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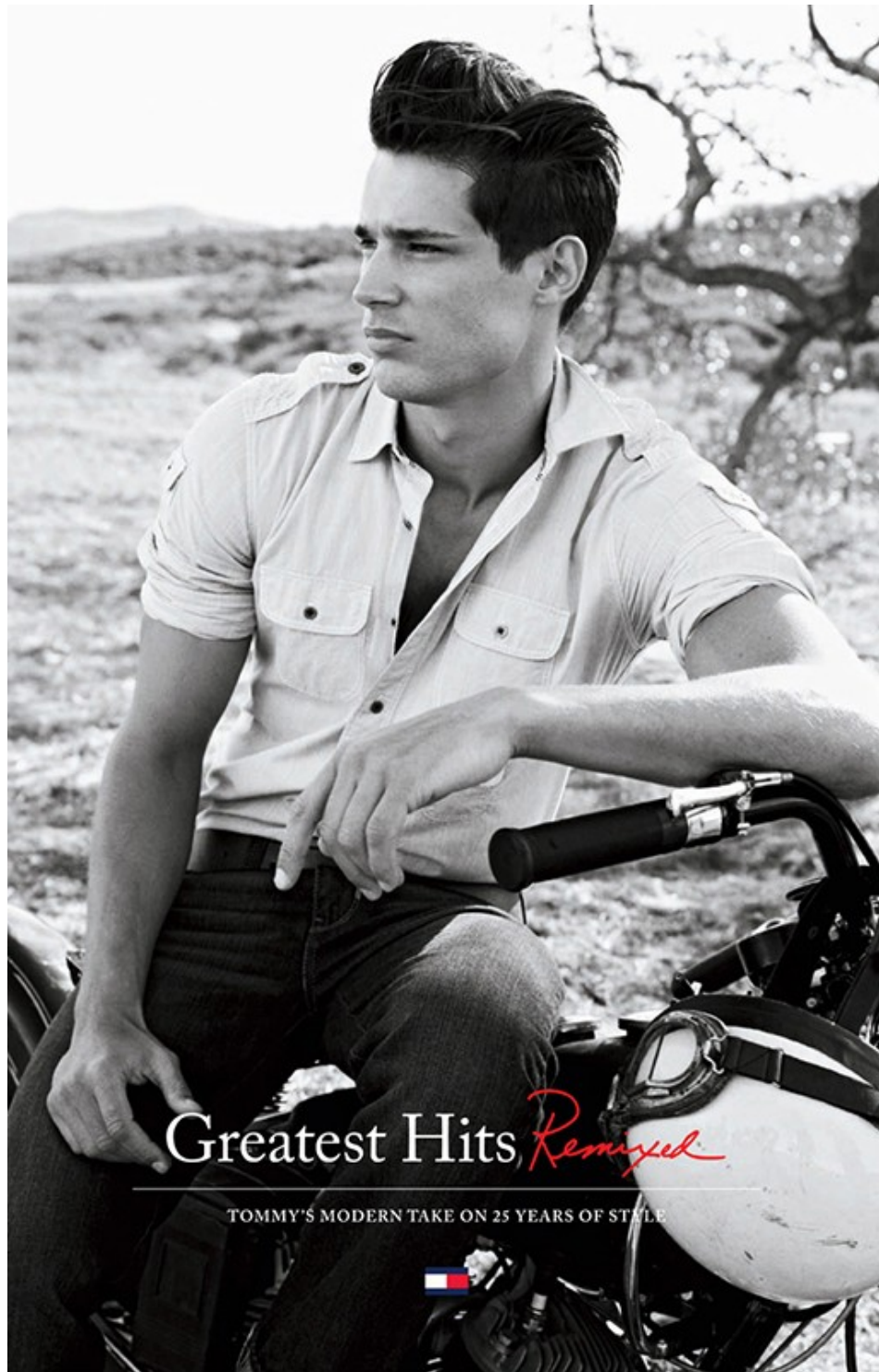
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