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June 24, 2017 | billboard.com

LIFE in the
FAST
LANE

With the music-savvy heist flick *Baby Driver*, actor-singer **ANSEL ELGORT** could become the summer's breakout star: 'I'm hopefully going to pull it all off'

DANCE POWER PLAYERS 2017
Exec of the Year: Adam Alpert

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CAN THE LABELS KEEP UP WITH ALEXA?

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Perfume: 32.395, BALLE, 212.951.6962
 Hair: 301, 54.10, Dylan McElroy, 646.9
 Make: 5706, DUCU, ganci.com, 4 Check
 Taylor: 301.870, CONVERSE FOR BALE
 BY BOUTIQUE, comenag.com

ANSEL TAKES FLIGHT

ANSEL ELGORT, *The Fault in Our Stars* leading man, is so busy he can barely keep his feet on the ground. Photographer ARTHUR ELGORT captures his son's rise

WRITTEN BY LINDSAY SILBERMAN STYLED BY ANNE CHRISTENSEN

Ansel Elgort has just scarfed down a foot-long sausage, and now he's fidgeting mercilessly. He strums the spokes of a plastic fork, then pushes it aside and begins thump-thump-thumping a beat with his hands on a distressed wooden picnic table. We're at an airy beer garden in Williamsburg, Brooklyn, a place Elgort frequents—for the sausages, not the beer (he's 20). He recently returned from Austin, Texas, where he spent about two months filming a star-studded comedy, and soon he'll begin the onslaught of press for *The Fault in Our Stars*, a heart-wrenching drama based on John Green's best-selling YA novel. In the meantime, he's enjoying a month-long break, although in Ansel's world, the word "break" does not exist, and apparently, there is no such thing as sitting still. Aside from his burgeoning acting career, Elgort also produces music (under the DJ alias Anselo), paints (typically miniature toys), rock climbs (at an indoor climbing gym in Brooklyn) and has a newfound addiction to video games.

Elgort is a self-proclaimed overachiever. "It's just in my blood," says the Manhattan native. "My parents used to tell me I could do whatever I wanted as long as it was productive. They weren't strict but they also did not want [my siblings and me] wasting our time. I play piano, I sing, I dance... I just don't know how anyone could sit around and do nothing."

Elgort's affinity for the arts isn't all that surprising—his father is famed fashion photographer Arthur Elgort and his mother, Grethe Barrett Holby, is an opera director. As a child, he honed his skills by going to work with his parents, performing in his mother's operas and posing for his father's photo shoots. Eventually, the hard work paid off. He made his film debut in last year's reboot of *Carrie* and starred in the sci-fi blockbuster *Divergent*. But the young actor's crowning moment is his deeply emotional portrayal of a charismatic 17-year-old cancer survivor in *The Fault in Our Stars*. "It was definitely my greatest challenge as an actor, but also the thing I am most proud of," says Elgort, who first discovered his love of performing at 13.

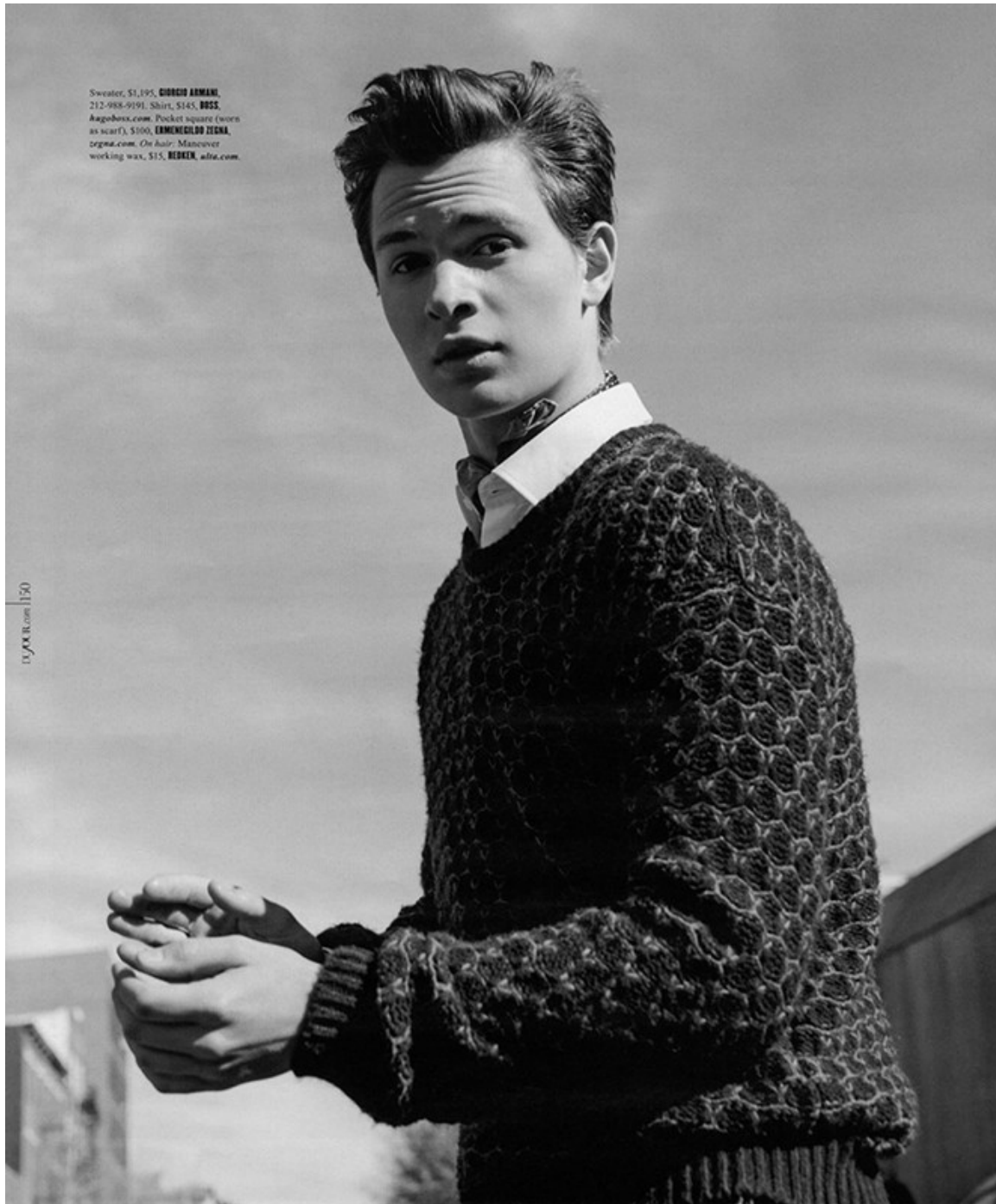
Despite his perpetually restless nature, Elgort finds that the most appealing part of acting is "the idea of stillness." He continues, "You can be in front of all these people and there is so much power in stillness. When you're doing a scene and it's quiet, just talking can be powerful and chilling. That's probably what got to me most." ●

