

The ultimate guide to the hottest emerging fashion designers and fashionistas from all over the world

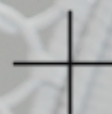
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SASSY

FEB 2021

MAKE WAY FOR
Madison
CROFT

IN PICTURES:
PACIFIC
INTERNATIONAL
RUNWAY
AT THE AUSTRALIAN
MODELLING AND
FASHION AWARDS 2021



MAKE WAY FOR THE
TOP TEN
MOST INFLUENTIAL
FASHION INFLUENCERS
WHO ARE TAKING
THE INTERNET BY STORM

COVER PHOTOGRAPHY: TONY PALLISER



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MODELLING & FASHION ACADEMY

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EDITOR'S NOTES

It has been nearly 3 years now since we released the first ever issue of Sassy & Co Magazine and I want to both share a couple of thoughts as well as wish you all the best for 2021. Firstly, I want to thank the great people behind Sassy & Co Magazine who are tirelessly working behind the scenes to ensure that our magazine and website is in tip top shape. You should all be proud of the significant contribution you make to the overall business. Like any business there are, of course, ways we could improve. Working together, I am confident that we can elevate Sassy & Co Magazine to an even higher level this year. I'm definitely looking forward to working with you all again this 2021, and for those of you who just came back from a break, I hope you enjoyed some much needed quality time with family and friends. God bless.

Joy Duca
Editor-in-chief



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MADISON CROFT

Towards the end of last year, Madison Croft was crowned the first runner up at the first-ever Australian Multicultural Fashion Awards for the year 2020. It has been a long time coming since she has been participating in pageants and modelling since the age of 14.

Madison Croft is currently 19 years old and she has been modelling and acting internationally since the young age of 14. She's a personal trainer and owner of MadBodz Fitness – a thriving small business. She loves her job as every day she gets the blessing of helping people on their journey to improving physical and mental health. Maddie has always loved the saying "Choose a job you love and you'll never have to work a day in your life" and she feels she has definitely achieved this! Her ultimate goal is to have a successful career in the modelling and acting industry and she always says that she will never give up on that goal.

Towards the end of last year, Madison was crowned the first runner up at the first-ever Australian Multicultural Fashion Awards for the year 2020. It has been a long time coming since she has been participating in pageants and modelling since the age of 14. She is currently a personal trainer and owner of MadBodz Fitness, and she is very passionate about educating people on the importance of living a healthy lifestyle. She also works as a gymnastics coach, a model, and an actress.

Most people won't know this, but at the age of 14, she was suffering from depression because of constant bullying at her school and even on social media. It was at this point that she was advised that by joining pageants, she would be able to make friends with similar interests and likes, and she would become much more confident and self-reliant – that's the main reason why she started competing in pageants. After three years in the field, she says that she has made more friends and now possess much more confidence in her communicative abilities.



"Being successful in the fashion industry is tough. Madison has learned to be confident in her own skin and form, and not to be concerned with changing anything about herself for other people."

Being a beauty queen and a model has its own perks of course. Madison enjoys having the opportunity to meet new people, encourage, empower and educate other teens on several issues, do charity work, and be an ambassador. The kicker for her is that she's able to do all of these amazing things at the age of 16!

Of course, every upside will also have a downside as well. She does not look at them as downsides though—she prefers to look at them as lessons from which she can learn from. During her stint at pageantry, she has learned to stay true to herself, be who she wants to be, and not conform herself to the opinions of others.

Being successful in the fashion industry is tough. She has learned to be confident in her own skin and form, and not to be concerned with changing anything about herself for other people. She doesn't focus on her looks too much these days, instead, she is more focused on her charity work and public speaking instead. She has always had her family's support and encouragement in her foray into pageantry and she believes that her family's support is the key reason for her tremendous success at such a young age.

Moving forward, Madison dreams of having a successful career in acting, modeling, and the fitness industry.

