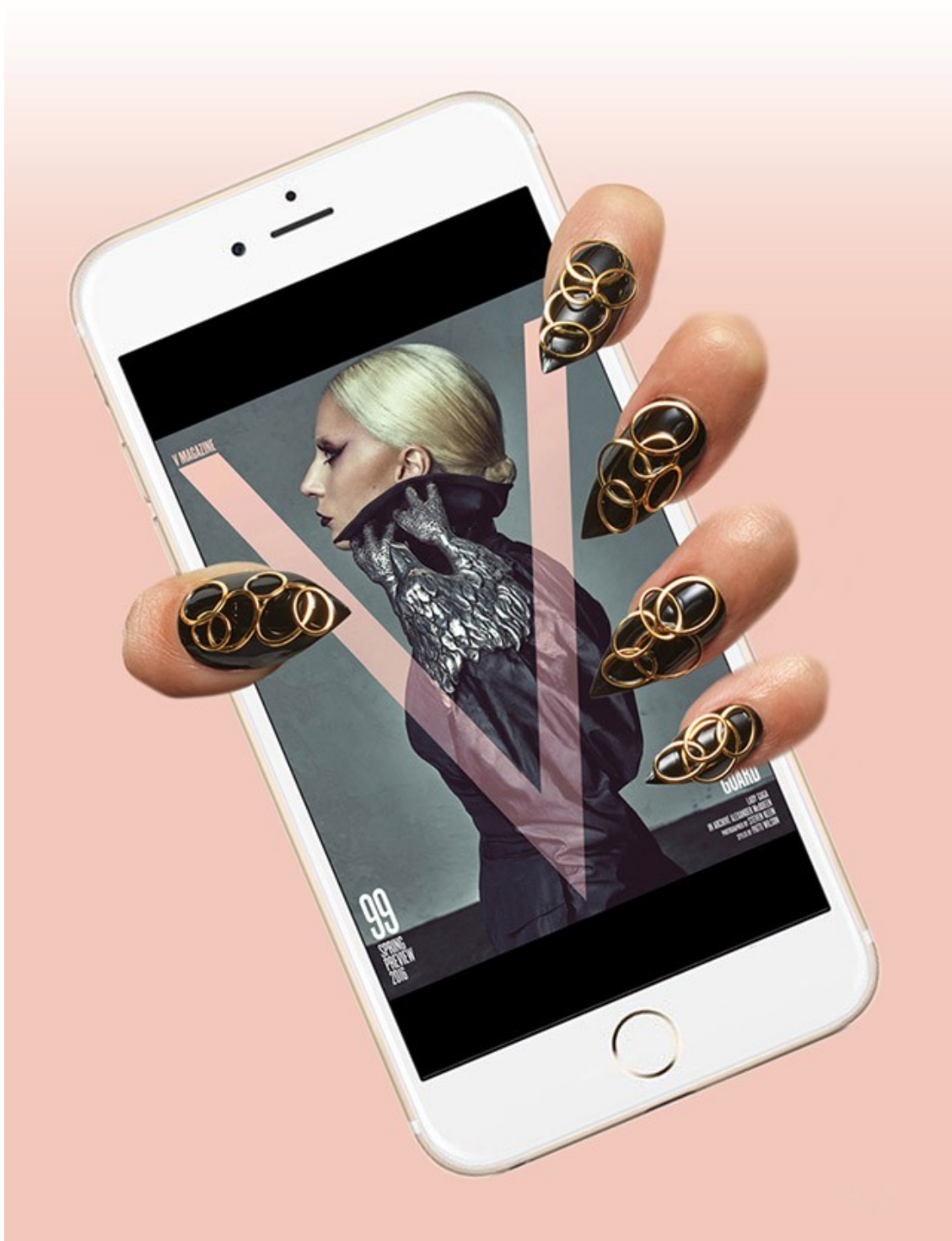


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LEIGHTON MEESTER's
new *music* career;
Annabelle Wallis rocks
Seventies style; plus
straight talking from
Vivienne Westwood
and Stuart Vevers

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White mohair coat and sweater, £3,353 for the set, and white mohair skirt, £551, both Calvin Klein Collection (calvinklein.com); black crystal-embellished leather boots, £795, Jimmy Choo (jimmychoo.com); angel wings, £144 hire charge, Angels Fancy Dress (020 7836 5678)

FLYING HIGH

PHOTOGRAPHS BY
MAX ABADIAN

STYLING BY
ARABELLA GREENHILL

From *Gossip Girl* to a stack of movie roles, a super-successful stint on Broadway and a new album about to drop any day now, prepare for the reincarnation of Leighton Meester...

