

## We Create This

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## **Editors Letter**

Dearest reader,

Letters to a Young Poet inspired this issue and I've been ruminating on that for weeks. As I think about the things I would tell a young artist it keeps coming down to this:

"Do things that bring on the feeling of joy.

Embrace your friends often, laugh a lot, skip down the street just because, go to the beach in the Winter and feel the cold fresh air grace your skin, dance every time you hear your favorite song - no matter where you are, know one will care. Enjoy your life freely without judging yourself because that won't do you any good. Be kind to yourself and others even when they are not being kind to you. Anyone's inability to be kind will most likely have nothing to do with you. Please and thank you are always appropriate and interchangeable (thank you Meredith Greenburg for teaching me that in Stage Management 101 - it has served me well). Hear people out. Hold true to your vision so your regrets are few. Throw love at "it" no matter what "it" is... always. Tell your story because, well, no one else will. Travel. Exploring and seeing the way others live can offer lessons I wish for you to find out about yourself - so go, do, be and smile (most importantly - smile). Listen to your inner voice when you need guidance, take deep breaths and move forward. "

Enjoy the issue!

XX Eyk

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## Contributors

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#### **Paix Robinson**



Born in Los Angeles and raised in Oakland, CA, Robinson considers himself an artist first and human second. He studied Theatre Arts & Dance at both The University of Southern California and California State University, Los Angeles, and Media and Political Science at the Universitè Paul Cezanne-Aix Marseille III. Using his knowledge and natural talent for fashion and entertainment. Robinson has worked in several facets of the industry; including Print/Online publications, Digital Marketing, Design, Runway Production, Fashion Editorial and TV/Film, in roles that include Producer, Stylist, Videographer, Editor and Style Influencer for brands that include Rag & Bone, Alexander Wang and

Marc by Marc Jacobs. As an artist, His series of paintings entitled The (Re) Birth of Cool, inspired by the sounds of jazz and southern blues premiered in Harlem, NY at Pisticci Restaurant-with a selection of pieces held at The Glint Gallery in San Francisco, Ca. He has been featured in Vogue Britan and Paris, GQ Japan, Huffington Post, Style.com as a Style Influencer and Artist. With featured editorials as an Art Director with Schön Magazine, Vulkan Magazine and IP Mag. Robinson is also the co-founder of The Studio 88.

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## **Timothy Smith**

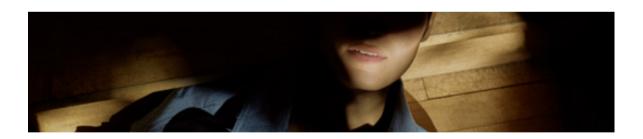


Timothy Smith is a fashion and beauty photographer based in New York. Upon receiving a Master Degree in Digital Photography from the School of Visual Arts, Timothy has worked on a myriad of published editorial and advertisement projects. As the director of all of his shoots, he has a keen eye for detail in curating

stories and uniquely capturing moments. This passion bleeds through his work, leaving an imprint on every subject he works with.

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### Jeff Hodsdon



Born in Los Angeles and currently living in New York City, Jeff makes images of people. He captures of hundreds of people on the streets of cities around the world. In 2014, stemming from dissatisfaction with still images on digital screens, he built a camera to push still images forward.

Somewhere between still and film are his moving portraits. With just enough movement, the images are an intimate view of someone with subtle details not previously captured.

