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Vestido de algodón
de CAROLINA HERRERA
NEW YORK, body elástico
de WOLFORD.

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Kerry's Choice

She's been the leading lady to two Oscar winners, yet for actress Kerry Washington, taking the lead in her own life has been challenging. Now, having faced her personal demons, she tells Jeannine Ambrose she's poised for new heights



PHOTOGRAPHED BY DANIELA FEDERICI STYLED BY AGNES CAMMOCK

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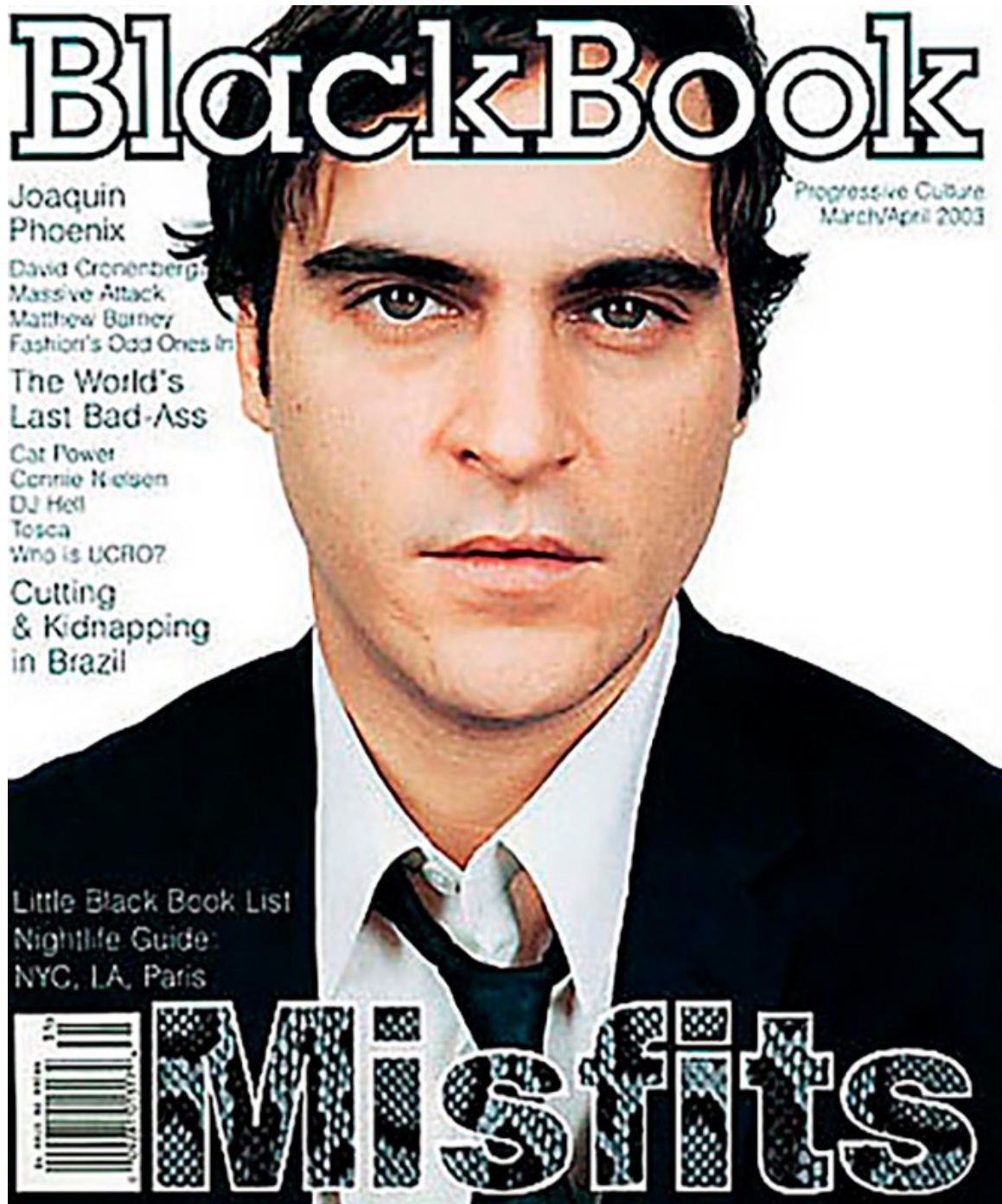
Kerry wears an Elie Saab dress, a Michelle Flaherty belt, Yves Saint Laurent shoes and a Lorraine Schwartz ring. >