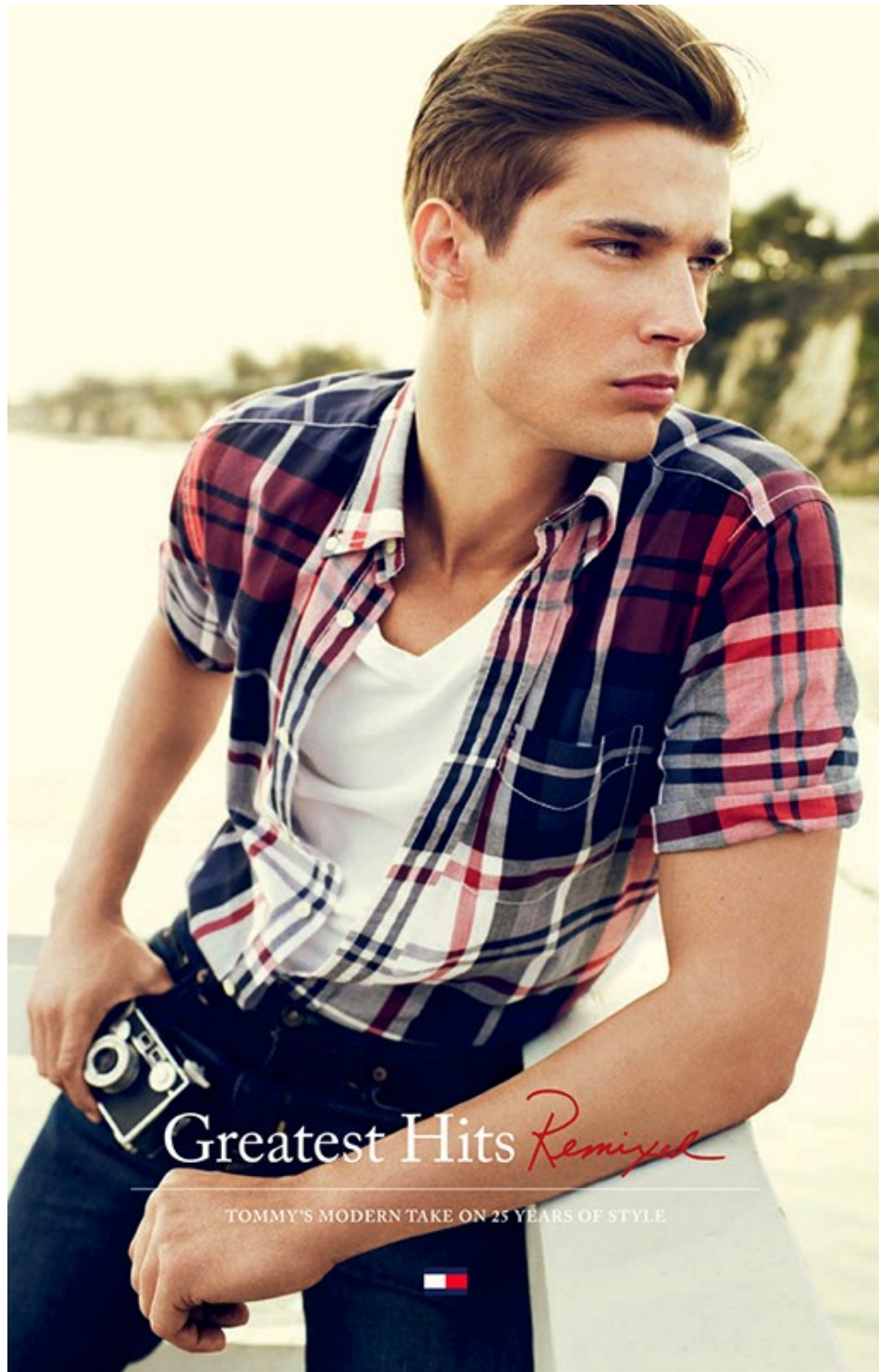
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BEN WATTS

