MODEL SOCIETY

A CELEBRATION OF HUMAN BEAUTY



Eye of the Beholder

What do you see when you look at the world or look at people? Do you marvel at the infinite variety of forms? Are you moved when you look into someone's eyes and realize another human being looking back at you? Are you swept away by the poetry of a landscape or the shape of a human body? Are you blown away by beauty all around you?

How deep into the world – how far into others – are you willing to see?

What if the keys to a perfectly beautiful world are hidden somewhere within your own perspective?

Enjoy!



Inside

MODEL SOCIETY MAGAZINE

Ellis creates images that explore the personal struggle of despair versus hope. His use of recurring symbols and rich deep colors are the foundation of these articulate, mysterious and well crafted images.

Lorenzo Gatto takes us to a night at the theater. His narrative images occur like renaissance paintings with a warm glowing color palette and striking use of chiaroscuro. The stunning dancers who populate Lorenzo's works seem larger than life as if they are actors in a play.

Dave Rudin creates elegant outdoor nudes in all natural light. With instinctive timing, he captures images as each moment ripens to perfection. With delicate poses and creative use of cropping Dave's photography is an opportunity to enjoy quiet moments in appreciation of beauty.

Alex Sher teleports us into a fantasy world of weightless figures in these bold underwater images. His models seem to float and fly against surreal backgrounds featuring high contrast patterns, saturated colors, and abstract reflections.

Bob Verney offers us flavors of gothic, victorian and vintage storytelling in this series of richly textured images. His expressive models share a wide range of emotions as they interact with unique and interesting places.

Orville Spence reveals his love affair with photography and thoughts about art. With the lush island of Jamaica as his home, Orville's passion for taking pictures has become a gift for seeing and sharing a positive vision of people and the world.

Will Strong plays with the forces of gravity and tension as he seems to turn reality upside down. With creative changes in orientation and perspective, his models seem to take flight, straining against symbolic bondage that holds them down.

CONTRIBUTORS

EDITOR IN CHIEF
David Bollt

COPY EDITOR
Samantha Olson

ART DIRECTOR/DESIGNER
Aura Casas

BUSINESS DIRECTOR
Jonas Sider

SUBMISSIONS

We are looking for amazing images and inspiring articles that that celebrate human beauty as art.

SEND AN EMAIL TO
submissions@modelsociety.com

FRONT COVER - BACK COVER
Ph: Lorenzo Gatto - Models Zeudi Testa, Angelo Marco Accardi/Adriana Gaglio

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MODEL
Daria Sells

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MODEL
Daria Sells

ELLIS

DAVE MCELLISTRUM PHOTOGRAPHY
MCELLISTRUM.COM I MODELSOCIETY.COM/PHOTOGRAPHER/ELLIS

Inner Journeys through Darkness to Light

I'm trying to portray a journey from isolation, depression, vulnerability, and darkness to a place of strength, confidence, and light. I've been particularly focused on representing the private struggle (often with mental health) that everyone goes through at some point in life. I contrast this against the public face that people wear to hide their struggles.

In my work, the nude model often represents our conflicted private aspects while the clothed model (same person) represents how they present to the public. The stories are purposefully vague as I want the viewer to bring their own experience and interpretations to the images.





MODEL
Daria Sells











MODEL
Yaz





MODEL
Dane Halo



“I’ve been fortunate to work with a lot of models that are physically beautiful. But to me the photos only come to life when they are passionate and invested in creating great art. If they don’t bring that passion the photos are often mediocre in spite of their physical beauty.”

- ELLIS

MODEL
Sienna Hayes



“I’m inspired by emotion, a story and a moment in time.

- ELLIS

I often use other symbols, such as the balloon, which represents hope. These particular images tell a story about daily private struggles with mental health. The model’s relationship to the balloon may represent attempts at self-help and healing. In a third unfinished series, I’ve invited models to interpret a quote about female strength based on what it means to them.