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Cashmere cardigan,
£4,350, and silk lace
dress, £6,075, both
Valentino (valentino.
com); crystal-
embellished leather
boots, £795, Jimmy
Choo (jimmychoo.com)

"I HAVE A CORE OF, LIKE, FIVE THINGS THAT
I WEAR ALL THE TIME THAT I KNOW ARE GOOD"

MAX ABADIAN

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White silk crêpe sable
dress with silk skirt, also
on previous page, Chloé,
£1,690 (020 7823 5348);
black leather and shearling
boots, £950, Jimmy Choo
(jimmychoo.com)

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MAX ABADIAN

Cotton lace dress,
£1,764, Preen By
Thornton Bregazzi
(matchesfashion.com);
leather boots, £995,
Christian Louboutin
(0843 227 4322)

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**CUT TO
THE CHASE**

With her fine-boned beauty and easy elegance, *The Americans'* **KERI RUSSELL** is tailor-made for fall's no-fuss dressing. The clean lines and unforced sophistication of these pieces let the actress make a killer impression

PHOTOGRAPHED BY
PHILIP GAY
STYLED BY
AKARI ENDO-GAUT

InStyle / AUGUST 2014 237

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**COSTUME
NATIONAL**

Silk-wool crêpe top
with belt.
Prada silk scarf. Eddie
Borgo gold-plated
bracelet (with pavé
crystals) and five-
finger ring with chain.

OPPOSITE:

**T BY
ALEXANDER
WANG**

Polyester crêpe blazer.

**CAROLINA
HERRERA**

Viscose-cotton blouse.

**3.1 PHILLIP
LIM**

Silk pants with
attached apron.

Giles & Brother
gold-plated ring.
Aquazzura calfskin,
specchio leather,
and vinyl pumps.

