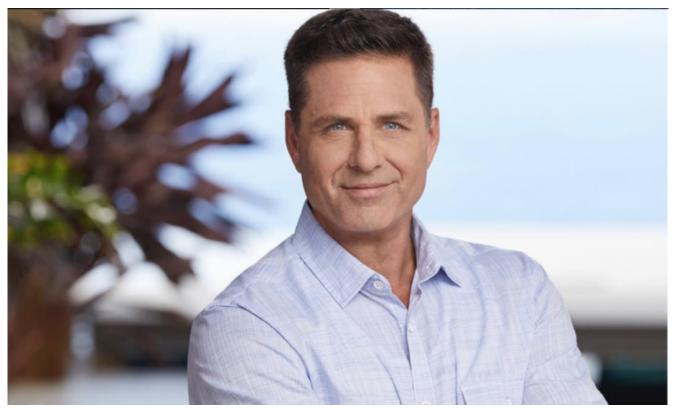
Celebrity Interview: 'Temptation Island' Host Mark Walberg Shares His Thoughts on Season 2 and Physical Infidelity vs. Emotional Connection





Interview by Lori Bizocco. Written by Hope Ankney.

Mark Walberg (not to be confused with film actor Mark Wahlberg) is an American actor, on-air television personality, and talk show host known primarily for *Antiques Roadshow*, *The Moment of Truth*, and both the original (Fox Network: 2001) and

the modern reboot (USA Network: 2019), Temptation Island. Walberg's time on Temptation Island is split between acting as the host and being a relationship confidant who couples go to for guidance through all kinds of relationship struggles they experience on the show. In our exclusive celebrity interview, Walberg offers our visitors his thoughts on the second season of the show, and some dating advice for any couple going through hardships.

In our celebrity interview with *Temptation Island's* Mark Walberg, get season 2 sneak-peeks, dating advice, and tips on emotional connections.

Temptation Island is a reality show that follows four couples who are struggling in their relationships and can't decide whether to call it quits or not. When they arrive on the island, they are separated and put onto different parts of a beautiful island for four weeks, where they are tempted by other relationship options. The show has seen booming success since the first season of its reboot aired at the beginning of 2019. With season two premiering just a few weeks ago, the drama-filled show has only turned up the heat with its steamy antics.

Related Link: <u>Celebrity Interview: 'Temptation Island' Host</u>
<u>Mark Walberg Shares His Secret to a Happy Relationship</u>

A season that Walberg claims is "really on steroids" as far as content goes, he explains that what ends up happening with these couples isn't scripted. The producers aren't in charge of turning the heat up, despite the drama escalating quickly this season. According to Walberg, it all depends on the

couple and their personal journey. For example, Ashley G. slept with someone in the first episode, and that's something that just didn't happen in the first season of the show.

Walberg likes the idea of producers not being in control, because it allows him to be more open and vulnerable with the couples. In the second episode, Walberg has a conversation with Rick about Ashley's infidelity, saying that he's sincerely hurting alongside Rick. He takes his role with the couples very seriously, admitting, "I want the best for them. I'm very well aware that it's probably not going to go the way that they hoped or thought they could control, but the bigger question, to me, is always about yourself. What brought you here? It's not about the other person." He expands on this statement, explaining how he handled his discussion with Ashley G., hinting that she has great remorse about hurting Rick in later episodes.

When asked if a couple can come back from something like what Rick and Ashley G. are going through, he provides some great advice about the differences in every couple and how they handle hardship. According to Walberg, every couple is unique and thinks differently about their relationship. If you're talking about two people who have built a foundation from an on-again off-again dynamic, it's obvious that the couple has been able to forgive one another and get back together after past conflict. Walberg is serious when he asks couples, "Do you think you can come back from this?" He says, "When you sit and break it down, there's a lot of grey area between the black and white. I know that people watching at home are like, 'If anybody did that then it's over,' but relationships with these people are years long and unique to them."

Watching season 2 of *Temptation Island*, we observe events like David's threesome, Ashley's infidelity, and then cases like Casey's where he claims that his relationship with Ashley H. is weak, stating, "I could break-up with her and be fine." Does that raise questions about what really hurts more,

physical infidelity or emotional connection? Walberg seems to think that a lacking emotional connection is much scarier than a physical in fidelity. Physical intimacy doesn't always cause a bond to form, and he agrees with viewers who believe that emotional connections are the ones that are lasting.



Mark L. Walberg. Photo Credit: Pr Photos/prphotos.com

Despite our curiosity, Walberg remains tight-lipped about who he thinks will survive as a couple and who he's rooting for, but he does touch on the growth he's seen from both Rick and Ashley H. He thinks that Rick's backstory of being a playboy is interesting when you see how he grows throughout the season. He even singles out Ashley H. and applauds her for her development from being extremely sensitive to radiating a sense of strength by the season's end.

In fact, Walberg explains that the island is a vehicle for couples to seek answers in different facets of their lives. "For some guys that require self-love, and sometimes [they] just do things I can't figure out. But, my hope is that

everybody leaves the island feeling like the experience helped them grow in some way or another." If the couples are committed to going to the island, there is a sense of selfreflection that they have to go through and work on. It's a natural process that happens on its own for every couple.

With shows like *Temptation Island*, it can be an addicting experience for the audience. So, it isn't surprising that fans become attached to the show, because they see parts of themselves or their relationship in some of the couples on screen. People can relate to wondering whether or not they're settling in their relationship. It's easy to empathize with the struggles when it comes to finding your "person."

Related Link: <u>Celebrity Interview: Leanne Ford Talks Interior</u>
<u>Design Advice and Upcoming Projects</u>

Relationship struggles are a reality for all couples, and Walberg stresses the importance of communication to overcome those low points. Not all folks can hop a plane and become part of a reality show to fix their problems, he says, but, "If you can talk about it, you've got a shot. Talk it out, and if you need to find professional help to talk it out, that might be the best way."

And, speaking of communication, Walberg is still in touch with the entire cast from season 1 through Instagram! He says he's still friendly with all of them, pointing out, for instance, that Evan reached out to him personally when he and Morgan announced their engagement.