MODEL
Sienna Hayes

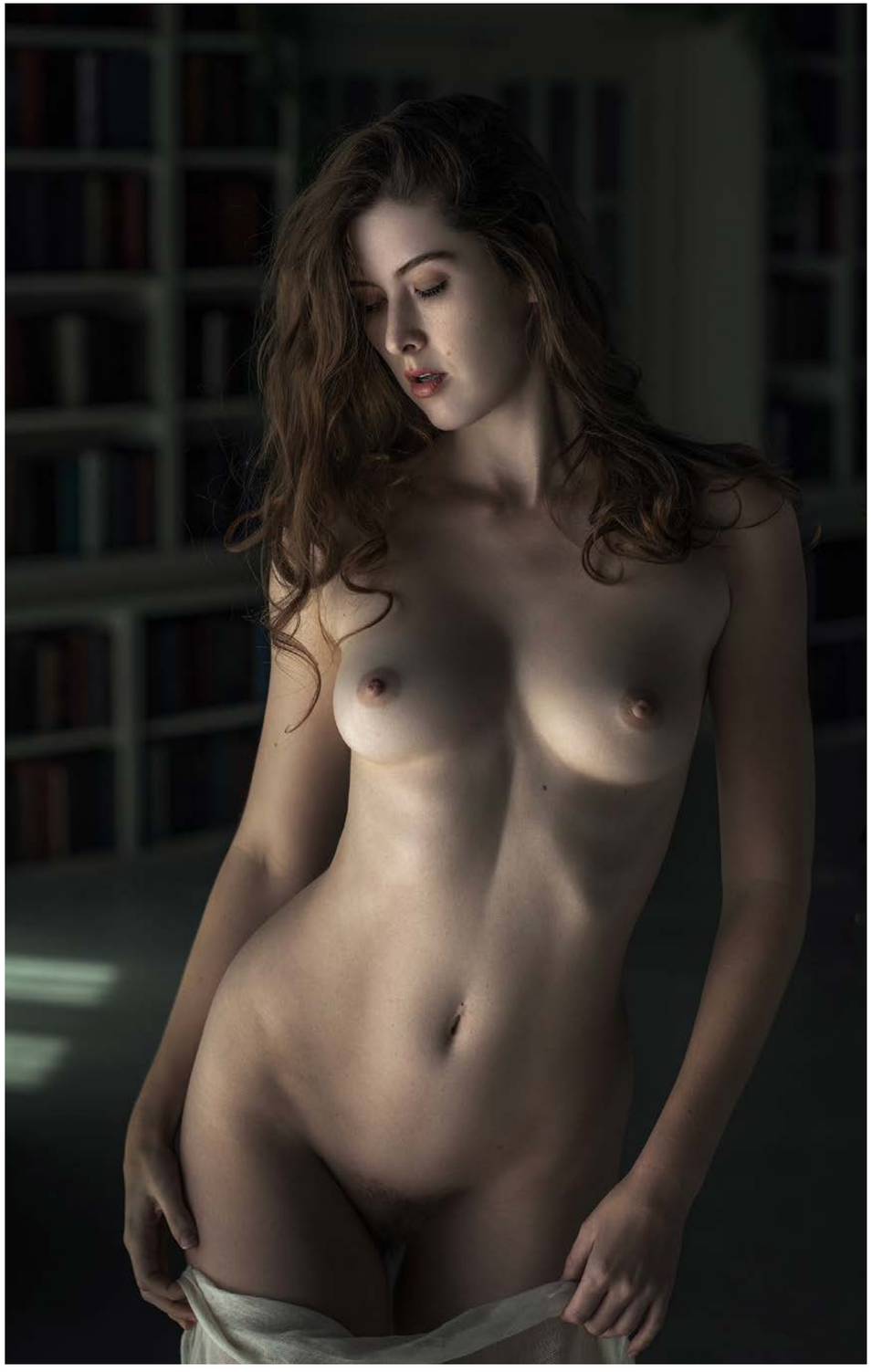
MODEL
Sienna Hayes







MODEL
Sienna Hayes





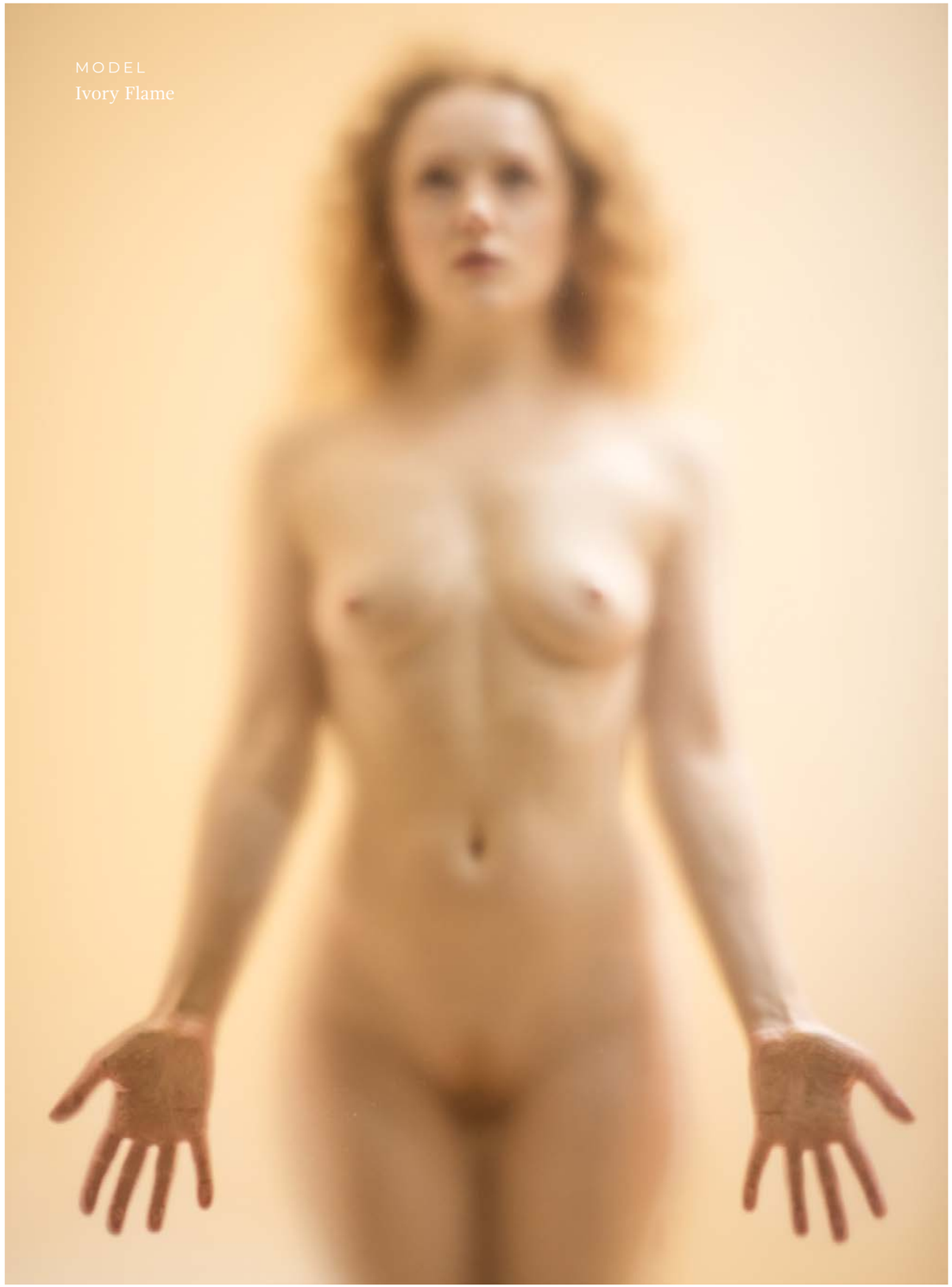
MODEL
Ivory Flame

> “I’ve never considered myself creative. My day job involves analytical and math skills. Pursuing photography has been fulfilling as it is so different from my past experiences. I love the challenge of doing something where I don’t feel like I have a natural or well developed talent.”

When people view my work I want them to stop scrolling and consider the image. I want viewers to feel the emotions or imagine the story of the image first. Ideally, the nudity should support the rawness of the emotion or the story and be a secondary consideration to the viewer.

I want people to realize that many have mental health challenges and other struggles that they are trying to overcome. I want them to know that they are not alone. I want to inspire people to know that if they persist there is a way out of the darkness. I’m not sure if I’m accomplishing these things but I think they are worthy goals.

MODEL
Ivory Flame







MODEL
Ivory Flame



MODEL
Sienna Hayes



“I see beauty in people, particularly those with high drive and passion to pursue their best selves in spite of the challenges that are put in front of them. I admire those who face their fear and go for it”.

- ELLIS



MODEL
Ali Claire

MODEL
Rylee Wolf





MODEL
Bettina

LORENZO GATTO

LORENGATTO.WIXSITE.COM/LORENZOGATTO





MODEL
Chiara Ferrara

A Night at the Theater

A hush comes over the audience as the house lights dim and the curtain is drawn.

Discovering the artistic photography of Lorenzo Gatto is like experiencing a night at the theater. In his images, Lorenzo sets a stage with expressive characters who use dance to tell epic stories about love, loss, life, and hope.

With fluid grace and expressive timing, movement is expressed as a universal language we can feel and understand. With each new character taking the stage, we are offered a new layer of insight and meaning.

The images of Lorenzo Gatto are an opportunity to be transported, to take a seat in a grand historic theater for a masterful production. What else is there to do at the end but enthusiastically offer a standing ovation.

MODELS

Angelo Marco Accardi
Adriana Gaglio



MODEL
Anita Richichi



MODEL
Annalisa Bardo

MODEL
Desirèe Giovenco

MODEL
Adriana Gaglio



DAVE RUDIN

FIGURESOFGRACE.COM
MODELSOCIETY.COM/PHOTOGRAPHER/DAVE-RUDIN

Relationship to Life and Photography

I have long thought of photography as an egalitarian art. With such forms of artistic expression as drawing, painting, and sculpture one must be gifted with the physical dexterity of hand to excel. Of course, in addition to that, one needs to have the artistic vision to match.

With photography, it's all about vision. The camera, giving us what Henri Cartier-Bresson called "instant drawing," makes us all equally dexterous. Even people who can't draw a straight line have a chance. That's a powerful tool and how we use it is up to each individual to decide.



MODEL
Carlotta Champagne



MODEL
Carlotta Champagne

If I were to divide photographers into two types, I might choose those who depict the world as it is and those who depict the world as they would like it to be. I definitely fall into the latter category. The world is (and, I suspect, has always been) a place where one feels helpless to change things. With a camera, I feel empowered – not to change the world, but to create my own world on film and paper.

In a world that often seems chaotic, I try to give my images a sense of beauty, of elegance, and of grace – hence the name for my website, Figures of Grace. While this may apply literally to my work with the nude figure, my aim is to instill a sense of grace and elegance into all of my images.







There are many photographers working today who try to change the world by showing others how it really is. Many risk their lives to do so and I salute them all. They are certainly needed. My goal, however, is to show that there also exists a world of beauty, something to show that life is worth living – and I think that's a thing we all need too.













Nude Fine Art

When I began working with the nude figure, I had no realization that it would become a long term theme. I'd attended a weekend workshop in upstate New York in 1995 and it might have ended there had another photographer not invited me to participate in some private photo sessions with models during the ensuing months. Through these events and with the encouragement of others, I found that I enjoyed photographing the nude. It is, admittedly, a pleasing subject – but I also found that I had some talent in doing so. As a Classics major in college, I had studied classical art and I began to also view nudity as living sculpture.

It was also something very different from what I had been doing. While my travel and nude photos are similar in that they share a common vision, the two are very different in one manner: my travel photography is reactive, while my nude work is proactive. In my travels, I search for scenes that interest me visually, which I then try to frame in a strong and interesting manner. I have little power to change the basic elements in that scene. For a nude photo to be successful, it is equally important to find and frame a visually interesting background, but I also have the ability to alter a key element by placing the model where I choose.



My work with the nude figure also receives the credit for turning me into a primarily black and white photographer. I decided from the start to photograph this in black and white as the masters of the genre had primarily done. This led to me doing my own developing and printing and coming up with my own vision for black and white. Now, when someone asks me why I don't photograph in color, I simply answer, "Why should I?"