12 | VYX Room

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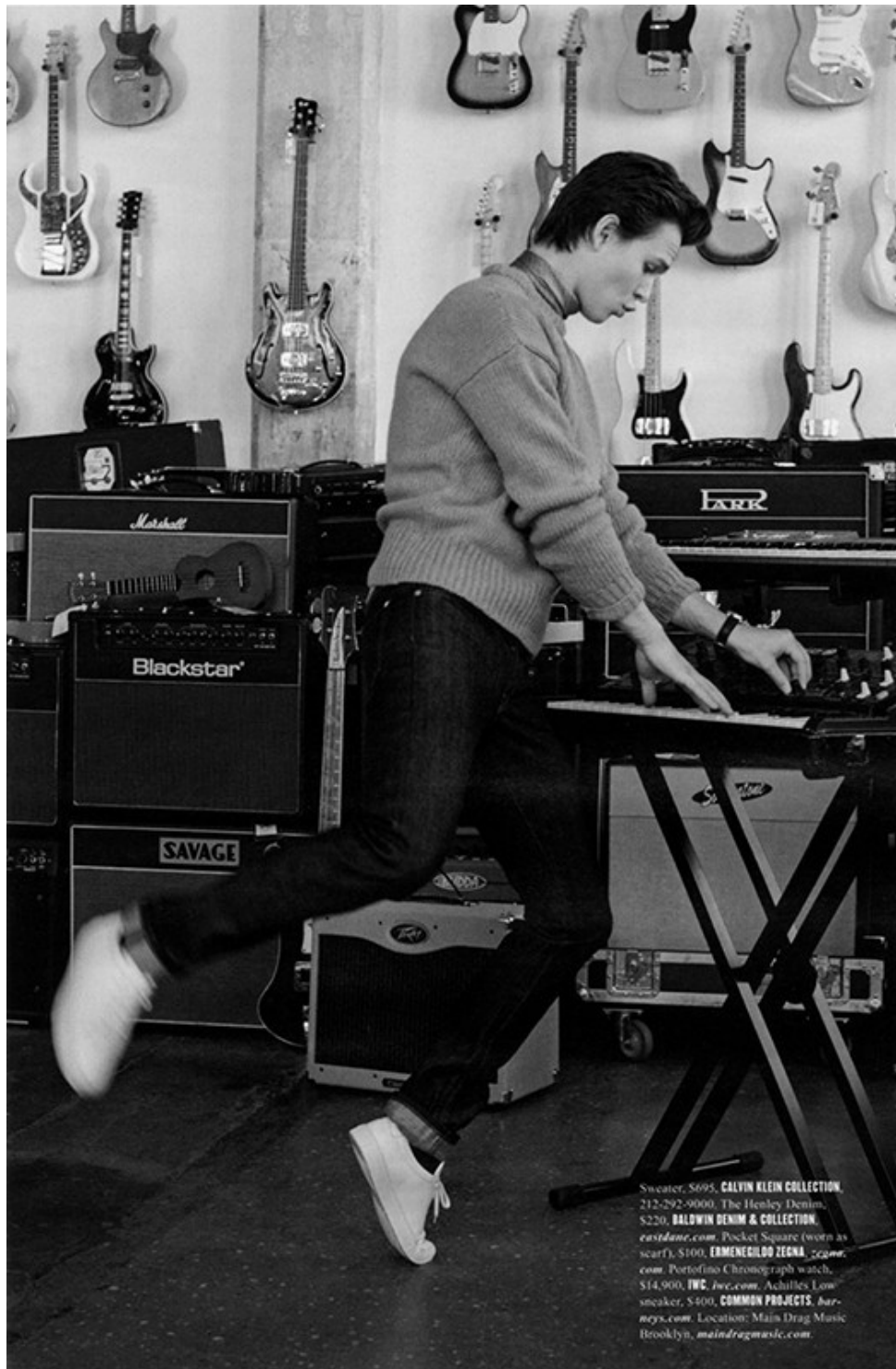
Sweater, \$1,195, **GIORGIO ARMANI**,
212-988-9191. Shirt, \$145, **BOSS**,
hugoboss.com. Pocket square (worn
as scarf), \$100, **ERMEGILDO ZEGNA**,
zegna.com. On hair: Maneuver
working wax, \$15, **REDKEN**, alta.com.

12/00 R.com 1150

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Sweater, \$695, **CALVIN KLEIN COLLECTION**,
212-292-9000. The Henley Denim,
\$220, **BALDWIN DENIM & COLLECTION**,
eastlane.com. Pocket Square (worn as
scarf), \$100, **ERMEGENILDO ZEGNA**, zegna.com. Portofino Chronograph watch,
\$14,900, **TWC**, twc.com. Achilles Low
sneaker, \$400, **COMMON PROJECTS**, harrys.com. Location: Main Drag Music
Brooklyn, maindragmusic.com.

