No Games", John Legend - "Save Room"
TV: 106 & Park: Man Cave Referee
Commercial: So Kodak Commercial featuring Drake
Video Game: Fighting character "Graffiti Playmate" (Release date - 2013)

Do you host events?
Yes!

Web

Twitter:
@IAMSophiaMarie
Followers: 27,230
Instagram:
@MsSophiaMarie
Followers: 20,810



Instagram-Graciii3
Twitter-IamGraciii3

The Bartender turned model Gracie lives in NYC and bartends out of a gentlemen's club that she holds in high regards called *Starlets*. She hadn't done much modeling outside of shooting with a few local photographers and finally with Jose Guerra for the original version on "Nurses Of Death" for Jabari Foster's *Dynastyseries.com*, which is the only spread that truly earned her recognition.

Rumored to appear on the new season of Nick Cannon's *Wildin' Out*, Gracie is off to a great start with the help of the great people in the industry that are helping her out. From my observation, her package is more visual which is great but not much excitement in character. It will be awesome if she begins to open up more because she does have a great look for acting.

Featured in a few music videos, and rumored to be filming a pilot for a new show about bartenders, Gracie's mainstream debut happens to be right here, *BlackMenMag*, butcher knives and all.

Booking:
TSD Agency

Contact:
tsdgottalent@gmail.com



BLACK MEN: You mentioned a couple of models, including Erica Mena and Maliah Michele, and said that they were the original nurses. How many of the Nurses of Death pictorials have you done since you began?

Jabari Foster: The original Nurses of Death included seven models. Our feature for *Black Men Magazine* is our first time bringing it back since then.

How did the collab with *Black Men* mag come about?

Marcus [Blassingame] and I were talking about an upcoming issue of *Black Men* that he wanted to be more art-inspired. As we were throwing around ideas, he asked if I'd be interested in bringing Nurses of Death to *Black Men* for a feature. I was all for it as long as we were able to figure out a way to elevate it from the original version, and I think we accomplished that.

Who chose the models for the *Black Men* pictorial?

Gracie was a member of the original cast, and having never appeared in *Black Men*, Marcus was definitely interested in having her involved. Marcus and I have both known Brittany for years—and with her and Gracie having an upcoming television project coming soon—they were the perfect match. Sophia is an extremely gorgeous, talented model, and I had always wanted her in the original cast. I knew she'd have a great time getting into character.

Do you have plans of working on another themed series in the coming year? If so, what do you have in mind?

If everything goes as planned, we'll have completed our next series titled "Chains" from photographer, Jose Guerra, and will be working on part two of



The Honey Series with Frank D Photo, which has been our most popular series to date, "The Greatest Show on Earth" with IEC Studios, and also a new fitness series.

Where would our female readers find those spicy nurse costumes if they wish to play dress up with their friends? Were they custom made?

I happened to find the first few of them on Adult Lingerie Stores online, but options started to dwindle pretty fast. Many times costumes are one size fits all, which means it won't fit anyone. We ended up having to get a few custom made.

How can other models link up with you to participate in your next themed series?

Models interested in appearing in a series can reach out to us anytime through *DynastySeries.com*. You don't have to be extremely popular, have an extensive resume, or even have worked with us before. More than anything else, we are looking for models that can excel when the lights come on. We only have room for the best of the best. We don't believe in being average.



What was artistically sexy about your shoot?

As a reader, before looking at the model, you will still try to digest how ill the wardrobe and creative direction of the shoot. You can have 100 dope chicks, but not many can pull this off. Still much is left to the imagination. What was so dope about the shoot is Marcus' styling and artistry. Not often can you put sex and paint together without it being deemed as trashy. This shoot was the epitome of sexy with a touch of edge. At some point, every woman has dressed up as a nurse in the bedroom. We are taking fantasy to a whole other level with Nurses of Death.

Have you ever been shot nude before?

No. Not interested. The fans love you more when you keep them guessing.

Are you comfortable with nudity?



It depends on how it is shot. When I think "classic nudity," I think of an implied Calvin Klein advertisement. People today think nudity is busting it wide open. Implied is so dope when done in a fashionable, artistic way.