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# Cold Shore



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HAIR STYLIST

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NAIL ARTIST

#### Vanessa Casas

Using Dior / @vcasasnails

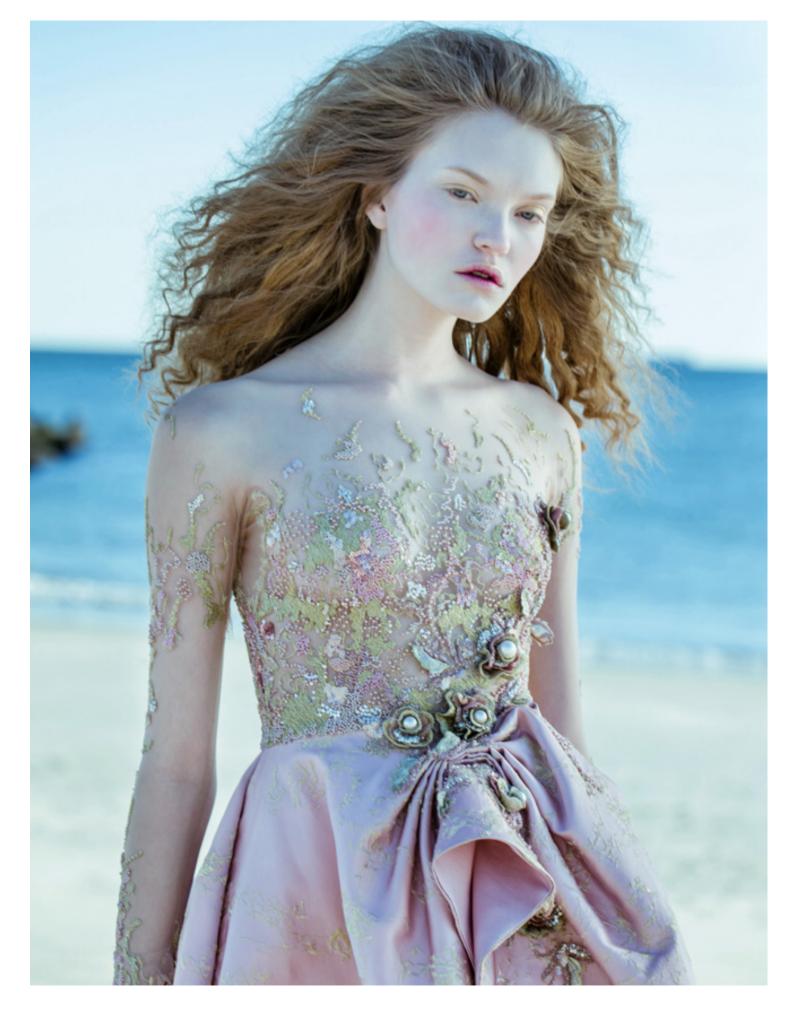
MODEL

#### Abby for IMG

@therealabbywilliamson

COLD SHORE





13

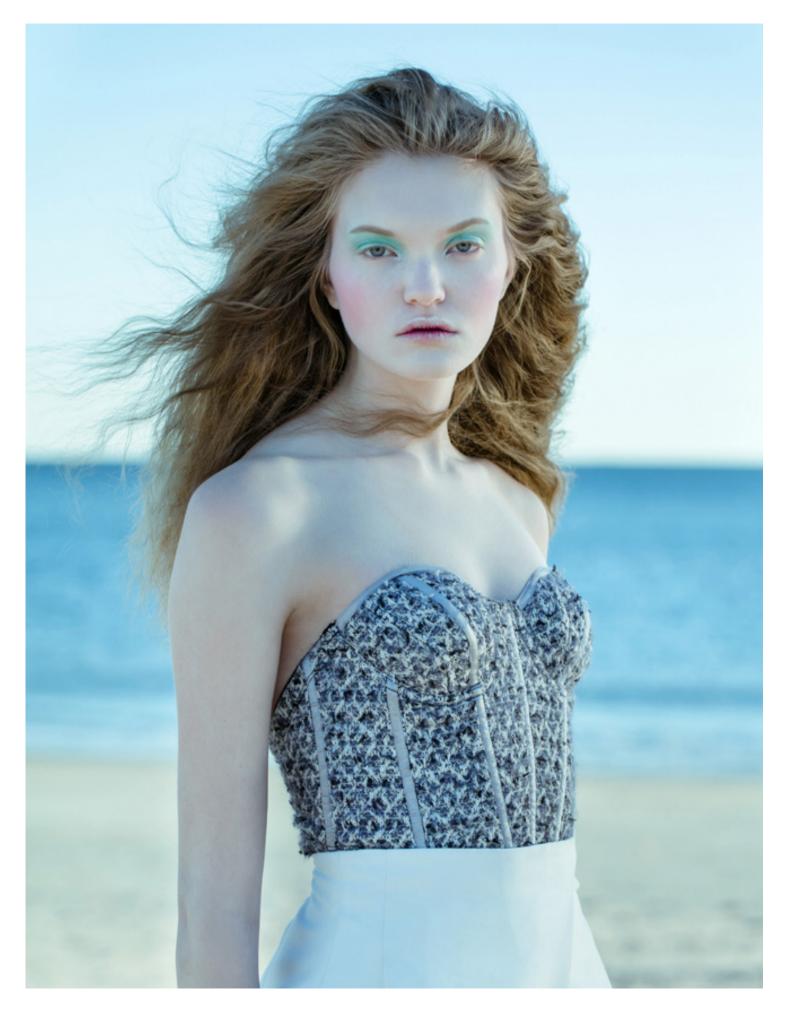
COLD SHORE





15





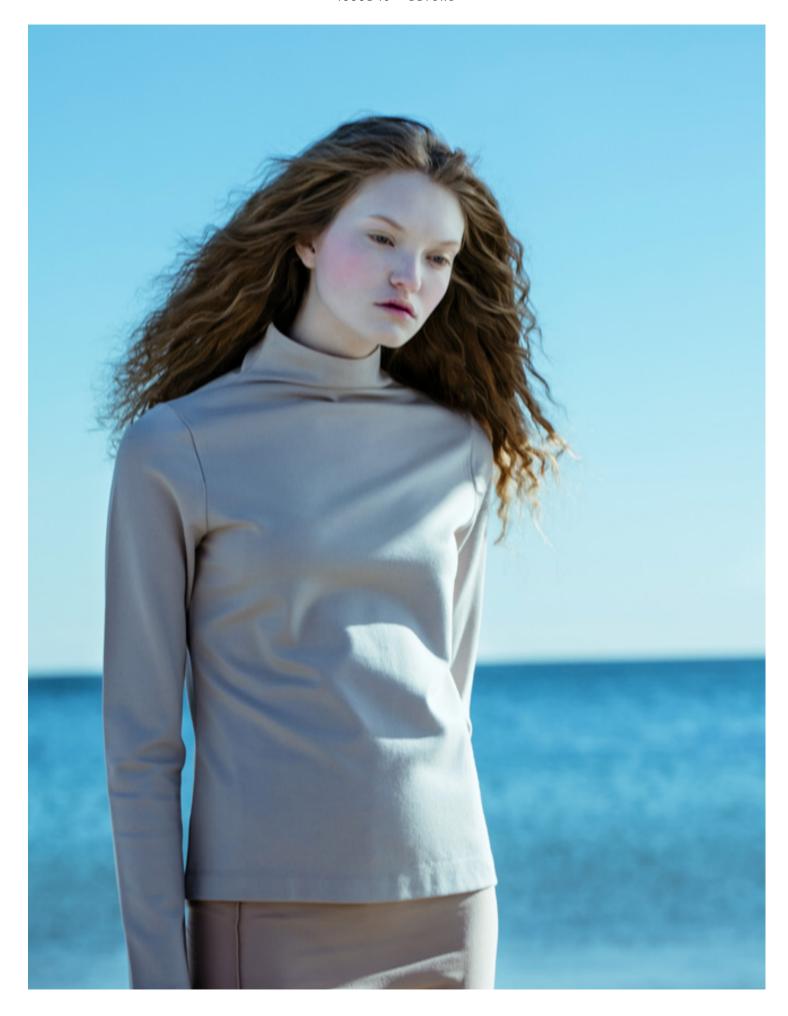


ON ABBY
Corset, Va Bien
White gown skirt, Halston
Boots, Delman



LEFT Top, Moskov Pleated skirt, Halston Boots, Delman

RIGHT
Wide turtleneck, 2nd Day
Silk dress, Johnny Was
Boots, Delman



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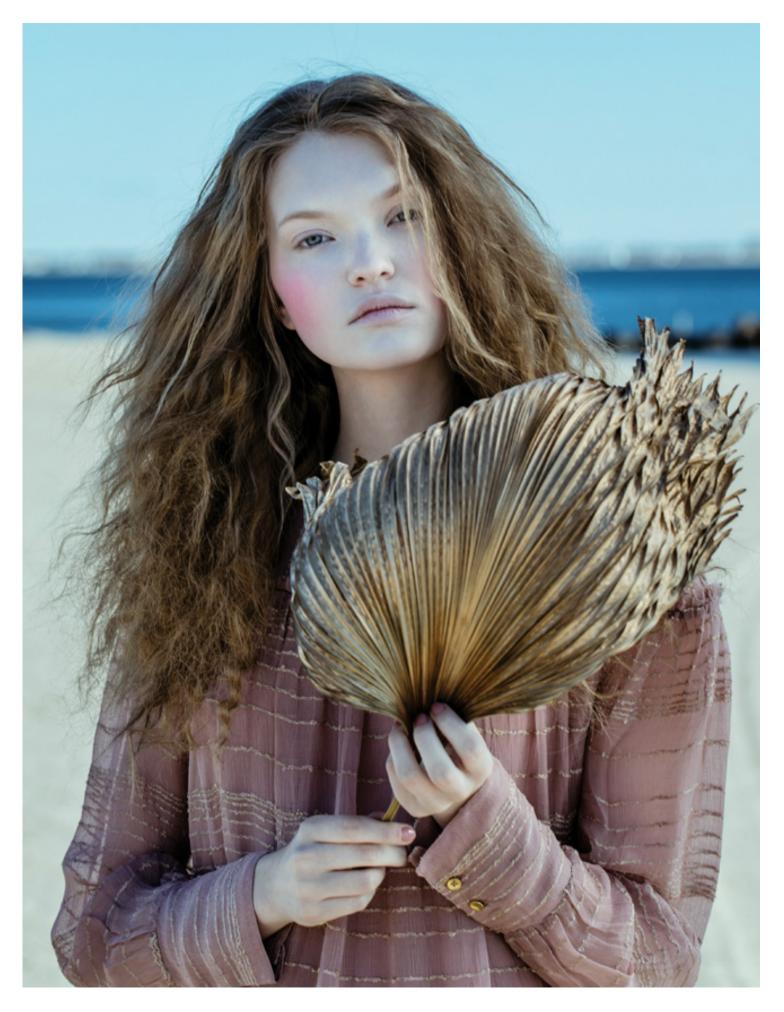