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On Set: Sophie Dahl, Christopher Kane, Opening Ceremony, 2012, 100% Polo-neck top, \$1,995, Chelsea boots, \$1,200, Christopher Kane, Jeffrey New York, 211-206-1272, On her Cape, \$9,895, Toot's, 800-457-8637, Alexander Wang, \$450, Thomas Pink, thomaspink.com, Skirt, \$595, I by Alexander Wang, alexanderwang.com, Chanel bag, \$850, Fallon Jewelry, barneys.com, Black pump, \$785, Sergio Rossi, Barneys, 212-826-8900, On drum for: Society bag, \$1,495, Dolce & Gabbana, 212-249-4100, On her lips: Pure Color, Estée Lauder, estelauder.com

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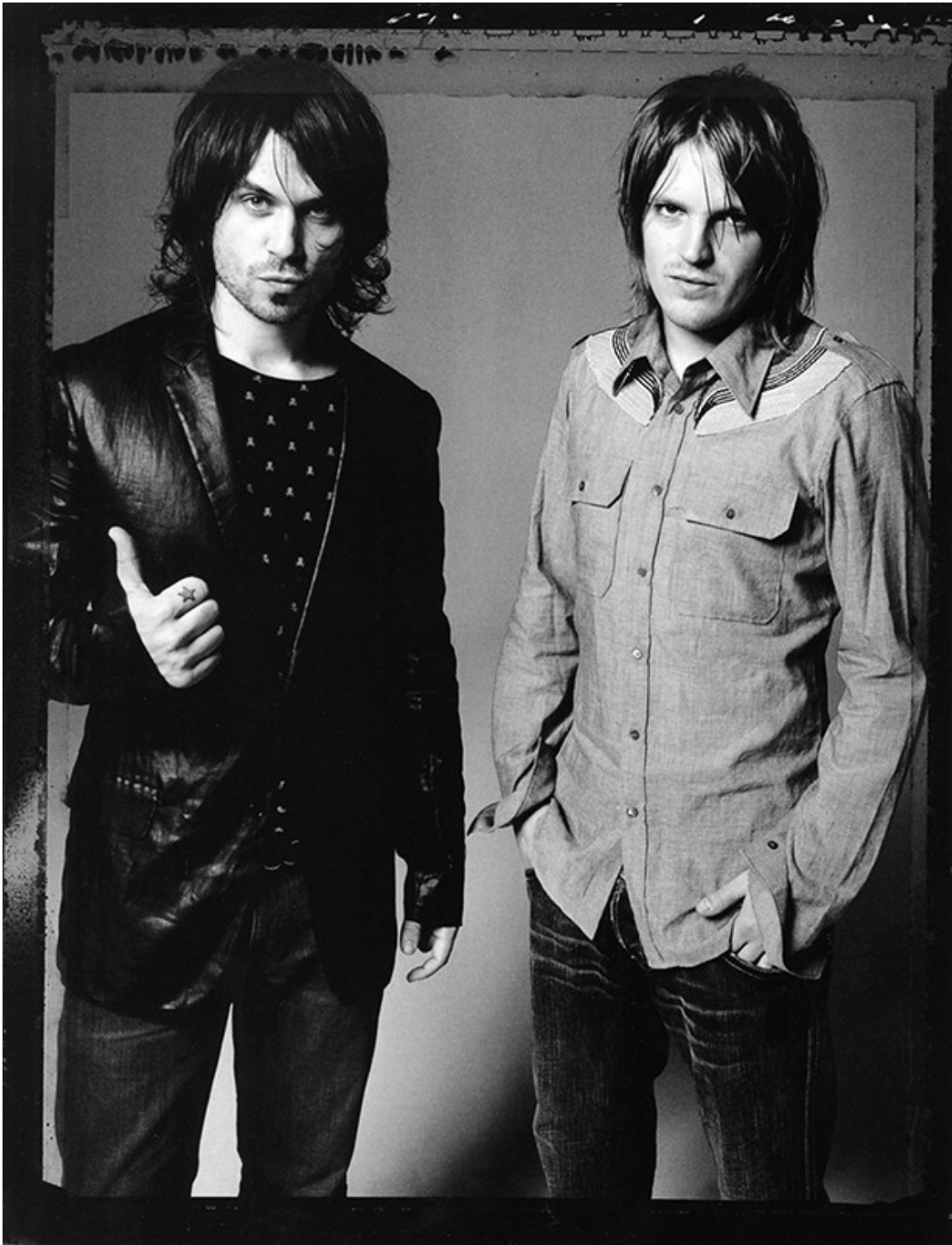
WOOL, TUXEDO AND LEATHER
LACE-UP SHOES, ALL **VERSACE**.
NYLON/SILK/LINEN ZIP-FRONT
JACKET, **COSTUME NATIONAL**.
(OPPOSITE, LEFT TO RIGHT) WOOL/
SILK/POLYESTER TUXEDO VEST AND
PANTS, BOTH **VIKTOR & ROLF**. SILK
CUMMERBUND, **J.PRESS**. SLEEVE-
LESS COTTON T-SHIRT WITH TUXEDO
TIE PRINT, COTTON POLYESTER TRACK
JACKET WITH RUFFLES AND SNEAKERS
WITH BOWTIE, ALL **JEREMY SCOTT**
FOR **ADIDAS**. RAYON PANTS, **Z ZEGNA**

PHOTOGRAPHER: **JOSHUA JORDAN**
AT JED ROOT; STYLIST: **JENNIFER**
HITZGES AT JED ROOT; ART DIRECTION:
RILEY JOHNDONNELL; GROOMING:
FRED VANDEBUNT AT ART DEPARTMENT;
MODELS: **DANNY** AT VNY, **STAS** AT DNA
AND **VLADIMIR** AT WILHELMINA; SET
DESIGNER: **KEVIN HERTZOG**; DIGITAL
TECH: **BRIAN CLEAVER**; PHOTOGRAPHY
ASSISTANTS: **NATHAN MARTIN** AND
JASON HARDWICK; STYLING ASSIS-
TANT: **ZOE HENNESSEY**; LOCATION:
BROOKLYN NAVY YARD; SPECIAL
THANKS TO **ABC CARPET AND HOME**