Did you feel naked though you were covered with adhesives or paint?

I wore a bikini with artificial blood on my body. The paint adds to the costume. You feel all the more sexy with that top layer of paint. You can do nothing more, but own your role, and I was Nurse Marie. [Smiles]

How did this shoot make you feel?

It was odd at first. Marcus was tying belts around my face. I thought it was going to be S&M gone wrong. When I saw his vision through the camera I knew I had to live it. I've never seen anything like it before. I definitely feel as if I am part of a new movement.

Ultimate Goals, Game Plan, Accomplishments

I want to star in comedic series. Beauty is great, yes, but expressing your sense of humor will keep your audience. I'm the girl next door who loves to laugh. Laughing is so healthy. I admire Sofia Vergara. She was once a bikini model who is now a spokesmodel and actress. I want to build my own lane just like she did. I'm currently taking acting classes. I'm a regional manager for a billion dollar company, model for videos and magazines, and cook every chance I get. No days off! I will be that successful model/actress that earns her spot.













THE BLACK TAPE PROJECT Ange Davis

Photographer Courage (20/20 Photography)
Tape: Bobbystylez (Inspired by Black Tape Project)
Makeup and hair: SEDRIC LANARD @sedriclanard

Diced Pineapple CAKE!!!

Featured in MMG's (Rick Ross's band) video for Diced Pineapples and rapper Fabolous Slow It Down, the New Orleans LA native first submitted to TSD Agency 3 years ago and is climbing the talent ladder of success. Here she is, curves bursting through black electrical tape and not seeming to care if it hurts when you pull it off...



Name: Angel Davis
Nickname: My family calls me Angel Cakes.
Hometown: New Orleans, LA
Raised: New Orleans and Detroit
Zodiac: Scorpio
Bust: 34 DD
Waist: 24
Hip: 41

Web

Twitter: @iloveangel2

Instagram: @iloveangel2

What was artistically sexy about your shoot?

Me wearing tape, of course.

[Laughs.] My curvaceous body with black tape on it in the shape of an outfit.

Have you ever been shot nude before?

No, never shot nude before.

Are you comfortable with nudity?

Only in the privacy of my home.

Did you feel naked though you were covered with adhesives?

No. Why would I feel naked if I'm covered in tape?

How did this shoot make you feel?

This shoot was amazing. It was a very sexy shoot, and the behind the scenes was awesome. The Black Tape Project is a strong movement. It takes true talent to turn black tape into a amazing art. You definitely need the right model to bring it to life, and if I must say, I pulled it off perfectly. [Laughs.] I also want to say thanks to 2020 photography and the glam team.

Booking Contact:

TSDAGENCY.com

Tsdgottalent@gmail.com



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DEEPER THAN INK BG AKA Britanie Girard

Zodiac: Libra

Set: California

Fame: JR Smith Former Girlfriend

Height: 5'9

Bust: 34B

Waist: 24

Hip: 33

Deeper Than Ink is a lifestyle brand created by the self-proclaimed "Queen Of Ink" Britanie Girard—who herself has nearly over 200 tattoos which almost covers her sexy frame as much as a body suit. This Cali girl is a tat artist and Ink-Model appearing in such publications as *Urban Ink*, *Rebel Ink* and *Black Men's Ink Candy*.

Her art is expressed by her obvious presence and living canvas of body art that she proudly wears from dusk till dawn.



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Bambi

Body Paint

Name: Bambi
Nickname: Bam, BamBam, The Bam, OG Bambi Johnson
Hometown: Compton, CA
Raised: Compton, CA
Zodiac: Pisces
Bust: 34
Waist: 28
Hips: 44

Resume

Magazine: *Essence*, *Makin' It*, *Straight Stuntin*
Reality: "Basketball Wives: LA" season 2

Do you host events?
Yes

Web

Website: www.AdizBambi.com
Twitter: @Adizbambi
Instagram: @AdizBambi
Facebook: [Facebook.com/AdizBambi](https://www.facebook.com/AdizBambi)

Photographer: Courage (20/20 Photography)
Paint: Ed The Artist @theartistEd
MUA: @Yayabeatsface



Body Paint



What was artistically sexy about your shoot?

