

Art Department



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SPOTLIGHT

TRIPLE THREAD

Among the most autobiographical of Edward Albee's plays, *Three Tall Women* makes its Broadway debut this spring. The production—directed by Joe Mantello and produced by Scott Rudin—is an altar to the playwright's mother, featuring Alison Pill, Laurie Metcalf, and the inimitable Glenda Jackson, who is returning to the Great White Way after a 20-year absence, during which she served as a member of the British Parliament. "It is so uncommon to have three tall women exist in the theater," Metcalf observes. "It's interesting because built into this play is a kind of hierarchy. We all bow to Glenda Jackson—I just want to be present to somebody who's doing."

The Pulitzer Prize-winning play captures three women in various stages of life: youth, middle age, and old age. It is a surgically precise portrait of a woman's relationship with herself—an excavation turned meditation on life as it nears its end. "Who we are, who we have become, and how we remember ourselves," Pill says.

Albee famously wrote fiercely strong, if sometimes terrifying, female characters, drawing inspiration from his adoptive mother, Frances, who was both his monster and, inevitably, his muse. The playwright, who died in 2016 at age 88, allows for the darkly comic respect of a mother's vulnerability and the burden of a life spent being vilified for her indomitable spirit. "He and his adoptive mother didn't get on," says Jackson. "I think I'm putting it rather mildly. In fact, Albee's introduction to the play terminates with him saying he only met anyone who could abuse her, though many who have seen the play find her fascinating. He cautions by saying, 'Heaven, what have I done?'" —A. M. HOGAN

Laurie Metcalf, Glenda Jackson, and Alison Pill, photographed at New York City.

Metcalf wears a dress by Rodarte, designed by Rachel Comey. Jackson wears a top by Stella McCartney pants by Mikko, shoes by Jimmy Choo. Pill wears a dress by Dries Van Notke, shoes by Rodarte. Jacket from Stephen Burrows, hat produced by Ramona and Marjorie, jewelry by Chopard.