Photographed By: Tony Palliser



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INFLUENTIAL
FASHIONISTAS OF THE YEAR

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DESIGNER SPOTLIGHT
KADEEM
 ALPHANSO FYFFE

Kadeem Alphanso Fyffe is a fashion designer, entrepreneur, actor, and public speaker. He is the founder and creative director of MUXE NEW YORK, and currently serves as the head of design at Acumen; his first collection for the Menswear Label debuts in Fall 2020.

Educated at the University of Richmond and Parsons School of Design, Kadeem has worked in the NYC Fashion Industry since 2013 as a Fashion Designer and Visual Merchandiser for the likes of Michael

Kors, Gary Graham, Lyssé, PVH, and Mark Jacobs.

His last role was Head of Design at WOLACO. He is an active member of the National Black Justice Coalition, and serves as a volunteer and committee member of NYC-based LGBT youth organization, Live Out Loud.

In 2016 he launched his own clothing label, MUXE NEW YORK, with the intent of creating unisex garments that comment on gender, politics, and culture. Kadeem is a passionate advocate for change to underrepresented communities, with a specific focus on the Black and LGBTQ+ communities.

Kadeem also started working as a commercial model and actor at 19 and has since appeared in TV, Film, and Stage in the US and Australia. He has lived 6 cities across three continents, visited 22 of the 50 U.S. States, and traveled to 15 countries.

Sassy & Co Magazine recently caught up with Kadeem to discuss his journey in the fashion industry and here's what went down:

How did you get into the fashion industry?

My first internship was in the Women's Collection at Micheal Kors, which I completed while at Parsons. I completed my graduate studies at Parsons in 2014 and started working professionally as a Women's RTW designer in New York City.

What do you like most about being a designer?

I love translating my inspirations into a full collection - the whole process of collection development, bringing something from initial concept to full fruition, is my favorite part of being a designer.

The downside to being a fashion designer?

The industry can be very cut-throat at times - some people see this as a downside, but I have always tried to use the competitive nature of the industry to push me to succeed and propel me forward. At Parsons, a student once cut the thread right out of my sewing machine - the joke was on her though because my garment still turned out the best - being better is the sweetest revenge.

What has been the most memorable experience of being in the fashion industry so far?

I have had many memorable experiences, but if I had to pick one it would be the first time I worked backstage at NYFW while part of the design team at MK. It was the first time I saw supermodels in real life, and at one point I was 10 feet away from Anna Wintour. This was the moment I knew all my hard work had paid off, and I knew I deserved to be in the room with these people.

Who have been the most interesting people you've met so far?

The most interesting people I have met have been during my time as the Head of Design at WOLACO. I was able to meet other young entrepreneurs, fitness influencers, and professional athletes - I found them interesting because they were all hustlers who had mastered the art of self-branding and promotion - and of course, they were insanely fit and easy on the eyes.

What has been the most valuable lesson you've learned while in the fashion industry. This can be about the industry or about yourself.

In the famed words of Emily from Devil Wears Prada, "a million girls would kill for this job" - so I've always worked my ass off, knowing full well I could be replaced with a quickness.

FIND OUT MORE ABOUT RADMILA LOLLY

Radmila Lolly is an acclaimed classical singer as well as a high-fashion designer. Over the past few months, her singing career has skyrocketed when she reached the top 25 of the Billboard Dance Chart with her single 'U R Moving Me' which also featured Dani Hagan.

Radmila presented her last album "Wonderland" at the famous Carnegie Hall. She decided to combine her talents as a singer and a designer and presented her couture collection during her concert while putting up an unforgettable show.

This inspirational woman is the sole designer of the couture fashion house Eltara Casata (@eltaracasata). The largest influence on her designs is her musical exploits. For Lolly, her two artistic mediums inspire and feed off each other; the textures of her designs are innately linked to the textures of her music.