A nude body as a canvas is as artistically sexy as it gets.

Have u ever been shot nude before?

I was body painted last year for my "Look At Yo Body" music video. That was the closest to nude I've been.

Did you feel naked though you were covered in paint?

It was a little uncomfortable initially, but the first coat is latex so it's like you have on a rubber suit. The way the latex grabs your body makes it more comfortable, so I didn't feel completely nude at that point.

How did this shoot make you feel?

It made me feel confident and sexy. That's all me. What you see is what you get. No garments to hide behind so you have to be creative.

Ultimate Goal

Expand the Lipstick Gang movement and create more opportunities for women in entertainment.

Game Plan: Never turn down!

Contact

Bambibooking@gmail.com

www.AdizBambi.com

Kelsey Adams

Photographer Courage
(20/20 Photography)
Paint: Ed The Artist
@THEARTISTED

Body Paint

Name: Kelsey Adams
Hometown: Richmond, VA
Born: Richmond, VA
Raised: Colonial Heights/Dinwiddie, VA
Zodiac: Libra
Bust: 32
Waist: 23
Hip: 38

Resume

Training: Competition Cheerleading, Hip Hop Dancing, Background Dancing

Magazine: Smooth Magazine: *Live from Jamaica*, *Black Men*

Magazine: Book of Curves

Video: Fall Out Boy – "Light Em Up," Chris Brown – "Sweet Love,"

Red Cafe & Young Jeezy – "Champagne for the Pain"

Film/TV: "Temptation: Confessions of a Marriage Counselor," "The Game," "Single Ladies," "The Collection," "Joyful Noise"

Runway: NAACP 100 Year Anniversary Fashion Show

Do you host events?

Yes, I certainly do.





Web
Twitter: @KoolKelsey
of followers: 10k
Instagram: @KoolKelsey
of followers: 15k
Facebook: Search "Kelsey Adams"
Model
Mayhem: modelmayhem.com/1521318

What was artistically sexy about your shoot?

It doesn't get any more sexy than naked.

Have you ever been shot nude before?

I have, but it's always been implied.

Are you comfortable with nudity?

I actually am comfortable with nudity, especially when it's something artistic and I'm working with upstanding people.

Did you feel naked though you were covered with adhesives or paint?

Yes. There was no latex in the paint, so really it's all gold skin. It felt like I had no paint on at all.

How did this shoot make you feel?

I loved this shoot. I've wanted to do metallic paint in photos for a while. I don't speak much on myself, but I must say, I rocked this one.

Ultimate Goals

I'm most passionate about acting and films. Beyond that, I want to help people—especially children. **Game Plan:** It's not just about knowing your strengths and weaknesses, but accurately assessing yourself is far more important. With that being said, I build on the talents I'm great and excel in other areas simultaneously.

Marketing Tools

Agent: Arthur Donaldson

Contact:

Arthur@ArabelleModeling.com

Website: ArabelleModeling.com



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THE
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Erica Dixon

The Real Deal

Photographer: Courage (20/20 Photography)
Tape: Bobbystylez (inspired by Black Tape Project)
Makeup & Hair: SEDRIC LANARD @sedriclanard

Article by Michael Nguyen

Motherhood, relationships, drama, reality television, the media—they're all crucial elements that dominate the daily life of "Love & Hip-Hop: Atlanta" cast member, Erica Dixon. Dixon, the Atlanta-born, and Hempstead, NY-raised reality star worked the majority of her early career at a doctor's office while raising hers and rapper Lil Scrappy's daughter, Emani. However, her heart just wasn't into serving time at the office. Dixon wanted to shine as a model/actor and joined the cast of "Love & Hip-Hop: Atlanta" where she finally broke through and established herself as one of the realest cast members—not shying away from her thoughts towards the other members, while standing by her rock-hard moral beliefs and faith.