PHOTOGRAPH BY MACKENZIE STROM

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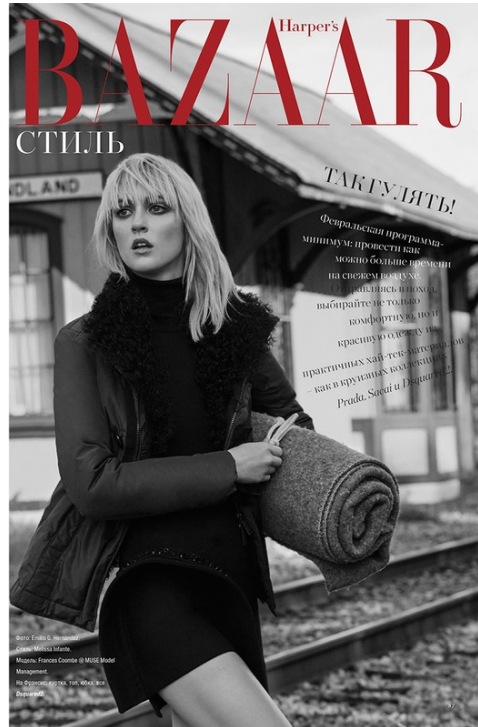
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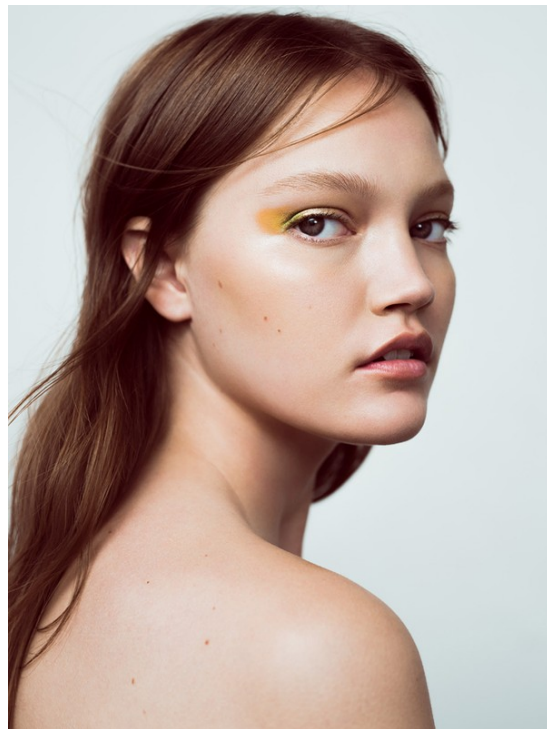
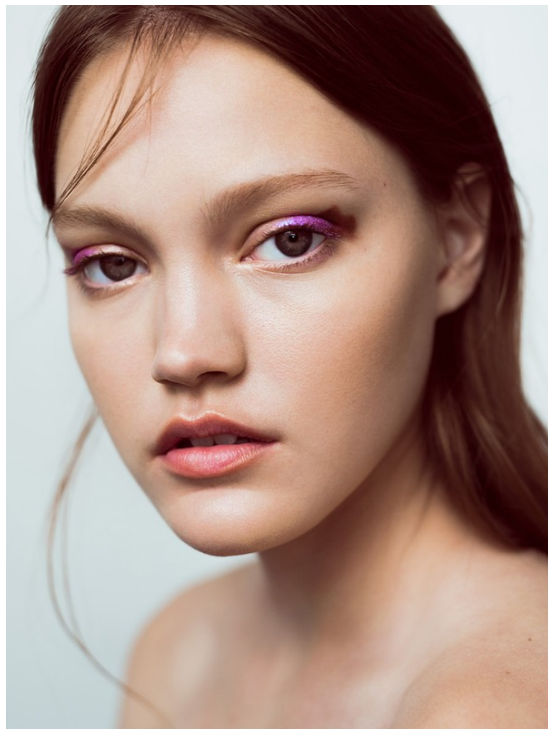
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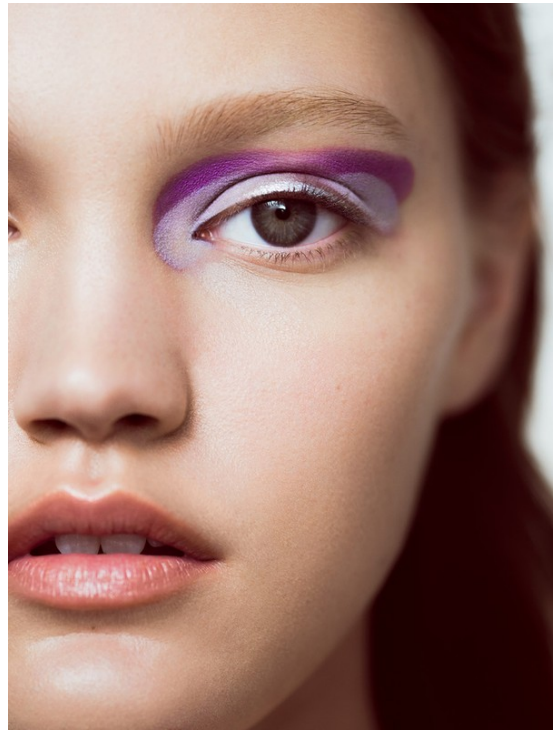
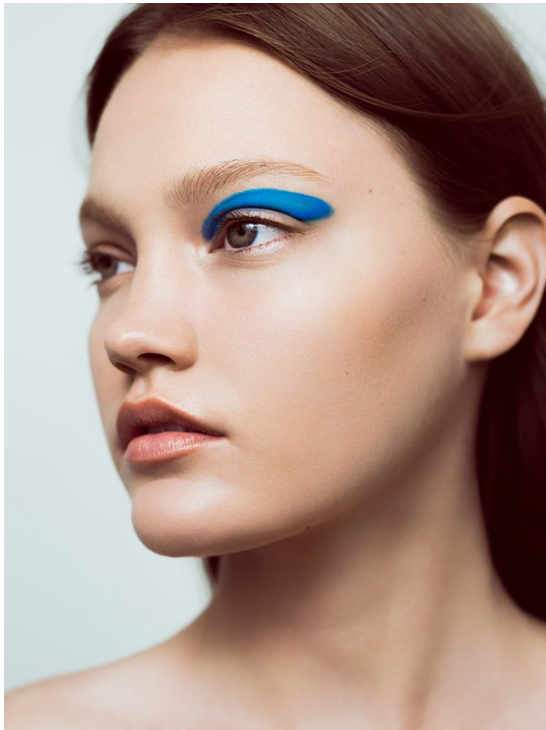
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Jacket, \$120. Adidas, adidas.com.au; necklace, \$285. We Are Handmade, wearehandmade.com; visor, \$19.95; Oakley, oakley.com.au; sunglasses, \$105.95. Le Specs, lespcs.com.au; chain necklace, \$169. colored tin bracelet on model's right arm, \$9 each; all Kinetic Ash, kinetich.com; watch, \$99.95. Kameron, kameron.com; (credit throughout) yellow bracelet on right arm, \$15. Love O'Hara, loveoharabrand.com; bracelet on left arm, \$65. Celeste, celestefashion.com