So, what can we expect from upcoming episodes? Walberg wasn't very forthcoming on this, but he told us to keep a watch on the dynamic between couples shifting from potential love interests to supportive friends, as well as seeing romantic connections grow. And, get ready for some entertainment! According to Walberg, the final bonfire is "pretty riveting."

Stay tuned! If Walberg's insight is anything to go on,

Temptation Island is about to get insanely entertaining.

You can keep up with Mark L. Walberg by following him on <u>Twitter</u> and <u>Instagram</u>. Make sure to check out "Temptation Island" Tuesdays at 10/9c on USA Network.

# Celebrity Interview: Rafi Anteby, The Man Behind the Gifting Lounge





Interview by <u>Lori Bizzoco</u> Written by <u>Courtney Shapiro</u> and Amanda Sanders

From hosting one-of-a-kind gifting suites for celebrities (e.g., Emmy's, Oscars, Billboard Music Awards, BET Awards) to creating and promoting his iconic jewelry line, Rafi Anteby's Rolodex of clients reads like an award celebration itself (Rihanna, Beyonce, Jamie Foxx). But for Anteby, it is not as much about living the lavish lifestyle as it is about finding opportunities to raise awareness and funds for philanthropic causes around the world.

In our exclusive <u>celebrity interview</u>, we chat with Anteby on the inspiration behind his coveted gifting lounges, his spiritual and philanthropic journey and the meaning behind his jewelry line, *Bullets4Peace*.

## Celebrity Interview with Rafi Anteby: Traveling Inspiration, Life Experiences and Future Endeavors

While today Anteby is considered just as iconic, influential, and successful as the celebrities that he works with, making a name for himself was a process. "I think the way it happened has to do with consistency and legitimacy. Hollywood is very straightforward and it takes people time to really trust somebody in their own circle." Anteby discusses how he used balance and truth to build his reputation. "Celebrities seek a lifestyle that really brings them back to a normal life," he says. "They want to touch the Earth, they want to touch the real, so I show them places and I show them products and I show them a lot of things that speak to this lifestyle — my lifestyle." This is the magic of his journey and these real moments are what inspired him to start his own jewelry line, Bullets4Peace.

If we look back at his story, it began in Israel, where he served in the Israeli army and lost his entire platoon

fighting in the war with Lebanon. Following that, he had the very unfortunate experience of losing his best friend, David Perry from a gunshot wound. "I'm very familiar with the bullet, what it can do and the negative impact that it has not only for the victim but for their family and friends also," the jewelry creator says.

Anteby says that the gifting lounges didn't happen right away. First, he spent time really getting to know himself. "I was a consultant on counter-terrorism, I traveled a lot and did free wildlife photography, and I studied with monks in Tibet and Nepal." It was while staying at a monastery in China, that Anteby came back with the idea to rebrand the imagery of a bullet. For the past 10 years, his mission has been to take bullets and turn them into a peace symbol by recycling used bullet casings and re-purposing them into the wonderful handcrafted pieces which several celebrities have been seen wearing.

Related Link: Oscars 2019: Celebrities Line Up for Rafi's Gifting Lounge at the Waldorf Astoria Beverly Hills

Anteby started his gifting lounges at the 2017 Oscars and has hosted close to 10 lounges since then. Because of his travels and eye for artistry, he is able to offer exotic trips and products to celebrity clientele at his gifting lounges. All of the products seen at his events support various causes. "I will tell you that there's a message behind every event I do," Anteby elaborates. "I truly believe in receiving for the sake of giving. So for every event I do, a certain amount of the money goes to charity." Taking a chance in this industry is hard work. "I didn't expect such a warm welcome and it still takes time," Anetby says. But he wants his gifting lounges to inspire on a much deeper and bigger level.

Related Link: Celebrity Interview: 'Harry and Meghan: Becoming Royal' Actor Noah Huntley Talks Career, Charity & Relationships

While it may seem that women would flock to someone living such a lavish lifestyle, Anteby confesses that he is still single. "People come to LA because they want to succeed, therefore, everything else becomes a minor issue." He explains that relationships seem to take a back seat. The philanthropist does believe that everybody has someone out there for them but with his constant traveling, he identifies himself as a "lonely wolf," and thinks it's tough to find a woman who can match his exploratory lifestyle.

When asked what's next for him, he shares that he would like to open up a media group that will help to have a social impact." this man is certainly an individual to keep on your radar.

You can follow Rafi Anteby on <u>Instagram</u>. You can also see and buy his jewelry on the Bullets4peace <u>website</u>.

# Celebrity Interview: Temptation Island's Kaci Campbell Says She Deserves 'A Lot Better' Than Evan Smith After Heartbreak in Finale





Interview by Lori Bizzoco. Written by Courtney Shapiro.

Kaci Campbell flew out to Hawaii with Evan Smith, her long-term, live-in boyfriend to join the cast of the exhilarating reality show, <u>Temptation Island</u>. The couple had been struggling with their relationship and not sure whether they should end it or move on. As we saw on tonight's finale, Evan called it quits with Kaci leaving her for his new girlfriend, Morgan Lalor. We just spoke to Kaci and she says she is the happiest she's ever been in her life.

In our exclusive <u>celebrity interview</u> we chat with Kaci about her and Evan's promise to one another and game plan, her connection with Val Osipov, and what life looks like now that she is off the island.

# Check out our celebrity interview with Kaci Campbell as she reflects

# on her previous relationship with Evan Smith:

## 1. You sound like you're in a great mood. Can you tell us why?

I'm not going to lie. I'm totally nervous for the finale. I haven't seen it, I've heard about it from a lot of different reporters and through Reality Steve's podcast; he's told me all about it. I've heard it's very brutal and hard to watch, and I'm scared. I'm not gonna lie With that said, at the end of the day this whole bizarre, extreme experiment that I put my relationship through is such a blessing in disguise. It honestly saved my life.

I was really hanging on to my relationship with Evan for a long, long time and fighting for it, but he's not my person at all. I deserve a lot better, and now that he's gone and out of my life, I feel such relief, and so free. I'm so excited for the show to be over and for the finale to be done. It's almost like lifting a band-aid off. I just can't wait for the next chapter of my life honestly. I don't know, it's crazy. For the first time in my life I'm truly genuinely happy, which is insane because six months ago I was heartbroken and depressed and anxiety ridden.