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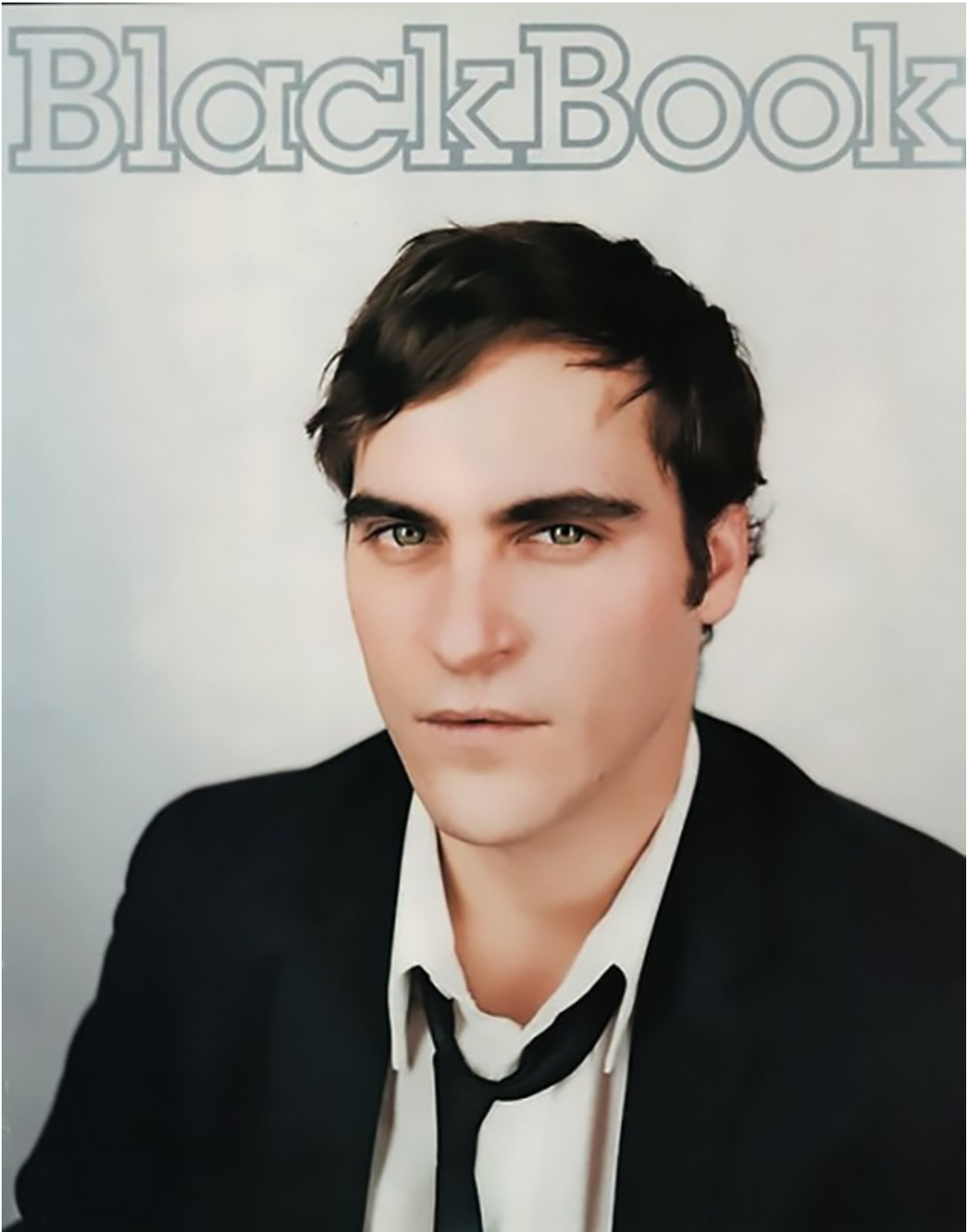
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FEMME DU MONDE