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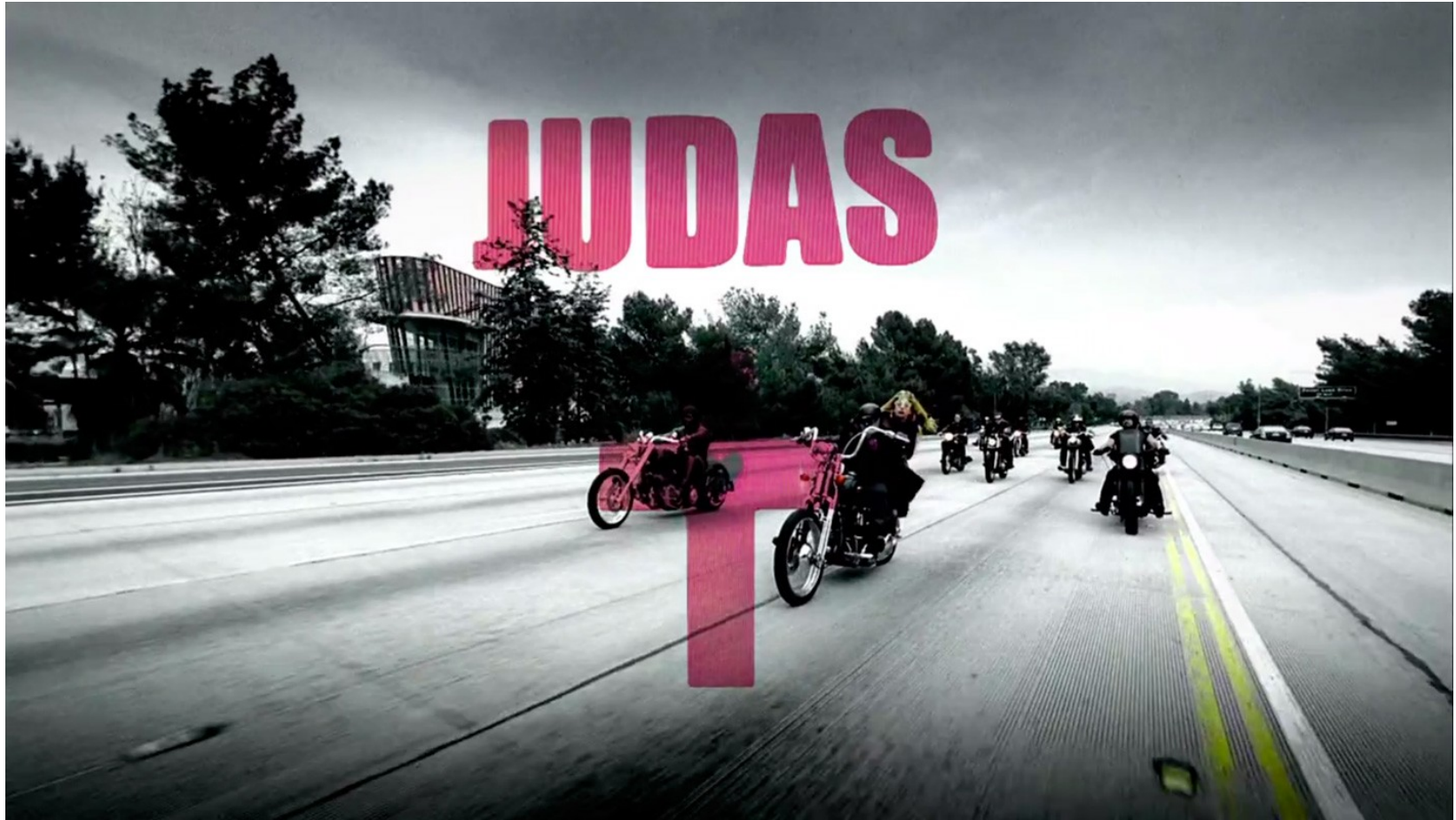
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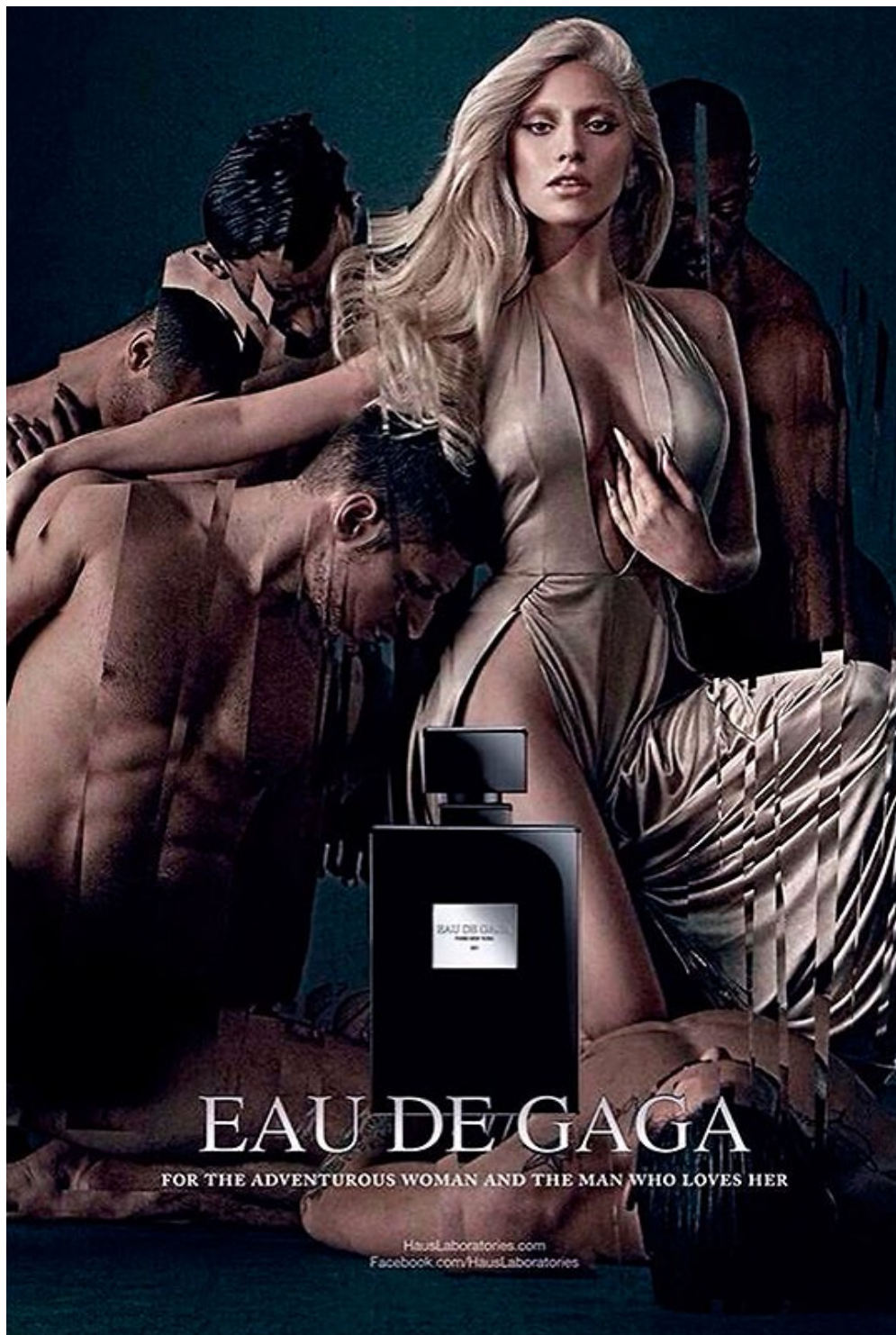
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Y a nos lo advirtió: «La fiesta de esta noche no es un evento cualquiera. Para eso podría haber *postado*: «Juega en el Guggenheim, copas gratis, nos vemos allí», aseguraba a *S.Mole* horas antes del comienzo del evento. No mintió; la cita del pasado 13 de septiembre no fue un acto más. La excusa era presentar Fame, su perfume, y estrenar el vídeo de su campaña rodado por Steven Klein (que también dirigió el de *Alejandro*). En el interior del museo Guggenheim de Nueva York, una réplica gigante del envase de su nueva fragancia nos recibió con ella dentro. Solo salió de él durante 10 minutos. El resto del tiempo lo pasó metida en el megáfono obsequiando a los asistentes con una *performance* al más puro estilo de la serbia Marina Abramović o