# 2. Can you tell us what conversations you had with Evan going into this show and what happened at the final Bonfire?

Evan and I, we came to *Temptation Island* with each other. To this day, he is trying to tell people that I didn't and I forced him on the island, which is really just a blatant lie. He wanted to be there. He wanted the fame and what not, and me and him had a game plan. Our game plan was no matter what we see, no matter what we hear at bonfires, we said that we will not make any decisions about our relationship until we go home. It was about three days before we got on our flight to Maui, and I broke down crying to him, telling him 'I feel like

this just needs to be said Evan.' 'If for some reason one of us falls for someone or has feelings for someone, please let's not break up with each other on national television. Let's go home and handle things in the privacy of our home. We owe that to ourselves, we owe that to our families, we've been best friends for so many years, so it's the right thing to do. He kinda laughed it off and was trying to calm me down, and said that's ridiculous, it doesn't even need to be said, but okay I promise.'

That was kind of my mindset going into the bonfire, I was extremely disappointed with his behavior. I was quite honestly disgusted. I was second guessing myself, but thought that I couldn't break up with him on TV. He has been through enough with his family and his father. So, I went into it knowing I wanted to go home and figure out things at home.

Related Link: <u>Celebrity Interview: Temptation Island Star,</u>
<u>Evan Smith Says, "Ultimatums are Cruel When Dealing with</u>
<u>Matters of the Heart."</u>

Evan basically humiliated me with zero regard, zero respect, and no hesitation at all. It was absolutely unbelievable, and I can't even really describe what I was feeling because quite honestly it was a total out of body experience. I've never experienced anything like that in my life. I totally blacked out. I don't think they even show this, but I left Evan at the bonfire. I went running down the path. The crew was yelling my name, telling me where to go, chasing me with cameras. I got into the Escalade and I just remember I couldn't cry because I didn't understand what was happening. I had a full blown breakdown in the Escalade. It was nuts, I was pulling my choker, I couldn't breathe. Honestly the fact that Evan did that to me in that way to this day is still shocking. I knew he had issues, and I knew he wasn't necessarily the best guy, but I didn't truly realize what he was capable of. Again it's such a blessing, I don't have time for that in my life.

# 3. You seemed to have recognized these signs and had a premonition about Evan. Can you elaborate on that?

With Evan, I was in a very strange situation with him. I had a lot of gut feelings about him for a really, really long time. I would actually try to break up with him, and he would kind of convince me to stay. He would use lines like this is what a normal long-term relationship is like, Kaci, you're overthinking this. We're not gonna be best friends everyday, we're gonna fight. We've known each other for 10 years, this is normal. The next day he would be prince charming again and sweep me off my feet. Also because of everything he's been through, in my mind I'm such a ride or die and such a loyal person that I didn't want to give up on him. Temptation Island proved to me that tragedy or not, he's just not a good person. I do wish I listened to my gut a long time ago

Related Link: Celebrity Interview: 'Temptation Island' Host Mark Walberg Shares His Secret to a Happy Relationship

# 4. Evan mentioned that he wasn't close with your family and only saw them a handful of times. What do you think about this?

That was actually Evan's choice. My family went above and beyond for him and invited him to family vacations, got him Christmas presents, birthday presents, wanted to go on double dates with us. It was always a big deal, and it was always me constantly trying to get Evan to be around my family, but it was uncomfortable like I was walking on eggshells.

# 5. Why did you stay with Evan if you knew he was not a good guy and why did you need a reality show to determine this?

Basically, Evan, he's really good at saying things are temporary. I would break down and cry about our relationship saying 'I can't be with someone who isn't good to my family and push them away like that. He would tell me 'I just have demons, it's not gonna be like this forever, and one day

everything is going to be fine. He just knew exactly what to say to reassure me that this was just temporary and just a phase and this is not forever and that he would definitely have a relationship with my family, and when we have children we'd all spend time together at Christmas and at birthdays, and everything would be fine.

## 6. What are your thoughts on him and Morgan?

I don't know, that's a whole other thing. I'm not gonna lie I genuinely from the bottom of my heart hope to God for her sake and her family's sake that it's real and legitimate and they have a happy ever after marriage and just live healthy and happy forever. I genuinely want that not even for Evan, but for Morgan. No girl or woman ever deserves to go through what I went through. It'll be Prince Charming for a while and then one day it'll be a light switch. She'll start noticing things and get gut feelings, and I just hope to God she listens to it. I think it's damage control, I really do. There's a lot of hate and I think he is just trying to prove a point because that's what Evan does. He is very combative and confrontational, and I think it was one last jab to really hurt me to be honest.

Related Link: <u>Celebrity Interview: Southern Belle Kady</u> Krambeer Shares Details About Temptation Island Experience

# 7. Let's talk about something more positive. Can you tell us about the relationship you built with Val? Do you still talk to him?

Val and I are very close. We talk on a day to day basis. I definitely had very strong feelings for him on the show that I was not pursuing because I was loyal and didn't want to be tempted. The whole reason I went on the show was so Evan could prove himself to me, and that was obviously a failure. I wasn't there to meet someone and fall in love. I was there for Evan to prove to me that he's not the same person I met when

he was a boy. Looking back, I wish I did pursue things with Val. I definitely wouldn't have taken it to the extent that Morgan and Evan did because I don't retaliate in that way at all. I don't think it's right. To be honest, I don't think it's right for Val; he's one of the best people I've ever met in my life. If me and him were to ever be a thing, I wouldn't want to start in that type of environment, being on a reality show while my boyfriend is cheating on me. If it's the real deal, it needs to be started in a much healthier environment.

Related Link: <u>Celebrity Interview: 'Temptation Island' Star</u>
<u>Dr. Johnny Alexander Dishes On What It's Like Being a Reality</u>
<u>TV Star</u>

# 8. Tell us what life has been like after the show. What have you learned about yourself?

I was very blind to the toxic situation I was in for a long time. I finally truly know my worth and know what I deserve, and never again will I be with a man that is anything remotely like Evan. The rose-colored glasses are totally off. He did me a huge favor.