Her fashion collection has been featured at Barneys Madison Avenue Trunk Show, alongside designers such as Zac Posen, Naeem Khan, J. Mendel, as well as at the Daytime Emmy's Ceremony, and many more. It has also been featured by Vogue Italia, and Harper's Bazaar, among others. Radmila Lolly has a huge number of requests from celebrities to wear her gowns for award ceremonies or red carpet events. In fact, we have seen several artists wearing Radmila Lolly's dresses, such as Gayle King, Bebe Rexha, Mya, Miss Universe 2018, Miss USA 2018, and Miss USA 2017, to name a few.

Sassy & Co Magazine recently caught up with Radmila to discuss her journey in the fashion industry and music world and here's what went down:

Tell us your full name and something about yourself.

My name is Radmila Lolly, and I am a storyteller through different art forms. My main artistic mediums are music and fashion; I am a vocalist and composer, and I am also the sole designer for the couture fashion house Eltara Casata by Radmila Lolly.

How did you get into the fashion industry?

I started by designing and creating my own gowns for my performances. People started coming up to me afterward to ask where I got my dress from. Eventually, the demand for my creations grew and I started making gowns for other people as well, which led to me starting my own couture line.

How were you actually 'discovered'?

I don't believe in people being "discovered"; I worked hard, stayed true to my vision, and surrounded myself with people who supported that. I wouldn't be anywhere without the people who have supported me all along.

What do you like most about being a designer?

I love the process of it; having something in my imagination, and creating something tangible from it. It is about bringing art to life.

The downside to being a fashion designer?

There is no downside; even if I have a negative experience, it is still a positive experience overall because I learn from it, and I am still doing something that I love.





What has been the most memorable experience of being in the fashion industry so far?

Doing a fitting for Gayle King; she had no idea what I was bringing with me, and she is used to so many different designers giving her things to wear, but she was still so open-minded. While I was in her office, all the feedback I was getting from everyone present made me feel like they were genuinely liking the gown and the way that it complemented Gayle as a strong, elegant woman. A few months later, I received an email from her with photos of her wearing the gown at a gala and a note about how everyone loved her in it. As a new designer, seeing someone so incredible wearing my creation and enjoying it made me feel so honored.

Who have been the most interesting people you've met so far?

I believe every person is very interesting in different ways. I don't have specific names I will mention, because I believe that everyone has something special about them. It's all part of the journey; someone doesn't need to be famous to say something meaningful that can change your life.

What has been the most valuable lesson you've learned while in the fashion industry.

I have learned to always stay creative; never stop imagining, never stop sketching, never stop creating. Don't follow the trends; create your own.

Is your family supportive of you being a fashion designer?

I don't have a big family, and who I do have are always supportive of someone who believes, works, and achieves.

How did you get started in the music industry?

My mother told me that every person is born with gifts, and it is important to use those gifts, and educate yourself in that form of art so you can share it with the world.

What do you like most about singing?

To me singing is using your body as an instrument; it is a surreal experience to make people feel things, and tell a story, through your body and your mind.

What inspires you to be creative?

What drives me to be creative, is the idea that I can put something positive out into the world; even if I am creating art about something traumatic or unhappy, I hope that people can relate to that and feel a connection, both to me and each other.

Is there anything special that you do to get into a creative mindset?

To me, a "creative mindset" is a journey; it never stops, it never ends. I am always in that mindset. I believe it can be hard to start thinking like that, but once you start, you will never stop; it becomes a part of your nature.

What are your future plans? Inside your career or out of it.

My upcoming self-composed 19 movement programmatic album corresponds to a novel I am also writing. This project has been in the works since I first started the novel six years ago. When the book was started, I had always wanted an album to go along with it, but at the time I did not compose at all. I figured someone else would be composing it. Since then, my musical journey has brought me to composing, and now I can tell the story of my novel in another medium. There will also be a corresponding audiobook, and of course, a couture line to accompany the album and the novel.