COLD SHORE





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ON ABBY
Tunic, Day
Boots, Delman
Gold leaf, Florisity



# Murmuration



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MODEL

Marina for IMG

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#### ON MARINA

Pants, Vest and Cape, Moskov Cashmere Sweater, Dolce Gabbana Boots, Delman

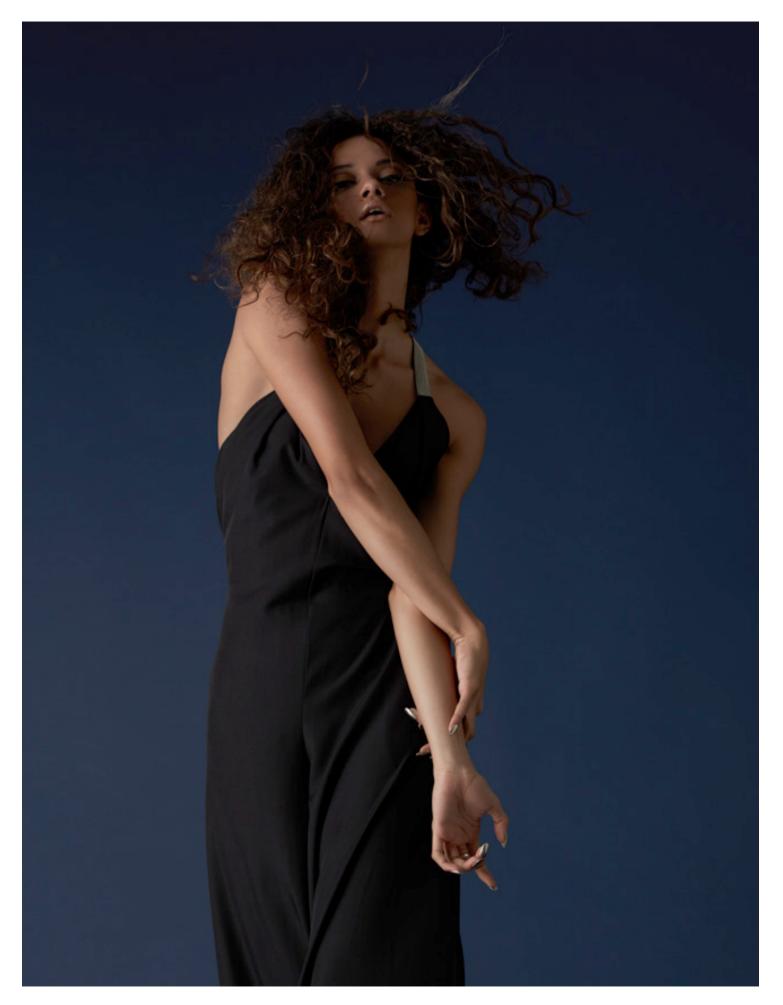
MURMURATION

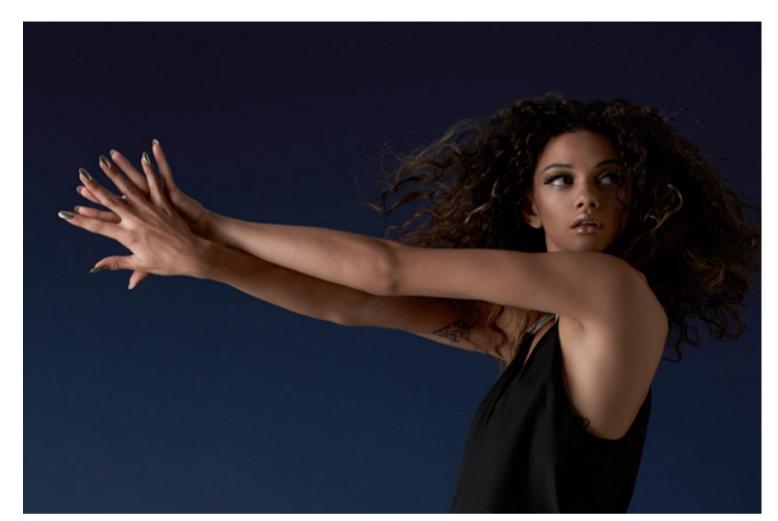
MURMURATION





MURMURATION ISSUE 19 - BEYOND





ON MARINA Jumpsuit, Halson Lace-up Boots, Delman



MURMURATION ISSUE 19 - BEYOND





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## Artist Journal Nico Van Straatum

BACK TO LIFE — BACK TO REALITY written by Paix Robinson



As with human nature, when the four walls of one's own home become too clamorous or lackluster for imagination to thrive we retreat. Designer, Yves Saint Laurent had the tapestries and tiles of Marrakesh when his famed Paris fashion house fell under siege in the 1970's. There he imagined some of fashion's most elaborate and ingenious pieces. Poet, Allen Ginsberg left Paterson, New Jersey and only looked back from far off destinations like Tangier and Northern California. Boarded up in a tenement studio of solitude in San Francisco he took culture to typewriter and illustrated a large majority of his most celebrated work, Howl and Other Poems.

For Bay Area native and Brooklyn resident Nicole Van Straatum, there will always be Suriname.

ALONG THE RIVER

NVS: Dug out canoes have been the river's natural vehicles for centuries. A boat's man that knows the stream is connected to the very pulse of the Amazon – he channels a deeper rhythm that carries him.

Awarradam, Suriname





#### PINEAPPLES AND TIRES

46

NVS: On our way to Blaka Watra, we stopped to get direction from a woman and her daughter selling Pineapples. I think we got a pineapple too.

En Route to Blaka Watra, Suriname

Creative Producer for film, photography and experimental art, Nicole or "Nico" as she is called, retreated to the place of her father's birth. A place that many people couldn't point out on a map or even when shown would still draw an innocent blank.

The perfect emergence of wide sky vantage and tropical rehabilitation within the South American country gave this artist the breath of sight to new creative bounds. Taking a step away from the concrete blocks of New York City into the jungles of displaced industrial form.

Documented through candid and effortless visual testament The Suriname Journal gives an intimate portrait of an artist's inquisition into her roots to further push the leaves of creativity forward.

Off the heels of working with brands like Kate Spade, The Arrivals and Assembly New York, Nico makes the hustle feel easy, insightful and chic.

Her minimalistic style, shaggy mid-Mick Jagger curly top and infectious laugh make any space feel good. Her energy casts natural kindness with a Grace Kelly charm and the high-waisted skirt to match. All of these things both personal and professional are radiances of knowing the questions to ask yourself as an artist, and not afraid to find the answers.

In the years after the coming-of-age move to New York City in 2014, at the age of 21, Nico packed up what was needed and headed south. Having a familial relation to the smallest country in South America it was a thirst for history and a passion

for life that brought her to fall in love with her ancestry in direct contact. In that, discovering the avenues in which she could propel her craft.