MODEL
Femina



MODELS
Femina, Anoush Anou,
Muirina Fae



MODEL
Sienna Hayes



MODEL
Muirina Fae



MODEL
Aubrey



MODELS
Femina,
Meghan Claire



MODELS
Erica Jay,
BlueriverDream,
Johannsdottir



MODEL
Anoush Anou



MODEL
St. Merrique

Equipment

Nearly all of these images have been made with medium format photo equipment. A few exceptions employ Kodak's 35mm and infrared film. My primary camera is a Pentax 67 SLR, supplemented by a Fuji 6×7 rangefinder, a Rolleicord TLR, and, most recently, a Holga. Even though it is bigger and heavier to carry around than 35mm gear, the increase in image quality makes the medium format equipment worthwhile.

MODEL
Meghan Claire





MODEL
Aubrey



MODELS
Aubrey, Brooke Lynne, Bjorg, Hallgerdur



MODEL
Aubrey

MODEL
Aubrey



MODELS
Aubrey, Brooke Lynne, Bjorg, Hallgerdur



MODELS
Nadine Stevens, Rebecca Tun



MODELS
Meghan Claire,
Femina

“Beauty is that which elicits a positive and uplifting emotional response when experienced.”

- DAVE RUDIN



MODEL
Anoush Anou



MODELS
Aubrey, Brooke Lynne, Bjorg, Hallgerdur



MODEL
Aubrey

ALEX SHER

ALEXSHERPHOTO.COM

A Different World and a Different Life

Once upon a time, when wheels were made of stone and phones were hung on walls, I lived with my grandmother. I loved her and I loved her stories. She once told me a story about a photographer. She did not tell me his name, but she described him as someone who could make any woman look beautiful with his camera. I envied him. I wanted to be the man in the story and I wanted my grandma to say that about me someday.

Many years have since passed. I've traveled the world, changed many jobs and cameras. I've taken pictures of unbelievable people and places. But through all of life's journey, I am always in pursuit of beauty.







I have become like a hunter of beauty and when I capture it, the images are my trophies. No matter where you go to take photos, beauty will surprise you. It may be sitting right there on the side of the road. You never know what it will be, so one needs to keep his eyes open and his camera ready.



"I want to hear people say someday, that I can make anyone look beautiful with my camera."

– ALEX SHER





"Real beauty is when you look at a photo
of a nude woman and forget she is naked."

- ALEX SHER









"I work underwater. It is a different world
and a different life, but the perception of beauty
remains the same.

- ALEX SHER



About the photographer

Alex Sher is a prolific American fine art photographer whose images of feminine sensuality have earned him global acclaim. His underwater photographs have been exhibited in some of the world's most prominent museums and galleries.

Alex was born in Ukraine and moved to the US with his parents in 1995. He first began exploring underwater photography in 2010 and was published for the first time just three years later. In 2015, Sher's images were exhibited in The Louvre (Paris) then in museums in London, New York, Los Angeles, and Moscow. His first personal exhibition was in Beverly Hills in 2015. Alex's first photo book *Mermaids* was published in 2018.

Alex now lives and works in Los Angeles. In addition to his figurative fine art photography, Alex is working on a new project devoted to kelp forest preservation.



Adaptation and Discovery

What is beauty? I can only say that you know it when you see it in your own unique way. For me, models who are often described by the industry as beautiful, can occur to me as bland or lacking in individuality. I am much more drawn to models who have an interesting look and character.

BOB VERNEY

LANE'S PHOTOGRAPHY
MODELSOCIETY.COM/PHOTOGRAPHER/LANES-PHOTOGRAPHY

“I am particularly interested in images that tell a story and I actively aim to imply a strong narrative in any work. I also love Gothic and Victorian style shoots and especially love location work.”

- BOB VERNEY






LANES PHOTOGRAPHY



"I am dyslexic, I only discovered this in recent years. This discovery explained the many struggles I have had throughout my life. Learning new skills is extremely hard for me and I have discovered ways to adapt."









I want viewers to experience what I experience. I want them to see something different than the glossy magazine styles that are often the norm.

- BOB VERNEY


ABRASIVE WHEELS









“As a teenager discovering the opposite sex, I would sit and stare at images, having no idea that years later I would be creating my own works of art.