The 'LIGHTNING FAST' Round:

1. Last good movie I've seen: Mr. & Mrs. Smith

2. What do you consider beautiful and why?

The true-life; that means different things to different people. To me, it means trying to see the world in all of its layers, both good and bad, and how I can have a positive impact.

3. What is the one "flaw" you wouldn't change about yourself?

I have ADD, and I have learned to use that to my advantage; I used to have problems focusing on one thing for a long time, but now I lean into that and have decided to learn many different instruments instead of just one or two. Constantly switching from one instrument to another helps me to keep my attention focused. It actually has made me a better musician, and definitely a better composer overall.

GAELE CAMERON

Gael Nicole Cameron currently models for Royale Modelling and she has been modelling more seriously for just over 2 years. During this time she's had the pleasure of working with so many amazing brands. However, the biggest international brand she has worked with would still probably be Panasonic. She would be best described as a wolf. Often misunderstood as she can seem very confident and guarded at first glance. However, once you get to know her you'll find that she's actually quite friendly, sociable, and really protective of anyone that shows her love and kindness.



Photographed by: TONY PALLISER

INTRODUCING Kymberlee STREET

Growing up, Kymberlee Street has always been fascinated by the modelling world. She initially got her foot in the modelling industry when she was scouted by an agent back in 2017. From there she entered her first beauty pageant and she ended up getting crowned Miss Philippines Australia 2017. This win took her on a journey of self-development and boosted her confidence, opening up many doors and opportunities in the industry. She began doing more runways and photoshoots and continued to work hard and push herself out there, appreciating every moment.

StarCentral Magazine recently caught up with Kymberlee to discuss her journey in the modelling industry and here's what went down:

What do you like most about being a model?

Getting the opportunity to meet and work with like-minded and talented people, creating exciting, creative, and beautiful content is what I love most about the industry. Getting in front of the camera and just doing my thing, having fun with it, expressing myself in different ways, and making visions come to life.

The downside to being a model?

Unpredictability. Not knowing when you may land your next job may be a bit worrying and risky at times. But at the same time, the excitement of having a new week every week is like an adventure and you never know what will come next!

What has been the most memorable experience of being in the modelling industry so far?

Having the opportunity to travel to Malaysia in 2019 to compete in a model reality tv show called Miss Pink Lady Asia! This was such an amazing and exciting experience and something I will remember for the rest of my life. Similar to the next top model, each day we had different photoshoots and challenges that tested my skills and abilities. I learned so much, gained insights, and met some incredible people.

Who have been the most interesting people you've met so far?

From photographers to makeup artists, stylists, brand owners, and other models. I have met and crossed paths with so many people along the way. I have met some of my closest friends in the industry and have met people who I had admired and looked up to. With a genuine interest in learning from others, hearing their stories and experiences and listening to the advice is something I really value.

What has been the most valuable lesson you've learned while in the modelling industry. This can be about the industry or about yourself.

To know your self-worth, understanding your strengths and insecurities, keep humble, and staying true to yourself. The modelling industry is not as glamorous as it may seem. People don't realise what goes on behind the scenes, and the amount of work and effort to get 'that shot'. There will be people who don't support and you will not get every job you apply for. But the ability to take on everything with a positive and open mind will allow you to constantly grow and succeed as an individual.





"In my own family culture, we have always been taught to look our best, wear clean and nice clothes all the time as well as always be respectful to others."



OOGII

FLOWER

It never ceases to amaze us how much precious time most people waste trying to find that imaginary shortcut that'll lead to massive wealth and entrepreneurial success when the only real way is staring them right in the face: genuine entrepreneurs who want to be successful in business needs to put in a lot of careful planning, research, and hard work - and that's what Oyuntsetseg Olonbayar aka OOGII Flower has done over the years.