She floats with the wave of creatives that simply live to create; a methodology that births itself in natural cycle.
Her commitment to community and connection is both fluid and honest.
Using what she knows and always diving for the unknown is her voice and is reflected in her work.

When Collective Magazine was able to connect with the Nico, in a Lower East Side coffee shop lounge on a cool summer day, it was a scene just as postcard worthy as the images brought back from her journey.

It is clear that through exchange of ideas and intellect, the twenty-three year old artist speaks with wisdom beyond the projected claim of her millennial peers. Always giving tribute to that which has made her whole today was a constant thread woven between the discussions in The Suriname Journal.

"The two places
I want to give
back to the most are
Oakland and
Suriname because
those are my Roots,"
she says.

Using that foundation as solid base on which to spring from. Balancing her time between her own passion projects through film and creative production for new york based fashion brands, there is no end in sight for the millennial. If its one thing that she has, its the willingness to surrender all to the imagination of her craft and the responsibility to get her there

Nico gives Collective thought to testament and reflects on what was given during her stay and what was brought back.

"The moments captured in my Suriname Journal were instantaneous. My curiosity lead me to each subject; to feel closer, to connect to my heritage, to dive deeper into my own self-identity. Prior to my Suriname journey, I was living as a confident 21-year old in fast paced New York City, yet I was beginning to question the very core of identity – who am I? I decided I would leave to Suriname, my father's country on a one-way ticket August of 2014. This decision was made in hopes to ground deeply into the origins of my ancestors, finding my roots first, before I could truly bloom any further as my own person.

During the first couple weeks in Suriname, while staying at my Oma (Grandmother)'s home, my father's childhood house, I began to repeat the same question in my head continually – who am I?

The camera was my vehicle of asking that question outwardly without verbally saying the words. Through publically sharing my personal photography online, I was given a dream opportunity by Surinamese Native, Bay Area-based shamanic healer and author

ARTIST JOURNAL ISSUE 19 - BEYOND



JUNGLE COURT

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NVS: The entire family travels to the "bush" in late August when school and work is officially out. In the jungle 2 hours away from the city of Paramaribo, the kids play in the river; adults swing on hammocks, cook and eat all day with the pure pleasures of life. This is basketball court positioned in the jungle has a beautiful juxtaposition of nature and man-made fixtures.

Marina Lex, Suriname

of "Amazon Wisdom Keeper", Loraine Van Tuyl, PhD to document Suriname for her book trailer and cover.

Loraine commissioned me to travel into the depths of Suriname's Amazon rainforest to witness the astonishingly powerful Saramaccan villages. The Saramaccaans are Suriname's "Maroons" or West Africans brought by Dutch Colonists in the 1700s to Suriname with the intention of becoming slaves, yet the Africans were far too powerful, proud, and wise - they escaped and set up their own villages deep in the jungle. Another spiritual location written into "Amazon Wisdom Keeper", is Galibi Beach at the very northern tip of Suriname, where the Marowijne river meets the Atlantic ocean and the Carib indigenous tribe calls home. The Carib tribe welcomed me with warm open hearts to hear of their spiritual beliefs; that we are deeply connected to our ancestors and all living things around us. They shared a ceremonial dance that praised the spirits of animals around them, and paid homage to their fierce warrior female ancestors.

Suriname is a diverse country, although the population consists of only 550,000 – our people celebrate individual cultures from Creole, Maroon, Amerindian, Hindustani, Indonesian, Chinese, and the majority of us Surinamese are purely a mix of them all. We represent a unique understanding of humans, cultures, and rare species of both fauna and flora. In my eyes, from the daughter's eyes of a Surinamese man, I have learned so much on my first adult trip to Suriname, yet I have many answers to discover of my questions yet to ask – through my lens."

-Nico

rimentalprogress

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NVS: My guide teaches us to weave palms that are used as roofs on the huts of the Saramaccans. Later that day, we try to weave our own.

Awarradam, Suriname





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NVS: I was drawn into the colorful house – there was a sense of solitude in Marina Lex, although I was surrounded with multiple families. The pink house and I stood out; unable to speak Dutch, I was different than the rest, but I was patient with myself. There was too much love to feel insecure.

Marina Lex, Suriname



#### ST LAURENT

52

St Laurent, French Guiana





#### IN CLOUDS

NVS: In an 8-person small plane, we flew south over the northern edges of the Amazon rainforest in Suriname from Paramaribo. For a moment, I felt we were inside of the clouds, and the cloud would not move – the shutter clicked and real-time speed back.

Above the Amazon, Suriname

#### POSTAL BUILDING

NVS: The see-through circles into the blue sky full of fluffy white clouds in downtown Paramaribo.

Paramaribo, Suriname



#### MIDDLE OF THE WORLD

NVS: Where the Atlantic Ocean meets the Marowijne River; Galibi Beach is full of spiritual callings and the people are truly connected to all aspects of nature. They share gratitude with all living things.

Galibi Beach, Suriname

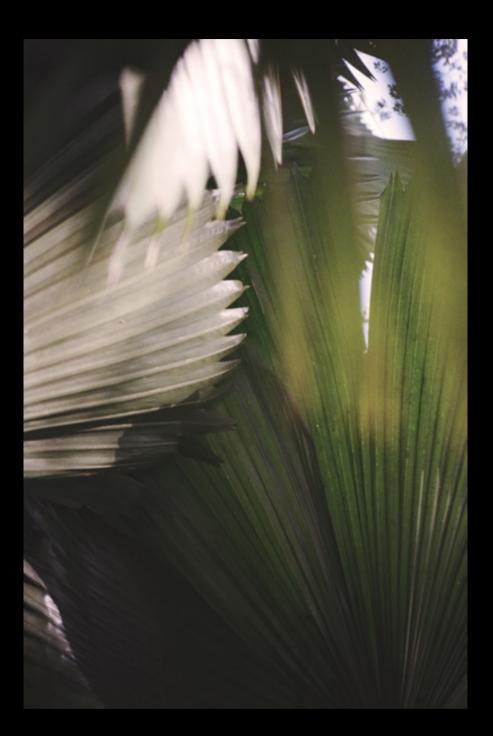


#### HER PANGI HER HAIR

NVS: Pangi is a cotton fabric with multi-colored vertical and horizontal stripes, similar to West African kente cloth, also seen as a wrapped skirt worn by many ethnic groups in Suriname. This image of a Saramaccan woman in the village of Godowata with her vibrant cornrowed hair that matches her Pangi, reminds me of the colorful braided weaves worn in my hometown of Oakland, California. I wonder the cross connection between Amazon jungle villages and concrete inner-cities – does this prove Africa is truly.

Godowata, Suriname





#### PALMS OF BERG EN DAL

NVS: One of my last days in Suriname was spent in Berg En Dal for a family friend's birthday. These palms were one of the last photos I captured from the trip. They were perfectly abstract, yet represented so much I found in Suriname – layered and textured with memories of the past.