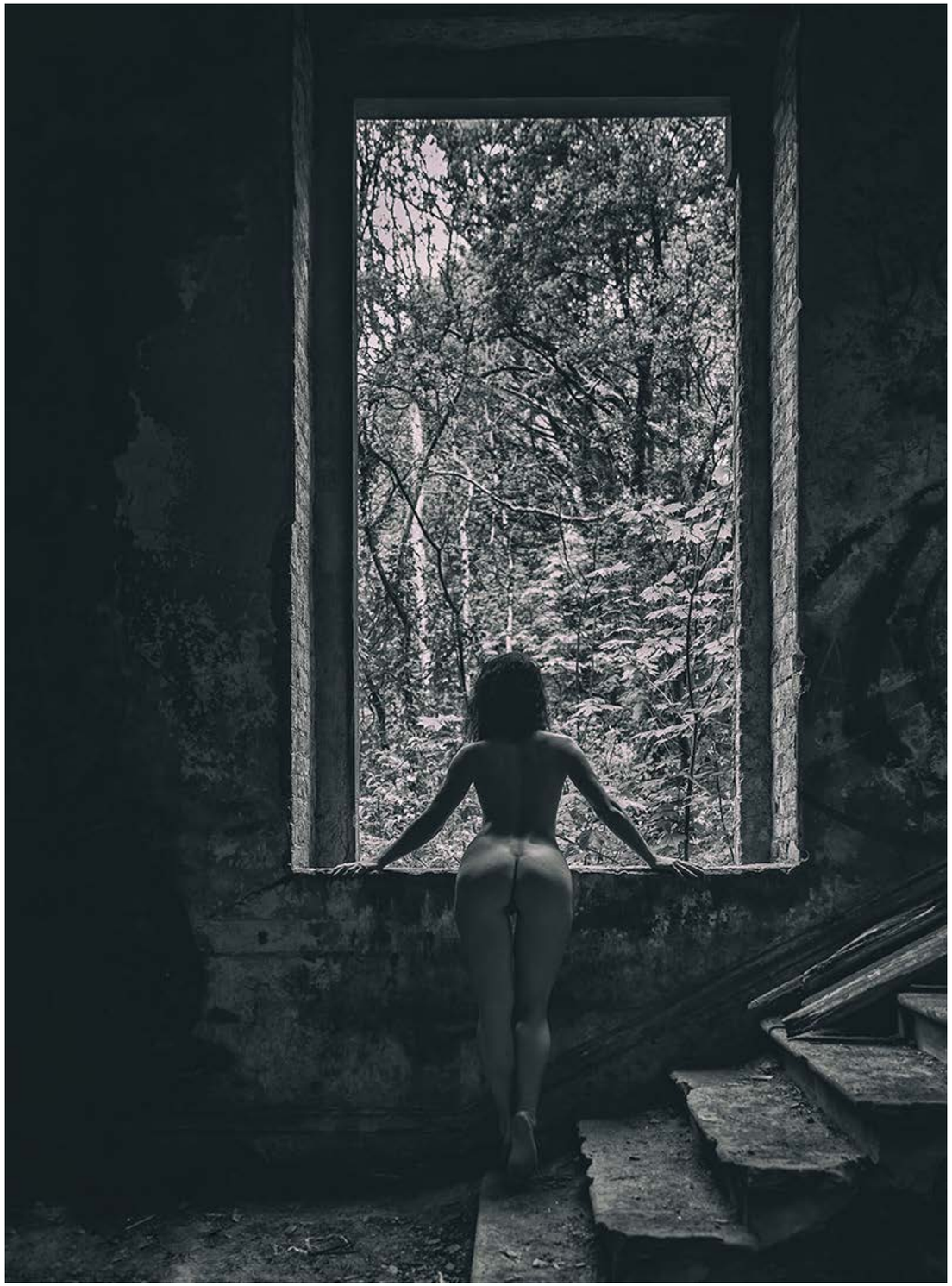
- BOB VERNEY

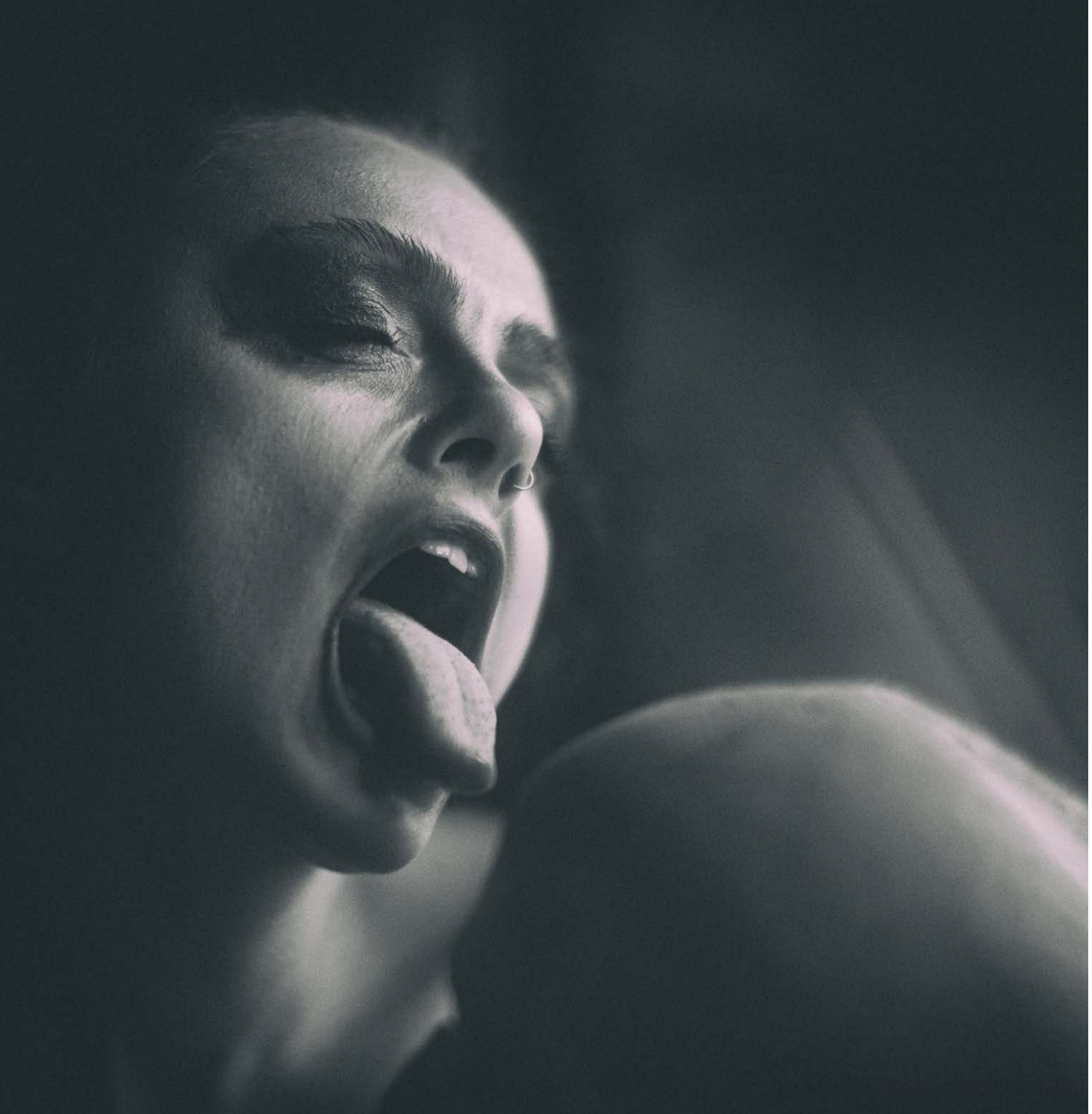
I never thought of myself as artistic. I can’t draw, paint, or play music. When I discovered photography, I discovered my artistic outlet. My love of the female form, art-nude, and boudoir photography found an outlet and allowed me to discover and express my creativity. I have realized over time that I actually do have an artistic streak.



I have a passion for working on location. No matter how much I try, I simply cannot come to grips with speedlights or continuous lighting. It is like a foreign language to me. As a result, I have developed my use of natural light to my advantage.







I use high ISO with slow shutter speeds and wide apertures resulting in a style that suits me. I often take shots as slow as 1/25th of a second so I've gotten good at remaining perfectly still while hand-holding the camera. A tripod would restrict me too much because I am constantly on the move.

ORVILLE SPENCE

1006PHOTOGRAPHY.COM
MODELSOCIETY.COM/PHOTOGRAPHER/ORVILLE-SPENCE

Art Unto Itself

The idea of shooting something artistic has always been an essential part of what I endeavor to do. Playing more with shadows than light but still, light is an essential part of photography.

I want my work to provoke in people a feeling of wanting. It's not about having them want something from my images but rather wanting to see more, know more, and imagine more of what's missing for them in life. My hope is that they will view my images and let their imaginations take a journey to find those missing parts that may otherwise be unseen.

Through making art I've learned no two people see things in the same way. While there are similarities, no two people ever have the same exact view or opinion on any subject, not just art and images. As I see it, the human body is a work of art unto itself, but it's not always perceived that way. So many of us take it for granted.



MODEL
Kadii

“I am for the island of Jamaica, the home of Sprint king Usain Bolt and the Legendary Bob Marley. Kingston is where I reside but I traverse the island as work allows. Photography is full-time work but as with everything, perseverance is what keeps me going. Jamaica is my home but through the lens of my camera, the world is my composition.”