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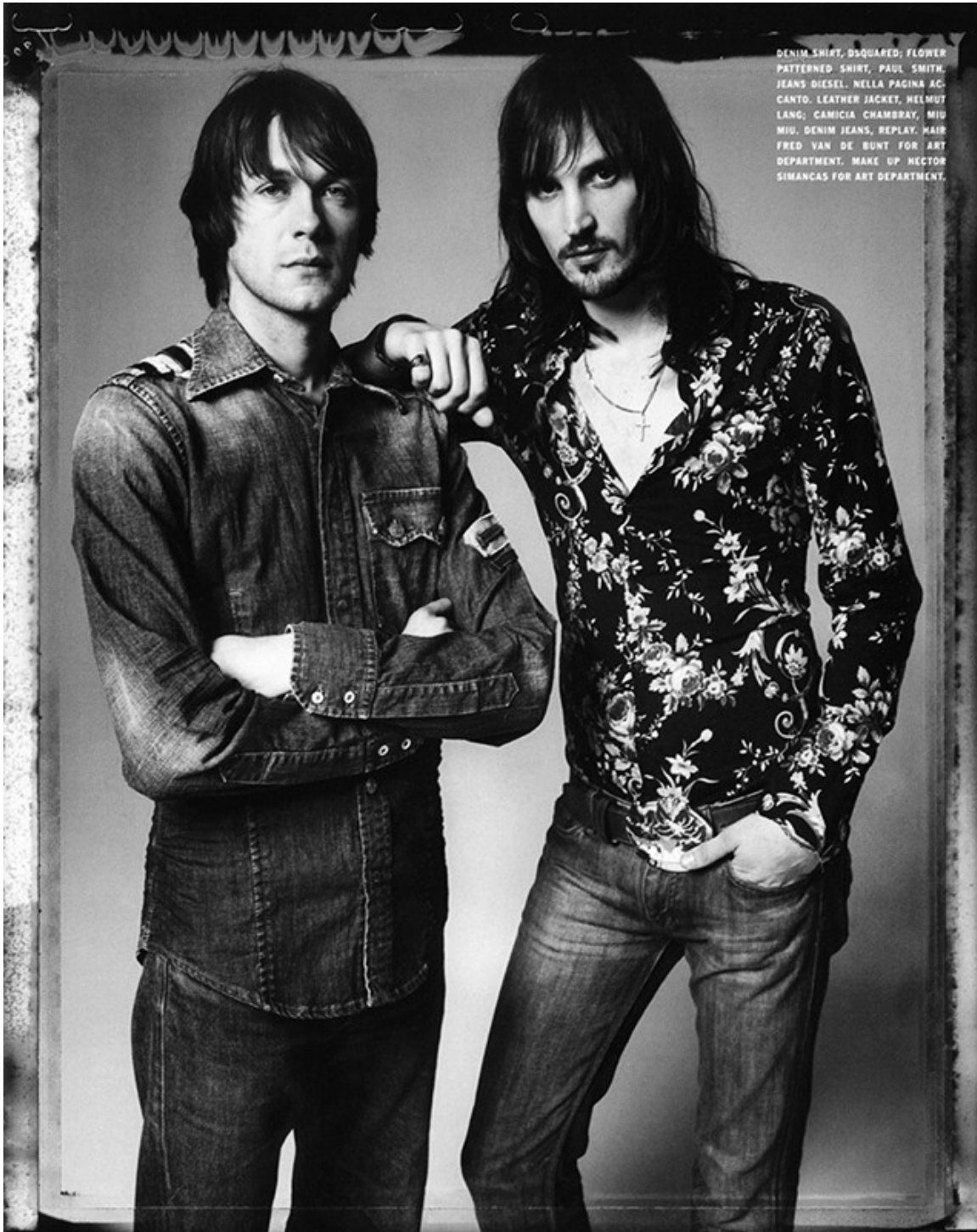
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DENIM SHIRT, DSQUARED; FLOWER
PATTERNED SHIRT, PAUL SMITH;
JEANS DIESEL. NELLA PAGINA AC-
CANTO. LEATHER JACKET, HELMUT
LANG; CAMICIA CHAMBRAY, MIU
MIU. DENIM JEANS, REPLAY. HAIR
FRED VAN DE BUNT FOR ART
DEPARTMENT. MAKE UP HECTOR
SIMANCAS FOR ART DEPARTMENT.

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VMAN NEWS

SISLEY BOY

ARTIST DAN COLEN DONS HIS RECENT JACKET FOR EDGY INTERNATIONAL FASHION BRAND SISLEY

"You never can tell on a day like this," says Vance, the existential nihilist motorcycle gang leader in cult classic biker film *The Loveless*. "Things could be goin' like one minute then—presto—before you know it, you're history." The quote, referring to the fleeting life of the murderous, high-octane bikers, might also describe the fate of many young artists: hot one second, gone the next. Dan Colen, however, might be different. A grungy, guttural voice in the art world for nearly a decade, Colen recently sold out his solo show, "Poetry," at the globally renowned Gagosian Gallery, firmly establishing the 31-year-old as one of the generation's biggest success stories. And Colen's work extends beyond the gallery space, with high-profile collaborations like his recent commission for edgy Italian luxury brand Sisley, for whom he customized a motorcycle jacket to be included in its Andy Warhol Museum exhibition.

"Art has no exciting place in the fashion world," says the oft provocative Colen. "That said," he continues, "I'm glad they intersect as frequently as they do." Despite his cheeky sardonicism, Colen's take on the iconic leather jacket is pitch-perfect. As for his inspiration? "Kenneth Anger's *Scorpio Rising*," he says, referring to the transgressive experimental film from 1964 that shocked the mainstream with its portrayal of the fetishistic rebel culture of the leather jacket, without which there would be no *Loveless*, let alone people like David Lynch. "I basically just copied him." Self-deprecation isn't unusual when finally beginning to collect on hard-earned success, but that too shall pass, as Colen's clearly going nowhere but up. **DALLAS WINSTON**

DAN COLEN IN NEW YORK CITY, OCTOBER 2010
PHOTOGRAPHY TERRY RICHARDSON
STYLING YUKI JAMES
JACKET DAN COLEN FOR THE SISLEY ART PROJECT, TO BENEFIT THE ANDY WARHOL MUSEUM
ALL OTHER CLOTHING COLEN'S OWN

PEOP: STYLIST ANDY WARHOL (THE WALL GROUP); PHOTO ASSISTANTS NICK BETH AND NINA WYNN; STYLIST ASSISTANT KIM DICK; SET/PROP MANAGER SETH GOLDBERG; DIGITAL TECHNICIAN GLEN HAHN; RETOUCHING BRIAN ZIGLER

VMAN 53

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VMEN



TAKERU KOBAYASHI

THE WORLD-FAMOUS COMPETITIVE EATER EMBRACES THE ART OF WAR

It might have been Americans who turned gluttony into a public spectacle, but it was Japanese speed-eater Takeru Kobayashi who made competitive eating a soulful sport, more about man's mental resolve and overcoming the limits of his physiology than about shoveling a bunch of shit into your face. The 32-year-old hyper-fit Kobayashi first won the Nathan's Coney Island hot dog-eating contest, in his rookie appearance in 2001, by scarfing fifty hot dogs in twelve minutes, doubling the previous record. Since then, Kobayashi, who weighs a mere 125 lbs, has become an international face for the sport, setting bizarre world records left and right (e.g. 17.7 pounds of cow brains in fifteen minutes).