Berg En Dal, Suriname



# I Wanna Be

Ready

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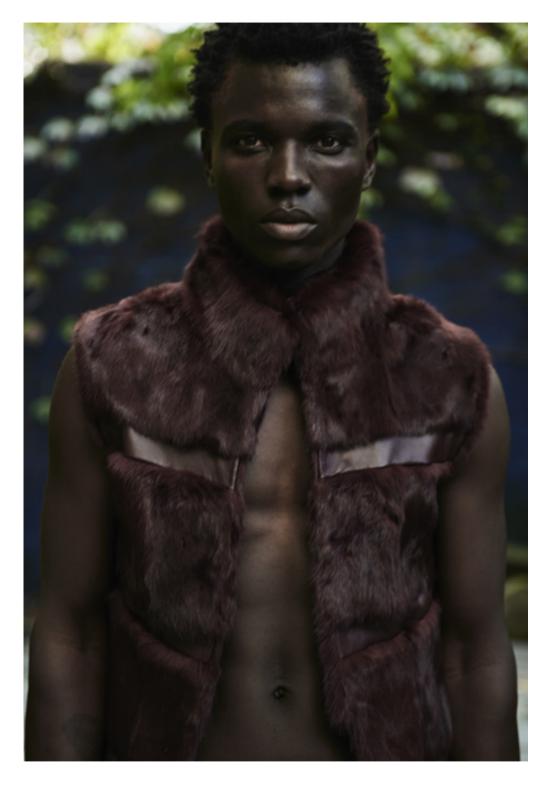
Jide for Major

Yanii Gough
@yaniicharms\_

George for MSA @afrekh

63

I WANNA BE READY



ON GEORGE Vest, Diana Rosh

ON YANNI Jacket, Planet by Lauren G Skirt, Madiyahval Sharqi Scarf, Cytizen by Azin

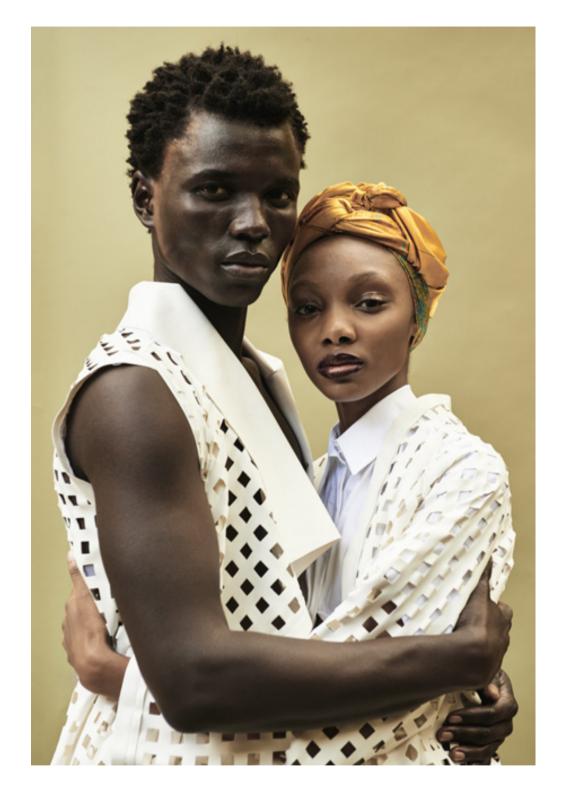
## ON GEORGE Jacket, Planet by Lauren G Pant, Daniel Silverstain Scarf, Cytizen by Azin





I WANNA BE READY





ON GEORGE Vest, Planet by Lauren G Pant, Dzojchen

ON YANNI
Jacket, Planet by Lauren G
Shirt, Planet by Lauren G
Pant, Dzojchen
Scarf, Cytizen by Azin

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I WANNA BE READY



ON GEORGE
Top, Kinross Cashmere
Pant, Queenie

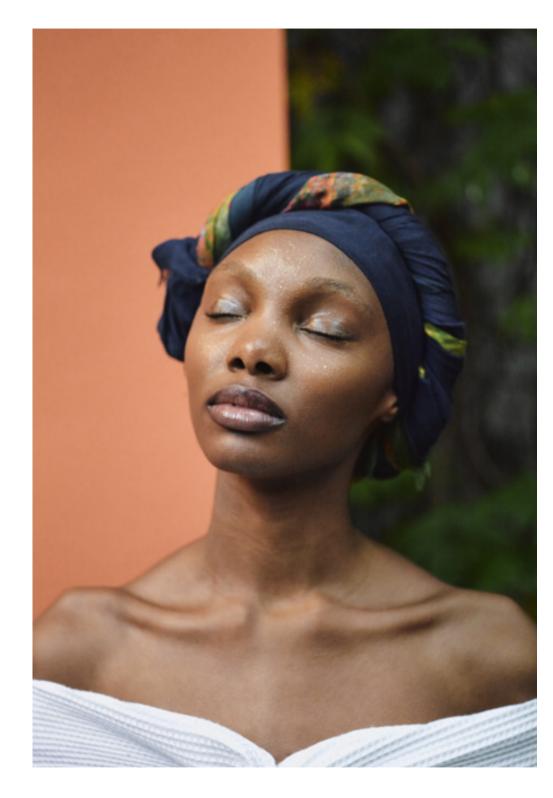
ON YANNI Top, Cytizen by Azin Pant, Dzojchen Scarf, Cytizen by Azin



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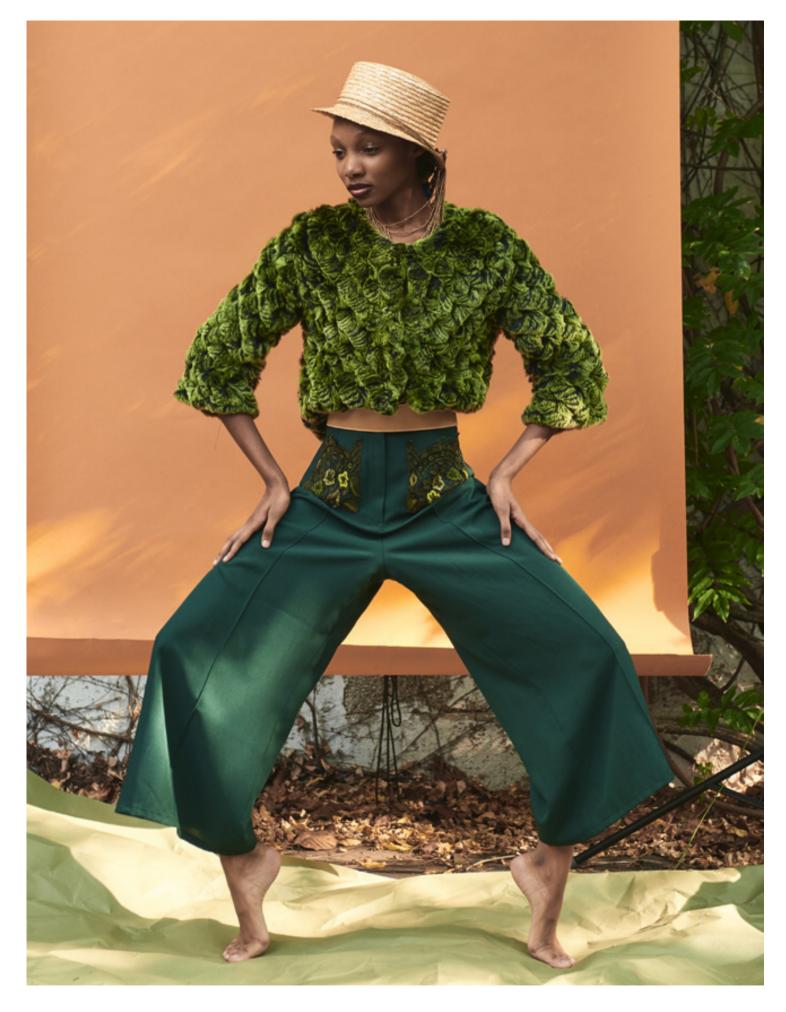
I WANNA BE READY