- ORVILLE SPENCE

ART MODEL
Ms Lawrence

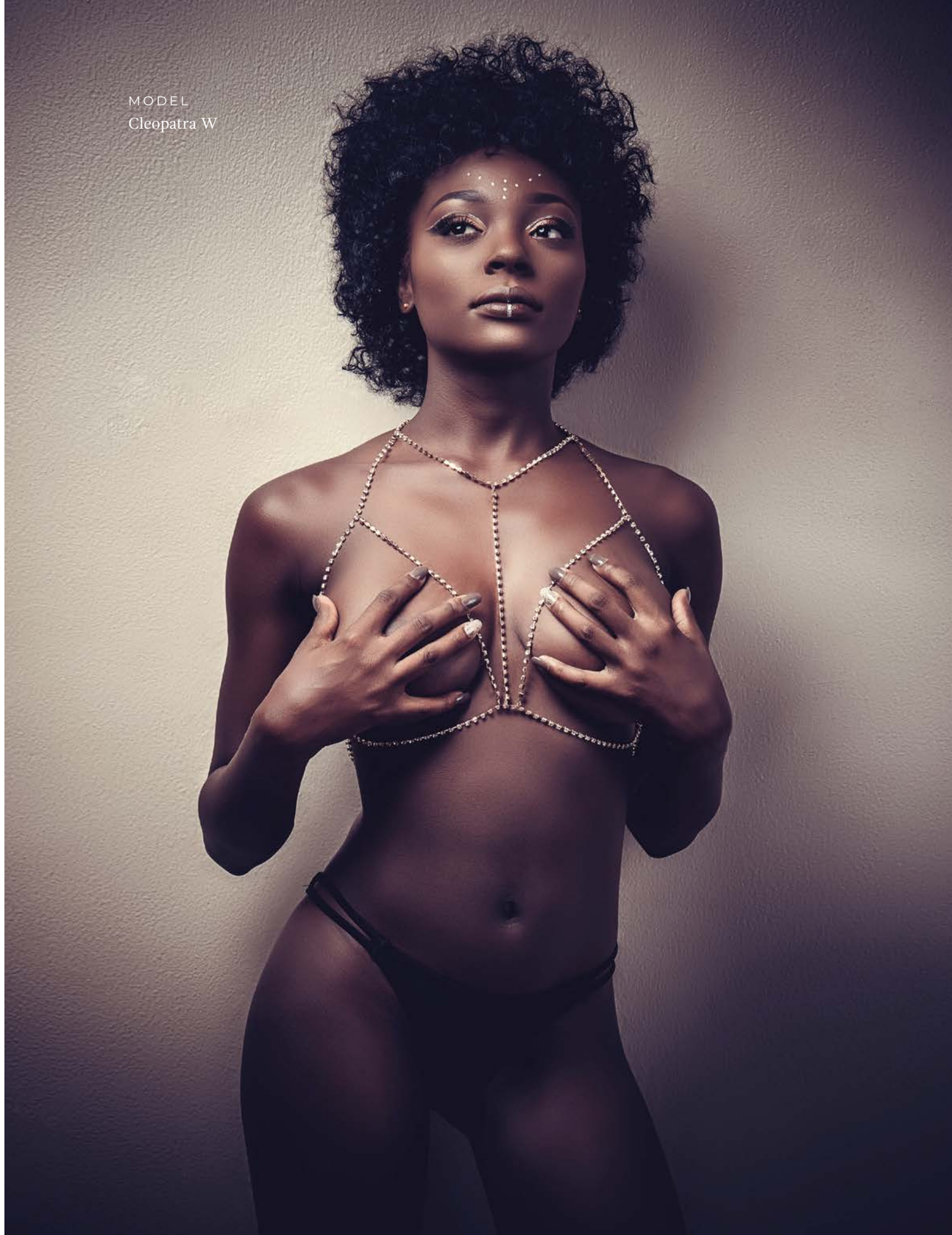


MODEL
Amoy Halstead



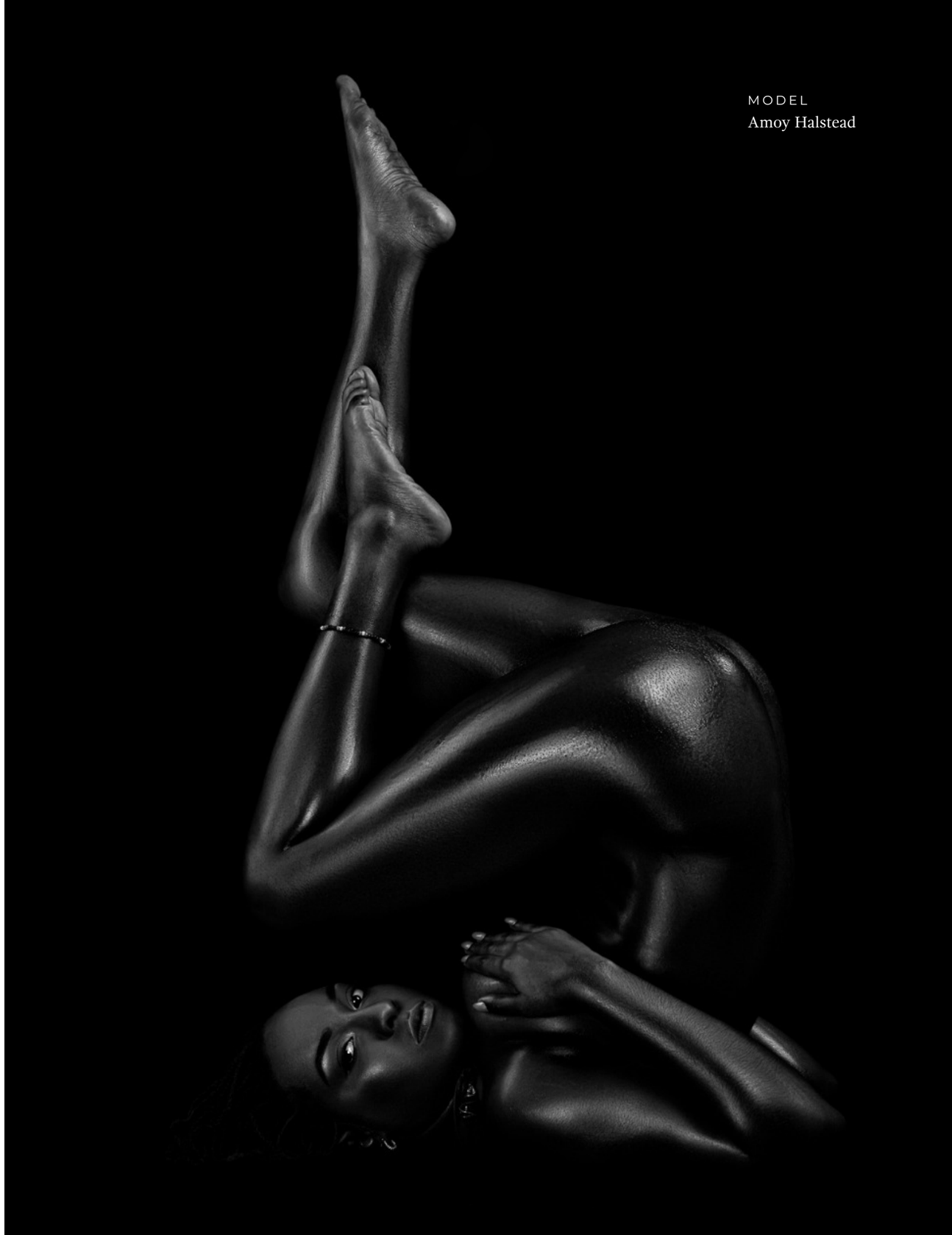
MODEL
Ms Lawrence




MODEL
Cleopatra W



MODEL
Amoy Halstead



MODEL
Malika Stewart



“I love photography of all kinds. Action, abstract, landscape, and even amateur subjects. I love the beauty of life. I appreciate how death and decay bring forth new life.”

- ORVILLE SPENCE

It’s not easy being an artist. One of the biggest challenges is freeing oneself from the expectations of others. It seems like people want to define you, put you in a box and keep you there. The hard part can be escaping those definitions and following your own path. Sometimes the challenge is getting out of the box you put yourself in. Many people end up following a trend instead of exploring their own ideas.



MODEL
Shanice Morrison



MODEL
Tanice Hall



MODEL
Liz

WILL STRONG PHOTOGRAPHY

(YB2 NORMAL) I MODELSOCIETY.COM/PHOTOGRAPHER/YB2NORMAL

Amazing Vessel

I started with figurative photography because I loved the mechanics and process of making an image. In the film days, there was a fair amount of technical effort required to even see the images you had just captured. While much of that effort has been eliminated as a result of digital media, I have continued to find ways to challenge myself technically, in pursuit of making my images. My path to fine art photography was simply an extension of those pursuits; a quest to take the simplest, most common object, our very bodies, and apply what I've learned to portray the human body as a beautiful piece of art.

I want people to know that we have all been blessed with this amazing vessel called the human body and that we should, at all times, celebrate it, take care of it, and share it unapologetically and with a heart full of joy.



I have learned that in virtually all of us, there is a spirit that wants to be seen and acknowledged; to be known in some small way, for the creative energy, the uniqueness, that we have to contribute to the universe.

The main challenge I've had to overcome is this stigma, perpetuated by a puritanical culture, that celebrating the nude human form is somehow wrong or unseemly. I have worked with a large number of amazing models and body artists who have helped me shed those misconceptions and truly embrace the human form for the piece of art that it really is.

MODELS
Liv and Beth



MODEL
Ahna Green

Will Strong

MODEL
Beth



MODEL
Olivia



MODELS
Sasha and Gilbert



I am proud of my ability to create a safe space for my models and body artists to shed the limitations and expectations of a society that tries to tell us what is, or is not, appropriate and acceptable. By and large, these are people who are already pretty comfortable in their bodies, and I am humbled by the fact that they have selected me to help them celebrate their bodies in such a beautiful and courageous way.

MODEL
Ahna Green



Beauty is anything that causes you to pause, even for a brief moment, and admire it. This will be different with everyone, and my long-term goal is to become aware of my own bias on what “beauty” is; to stretch the boundaries of that bias and continue creating work that gets people to pause, even for the briefest of moments.



Much of my work centers around this idea that I picked up from the delightful photographer Jasper Johal. His “Body As Temple” work has truly inspired me. I have chosen to follow a similar path with my own Body As Temple work, which seeks to celebrate the nude human form in poses of grace, flexibility, and athleticism.