JOSEPHINE BAKER

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6 soul survivor

By Rebecca Klein Image by Eric Fischer

Tricia Helfer is absolutely famished. She would kill for a bran muffin. Or even a raisin muffin. As long as it's not a rugelach tart, she'll be fine. Tricia has been on a train from Woodstock since 6 AM to get to Shoot Digital (an airy loft space in Manhattan's NoLiTa) for her first shoot for Vellum. The journey from Woodstock (where her impending nuptials to her entertainment attorney fiancé will occur) was an arduous one. And the last two weeks have been a blur of press interviews, photo shoots, and, of course, wedding planning. So when the stylist swings by offering food, Tricia is ecstatic. Her flawless face fairly beams with unadulterated joy. And that's quite a sight to behold. Tricia is one of those women that virtually causes whiplash on the street. Impossibly tall, thin, and gorgeous, everyone recognizes her—they just know they've seen her somewhere, but can't quite place her. But all that's about to change. With two movies in the horizon and her own epic mini-series on cable, Tricia is poised to become, for the second time in her career, the Next Big Thing.

Tricia Helfer for Vellum

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BURNER

ALMOST FAMOUS

CHERISH

FOUR ATLANTA SISTERS WITH A BIG R&B HIT TEACH THE WHOLE WORLD HOW TO SNAP

BY JONAH MENDI
PHOTOGRAPH BY ERIC FISHER

HERE'S A FUN GAME. Ask the four sisters in Cherish what their favorite dance move is, then try not to laugh as they laud the "Peep Alley."

They're actually talking about the "Peole Palace," but you'll have to listen past their Southern, consonant-free draws to figure that out. Peole Palace is a snap dance out of the Atlanta clubs—a slight shake of the hips, an emphatic snap of the fingers on the downbeat and a step mainly popular among guys too tough to dance.

If you're intrigued, then Cherish—Farah,

27, Neesha, 20, and Fallon and Felisha, 18—have done their duty as self-appointed snap ambassadors. "There's a lot of rappers doing snap music," Fallon says, referring to minimalist troupes like Dem Franchize Boyz and D4L. "But we're doing it for the girls."

Cherish have been waiting for a big break since they were home-schooled toddlers. "When we were 5, 8 and 10 we opened up for the Delfonics," Felisha recalls. Stewarded by their father—a former R&B singer turned manager who would make them rehearse four hours a day, seven days a week—Cherish

ALL ABOUT US!

FAVORITE TV SHOW

Aziz's House of Lies is so bougie. (Fallon)

RECOMMENDED READING

The Notebook. It's much better than the movie. (Felisha)

FAVORITE ATLANTA CLUB HOLE

The all-you-can-eat lobster at City Café—it's not expensive, 'cause it's in the hood. (Neesha)

leapt from one deal to another, working with Usher and Jermaine Dupri along the way. They finally wound up in producer Jazze Pha's camp, and this summer released "Do It to It," a single that combines sultry R&B with dance-floor bounce.

"We're doing a lot of harmony and a lot of vocal ability, because we're singers first," Neesha says. "Bringing that Boyz II Men style back!"

But the girls are also lyricists, insisting their words are their own. "If you don't write your own music," Fallon says, "it's a lie."

OUT NOW UNAPPRECIATED (SANTAS)



"IF YOU DON'T WRITE YOUR OWN MUSIC, IT'S A LIE."

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the scenes with SNL)

by clark collis

photographs by gavin bond



Samuel L. Jackson
David Hasselhoff

Bill Hader
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