OOGII started her career at the age of 20, by getting a degree in Journalism. She then entered a competition that was searching for someone who would be a newsreader on Mongolian National TV. After a lot of effort and perseverance, she eventually won the contest, which is held every 14 years. Eventually, though, she realized that her passion was not really in being a newscaster but in fashion. So, she left journalism to focus more on creating her own fashion label. This risky move has eventually paid off, as she has built one of the fastest rising fashion empires. She went from creating glamorous and comfortable shoes to making exquisite handbags and now accessories. She has also expanded from an online business to a retail store in Japan and just recently in Mongolia.



"For me, beauty is all about shining from the inside as well as being respectful towards other people."



Like many successful high-profile fashion designers, OOGII's career has had a lot of highlights. For example, she got the chance to collaborate with Germani Jewelry to create a range of products for weddings. In addition, her high-quality designs have received positive comments from several customers. One of the most memorable feedback she has ever received was from footballer named Robbie Farah and Japanese Sumo Wrestler, Harumafuji Kohei. They gave her a really good review because they were impressed by the comfort of the shoes she makes. Fashion has also paved the way for her to meet a range of interesting people. For example, at a function celebrating International Women's Day, she got to meet influential designer Carla Zampatti which is still one of the highlights of her career in fashion.

OOGII believes that the fashion industry can be difficult for people to get into. There are several things that designers need to learn before they can actually start making money from their designs such as learning to limit their production costs. You also need to have a realistic idea of how many products you'll be able to sell while using the best materials. For example, OOGII uses sustainably farmed snake skins to create her shoes. By mastering this aspect in her business, OOGII has made it easier for her to produce more high-quality shoes at a comfortable pace. Despite her rapid rise to success, she hasn't lost sight of the most important things in life. OOGII admits that she has been fortunate enough to get plenty of support from her friends and family. Her family and fiancé help keep her grounded and ensure that she continues to stay true to her values and beliefs.

Crossing from journalism to fashion has enabled OOGII to travel to many new places and meet inspiring people. Now that she's on a roll - she has no intention of slowing down. She wants to start designing her own clothing label soon, as well as creating multiple new products. Brace yourself Australia, because OOGII is soon to take the Australian fashion scene by storm!

ERIK VENT

MODEL AND ACTOR

Modeling and acting is a tough career. Erik is not only aware of this but constantly thrives to improve and develop his skills to avoid many pitfalls associated with this line of work. He does not believe in inherent talent. Everything he achieved is due to hard work.

Having received his bachelor's degree in Arts in Sports, Erik Vent's journey as a model started 10 years ago as a side gig and desire to get some good photos for his portfolio. However, it only took a couple of years for him to transform into a fully-fledged model. Originally from Estonia, Erik is proud to call Sydney his new home and is happy with his recent success.

The modeling business seems to fit Erik's energetic personality well. While he is not fond of waiting behind the curtains for his moment (and let's be honest who is?), the episodic nature of his work suits him well. Every new gig is an opportunity for him to transform his character and exercise his acting chops. There is no daily routine to speak of, but there are enough work and diversity to put food on his table and avoid the stagnation.

Being a model and an actor bring many opportunities for showcasing your skills on different gigs. There are projects that require assuming a specific character. These opportunities Erik treasures, as he can bring his acting persona to the work. Because of his professional attitude and avoidance of backstage drama, there is no lack of offers he gets. One of his most favorite experiences has been landing a role in Dean Lewis' music video "chemicals". An opportunity which many of his colleagues would have given an arm and leg for.

Despite the glamorous life, Erik remains grounded and does not let success jeopardize his personal life and relationships. His family has been supportive of his journey from the start and he cherishes his girlfriend, described her as the most interesting person he has ever met. It is clear that their loving relationship made him grow as a person. As he says: "My girlfriend has given me more than anybody else". Staying grounded is an important quality in business that puts beauty above everything else, but Erik understands the fleeting and subjective nature of it all. This is why he works hard and strives to provide much more than just a beautiful face.