I don't regret the ultimatum I gave him at all. I was stuck, and I was sacrificing my happiness for a person that doesn't deserve me. That ultimatum and going on the show, everything happens for a reason. I wouldn't have met Val. I wouldn't be happy like I am today. I do not walk on eggshells everyday anymore. Temptation Island saved my life.

## 10. What is next for you?

Life is looking bright. I am currently looking at apartments. It is up in the air. I can't really say where I am looking. I may have some stuff coming up in the entertainment industry, tons of ambassadorships coming up, and making income outside of my 9 to 5 job. I am doing YouTube and I am launching a podcast and I do have my own brand, Bossy that I had to put on hold while I was going through this craziness. So, I am

relaunching that. And, I am talking with publishers about writing a book. The book might be a fictional experience about my time on Temptation Island. That will be fun and there will be different characters.

# 11. You mentioned moving out of your apartment. What was it like when Evan came back? Did you guys have a conversation? When did he leave?

Honestly, that story is a complete nightmare. I am going to try to make it as quick as possible. Basically, I got on a plane to LAX and he stayed in Maui for a few days with Morgan. It was my birthday, he flew back on my birthday. He was texting me non-stop, begging and pleading to see me telling me he lost his best friend and partner. He says he doesn't know what he did. Meanwhile, I am at my apartment with his little brother and his dog. His brother doesn't know what's happening. Evan is a mile away at a downtown hotel with Morgan. His little brother had to step in and be like, you have to let him over Kaci. I told Evan he had a week to move out. I told him, I will be at work, you have a week to get your stuff and go. Evan would not move out. He would not do it. So finally, I let him do it. He came over. I let him talk. We talked for 24 hours straight. We didn't sleep. He was saying he had serious doubts because the show pitted us up against one another and that he doesn't know what he did and he is doubting his feelings. Then he got on a plane to go to Virginia.

As far as I knew, he was going to be back in 10 days. He was going to let Morgan know his doubts and that there was hope for us and that we were going to live separately, and stuff. Then literally three days later, I was sitting at the In and Out Drive Thru with one of our mutual friends and three hours before, he had sent me a "thinking of you" text with a heart emoji. Then while I am at the drive thru, he literally dumped me again in an novel text message. At that point, I cannot even explain what happened. It was like a light switch. It was

so emotionally and psychologically insane. Ever since then, he was reaching out to me through text messages, through my friends, threatening to publish my love letters. New Years Day is when I told him, this is how I feel about you. It was a pretty vicious text. I told him that there is no hope for us to be okay so to stop messaging and texting me. And, I haven't heard from him since.

## 12. Any final words?

I cannot even explain how disrespectful and uncivil this whole situation was —to me, to my family to his family. It was like out of this world. Everyone is saying that it was a blessing in disguise and that I dodged every bullet in the book. I am not going to lie; October and November I was not okay. And, then right around Thanksgiving, I was like "Boom, lights on" I am good. I don't miss him. I deserve someone who is good and is going to love and protect me and cherish me. And, someone who is never going to do these things to me ever.

He is all I have really known for my adult life. He is really all I have ever known. And it sounds crazy, but I spent three weeks with Val and he is so different than Evan. I felt so strong and sure of myself and confident. The absolute best version of myself. Evan never made me feel that way. The fact that someone I just met was able to make me feel that way, that in itself was a sign.

Want to keep up with Kaci? You can follow her on Twitter.

## Celebrity Interview: Engaged!

# 'Temptation Island' Reality Star, Evan Smith Gushes Over Finding His 'Soul Mate' Morgan Lolar





Interview by <u>Lori Bizzoco</u>. Written by <u>Courtney Shapiro</u>

When we last spoke to Evan Smith, he had given us some insight into his time as a cast member on the first season of *Temptation Island* as well as his strong connection with Morgan Lolar, one of the singles on the show. What we couldn't tell you then is that we spoke to both <a href="Evan">Evan</a> and <a href="Morgan">Morgan</a>, and they spilled the beans to us about their surprise engagement!

Find out everything Evan couldn't say and more in our follow-

up <u>celebrity interview</u> below. We got the scoop from Evan on his life after the show, his proposal to Morgan, and what their future wedding and living plans look like.

# Check out our celebrity interview with Evan Smith as he opens up about his exciting engagement and future with Morgan Lolar:

# 1. You can finally share the news that you and Morgan are engaged! What does that feel like?

Yes! I am so happy that I can talk freely about it. I am so pumped. I am so happy I get to be out in the open with all of it.

## 2. Can you walk me through the show ending?

After the show wrapped, we stayed together in Hawaii for three or four extra days with no cameras. We wanted to enjoy the island, and be together and be ourselves. We then flew to L.A. and spent about three to four days in L.A., too. Then, I went to my apartment, I grabbed my stuff, and then flew to Arlington and Morgan and I have been together every day since.

# 3. Tell us about Kaci. What happened there? How did you break the news to her?

So on the finale, we were given the choice to stay with the person we came with, leave single, or leave with another person. Kaci made the decision that she wanted to leave with me, and my decision was that there was no way that I was ever going to leave that island without Morgan. So, the news was broke to her there, and then when I got back to L.A., Morgan and I spent a few days together and then she jetted to Arlington and the next day I caught my flight to Virginia as

well. Kaci and I had a conversation in our apartment. We talked about her side of the island, my side of the island, what went down editing wise. I told her that I really love Morgan and I have fallen hard for her. I told her that I wish nothing but the best for her.

# 4. The way you feel about Morgan, did you feel like that about Kaci in the beginning?

I have learned a lot about myself on this island. I learned that there is a difference between being in love and being comfortable with someone you have known so long. It is a huge difference and I finally figured out the difference. You need someone in this life to balance you out. I am passionate and emotional and Morgan is more serious. We balance each other well and I needed that so badly in my life. She truly is my other half that I've been looking for.

# 5. Clearly, there are other families involved when you're in a relationship for a long time. Did you speak to Kaci's family at all?

It was tough. When you've been together for so long, families are involved. To be completely frank, I was never that close with Kaci's family even though they lived so close. We maybe hung out 15 times in the past five years being together. In contrast, I am with Morgan's mom and dad twice a week no matter what. Whether it's watching a basketball game, or going to get some beers on Taco Tuesday or playing Dominoes. So, its very different. I have had no conversations with Kaci's family. I think we are both grown. We are approaching 30. I love family, but I think with a break-up like that, I think it is better for it just to be between the significant others.