This London-born celebrity Photographer has captured the likes of Matt Damon, Bradley Cooper, and Kristin Stewart with his lens and seen his explosive, saturated, and tantalizing images appear in the pages of *GQ*, *Rolling Stone*, and *Vanity Fair*. But there was a time in his life, when Ben didn't even know he wanted to be a photographer.

Struggling to make ends meet at college and unsure about what would come next, he picked up a camera and suddenly found exactly what he was looking for. And once he got a passion for photography, there was no looking back.

Fascinated with street culture in the United States, he made a daring move. In 1990, with nothing in his pockets and everything at stake, Ben moved to New York, knowing it was the only place he could truly take the types of photos he dreamed of. In the crowded art scene, he quickly stood out, making a name for himself by capturing youth culture in a way no one had seen before. Now, those same young faces stand side by side with some of the biggest names on the planet in Ben's books and exhibitions, which are the perfect showcases for not only where he's come from... but where he's landed.

ON BEN: Ray-Ban Clubmaster Flash Colored Mirrored lenses with a touch of '80s style give off the ultimate reflection.

Photographed at
Circle of Books
Silver Lake, CA

Download the **GQ Live** app and hold your device over the right page to watch video of Ben at the photo shoot.

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ON MICHAEL:
Ray-Ban
Ambermatic
These limited
editions feature yellow
photocromic lenses
in the legendary
Aviator frame.

MICHAEL KENNETH WILLIAMS

The Wire's Omar is one of the most celebrated characters in television history. In fact, President Obama said Omar was his favorite character on TV. With that much critical praise, Michael Kenneth Williams, the man behind Omar, is riding high. But that wasn't always the case.

Stuck in a dead-end job, depressed and unmotivated by the life he was living, Michael decided it was time for a drastic change. He went against the wishes of his parents, quit his job, and dove head first into a career as a dancer. Struggling to find work, he was also dealing with the insecurity he felt about a large facial scar he got from a bar fight. Michael was in a constant physical and mental battle, fighting to keep his dreams alive.

When he finally got his chance as a dancer in videos and on tours, he made an instant impression on those around him and in turn, his confidence skyrocketed. Michael was able to overcome his insecurity and truly show the world who he was. And the world took notice. With his epic portrayal of Omar, his spot-on turn as Chalky on HBO's smash hit *Boardwalk Empire*, plus upcoming roles in the *RoboCop* reboot and Steve McQueen's *Twelve Years a Slave*, Michael couldn't hide even if he wanted to.

EYES ON THE PRIZE

WHETHER IT'S FIERCE INDEPENDENCE, UNIQUE INSIGHT, OR SIMPLY THE COURAGE TO PUSH FORWARD, LEGENDS ARE FORGED WHEN DREAMERS SHUT DOWN THE CRITICS AND TUNE OUT THEIR FEARS. PIONEERS DON'T CHOOSE THE ROAD LESS TRAVELED, THEY CREATE A PATH THAT'S ENTIRELY THEIR OWN. LEGENDS STAND OUT BECAUSE THEY STOOD UP AND TOOK THE FIRST STEPS TOWARD THEIR DREAMS, NO MATTER WHAT STOOD IN THEIR WAY. THESE SIX MEN HAVE CULTIVATED THEIR PASSION AND INSPIRATION INTO UNQUESTIONABLE SUCCESS. THESE SIX MEN... NEVER HIDE.

PHOTOGRAPHS BY BEN WATTS

Download the GO Live app and hold your device over this page to watch video of Michael Kenneth Williams at the photo shoot.

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THE ORIGINAL
Ray-Ban
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timeless—and
always right.

MIGUEL
You'd expect nothing but originality from a man who describes his music as "fly, funkadelic, intergalactic-hip-hop-meets-sexy-orgasmic crazy," but sometimes originality can be a blessing—and a curse. Miguel's music and image aren't so easy to define and when an R&B artist isn't popping bottles and spending all his free time behind a velvet rope, people tend to get confused. But that's the way Miguel likes it. He's been flipping the genre and making it his own since day one.

His newest album, *Kaleidoscope Dream* lays claim to a new soundscape of genre-bending music that pays homage not only to Prince, but Queen and The Rolling Stones as well.

Never satisfied, Miguel is pushing boundaries yet again, combining the big sound of arena rock and the smooth feel of classic R&B with mind-blowing results. While he may not listen to the radio, his songs are transforming what we're used to hearing on the airwaves and challenging the definition of what R&B can be.

With critics showering glowing reviews on *Kaleidoscope Dream* and Miguel already having a #1 hit and a Soul Train Best New Artist Award under his belt, the future is looking pretty bright. The only question left is how will Miguel redefine his sound next time around?

Download the GO Live app and hold your device over the left page to watch video of Miguel at the photo shoot.

Wall mural by P&B Pablove Foundation, fighting childhood cancer with love at pablove.org



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