Modeling and acting is a tough career. Erik is not only aware of this but constantly thrives to improve and develop his skills to avoid many pitfalls associated with this line of work. He does not believe in inherent talent. Everything he achieved is due to hard work, this is his life motto. Good work ethic and dedication are what he bets on to achieve recognition and success in the industry. Through all the hardships he had to face and will face in the future, his goal is to never make them limit himself and always strive for the best.



JOJO

SEBASTIAN

Jojo Almazora Sebastian is an artist who built his reputation as a singer, performer, and host/emcee. Although he has already spent so much time in Sydney, he only became active in the Filipino-Australian Community in 2018. From then on, he has been invited to perform and host different events all over Sydney from private parties to various beauty pageants. In 2019, he was awarded as the Best Pageant Host by the prestigious Australian Golden Sash Awards. In 2020, he was also nominated and awarded, the Musician of the Year and the Most Influential Person of the Year in Ava's World Magazine Annual Awards 2019. He has also been featured in several magazines, newspapers, and radio programs in various local areas in Sydney. In 2020, Jojo aspires to broaden his horizon as a singer by planning to stage his first solo concert in Australia. Jojo's versatility and energy on stage is contagious which make him a very good entertainer. Matched with his humour and personality, a show will certainly be different without his unique touch. Success for him in singing and performing, when he is able to effectively convey the core message of the song without having to compromise his own values and beliefs.

Early this year, he participated in Sydney Sings for Hope Concert for the benefit of the front liners for the Bush Fire that happened in NSW. He also lent his voice in the Heroes of the World Album recording the song "Walang Mahirap sa Buhay" written and arranged by Oliver Gadista. In July 2020, he represented Australia in the First Virtual Edition of the World Championship of Performing Arts (WCOPA 2020). Furthermore, he will be representing Australia once again in the 25th Year of the World Championship of Performing Arts to be held in California USA in July 2021. Consequently, he was just also declared a finalist in the Mister Diamond International Australia 2021 which will be held in April 2021. Presently, he is also recording this first Christmas Album entitled "Christmas Ain't Christmas Without You" to be released this December 2020. Jojo Sebastian was nominated in the Inaugural Sydney's Best Dressed due to his impeccable dressing sense and confident personality.

Photo Credit: Tony Palliser



FIND OUT MORE ABOUT STEPHANIE HUNT

Being a model can be difficult, often requiring people to make tough sacrifices. However, it can also prove to be a highly rewarding experience. For Stephanie Hunt, modeling has allowed her to travel around the world, get involved with high profile names such as Guess, Revlon, designer Melba Aros, Lady Jayne, Toscow Jewellery, celebrity hairstylist, David Babaii and magazines such as Camilla, RUSSH, Cosmopolitan, and FTV as well as meet a lot of interesting new people.

Stephanie has certainly proven that she can rely not only on her looks for her success but also on her focus, drive, and ambition. Added to that is a healthy dollop of good sense! 'Challenges' are a normal part of working as a model ("Modeling has definitely thickened up my skin!") and to Stephanie, one's attitude towards them will define you. "love and believe in yourself! I know that sounds so corny, but it can be really tough being around intimidatingly successful and gorgeous people and still feel as though you fit the bill."

According to Stephanie, the biggest factor that determines how successful you will be is how much you want to succeed. Along with this strong passion, you should have a strong sense of integrity. Often, these values will have a bigger impact on your potential success than your looks. You should also take as many opportunities as you can, which will allow you to build your network. For many young models, a strong network is more important than seeing financial returns. In addition, it's key to master social media. This is becoming increasingly important, allowing you to send a clear message to your fans. Once you've chosen your brand, use each post to re-enforce it. Social media also allows you to build a strong platform to get more people interested in your brand. You should use this tool to connect with your audience.