la francesa Orlan: se peinó, se maquilló, se tomó una pastilla, bebió champán, se perfumó cuello, pecho y sexo y hasta meó dentro. Sus invitados se acercaban hasta ella por unas escaleras y metían la mano por un pequeño agujero para tocarla y acariciarla. De fondo sonaba Édith Piaf. Coronó su actuación rapándose la parte trasera de la cabeza y haciéndose un tatuaje de un ángel (el reconocido tatuador Mark Mahoney fue el encargado de marcarla para siempre). El público —en su mayoría, celebridades, amigos y periodistas— se pasó horas adorando a la reina *monster*. Sus *looks* no defraudaron: tacones imposibles, jersey de rejilla, sujetador, medias y *culotte*. Pero ella siempre quiere más, Gaga se debe a la masa una pantalla enorme en el exterior del museo retransmitía cuanto sucedía en el interior de la cédula. Los monstruitos de la cantante pudieron asistir en *streaming* a la

apoteosis gagaista. «Este perfume es un regalo para mis fans, quiero cambiar sus vidas», nos advirtió. Horas antes y en una habitación del hotel Mandarin, Gaga, de 26 años, charlaba con varios medios, entre ellos *S.Mole* en exclusiva para España (para quienes quieran disfrutarla en directo el próximo 6 de octubre actuará en Barcelona). Llegaba 20 minutos tarde. Relativamente pronto para ser tan famosa: si el número de álbumes vendidos autorizara ser impuntual, la artista, simplemente, se podría permitir no comparecer. De *Born This Way*, su segundo y último disco, se despacharon más de un millón de copias en una semana, algo que no pasaba desde hacía más de un lustro. Todo estaba medido. Interminables extensiones de pestañas, *cylinder* gatuno, labios rosas, uñas negras y afiladas y una enorme peluca morena. Lo más espectacular: su estilismo. Un vestido