ON YANNI Scarf, Cytizen by Azin



I WANNA BE READY





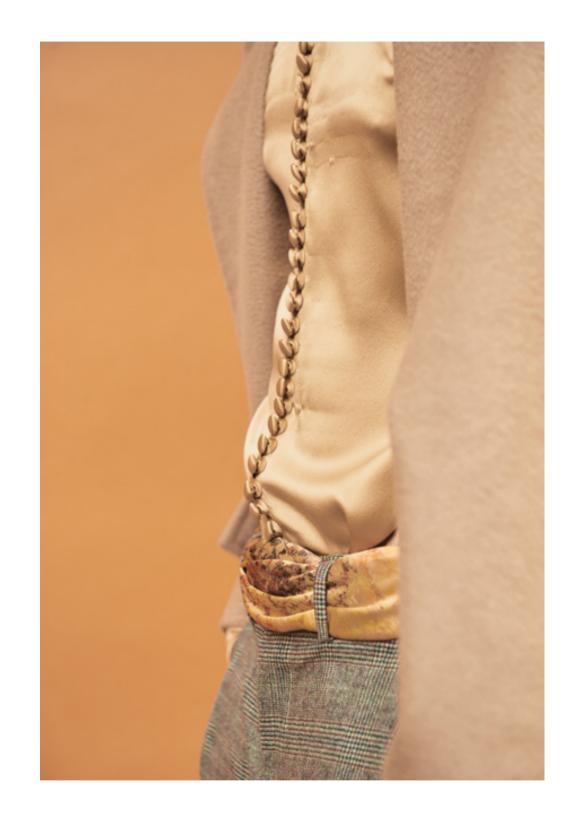
ON JIDE Jacket, Berneik Shirt, Daniel Silverstein Pant, Queenie

ON GEORGE
Jacket, Daniel Silverstain
Dress as top, Kayat
Pant, Queenie
Scarf, Vintage



I WANNA BE READY







# Eight Days a Week

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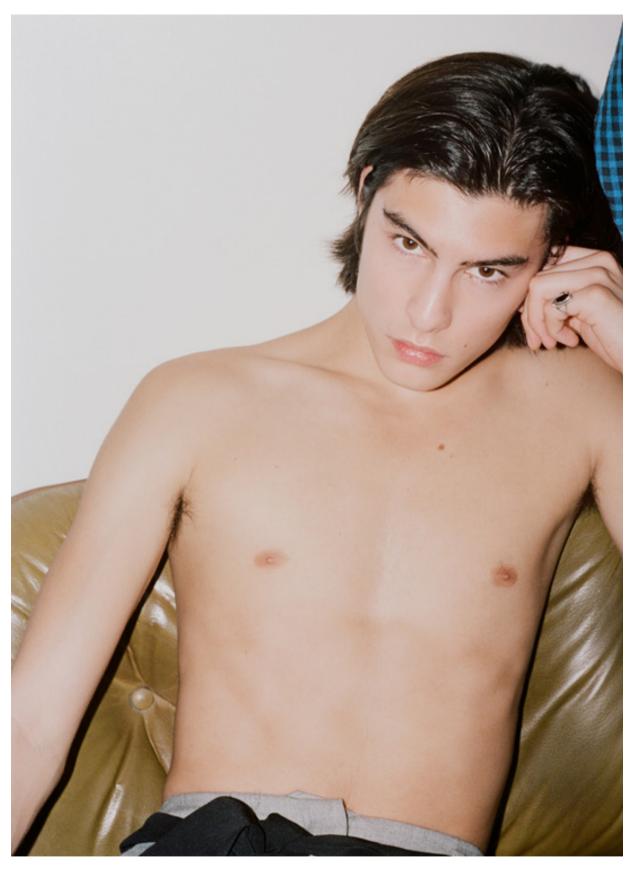
## Kalyn for Marylin Agency @kalynjoy

Aaron for Wilhelmina NY

@aaronbernards

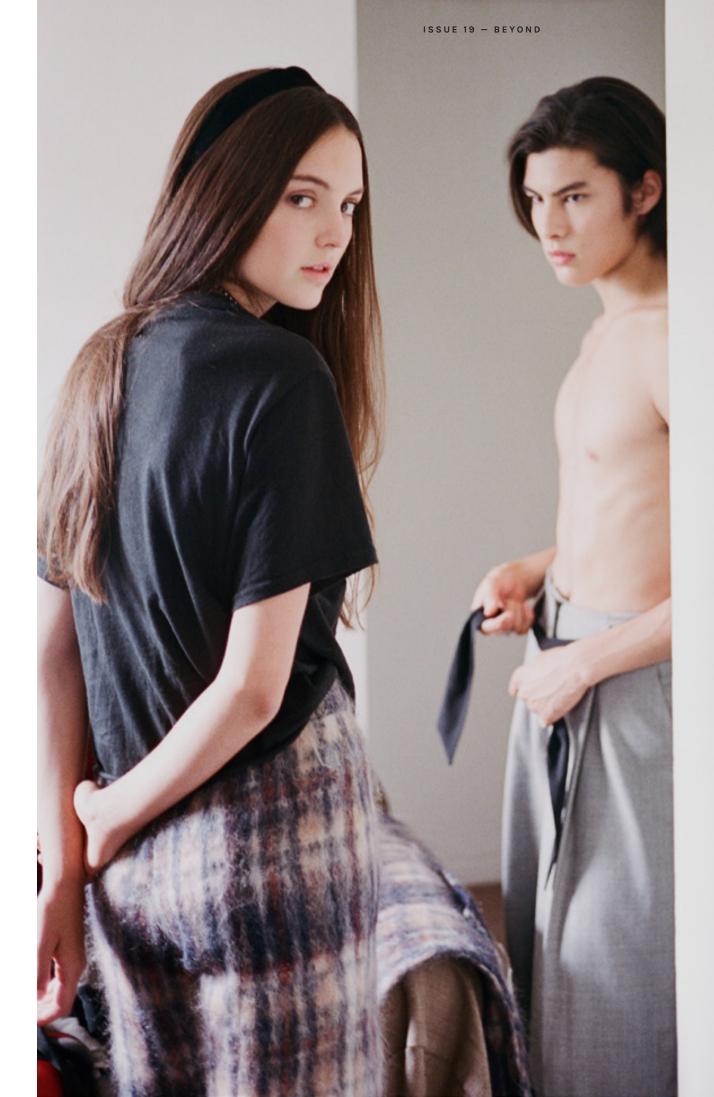
ASSISTANT

Sean Williams



ON AARON Lifen Trouser, Behno

ON KALYN Plaid Wide Leg Pant, Moskov Black Ramones T, Stylist Own





EIGHT DAYS A WEEK



ON AARON

Pastel Blue Suit Pants, Top Man Chelsea Boot, Top Man Socks, Uniqlo Sweater, Jacob Holston Baret, Stylist Own