Stephanie's early struggles with low self-esteem have served to spur this young entrepreneur ever onwards. She not only juggles her modeling career with her fulltime job, she also regularly volunteers at an animal shelter! It "serves as a great reminder of what my priorities should be, and what really matters in life. Having a healthy balance between work, my

personal life, and my volunteering has been the key to staying grounded for me."

That healthy balance seems to be her recipe for success as well with many plans in the works for this talented (she speaks French and plays the piano!) young lady. But to Stephanie, it will always be "that with self-belief, hard work, dedication and a lot of resilience, you really can achieve anything."





CARLO

ARRECHEA

Sizzling hot Havana, Cuba-born bilingual actor Carlo Arrechea is a star on the rise in Hollywood, recently making his U.S. prime time debut in the CBS hit TV series *S.W.A.T.*, where he portrayed 'Gio Torres', a middleweight Cuban boxer, aka "The Caribbean King." In the series, Torres is a prizefighter set to win a huge upcoming match when his pregnant wife is kidnapped and held for ransom. He enlists the *S.W.A.T.* team and works with them to retrieve his wife right in time for the delivery of their first child. The heartfelt role has garnered him much media attention and was one that was especially significant to him as it tied back to his Cuban roots.

A third-generation actor, Arrechea's career began at the age of 6 when he played the son to his biological mother in a telenovela in his home country of Cuba. He fell in love with the craft and was selected as one of the stars of the children's show "Los Chicos Altura" ("The High Kids"). In 2002 his family moved to Miami when he was 12 years old and he faced a culture shock that made him rethink acting. He decided to study psychology in college but dropped out after only one semester to return to his true passion. It was during this time that he got into theater and started receiving a lot of attention for his stage performances including "El Solar de la Palangana de Oro" by Raúl de Cárdenas, a work that opened many doors for him and earned him press coverage as the "new face of acting" by *People en Español*.

From theater, he jumped into television where he began with small roles in well-known Telemundo and Univision telenovelas such as "Más saber el diablo", "El Cartel 2" and "Alguien te Mira". He also starred in two short films, "Fate's Decree" directed by Michael Ruiz and the super production "El Manantial", with renowned Sam Bradley as director. His career thus began to roll, and his name to be known on the Miami scene. Not long after he was cast in the successful Nickelodeon Latin America series "Grachi" which he starred in for three seasons (152 episodes). It was during this time that he also starred in his first leading film role in the romantic comedy *LA REBÚSQUEDA*, the highest-grossing Salvadoran film in the country's history.

After his success in Latin America, Arrechea decided to move to Los Angeles to begin his crossover into the U.S. market. Throughout his acting career, he has starred in several television commercials, including the Johnnie Walker campaign which toasts to immigrants and highlights their grueling path towards citizenship. He is a member of SAG-AFTRA and is an alumnus of the Stella Adler Academy of Acting. As a Cuban-born actor, Arrechea has always looked up to the original Latin Comedy star Desi Arnaz and a dream role for him would be to reprise the role of 'Ricky Ricardo' in a comedy series or film.

In his free time, Arrechea enjoys reading, meditating, and exercising, and sees every day the opportunity to grow and improve in all aspects. He also enjoys volunteering for The Ronald McDonald House, where he feeds, plays games, and speaks with children and parents who have seriously ill children or family members in the hospital.



INTRODUCING EVIE THEODOROU

Evanthia "Evie" Jessica Theodorou is an actress on the rise. Evie's given name Evanthia actually means "beautiful flower" in the Greek language. She still remembers her first professional photo shoot at a mere five years of age when she told her parents that her future ambition was to be on camera. Now at 16, you will find her in her very first web series called Nancy Mindy, where Evie is captivating in this production (release date to be confirmed). In addition to her acting career, she is working hard refining her vocals as she just recorded her first EP. Her song "Somewhere" from her EP has been released with BRAT Records on October 25. Being a songwriter has also been something she has a passion for as she co-wrote her new EP. In her free time, she keeps herself busy playing guitar and piano and continuing to work hard at her crafts. You will also catch her modeling year-round for several designers on the runway in New York for the New York Fashion Week Style week. In addition to this, Evie also happens to be a massive TikTok star as well. Best known for her evie_104 account, her popularity on the platform led to her amassing more than 250,000 followers.