largo con flecos rosas del diseñador libanés Basil Soda y una corona dorada de laureles de Mordekai by Ken Borochoy. «Me gusta esconderme tras una máscara. Hay días en los que no quiero que los demás me vean cansada y sin maquillar. Todos nos sentimos inseguros. A mí me funciona ponerme un velo y un gorro; son mi *burka*. Me compadezco de aquellos que no los llevan. Además, no creo que mi cara sea más interesante que un sombrero», apunta.

Con ella no valen las medias tintas. En la entrevista no está permitido preguntar por su vida privada. Ha venido a hablar de su perfume, que en España ya está a la venta en Sephora. Aun así, suelta alguna perla. «Cuando me pongo Fame, mi novio no puede dejar de tocarme. Mi novio... actual. Se refiere a Taylor Kinney, un modelo y actor estadounidense, con el que se rumorea, quiere casarse... Y no a

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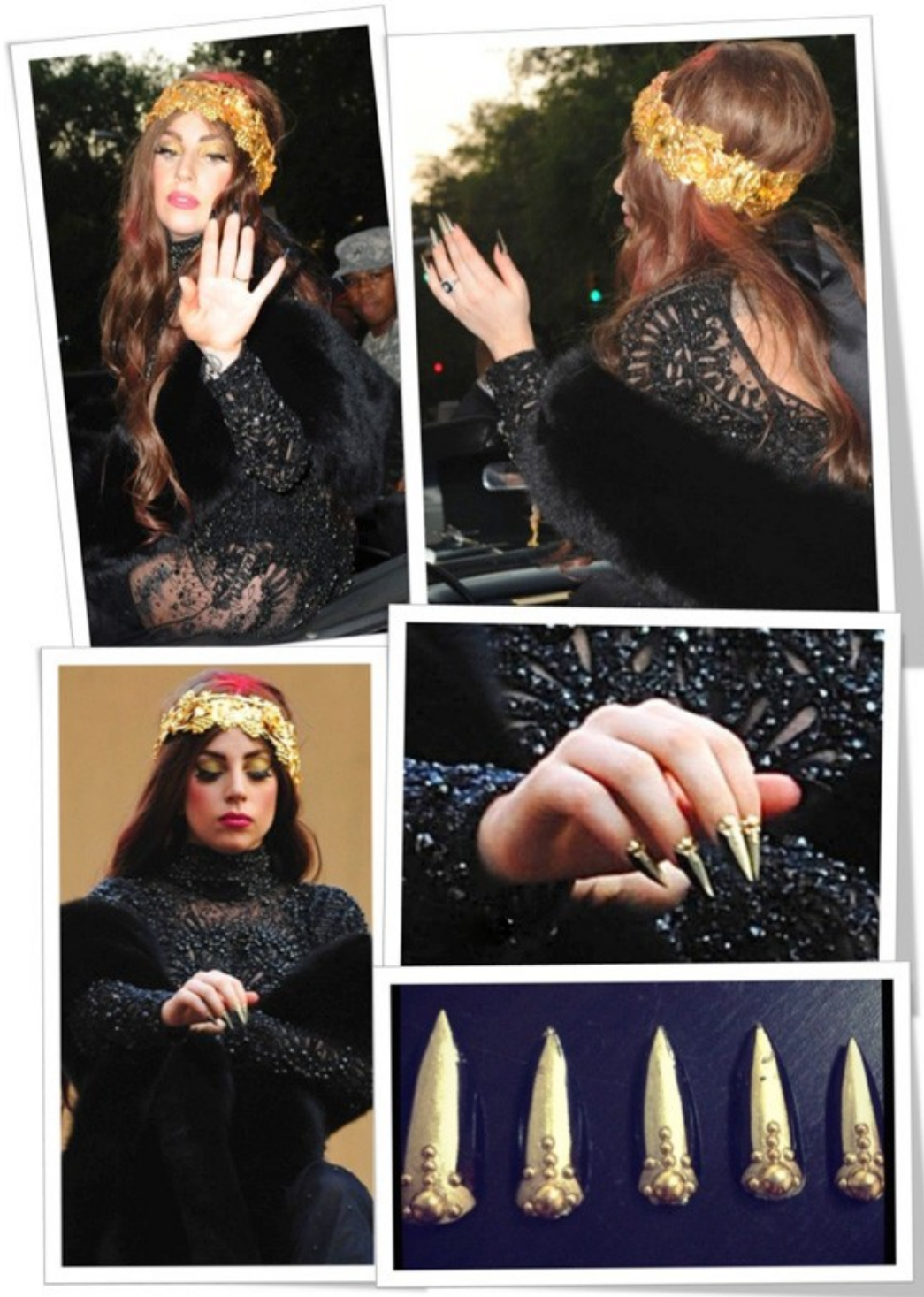
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perched on a throne-like chair in a see-through turquoise dress and a flesh-coloured body stocking, with long mint-green hair. Huge double cat's whiskers are painted behind both eyes, like a space-age Cleopatra.