GET IT ON

It's PARTY season, but what to wear? Strapless, bright, simple black and white: the choices are YOURS to make.

Styling by JACQUE SHAW
Photography by PIERRE D'ISSAINT

Ariella Castella leather dress, \$700. Urban Sea Collection, UrbanSea.com; necklace, \$100. and "Forever" ring, \$120. (credit throughout)

MYER Emporium, 599

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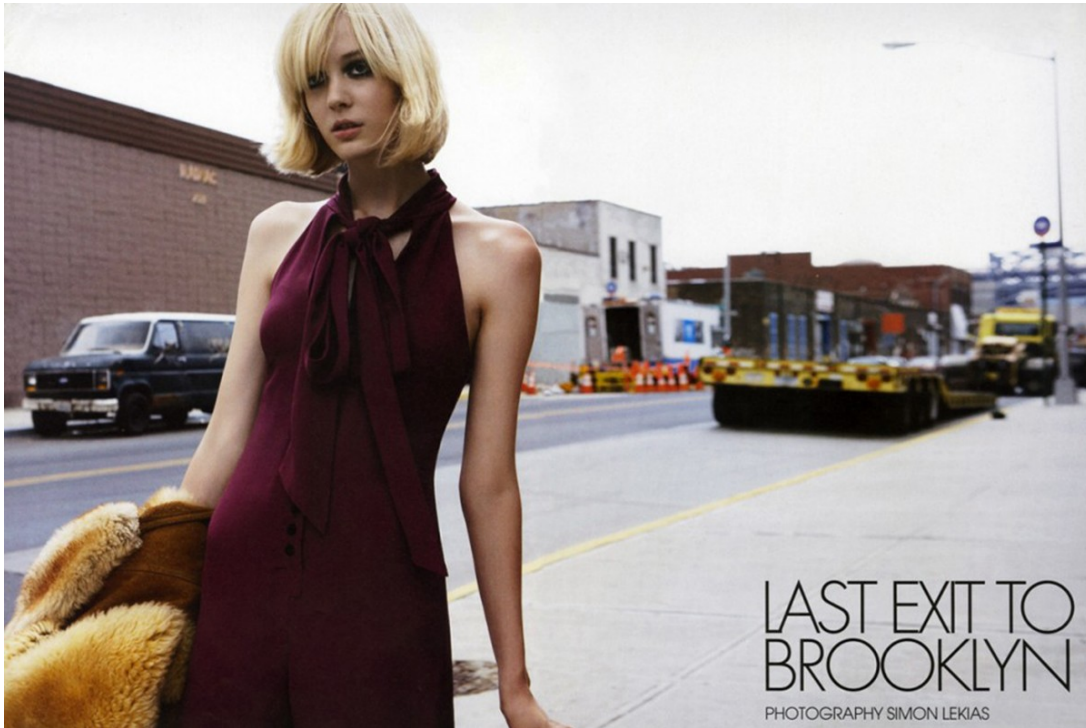
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