Sassy & Co Magazine recently caught up with Evie to discuss her journey in the entertainment industry and here's what went down:

Can you tell us more about yourself?

My full name is Evanthia. I'm a singer, songwriter, actress, dancer, and model. I'm from the Midwest. I love boating, painting, and baking in my spare time. I also love to travel. My favorite two places that I have been so far are Hawaii and Greece.

How did you get started in the entertainment industry?

I was just five years old and told my parents that I wanted to be on TV. Fast forward to 11 years later and now I'm living in LA working on my dreams!

What do you like most about acting?

Being able to portray that character, making them come to life. That's when all the magic begins.

Can you tell us about your role in Nancy Mindy?

She is a witty, smart, and ambitious teen trying to make something of herself. She is very relatable and fun.

What sort of person is going to love this character?

It's honestly for all ages or personalities. But if I had to put a person it would be a teen girl. A teen that might be searching to make a change in her life but might be afraid to do it. Or even a teen that is looking for someone to inspire them to take that step.

How is this character like you? Different?

She is like me in that she has a super real fun side to her. I love comedy and making people laugh. She is different from me in that we have a different family life, she also has different dreams than I do.

What's the biggest challenge to taking on this role?

I would say the biggest challenge would be how Nancy articulates her speech and is a very fast talker. I actually went to articulation training to help me with this. It was so much fun.

Besides yourself, what celebrity would you like to see tackle this character?

Ooh... that's hard, there are so many talented actresses out there. If Reese Witherspoon was a teen, she would be fun to see transform into this character.



Besides yourself, which actor/s in this series is going to blow people away?

I know everyone will love Moreen Moore. She is the CEO of her company. She is smart, strong, and very ambitious! She carries herself in a way that everyone respects her. I love that about her.

If you could play any other character in this series, who would it be?

Moreen Moore for sure. She really portrays what it's like to be respected as a woman and as a CEO. She is incredible.

What has been the most memorable experience of your career so far?

Writing and recording my own music. I just released a song with BRAT TV and you can catch it on their new series called "Crazy Fast."

Who have been the most interesting people you've met so far?

I have met so many amazing people. From people on the set to mentors to new friends. I love what I do and look forward to new things every day. I think for me the most interesting people have been my mentors and coaches.

How active are you on social media?

I'm pretty active although I don't let it consume my every minute. I spend most of my days studying, practicing my voice, guitar, and scenes from classes or auditions.

What is your favourite social media platform?

Probably TikTok, it's so fun to make the videos and I love watching some of the comedic ones from others. I think it's a lot easier to connect with my fans with this app.

What are your future plans?

I still have two years of high school left and then college. I will continue to work on my music and I would love to go on tour! Hopefully, my EP will be out later this year. My EP will show more about me and who I am as an artist.



Designer: Lepou
Photographed By: George Azmy

PACIFIC

INTERNATIONAL RUNWAY

The (AMFA) Australian Modelling & Fashion Awards brought together the modelling and fashion industry last December 2020 at the luxurious Four Seasons Hotel.

The magnitude of originality and fashion design excellence at this event definitely stayed with us. Everyone walked away from the show with a new respect for the diverse cultures and their innovative designers. Although the awarding session by various industry heavyweights was the main event; each of the remaining highlights was riveting to partake in and further enhanced the AMFA experience.

Here's an exclusive look at the Pacific International Runway collection by Lepou, Kovie Richardson, and Ikii Haangana at the 2020 Australian Modelling and Fashion Awards.



Designer: Lepou
Photographed By: George Azmy



Designer: Kovie Richardson
Photographed By: George Azmy



Designer: Kovie Richardson
Photographed By: George Azmy