## 6. Can you tell us about Morgan's family?

I love this family. It is my family now too. I wish that you got to see that. I don't have any father figures both my grandfather's are dead and I lost my dad the way I did. Morgan

brought me to tears on the island because she looked me dead in the eye and told me, "I will share my dad with you."I broke down. It is just a testament to show you what kind of girl Morgan is. She is a twin. She has shared her whole life and it is in her nature and her heart.

## 7. Can you walk us through the proposal and how that happened?

Yes! I would love to do that. You are the first one that I can talk to about it!

Morgan and I had spoken about getting married. To be completely honest, we talked about it, and I told her it would be around her birthday on May 2nd. When you know you know, and I never understood that phrase when I would hear it from people who had been married for 50 years. But, I know exactly what they are talking about and it is lightening in a bottle, just like Mark said. I've felt like this for so long, ever since we got back from the island. I had been having dreams of Morgan in a white dress, walking down the aisle, and I just thought I don't want to wait any longer. I want to make this happen. I just had to do it. So, we were getting ready for the six month home packages that they were about to film and I talked to production and basically told them that I was in love with this girl and there was no way I was spending any more of my days without her. So, I would love to propose to her on the comebacks.

Production loved the idea. So, I was trying the whole week to get away from Morgan because we spend all of our time together, and I was trying to shake her, so I could talk to her dad for his blessing. The night before I proposed, I finally shook her, and I drove to her father Dave and sat down and told him 'I want to have a conversation with you. 'I can't imagine life without Morgan. I love her with all of my heart and soul, and I promise to take care of her, and I need your blessing to marry her. He's a very loving man, even though he doesn't show it that much, and he looked me in the eye, and

said he loved me and that I am part of this family now and it was amazing (You could hear Evan crying in the background).

The whole day was magical. We did a shoot at the National Mall and then we sat down at the dinner and I was so nervous but so happy and excited. It was amazing. I told her that I spoke to her father and in this conversation I had with him, he gave me his blessing to marry her and she just started ugly crying. So, I got down on one knee and told her, 'I can't imagine not spending every single day with you forever and always. Will you make me the luckiest man alive and marry me?' She said yes, and it's been amazing every day.

# 8. So, Kaci knows you're engaged now. Did she have any reaction to this?

I don't know. I have had zero communication with Kaci. I think it is better that way. I know that she has been saying things on social media. I have just been quiet on my end. I am happy. I am living in the now and cannot wait to just move forward.

# 9. Are you and Morgan planning on making D.C./Arlington your home?

We talked about it. This is my first winter out here on the East Coast. It was very different walking Ghost (Evan's dog) in the snow versus my 77 degree weather in L.A.. We are going to spend the summer here in D.C and after we will probably be moving to the West Coast. She has ties to Arizona because she grew up there, and I'm an L.A. boy, born and raised. So, we are probably going to make the push out to L.A. in the fall, but we have to figure out a few things before that.

# 9. Do you have any dates or locations in mind for your wedding?

We've been pretty loose about the dates, but my family and I have 20 acres of land in Hawaii, so maybe there. We might do it in L.A., we're still trying to iron all of that out. I

gotta marry this girl though. I want to be married, I want to start our life together. We've talked about it, and we're thinking tentatively spring of 2020, the latest being next summer. We're trying to make it happen

## 10. Are you guys thinking about starting a family right away?

We have definitely talked about it. We both want children. We don't want them in the far off future. We want them kinda soon, but it would never be before we are married or anything like that, but we want to start a family. I can't imagine a better partner. There's nobody better than Morgan and I'm just so lucky and so blessed to have her in my life.

# 11. So, this is really it for you? There are no doubts? It is not a rebound? Sounds like you found it.

Yes, I found it. It's so funny because I talked about why I haven't been able to get down on one knee for Kaci, and there was always something in the back of my head saying it's just not right. It is not it. The reason why it wasn't it was because I was still waiting for my soul mate. All those trials and tribulations I was going through in that relationship, brought me to that island and the stars had to align for both of us to be on that island at the same time. It's so magical, and I understand how blessed I am. I wake up every morning and count my blessings with her. It's incredible, and everyday with this girl is incredible. I know it sounds so sappy, but it is real.

When you know, you know, and I've never been so happy in my entire life.

Want to keep up with Evan and Morgan? You can follow Evan on <u>Twitter</u> and <u>Instagram</u>. You can also follow Morgan on <u>Twitter</u> and <u>Instagram</u>.

Celebrity Interview: She's Engaged! Temptation Island Reality Star, Morgan Lolar Talks About Falling in Love with Evan Smith





Interview by Lori Bizzoco. Written by Courtney Shapiro

When filming began for the rebooted reality sensation, *Temptation Island*, Morgan Lolar came to Hawaii as a single woman with no expectations of falling in love. But love

hit her hard when she met Evan Smith, a man who came on the show confused about the status of his relationship with long-term girlfriend, Kaci Campbell. Now, Evan and Morgan are happily engaged and they couldn't be more excited for their future together!

In our exclusive <u>celebrity interview</u>, we chat with Morgan about her initial connection with Evan, the scenes that didn't make it on the show as well as why going on *Temptation Island* was the best decision she's ever made.

# Check out our celebrity interview with Morgan Lolar to hear all about her time on *Temptation Island*:

1. You seem so charismatic and confident. Why explore love on a reality show, especially when you know that people are in relationships and may not be single?

That was actually the hardest part for me. I almost didn't even go on the show. The night before the producers called me and were like your flight is in a few hours, are you going? I was like 'uh' I just didn't know how I was going to do it. My friends convinced me to go on the plane. I could see myself being on a reality show, but I never saw myself being on a dating reality show. So, it was very hard for me, but it was the best decision I've ever made in my life, So, I am so happy that I did it.

2. Were you nervous about falling for someone who was either just ending a relationship or confused about the status of their relationship?

Yes, initially that was one of the reasons I was scared to go on the show because I didn't want to interfere with someone's relationship. But, I was assured several times that these

couples were at extreme crossroads, and they were basically stuck in their relationships and were scared to meet other people because they didn't think they would get the time they needed to meet other people because of dating nowadays. Anyone can relate to that and I feel like a lot of people have been in relationships where they are just with the person because they're comfortable, and I know that I have done that before too. So, I sympathize with that and was like okay, I will try it.