Kobayashi is an unlikely champion, a modern-day Steve Prefontaine, the famed long-distance runner and popularizer of that sport, who once credited his incredible records not to his being faster than his opponents, but to his capacity to endure more pain. "I'm the smallest of all the competitors, and that puts me at a severe disadvantage," says Kobayashi. "But I think my high pain threshold exceeds my disability of being smaller."

Regardless of the competition, Kobayashi prepares by drinking water, typically working toward the ability to drink 3 gallons in one sitting. "It has nothing to do with eating food," Kobayashi continues. "This is a sport. This is a competition. I train. I train with water. Only during the competition do I actually eat the food to excess."

"I'm not thinking much," he says when asked what goes through his mind while he's forcing food into his belly. "I'm in battle with the food in front of me. I don't think beyond the rush of the moment." But it's not really a battle against the food. It's more a war against limitation, against what our eyes tell us can't be done. Kobayashi isn't a paragon of public sin, but an international ambassador of the impossible.

VICTOR AXWELL

TAKERU KOBAYASHI IN NEW YORK CITY, SEPTEMBER 2010
PHOTOGRAPHY TERRY RICHARDSON
STYLING YUKI JAMES
VEST AND BELT BESS
T-SHIRT CALVIN KLEIN COLLECTION S/S 2011
JEANS TAKERU'S OWN
BRACELETS AND RINGS (HIS RIGHT) CHROME HEARTS
RING (HIS LEFT) DAVID YURMAN

36 VMEN

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IS IT TIME TO START LYING ABOUT YOUR AGE?

DETAILS

**MATT
DAMON**
JUST ANOTHER
AVERAGE WHITE GUY

Dating the Perfect
Woman (So What
if She Used
to Be a Man?)

Why Michael J. Fox
Is Making Us Sick

The *Details*
Fertility Test:
We Gave at
the Office



EXCLUSIVE:
Don't Smoke
That Joint:
The New
Killer Buzz

Plus: Juliette Lewis,
Packing for the Ultimate
Weekend, and How to
Break Up With Your Broker