The thing I most want to share with people is that you are unique. You are singularly qualified to live the life you have been given, so go do it, unapologetically, with a heart full of joy.

MODELS
Ahna and Ari



MODEL
Tara Elrich

MODELS
Beth and Liv





MODEL
Ari Groobman



MODEL
Ahna Green



MODEL
Ari Groobman



MODEL
Elizabeth Lee



MODEL
Ahna Green

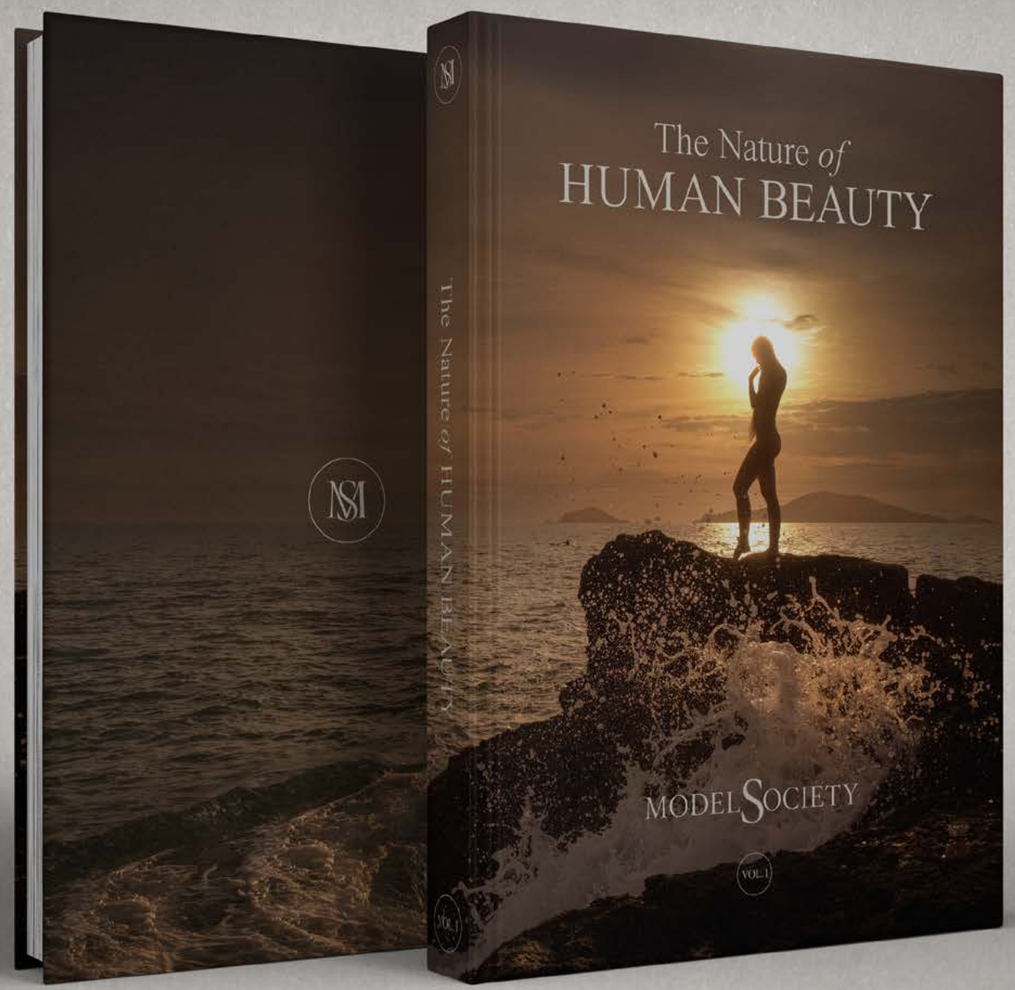
PHOTOGRAPHER
Alex Sher

THANK YOU
for believing in human beauty!

MODEL SOCIETY
MAGAZINE

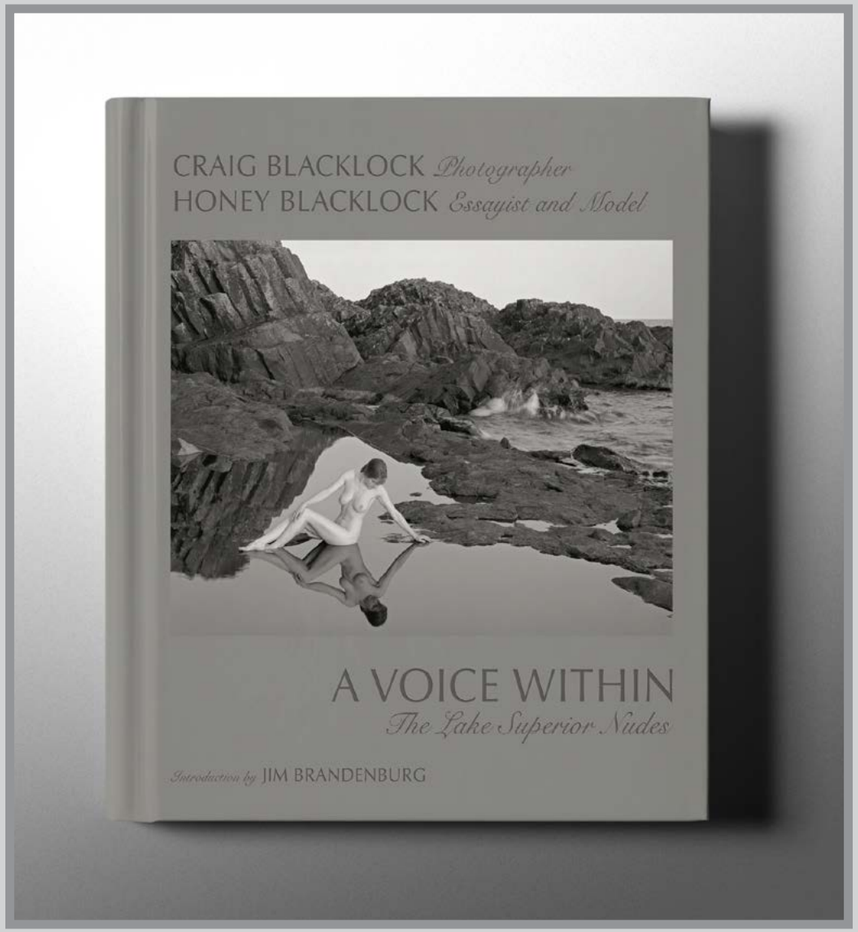
The Nature *of* HUMAN BEAUTY

An elegantly crafted hardcover book
celebrating human beauty and nature
as one timeless work of art.