## 3. Did you all of the worst case scenarios in your head before the show? For example, what if I fall for someone and they are with someone, how do I prepare myself for that, etc?

Absolutely not, I didn't prepare myself for anything. When my family and friends convinced me to do it, they said 'Morgan, your dating life here [In D.C.] sucks, you're not happy right now, you've never been to Hawaii, it's gonna be fun, so just go and do it.' So basically my head was like I am going to make friends and have fun. I definitely did not think that I was going to fall in love with somebody at all. It goes to show that the best things happen when you are not expecting them at all.

Related Link: Celebrity Interview: 'Temptation Island' Host Mark Walberg Shares His Secret to a Happy Relationship

# 4. What was life like before you appeared on the show, did you have to leave a job?

I'm a real estate agent, so I have a really flexible schedule. Also, what makes it even better is that my mom is also a real estate agent in the area. She lives about 7 miles away from me, so when they were convincing me to go she was like, I will take care of whatever it is that you need me to take care of. It is going to be fine, you are going. I really didn't have an excuse. My job wasn't going to be affected.

## 5. You and Evan seemed to really hit it off. Was there any

## initial hesitation and what convinced you to go all in?

As everyone saw, there was the whole confrontation that happened the first night we were in the house. I had not talked to Evan at all really. I really didn't get any words in with him. So, my first real interaction was me screaming at him that I don't like him. It started out really rocky, but after he asked me out on that first date, it was maybe two sentences into talking to him and I was like 'whoa' this is not what I expected. We hit it off right away.

### 6. What was it that attracted you to him?

That is the thing that is so funny. I thought he was attractive initially. I said to Katherine, 'Oh, he is really attractive' and she took that and ran with it and told him that I liked him. Which, of course anyone would probably get frustrated over that. But, mostly what attracted me to him was once we were on our first date, I kind of messed with him a little bit. I'm extremely dry with my humor and I'm sarcastic, and right away he just got it. He was cool with it and really funny. He let me mess with him and he really just got my humor right away. We were laughing the entire time.

Related Link: <u>Celebrity Interview: 'Temptation Island' Star</u>
Dr. Johnny Alexander Dishes On What It's Like Being a Reality
TV Star

# 7. Were there any particular scenes that the viewers didn't see that you wish they did?

Oh my gosh. Are there any? Almost like every episode I was like 'what' they aren't showing what actually happened. I know they don't have the time to do that and I guess it is more entertaining to watch us make out in slow-mo than it is for us to talk about our lives and stuff.

But in terms of a specific time, we were talking about our lives growing up and I have a twin brother and a little sister

and he has two brothers. We would talk about the things that we would do when were little and he asked me to tell him something that I did when I was little that I still do now. I told him that he was going to think I was such a weirdo, but I still make forts sometimes. I don't know why I do it, but it is really weird. He would make fun of me for it, but then a few days later, I go up to his room, and he made me a fort. It was like the cutest thing that you've ever seen. He had taken like all the chairs and seats and stuff and made this really cute fort. We hung out in there, and they didn't show it. I was like, that would have been something to get to know us and our relationship. He is so sweet and they don't show that.

# 8. On a scale of 1-10, what were your feelings for Evan on the show?

It went from a negative five to a 10 really, really, really fast. It was our first date. I think he said the same thing. After our first date, I was like oh wow, this guy, I really, really like him. It was quick. It was crazy.

## 9. Can you tell us what your status is now and your future?

Yes, I am actually engaged now! It's actually the most exciting thing in my entire life! I didn't expect this at all, it's crazy. He hid it so well. I had no idea. He is so frickin' sweet.

So, apparently my engagement got leaked on Twitter or something. The guy who posted it, said it was the fourth time that he proposed. It is so funny because the camera crew were there, so it happened and I was like bawling. He did it so perfectly, but they had to film it again, so he had to get back on his knee again. The entire time, I am just still crying because I am in shock that this happened. So, it wasn't fake like they made it seem, like he didn't do it right four times. They made it seem like it wasn't cute but it was beautiful the entire time and he did it perfect. That is

something that bothers me but it is what it is.

Related Link: <u>Celebrity Interview: Temptation Island Star,</u>
<u>Evan Smith Says, "Ultimatums are Cruel When Dealing with</u>
Matters of the Heart."

10. So here is Evan proposing to you and confirming his commitment to you in the biggest way. But what are you feeling about the other side of this, about Kaci? What are you thinking knowing what she went through? You are a woman, there must be something going through your head.

First of all, you mentioned proving his commitment to me. I have never felt like that at all with Evan. I don't understand, and I wasn't in their relationship, but with him and I, I don't question him at all. There is nothing to ever make me think that I'm not number one in his life. That is also why I was really shocked because I wasn't pushing him to propose or anything. So, I think it just goes to show that when you know, you know. He wanted to do it and was excited to do it. That's what made it even more special, because I wasn't expecting him to propose to me. It's only been six months.

## 11. How long were you together when he proposed?

We went on our first date on September 16th, and he proposed on February 25th, so we figured out that it was five months and a day. It's actually a really cute story because Evan is really close with my parents now and my dad was talking to him and told him, 'you know it's really funny because I proposed to Morgan's mom after five months exactly." He didn't know that and now you proposed to Morgan in five months and one day.' My parents have been together for 25 years now.

12. So what was life like after the show. You have to have this secret love and you can't say anything, what was that like?

It is really hard to keep someone that you love and want to be

with all the time hidden. It's impossible, my friends all know him here, but we always have to do something at somebody's house. We can't really go to the bars. Once the show started, we would be at the gym and someone would recognize us so we now Evan can't go to the gym and I was like you can bench press me if you want and he was like, that's not going to work. It is really hard. It is a lot harder than than people think it would be, especially because it has been a long time. It's been like six months.