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While Dixon is no stranger to the public eye, she prefers—like damn-near every other celebrity minus a couple or so names—her own privacy for her family. Rumors of on again, off again relationship issues with Lil Scrappy, engagement allegations, scandals and the whole nine yards are written about her through gossip sites and blogs are brought to her attention almost on the daily, but Dixon still finds a way to ignore it all and focus on the one thing keeping her spirits up: Emani.

She was raising her daughter and juggling two jobs to prove to everyone that Emani can have the mother that Dixon never had. Dixon's mother's drug addiction forced the two to go their separate ways and it allowed her aunt and uncle to raise her while growing up in Hempstead.

Now, Dixon is more focused than ever on expanding her brand as a reality TV personality, businesswoman, and of course, being the number one fan for Emani. Her strong—and blind—faith was what got her to where she is now, and she plans on carrying that mindset as she embarks on a new cosmetic line and jewelry partnership. Also, with season two of "Love & Hip-Hop: Atlanta" confirmed, we can only expect more of the good, bad and wild coming from Dixon and company. Gear up, 'cause this will be a good one.

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Kandace ^{and} Leeanne

Body Paint

Photographer: Courage (20/20 Photography)
MUA: yayabeatsface
Paint Inspiration: @edtheartist and 2020photography





Name: Kandice King
Nickname: Kan
Hometown: Atlanta, GA
Born: New Orleans, LA
Raised: New Orleans/Atlanta
Zodiac: Libra
Bust: 32B
Waist: 23
Hip: 36

Resume

Magazine: This is my first magazine feature!
Runway: I have done lots of runway shows.

Do you host events?

I'm def open to it!

What was artistically sexy about your shoot?

I loved the theme and how I looked robotic and real at the same time. I loved the paint—it shows all of my curves so well.

Have you ever been shot nude before?

Yes.

Are you comfortable with nudity?

Of course I am—I was born nude. *[Grins]*

Did you feel naked though you were covered with adhesives or paint?

It felt like a second layer of skin, but I still felt naked.

How did this shoot make you feel?

Sexy. Uninhibited. Fun. I want to learn how to play football for real now.

Ultimate Goals

I want to continue establishing my brand and be very successful in all my endeavors!

Game Plan: I can't give away all my secrets. Stay tuned!

Accomplishment: Graduating with my bachelor's degree in psychology!

Marketing Tools

Email: bookingmissking@gmail.com



Body Paint



Name: Leeanne Burrell
Nickname: Lee
Hometown: Philadelphia, PA
Zodiac: Virgo
Bust: 34
Waist: 27
Hip: 37

Resume

Training: Run way and make up classes.
Magazine: *Mami* magazine.

Do you host events?

I do host events. I also, do runway and print ad work, as well as videos.

Web

Twitter: @Belee_that
Followers 236
Instagram: @Belee_that
Followers 485
Facebook: Search "Leeanne Burrell"

What was artistically sexy about your shoot?

Having the metallic paint on my body defined all the curves but gave it an abstract appeal of art. It makes you focus on the body but also the shadows and poses that are created.

Have you ever been shot nude before?

Yes, this was my third nude shoot. Are you comfortable with nudity? Yes.

Did you feel naked though you were covered with adhesives or paint?

I almost forgot I was naked once the paint was on. I went straight into work mode.

How did this shoot make you feel?

This shoot made me feel great helping females understand that you should be comfortable and sexy in your own skin. I was so excited to do it and see the photos—it's something different to have in my portfolio and something I am very proud of.

Ultimate Goals

I plan on finishing school and graduating with my fashion marketing and market degree. Also, I want to become a mainstream model in the industry and produce my own shoe lines.

Game Plan: Graduating from school, but still working to become a known face in the modeling world.

Accomplishment: Having one of my pieces in Charlotte, NC fashion week and being featured in this magazine.