"So you met Santa Claus Monster!" she laughs. "Well, I just ran into a fan who held out my YSL shoe. It was a YSL shoe with a mirrored heel that broke off in a show and I said, "Anyone interested in next-season YSL?" and everyone screamed and I threw it. I was signing autographs yesterday and the shoe popped out of the throng and I said – hand on chest – "You still have my shoe?" And he says, "Yes, that was three years ago and I've loved you ever since."

Do you feel responsible for the Little Monsters? "I think about them all the time. They wanted somewhere to go and someone to know, where they could escape from the reality of their own trauma and know we could tell the lie of surrealism over and over until it became true."

She has an intensely close relationship with her followers. It's strangely maternal. She talks about Jamey Rodemeyer, the 14-year-old gay American fan who took his own life recently, who was bullied and felt no one was listening. Did you feel you knew him? "Of course I did, I feel I know all of them." She suddenly goes quiet and I realise she's crying. "They are so sweet," she sighs. "Sometimes they tell me my schedule. "Can't wait to see you in France next week!" Even if they know I'm going to bed for the evening, they'll wait outside, so I send them cookies and pizza. I ask why and they say, "We just like to be near you."

Is there anything you regret? "I don't regret anything. If I'd known things back then I wouldn't be where I am now, because so much of who I am is based on a lack of fear. I have no fear. It's like jumping off buildings completely blindfolded and I don't know where I'm going to land and I don't care. You have to trust the art. If you don't trust the art, it's not going to trust you to be its fuse. It's not inanimate. The art has to trust me or it's not going to invite me to be its messenger."

I love all these rarefied art concepts, though a lot of what she says is full of contradiction. She calls her childhood 'a fantasia' but, minutes later, suggests it was all trauma and suffering. She declares herself in total control of her art – which she is – and then implies it's almost the other way round. I like the mystery of her love life: you never really know if it's male or female affection she wants, or both. I love the way she's the world's biggest pop star, yet every time we meet she strives to make an impact. Everything she says and does is full of wit, spark and invention. People at this altitude usually play hard to get.

What's the greatest misconception about you? "That I would ever be concerned with there being a misconception about me," she says. "I believe very strongly that there are many people on this earth that really don't like what I do – or how I sing or what music I make – but some of those people admire the commitment to the work. That to me is more important than anything. How do I want to be remembered? I want to be remembered as brave."