## 13. So what is your future? Where are you guys living?

After the show ended, which was around October 5th, we stayed in Hawaii for 2 days and then we flew to California. He stayed in California for an extra day and then packed all of his stuff and flew to D.C. He's been living with me ever since. We have spent every single day together. We're more in love every day. We just love one another. And it is so cool because there is no one in the world going through what I am going through right now with the hate and and all of this stuff. It is really bad except for him. He is going through it too. It is really sad. We are the villains of the show but we are the only ones who found love. There are days when he is getting beat up by the media, but he knows that he can just come and hug me because he knows that I understand it. He knows that I am going through the same thing that he is going through.

# 14. How do you handle all of the haters and social media in general?

We tell ourselves it is love, it's just love. Learn about it.

# 15. Was there anything you would have done differently on the show, or do you have any regrets about the way that things were handled?

I don't have any regrets about how things went with us. It is just how the show made it seem. It made it seem like Evan and I were sleeping together right away, when he didn't even

kiss me until our third date together. It made it seem like after our first date we were sleeping together. That's Reality TV though, it has to look more interesting. Other people were sleeping together, but we were the only ones shown doing it. It's crazy. The one thing I would change is that I said the F word a lot, but that is probably it.

# 16. Let's go back to Kaci. Do her and Evan talk? Do you know anything going on with her?

They do not speak at all anymore. She was messaging him all the time and he was very honest with me. He would show me the stuff that she was saying. It was a lot. She was asking him to come back and crazy things. Finally he asked her to stop contacting him, because it wasn't fair to me. Then on New Years we were sitting with my family, watching It's a Wonderful Life and she texted him 27 messages in a row.

# 17. What's next for you guys? Would you do a spin-off or more reality TV?

We would love to do more reality TV just because we're hilarious together. We balance each other out so well. He is super emotional, while I'm not. I feel like I'm the funny one, since he laughs at every single thing I do. We're just super cute. We balance each other out super well. So I think it would be really good. We want to do something like the Challenge just because we're both college athletes, and we have a really fun dynamic.

## 18. Are you thinking about wedding plans?

Evan is; he already started thinking about all of that. He wants to get married in the spring or summer of 2020. I feel really happy about that. He's just so great. He is like the planner, and I'm not at all. I am more go with the flow. I feel so so lucky!

I don't know what's next. We are just in love. We are both

just so happy. This is the best thing that I have ever done. It is so crazy. Love is love you know, and it's one of the best decisions I made, which is crazy because I almost didn't go.

This season of *Temptation Island* may be over, but you can still keep up with Morgan and her love story by following her on <u>Twitter</u> and <u>Instagram</u>.

Celebrity Interview:
Temptation Island Star, Evan
Smith Says, "Ultimatums are
Cruel When Dealing with
Matters of the Heart."





Interview by Lori Bizzoco. Written by Courtney Shapiro

Evan Smith joined his longtime girlfriend Kaci Campbell along with three other couples and 24 eligible men and women on the first season of the rebooted reality show, *Temptation Island*, which began airing in January. Going into filming, Smith and Campbell, who had been together for 10 years total and five years exclusively, seemed to want different things out of their relationship, and they were hopeful that they would get answers to their questions during their time on the island.

In our exclusive <u>celebrity interview</u>, we talk with Evan about why ultimatums can be problematic, his connection with single cast member Morgan Lolar, and what life is like for him after *Temptation Island*.

# Check out our celebrity interview with *Temptation Island* star, Evan

# Smith to hear more about life on the island, his relationship with Kaci and how hard he fell for single cast member, Morgan:

## 1. How does it feel now that you are a famous reality star?

I think I'm just south of famous (laughing). I never thought I'd be a part of it [reality TV]. It is wild seeing yourself every week on Tuesday nights, but life's still the same for me.

# 2. How did your family and friends react to you being on the show?

My family and friends were so supportive. I have two younger brothers that actually work for in reality TV for MTV, but they're behind the camera not in front of it. I got the talks from them telling me how it is. You know it's reality TV, so it's how they want to tell your story and see what's going to be the most fun to watch and the most sensationalized, so I came into it knowing full well that was going to be the case.

Related Link: Celebrity Interview: 'Temptation Island' Host Mark Walberg Shares His Secret to a Happy Relationship

## 3. Do you feel like you were your authentic self on the show?

It's funny you say that. I definitely was my authentic self. It was just that I feel like the viewers only got to see one side of me. Obviously, Morgan and I just had lightning between us and it was so much fun. Morgan and I had such amazing conversations and that led to the connection that everyone got to see.

## 4. It must be hard with the cameras always on you. But, you

didn't seem to care. You were able to just be in the moment with Morgan. Can you tell us more about that?

It was definitely weird. I'm not gonna lie, I was pretty shook when we started, but the producers told us, 'You're going to just forget that the cameras are there, and just look at whoever you're talking to.' when you speak. I look everyone in the eye when I talk to them, so I just tunnel visioned it. I was there to find answers, I was there to explore connections, so that's what I wanted to do.

5. You were in a long term relationship while being cast on 'Temptation Island.' What were your expectations going into this show? Were you hoping that Kaci would change or slow down about wanting a commitment?

Going into it, we both knew that we were at a crossroads. It was make it or break it time. Kaci was very adamant about me proposing and taking that next step in our relationship. For whatever reason, before we left the island, I had my reservations about it. I respect marriage so much, and I know that I'm going to be the guy that asks one time, and it's going to be with one person for the rest of my life. I just want to be 100% sure. I was hoping that going to Temptation Island would help open my eyes to what I have with my old connections and new connections. I just wanted to find answers.

Related Link: <u>Celebrity Interview: 'Temptation Island' Star</u>
<u>Dr. Johnny Alexander Dishes On What It's Like Being a Reality</u>
<u>TV Star</u>

6. We spoke with the show's host Mark Walberg previously and he said, "It never works when you give an ultimatum." How do you feel about that statement?

Ultimatums are cruel, especially when dealing with matters of the heart. To be frank, Kaci telling me I needed to propose by a certain date takes the love and passion out of what that amazing day is supposed to be. I remember being a kid and thinking about the day I would propose to somebody. It's going to be special, and you're going to be nervous, but so excited, and wanting to do it, not being told you have to do it by a certain date.

# 7. Do you think having an ultimatum from Kaci led to you building those stronger feelings for Morgan?

I think Kaci and I both went into this knowing we weren't in the best place. I knew what I was getting myself into, and I originally didn't want to do the show, but I did. Going into it with those ultimatums and where we were in our relationship, it was tough, but I knew I needed to be there. It was one of the best decisions I ever made in my life.