ON KALYN Shoes, Candies Socks, Skylist Own Jean Jacket, Guess





ON KALYN Ivory Blouse, Moskov
Chunky Woven Penicl Skirt, Omnia
Chunky Oxford Mary Janes, Candies
Leather Zip Cape, Vintage

Flannel Button Up, Penndleton
Lifen Trouser, Behno
Blk Crew Neck T, Top Man
Sneakers, Converse

ON AARON







ON KALYN Carmel Coat, Jacob Holston Luella Skirt Dress (Worn as top), Moskov Lucy Skirt, Behno Military Style Cap, Omnia Belt, Vintage

#### ON AARON

Blk Crew Neck, Top Man
High Waist Trousers, Vintage
Wool Coat, Jacob Holston
Military Style Cap, Omnia
Velvet Coker, Stylist Own
Plaid Shirt, Stylist Own
Sunglasses, Stylist Own

EIGHT DAYS A WEEK





ON AARON Crew Neck, Jacob Holston Shirt, Vintage Trousers, Behno





ON KALYN Crew Neck Sweater, Jacob Holston Nui Overcoat, Behno Zia Skirt, Behno Belt, Vintage

ON AARON Distressed White T, Top Man Jacket, Jacob Holston





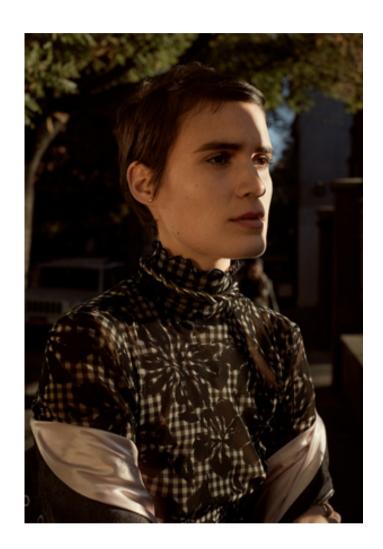






# Dress, Angelys Balek Coat, Sandro Shoes, Zara Jewelry Daisy Dion, Stylist Own RIGHT Pants, Vintage Shoes, Zara Shirt, Daniel Silverstain Jacket, Daniel Silverstain Jewelry, Stylist Own 104 © Collective Magazine 2017

# Something



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MODEL

#### Summer

@sumloving



LEFT Denim, Level 99 Top, Angelys Balek Shoes, Zara

RIGHT Skirt, Angelys Balek Top, Daniel Silverstain Shoes, Nike Coat, Topshop





LEFT Pants, Daniel Silverstain Jacket, Daniel Silverstain Top, Vintage Shoes, Zara Jewelry, Daisy Dion