A VOICE WITHIN

By Craig & Honey Blacklock



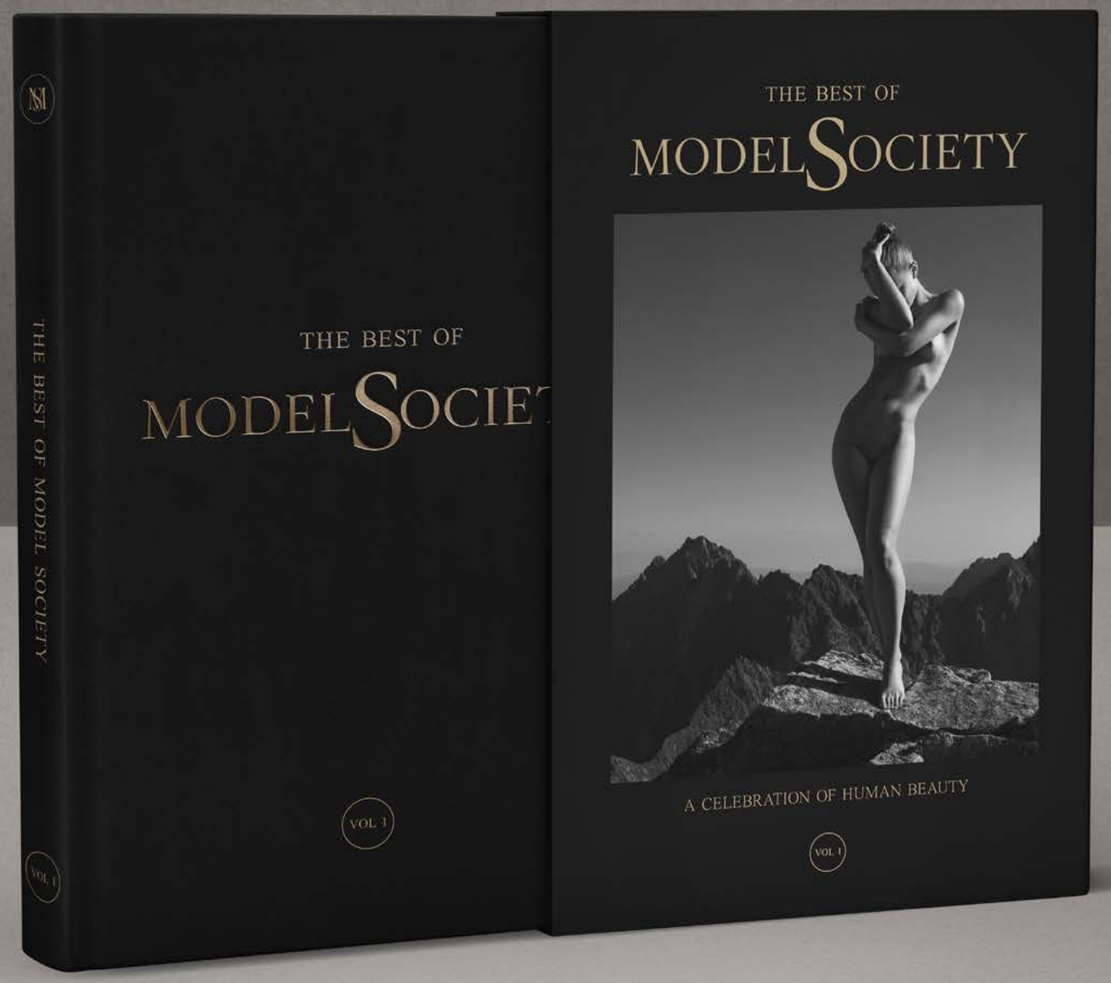
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MORE THAN 30 VIDEO LESSONS

Learn how to work with nude models to create stunning art. Joel Belmont and Craig Blacklock reveal the technical, creative and communication skills required to begin and master this exquisite art form.

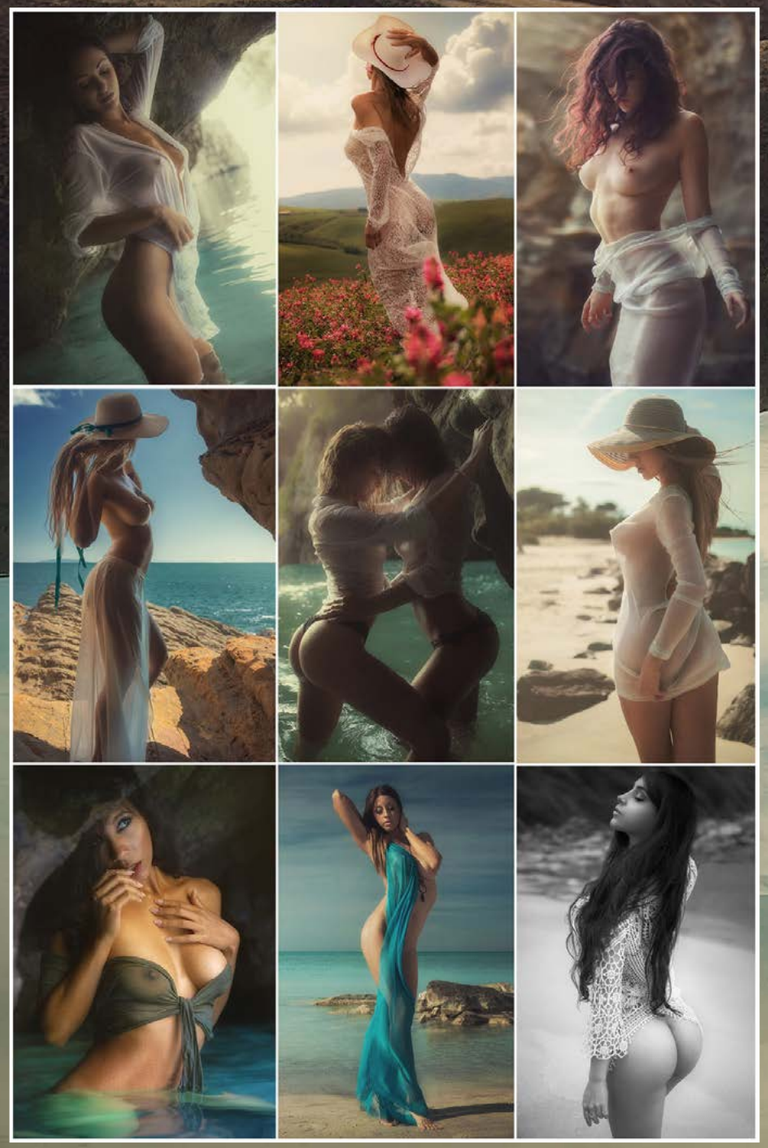




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ACADEMY

PAOLO LAZZAROTTI

16 models and 216 pages of handpicked images
from Paolo Lazzarotti's private portfolio.



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JAIME IBARRA
TRAINING COLLECTION





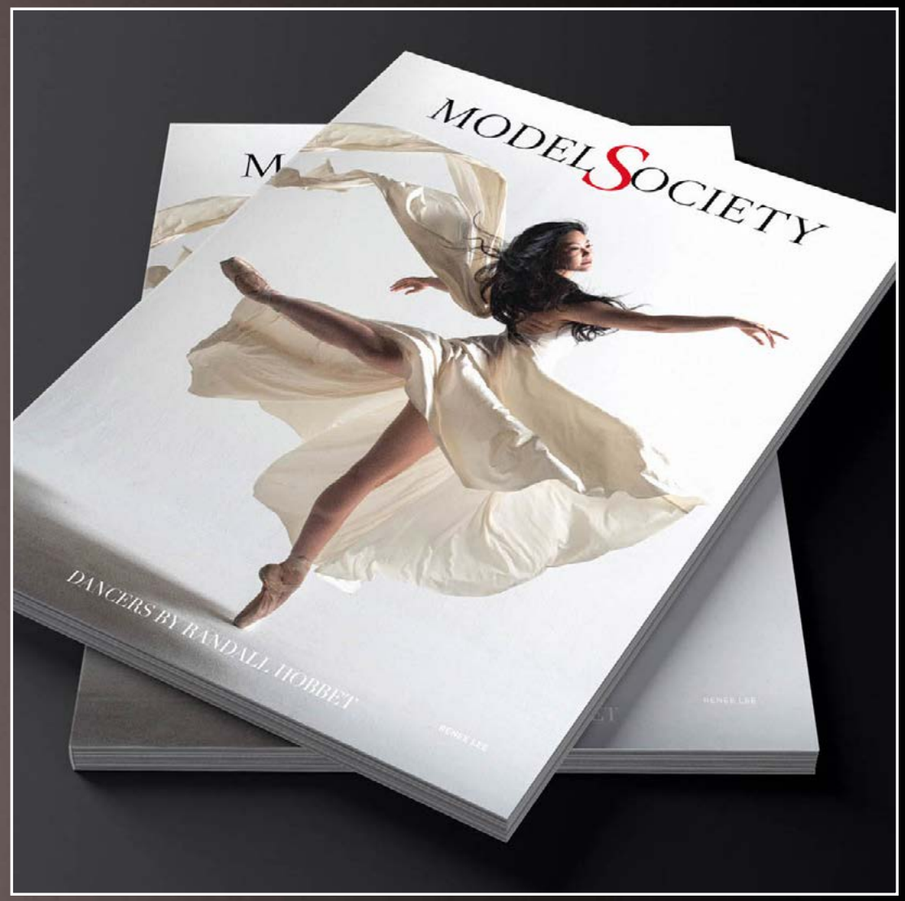
Take your photography to new levels of excellence as you learn the private techniques that propelled Jaime to fame.