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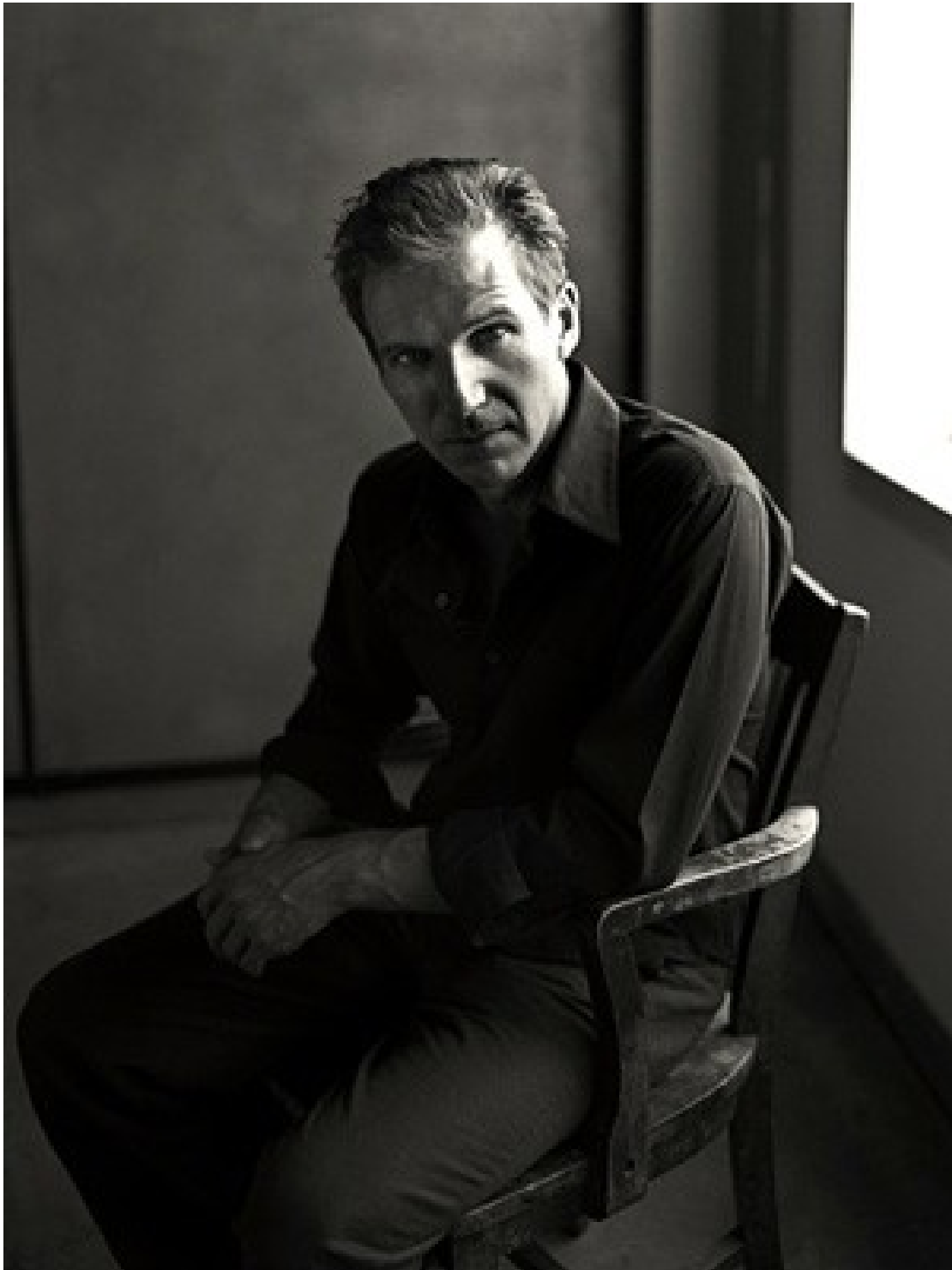
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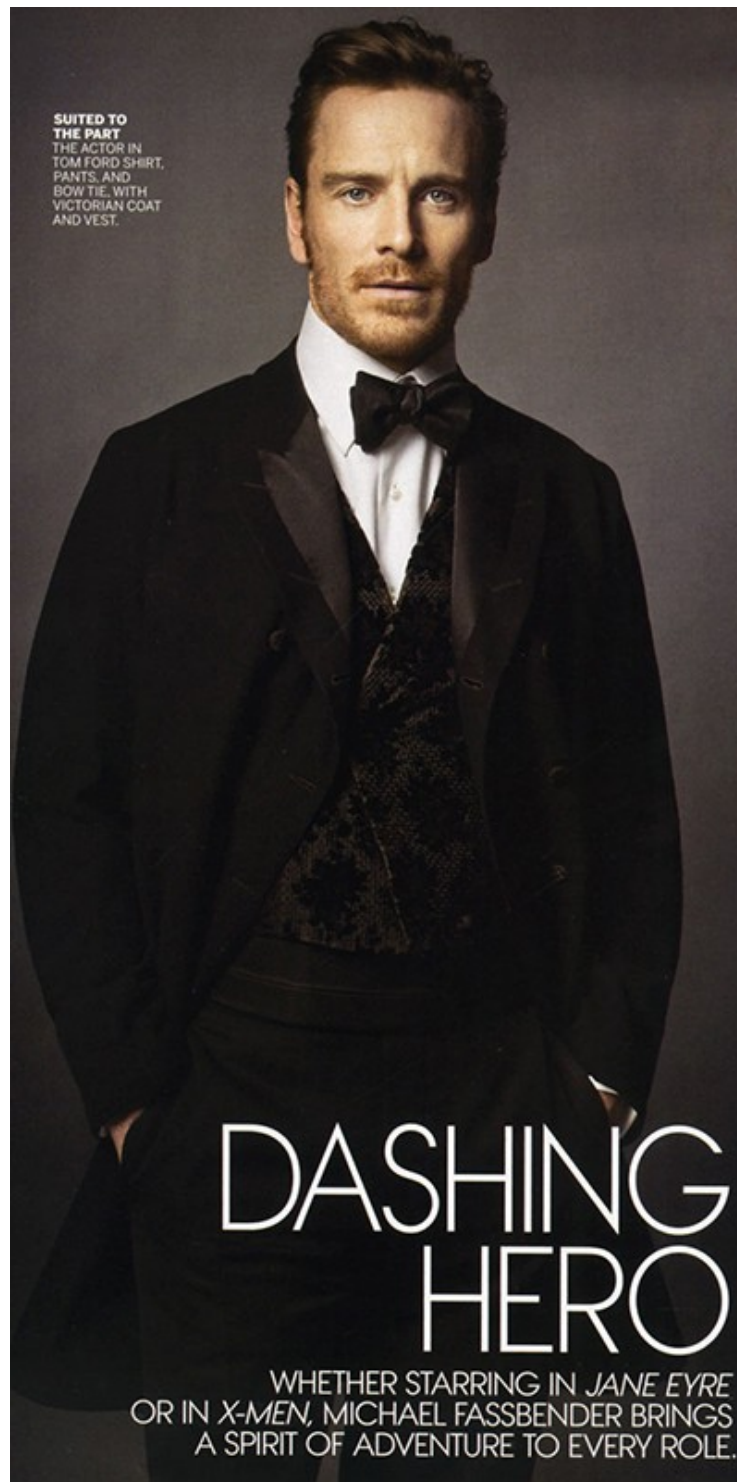