Born This Way - The Remix is out now. The Monster Ball Tour at Madison Square Garden is out now on Blu-Ray and DVD. Lady Gaga x Terry Richardson (Grand Central Publishing) is out now

ELLE Watch what happened when ELLE met Lady Gaga and hear an exclusive remix of *Electric Chapel* at ELLE.TV

Many people really don't LIKE what I do – or how I sing or what music I make – but some of those people ADMIRE the commitment to the work. That to me is more important than anything'



Silk organza dress by Richard Nicoll

HAIR: JEFFREY MAYER FOR MONTAGNE MANE/JOJO JAMES KALLAYIOS; MAKEUP: AZA FUKUDA; SET DESIGN: CHRISTOPHER STONE; TAILOR: INHOUSE; ATELIER: SPECIAL THANKS TO MILK STUDIOS FOR SHOPPING DETAILS; SEE ADDRESS PAGE



MATT IRWIN

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Silk and leather shirt by
Mandy Coon. Leather shoes
by Giuseppe Zanotti

*'I don't REGRET anything. If I'd KNOWN things back then
I wouldn't be where I am now, because so much of
who I am is based on a lack of FEAR. I have no fear'*

MATTIRWI!

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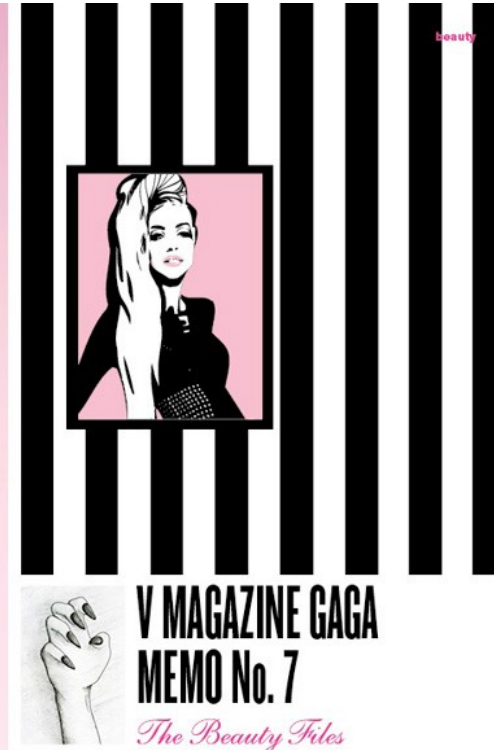
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HOLD ON. BEFORE YOU READ, THIS YOU MUST BE AWARE THAT MANICURES ARE EXTREMELY UNDERATED! YOU MAY ALREADY BE ROLLING YOUR EYES, BUT PLEASE LET ME GET A WORD IN ABOUT THIS!

I bet that any woman—no matter how stylish she is dressed—is instantly going to the nail salon. I know this may sound harsh, but perhaps if I beat it into you, you will CUT THOSE CUTICLES. TAKE the time for yourself, do it more frequently, just to stay in a nice self-compassionate habit. Grab a coffee and a magazine, this moment is just for you. Also, if you don't have the money, doing it at home by yourself is an excellent hobby (giving for fun nail products to make life more enjoyable), and tell your friends that manicure-related products make good gifts if you are not prepared for cash, and perhaps the best nail technician in your city and make her your best friend (when you're trying to close that deal with Coca-Cola, your stylists will come in handy, I promise).

SEVEN REASONS YOU SHOULD DO THIS:

1. HAVING A PERFECT MANICURE INSTANTLY MAKES YOU FEEL BEAUTIFUL AND CLEAN.
2. YOU'LL BE READY FOR SEX OR TO PUT A PENIS IN YOUR HAND.
3. IT'S ALWAYS FOR YOU TO EXPRESS YOURSELF (CAREFUL HOW YOU DO THAT).
4. IT FORCES YOU TO SEE THE IMPORTANCE OF MAKING TIME FOR YOURSELF.
5. IT BOOSTS YOUR SELF-ESTEEM EVERYDAY.
6. IT PROTECTS AN ARMY OF BLOODS, WHICH IS GOOD FOR US.

So, for my dear veteran salon goers, I'm including some more adventurous options and tips on how to do my nails. Thank you to my amazing manicurists, Aja, Emma, Mariah, and Deborah, for always taking care of my girls. And to Freddie for giving me my nail, Brandon for letting me when I read a manicure, and Tina for letting me I don't. **LAST BUT NOT LEAST**

P.S. Ladies in lights, in the magazines, and on red carpets—know that I am judging your cuticles...but that's about it.

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