MODELSOCIETY.ACADEMY

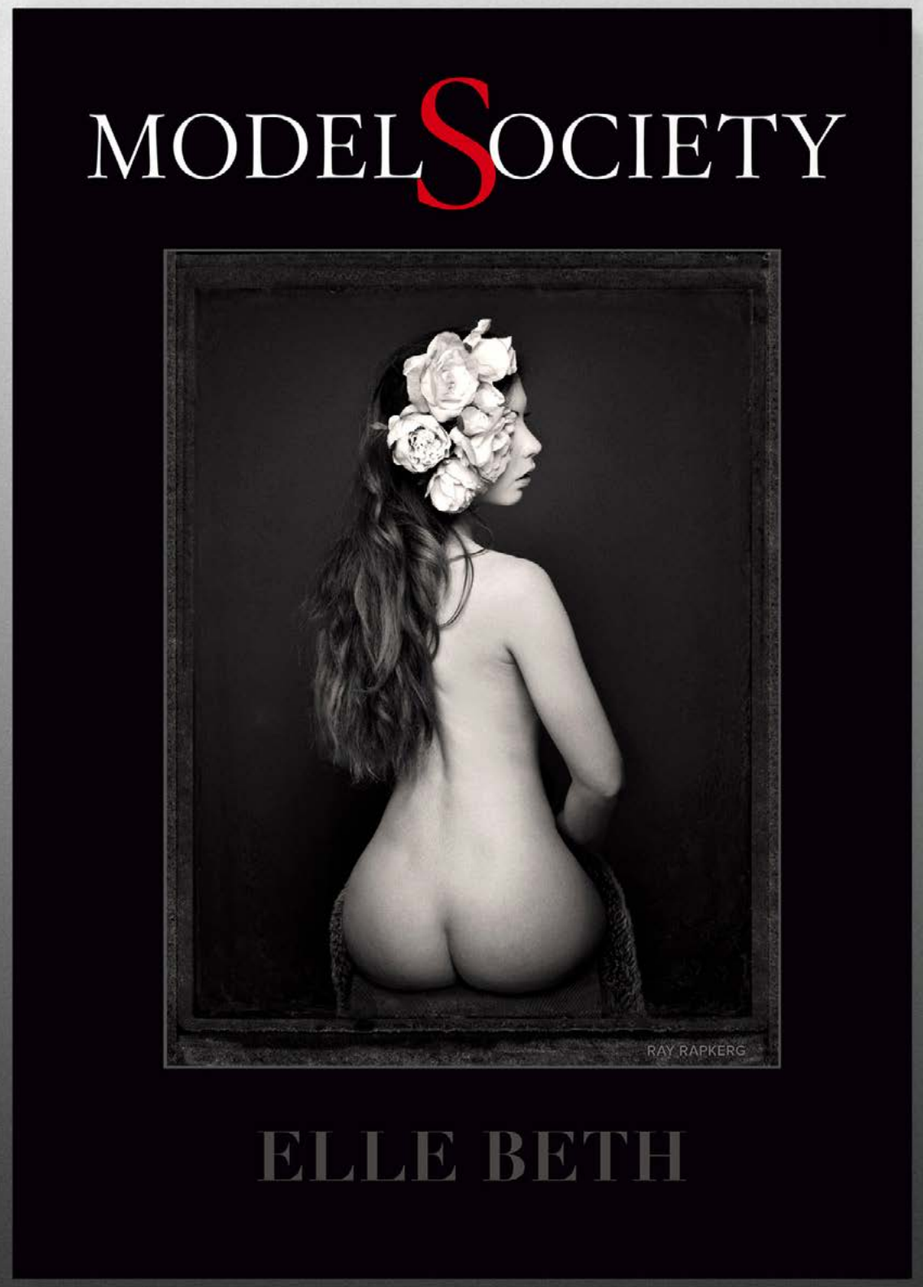
DANCERS

EXPRESSIVE BEYOND WORDS

This is a book of beautiful bodies that is meant to elevate our experience of humanity. With images that are both nude and clothed, this book puts the bodies of both men and women ballet dancers on a pedestal as something we can celebrate, and simply enjoy without any trace of shame.



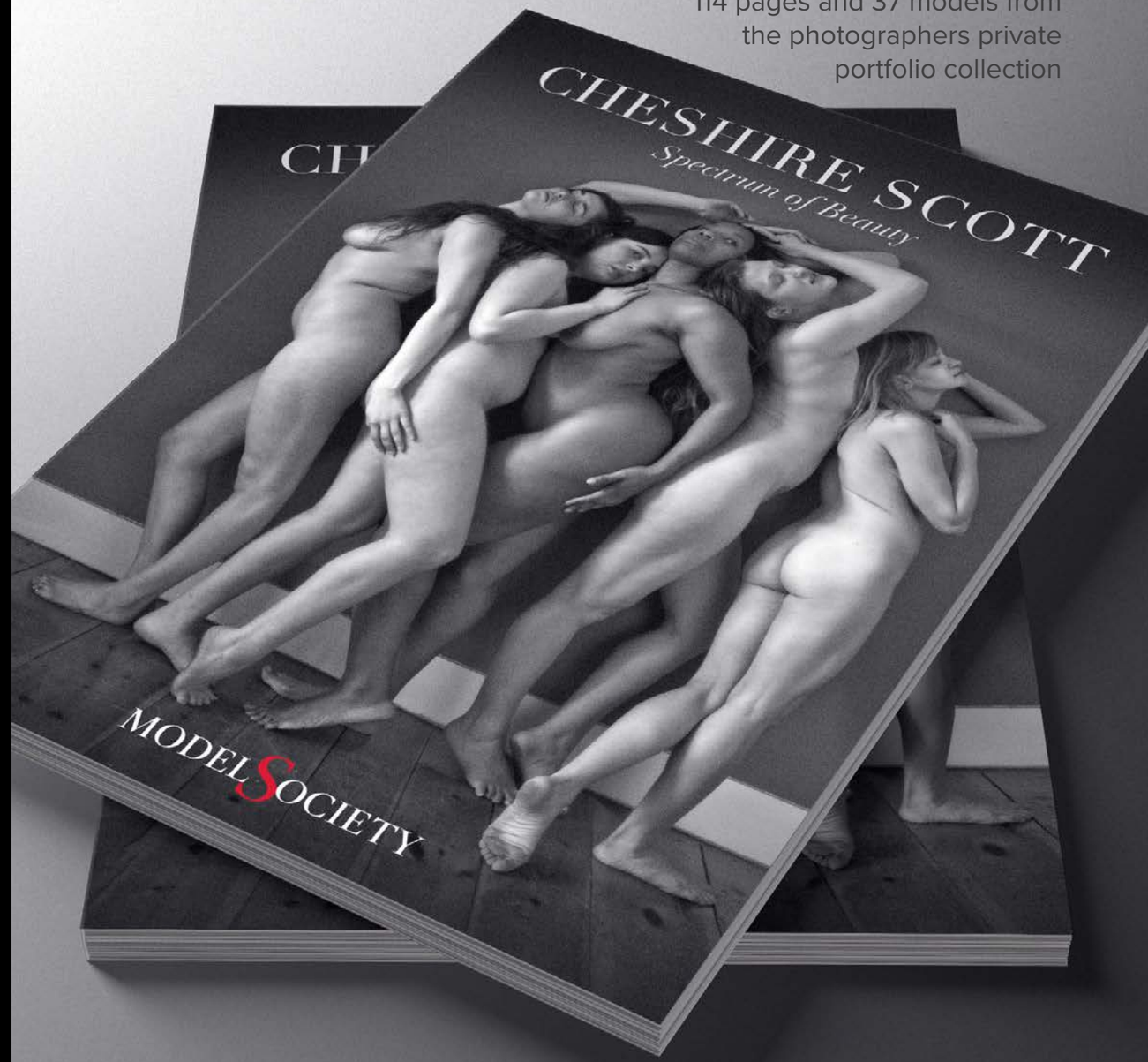
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MODELSOCIETY.ACADEMY

CHESHIRE SCOTT

114 pages and 37 models from
the photographers private
portfolio collection



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MAGAZINE