Marketing Tools

Email: LeeanneB917@gmail.com



Body Paint



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(C. Clark Photos)
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Inspired By Black Tape Project
MUA: @lovejenmakeup
Hair: @lovejenmakeup
Stylist and Tape: Bobbystylez Inspired
by Black Tape Project
Body Paint: @edtheartist
MUA: @yayabeatsface
Hair: @yayabeatsface

Alana Noel

Name: Alana Noel
Nickname: Bag of Money
Born/Raised: Atlanta, GA
Zodiac: Libra
Bust: 32DD
Waist: 23
Hip: 38

Resume

I have dabbled in a little of it everything, with the exception of reality. Everyone says I should get a reality show, though. [Laughs.] My life is a lot different than what people would expect.

Do you host events?

Of course! Cut the check!

Web

Twitter: @iamAlanaNoel

of followers: 2000

Instagram: @iamAlanaNoel

of followers: 20k

Facebook:

Facebook.com/AlanaByars

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THE
BLACK
TAPE
PROJECT



What was artistically sexy about your shoot?

Everything! My team really came together to bring the best out of these shoots. C.Clark, Jennifer, Bobby and Ed are all so amazingly artistic. Perfect photography with an amazing stylist, the best makeup and body paint artists. I just had to show up and look good. Ain't nobody

F'ing wit my clique!

Have you ever been shot nude before?

Behind closed doors, of course. For a publication? No.

Are you comfortable with nudity?

I'm very comfortable with my body. Walking around the house naked is one thing, but I'm not an exhibitionist. I have limits—and when it comes to modeling, going completely nude is not an option.

Did you feel naked though you were covered with adhesives or paint?

Honestly, no. I felt like I had on lingerie. I have people on Instagram all the time asking me where I got the black tape "outfit."

How did this shoot make you feel?

Unbelievably sexy. My favorite shoot to date.

Ultimate Goals

My goal is to become more successful. There's no such thing as too much success.

Marketing Tools

Agency: TSD Agency

Contact: Tsdagency@gmail.com

Email: iamAlanaNoel@gmail.com

Body Paint

THE
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THE
BLACK
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Body Paint

Devin Symone

Photographer Courage (20/20 Photography)

MUA: @yayabeatsface



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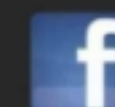


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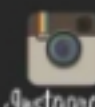
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34th Annual International Model Of The Year Contest!

On Sunday, May 12, 2013, New Day Associates presents its 34th Annual International Model of the Year contest. Doors open 5:00 p.m. Showtime 6pm.

Vendor Booths open 5:00pm. For your shop convenience, Event will take place at the Newark Liberty International Airport Marriott. One Hotel Rd Newark NJ, 07114 in the Grand Ballroom. International model of the year first place male and Female Winners will receive a \$1000 cash prize, and be published in Hype Hair or Today's Black Woman.

Special room rates will be Available at the Marriott, with single or double occupancy at \$109 per Night. To receive special rate request a reservation under "New Day Block of rooms". by calling the Marriott at 973-623-0006.

For more information, visit: www.Lindennewday.com or contact: John Blassingame (609) 655-3667.

John Blassingame
Publisher

Today's Black Woman
Hype Hair magazine

Left/Right: Chanise Smith and J'mar Grayson 2012 International model of year winners)
Middle: Merson Narcisse (2011) International model of year male winner)

PHOTO: MERSON NARCISSE

NEW DAY ASSOCIATES special events

New Day Associates will be holding interviews for its 27th Annual International Designers of the Year show on Sunday, July 21st from 12:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. at the New York's Hotel Pennsylvania, 401 Seventh Avenue, New York, NY 10001, 18th floor, pen top north. Each designers must bring two garments. We are looking for construction, sellability and creativity. Registration fee is \$30. The first place winner will receive a \$1,000.00 cash prize and be published in TBW Style Report or Hype Hair Magazine. John Blassingame, Publisher TBW Style Report and Hype Hair Magazine. For more information call (609) 655-3667 or email info@lindennewday.com

Model: Merson Narcisse
Designer: Carl Trogon



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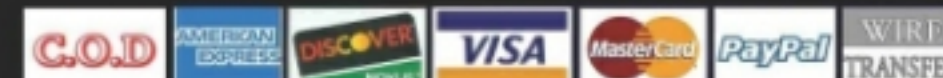
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