RIGHT Top, Daniel Silverstain Pants, Daniel Silverstain

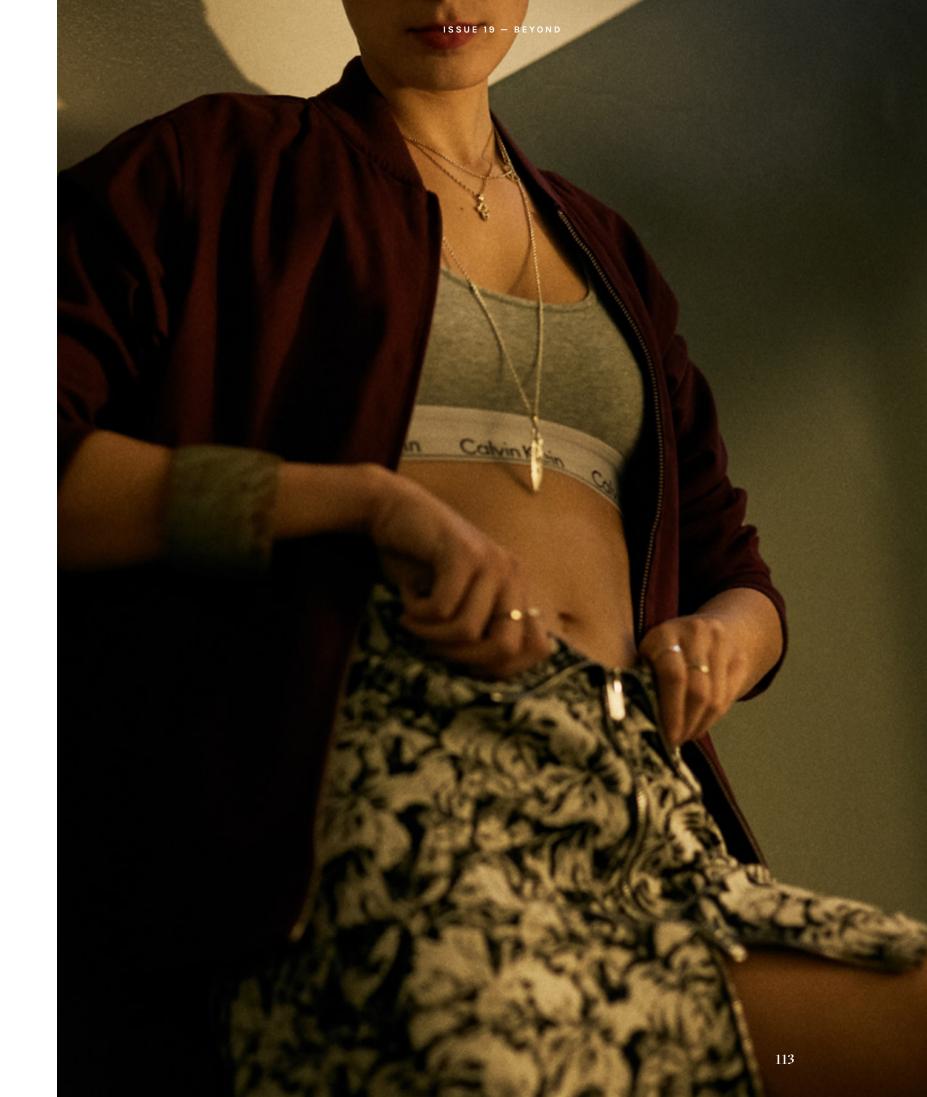




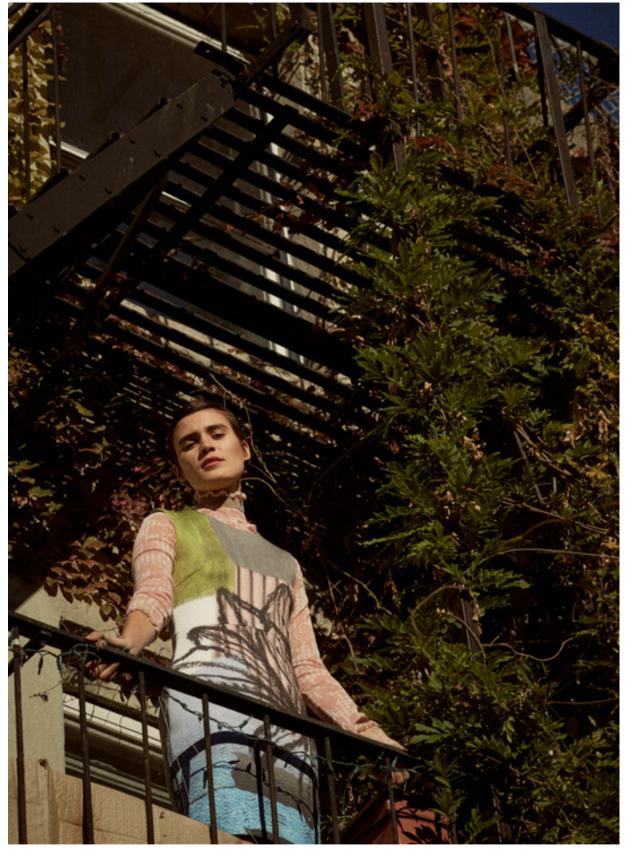


LEFT Dress, Angelys Balek Coat, Sandro Shoes, Zara Jewelry Daisy Dion, Stylist Own

RIGHT Skirt, Daniel Silverstain Bra, Calvin Klein Jacket, Topshop Shoes, Nike







LEFT
Skirt, Daniel Silverstain
Top, Vintage
Jacket, Topshop
Shoes, Nike
Jewelry, Models Own

RIGHT Dress, Angelys Balek Shirt, Daniel Silverstain

STOCKISTS

## **►** Cold Shore

and day day.dk @daybirgeretmikkelsen

day birger et mikkelsen day.dk @daybirgeretmikkelsen

delmanshoes.com @delmanshoes

denibi.com
@denibiofficial

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halston.com @halston harrison morgan harrisonmorgan-nyc.com @harrisonmorgannyc

JOHNNY WAS johnnywas.com @johnnywasclothing

moskov.co @moskovco

sauclothing.com @saucollection

va bien vabienusa.com

## **Murmuration**

203 JEWELRY 203 jewelry.com @203 jewelry

bearpaw.com @bearpawstyle

DAY BIRGER ET MIKKELSEN

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@daybirgeretmikkelsen

DELMAN

delmanshoes.com @delmanshoes

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HAUS OF TOPPER

haus-of-topper.my shop if y.com

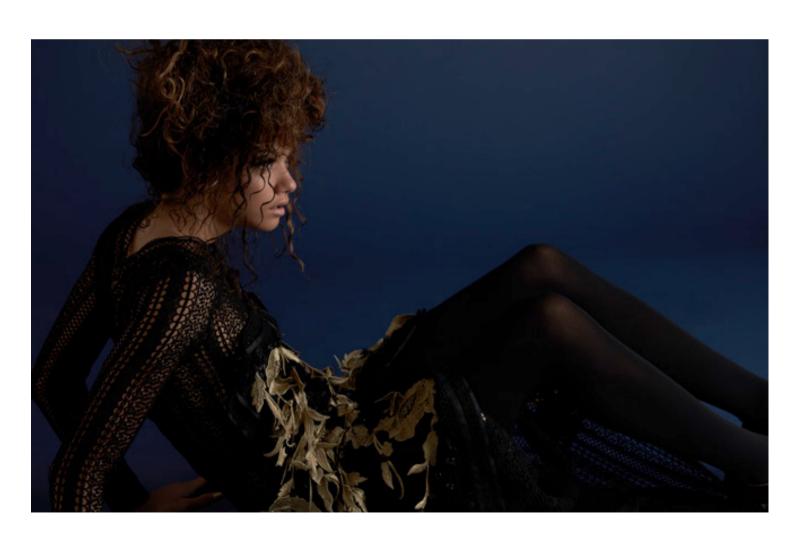
@hausoftopper

harrison morgan harrisonmorgan-nyc.com @harrisonmorgannyc

laruicci.com @laruicci

моѕкоv moskov.co @moskovco summitwhitemountain.com @summitwhitemountainshoes

wolfordshop.com @wolford



STOCKISTS

# **▲ I Wanna Be Ready**

cytizen by azın cityzenbyazin.com @cytizenbyazin

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dianarosh.com @dianarosh

dzojchen.com @Dzojchen

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# Eight Days a Week

alice & OLIVIA aliceandolivia.com @aliceandolivia

behno.com
@behno official

BROOKS BROTHERS brooksbrothers.com @brooksbrothers

candies.com @candiesbrand

converse converse.com @converse

jacobholston.com @jacobholston moskov.co @moskovco

omnia clothing omnia.shop @omnia\_clothing

pendleton-usa.com @pendletonwm

top man topman.com @topman

underground-england.co.uk @undergroundshoe

uniqlo uniqlo.com @uniqlo



# **Something**

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DANIEL SILVERSTAIN danielsilverstain.com @danielsilverstain

DAISY DION daisydion.com @daisydion

CALVIN KLEIN calvinklein.com @calvinKlein

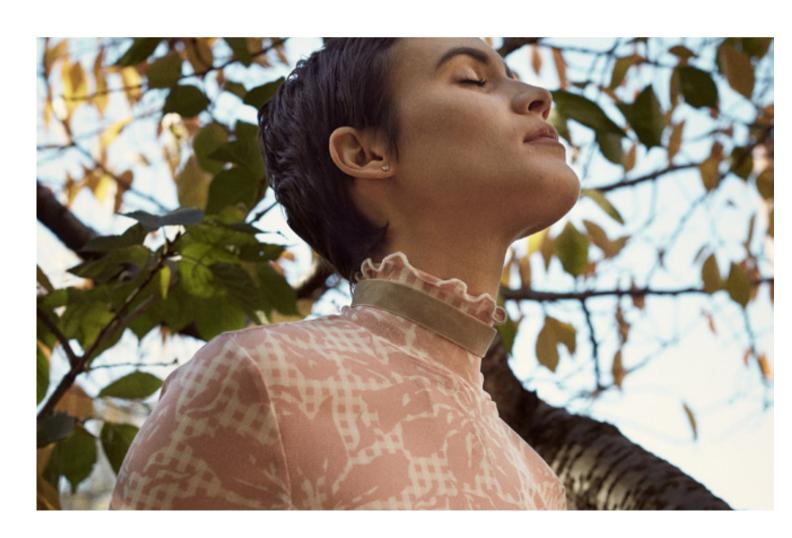
LEVEL 99 level99jeans.com @level99jeans

NIKE nike.com @nike

SANDRO uk.sandro-paris.com @sandroparis

TOPSHOP topshop.com @topshop

ZARA zara.com @zara



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