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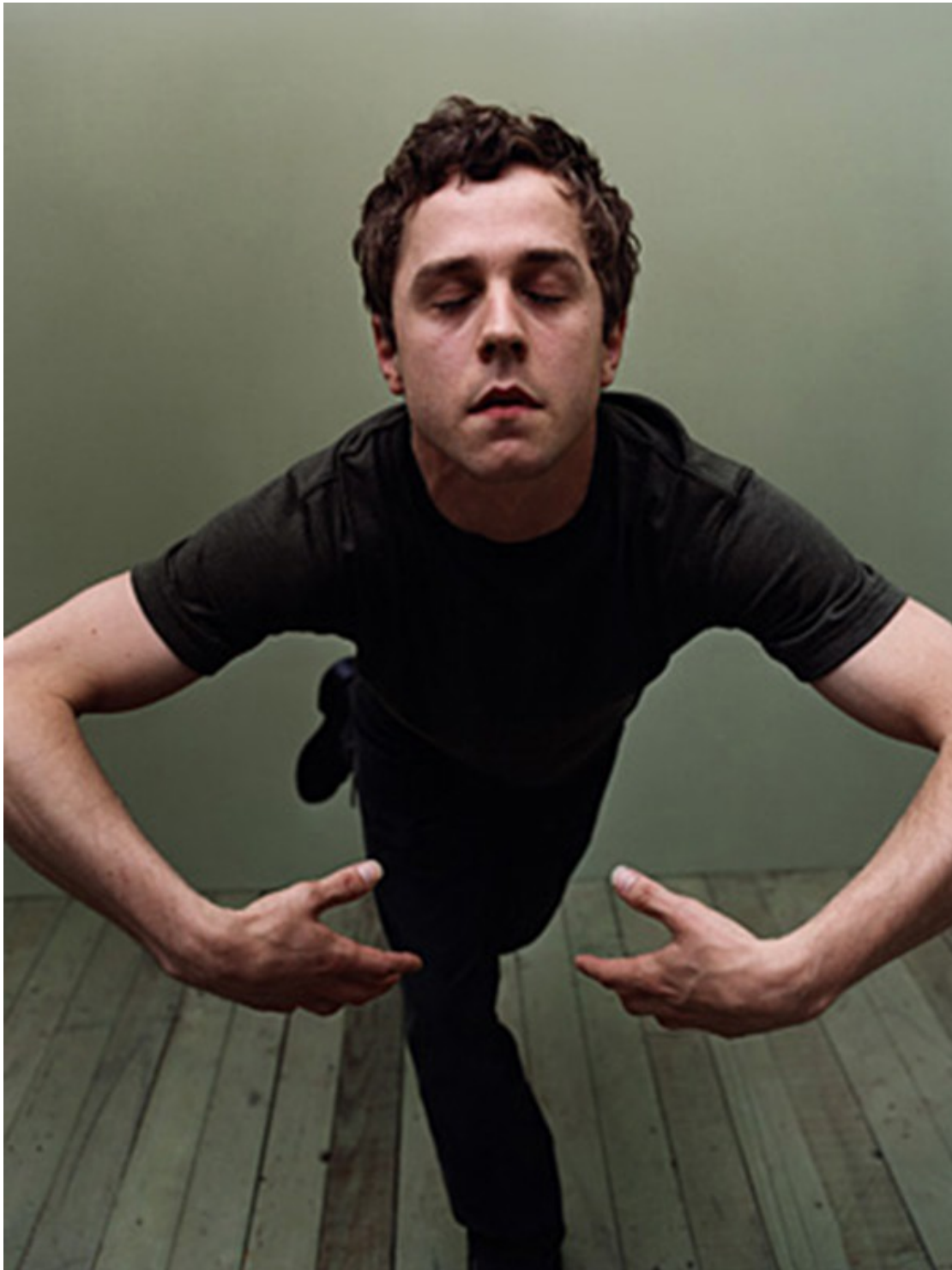
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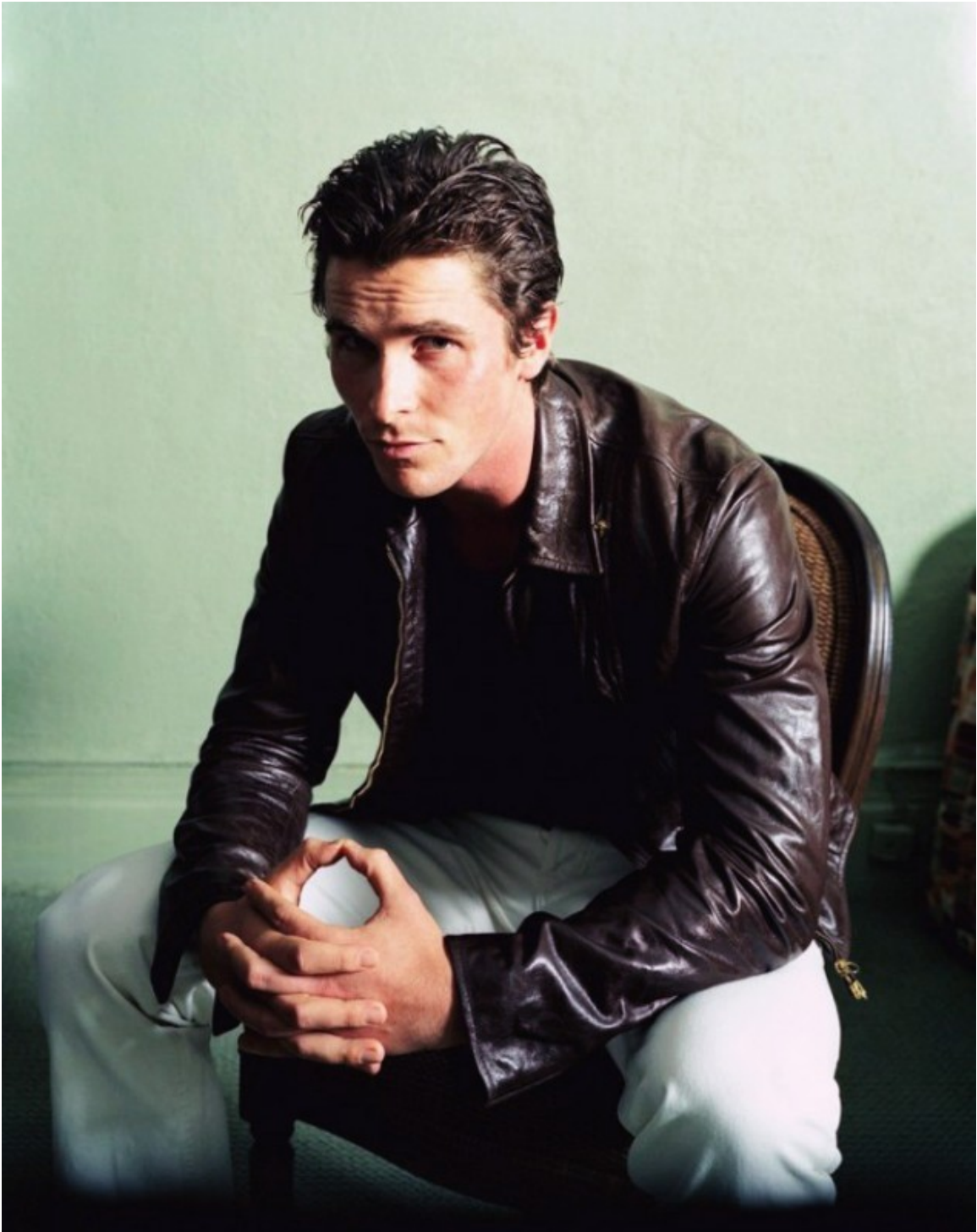
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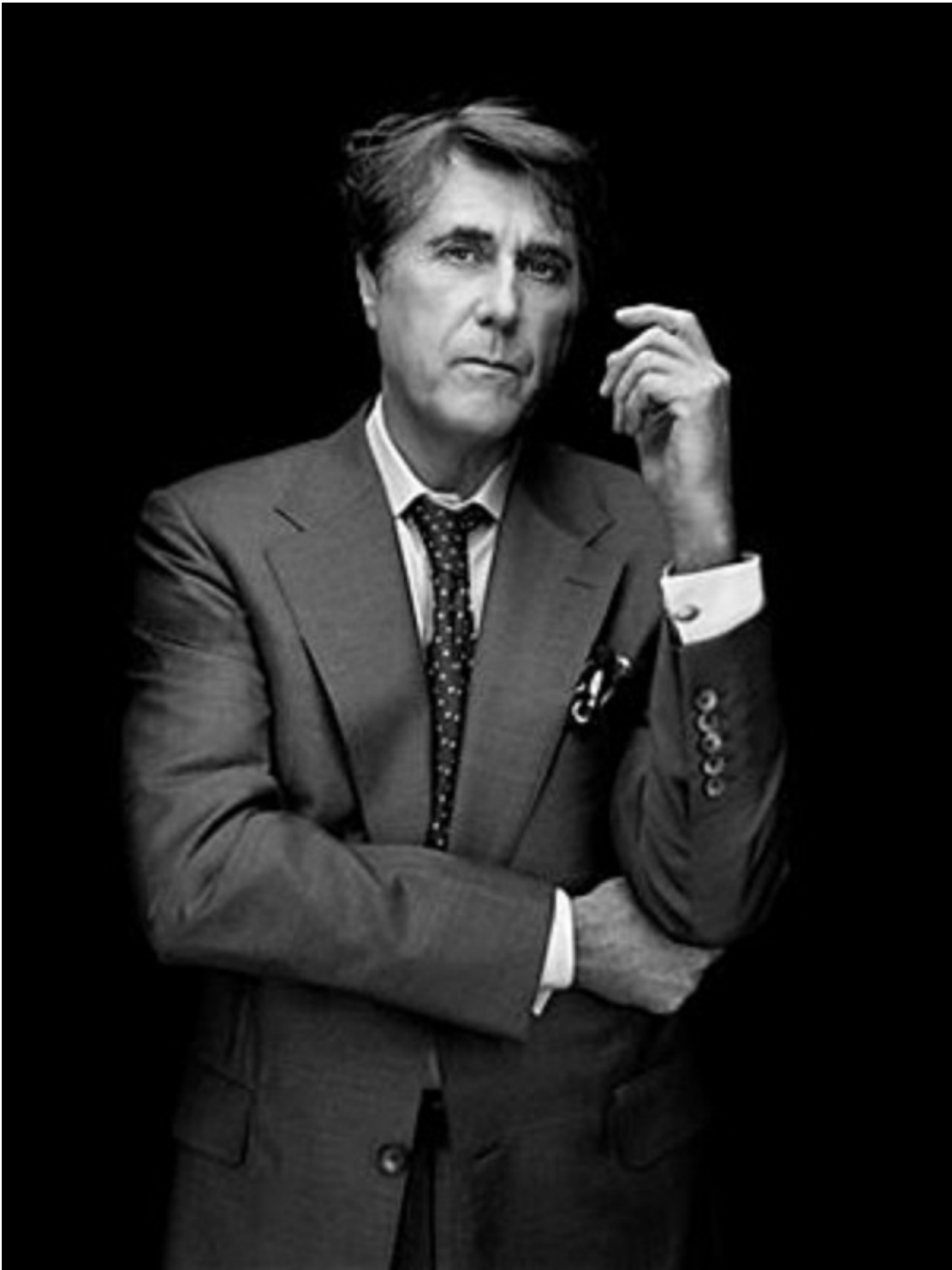
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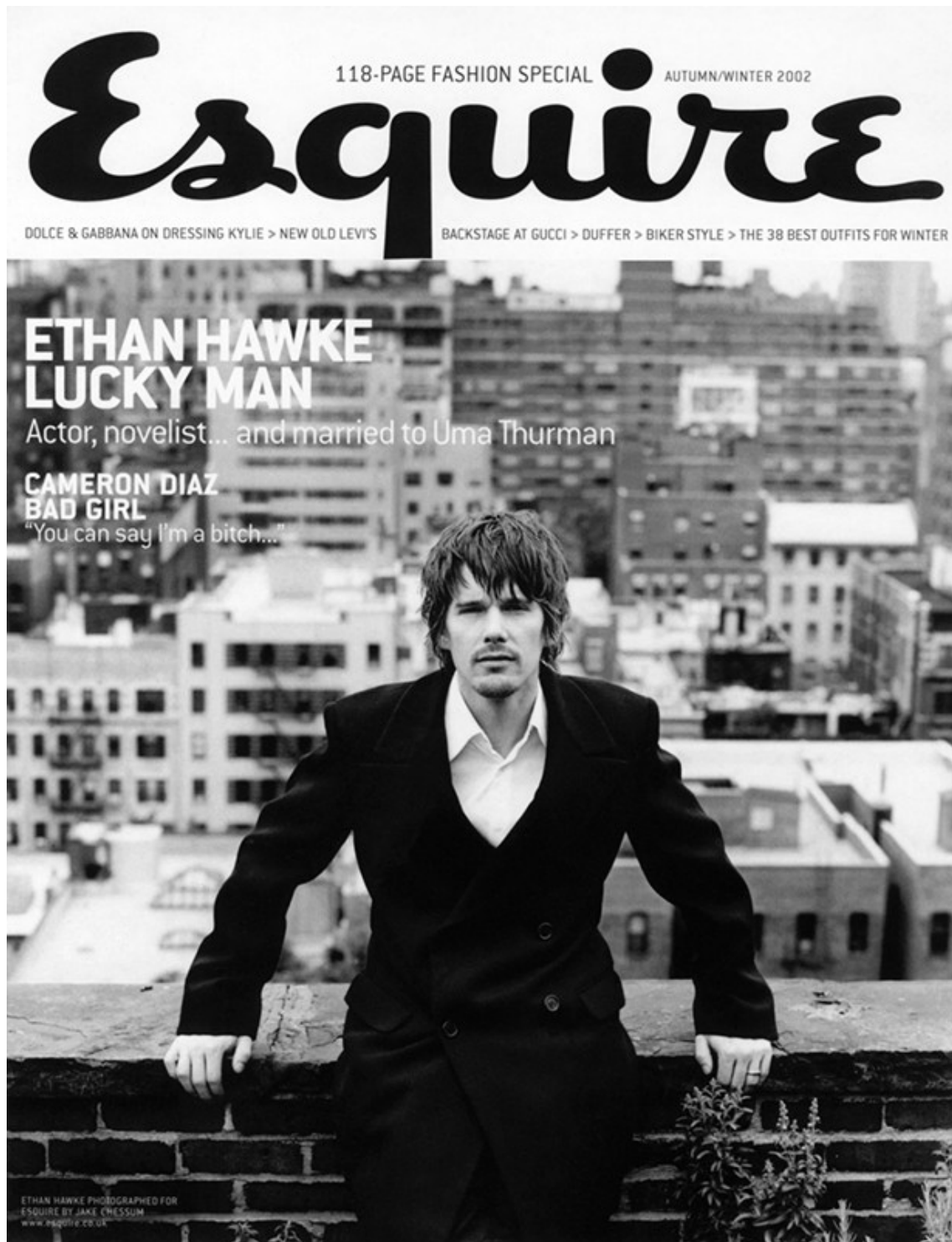
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