# 8. On a scale of 1-10, how strong were your feelings for Morgan?

While we were filming, up until the point of the bonfire, I'm there, I'm at a 10. Morgan and I were talking about how I would have to face Kaci. It was a very high stress moment and we were both just a little shook.

# 9. The viewers got to see your incredible chemistry. Sometimes, when it's a 10, it's hard to think logically, so did you feel like that?

That's the thing about *Temptation Island*, and what was so incredible about the experience. We were completely unplugged from the real world. It was no cell phones and no television, so when we're there we're just with each other. Spending time on the island is real time together. Morgan and I talked about everything, where we grew up, what our siblings are like, funny stories, we were cracking up laughing at each other through the entire show. There was so much more being said, and I was thinking 100% clearly.

## 10. Is there any particular scene that was edited off or

#### didn't make it onto the show, but you wish it did?

Here's the thing about the editing; they have so many stories to tell. There are 13 singles on our side of the island alone, so I know it's not out of malicious intent that they don't show certain things. I just wish they showed the stories about Morgan growing up. She and I had so many discussions, and she told me about growing up in Arizona, and then moving to the south in Alabama. We had very serious and profound conversations that I wish made the cut. There were also just some silly things that I guess weren't entertaining enough.

## 11. You and Morgan definitely follow each other on social media. Are you guys still talking?

A little banter back and forth on social media is always healthy.

### 12. Where are you living, and what do your plans for the future look like?

I'm a personal trainer, and L.A. is my home. My clients are here, my best friends are here, so L.A. is definitely the place for me. As for moving forward, I definitely want to explore more reality TV, maybe try MTV or something. I just want to be happy, and I'm just excited for this *Temptation Island* ride to be over

#### 13. Is there anything else you want to leave us with?

I hope you guys understand that all of us put our hearts on the line, all my cast mates, including the singles, we all put ourselves out there, and I hope everyone comes out on this other end better or at least learned something from this.

Want to keep up with Evan? You can follow him on <u>Twitter</u> and <u>Instagram</u>. Tune into tonight's finale of 'Temptation Island' premiering at 10/9c on USA Network to see if Evan chooses to stay with long-time girlfriend Kaci, or he leaves the island

# Celebrity Interview: Southern Belle Kady Krambeer Shares Details About Temptation Island Experience





Interview by Lori Bizzoco. Written by Courtney Shapiro

Kady Krambeer, a model, an artist, and entrepreneur joined the

cast of 'Temptation Island' this season to see if her current relationship was end game or if there would be another tempting man in her future. Krambeer started the season off with long-term boyfriend John Thurmond, but as the show progressed, she realized he might not be the one.

In our exclusive <u>celebrity interview</u>, we chat with Krambeer about why she decided to be a part of a reality TV show, what it was like being on 'Temptation Island' as well as advice for other couples faced with the same challenge.

Check out our celebrity interview with Kady Krambeer to hear all about her time on Temptation Island, the latest reality sensation:

1. We know the background about your relationship with John, but what inspired you to do the show and bring it public?

The opportunity came about and we were thinking for a while if we were the one for each other, So, we thought 1. this would be really fun and 2. this will help us find out.

2. Before the show, did you ever have any counseling or did you have any process that you went through to determine if your relationship should end or continue?

No, not any counseling. It was one of those things where we decided we would do it and then life got in the way. But, we were praying about the relationship, talking to friends about it but really we were kind of going through the mundane day to day life and putting it on the back burner.

3. In terms of the show, did you think you were going to find

## somebody on the show, or were you thinking it would make your relationship stronger with John?

Honestly, I didn't think that I would find anyone that I had strong connection with. In fact, the days leading up to us [John and I] going to the island, and then the first few days of filming, John and I felt like we had actually gotten a lot closer and stronger and we kept making jokes to one another, questioning what we were even doing there. It was like okay, we got our answers we can leave. We are good. We felt really solid and probably more in love than ever. Then at that point it was too late to back out.

Then we were separated and a lot can happen when you are separated. Even if you are not putting other singles into the mix, it a time to self evaluate and reflect. So it takes the comfort out of your normal life. There were no cell phones, and no distractions. It really opens your mind. It was like relationship therapy, especially with the producers asking the tough questions.

## 4. Tell us how you've personally grown through this experience.

I feel like I'm a completely different person coming off of the island, than when I started the whole experience. I feel like I grew so much. My horizons have been broadened. I was in a bubble and I was really quick to judge people I realized and really quick to make assumptions. It really opened up my eyes to a lot of different possibilities and lifestyles, cultures, and people that really bring perspective. It was really enlightening and it changed me. And then coming to be close with these people and establishing life long friendships makes me forever changed.

Then of course there is the growth that has come just since the show has aired. The fans that have positive and negative things to say. That is really hard to anticipate just how hard it is going to be and how it is going to effect you. That has helped me grow and made me realize that I am stronger than I ever thought I would be.

#### 5. How has the reaction been and how have you handled it?

I mean, it is mixed. I obviously have a lot of haters, but people are only getting a short little sliver and snippets of what is actually going on and there is so much more content that they are not seeing. So, they are making assumptions based off of what they are seeing regarding what type of person I am. Everyone there at the house knows my personality, but the viewers just think that I am awful. So, it has been tough. I try to ignore it, but there is only so much you can ignore and turn the other cheek and wear on your shoulders before that weight gets to you. It has been challenging. I try to rise above it and these people don't know me. It is really what my friends and family think about me that is really all that matters.

#### 6. Is there anything that you said or did that you regret?

Well, there are obviously cringe worthy things that I say. It is so embarrassing. But I think that I was very true to myself. I followed my heart.. to a fault. I was very open to the experience and everything that I was feeling. That is all that I ever wanted, was to stay true to myself. So, no. I don't really have any regrets.

# 7. I know in one of the episodes you question John's masculinity, and then you met Dr. Johnny, who you described as an alpha guy. What attracted you to Dr. Johnny and what makes him different than John?

Johnny is so charismatic, and he is loud and outgoing. He is so super confident and super assertive. He was kind of like the dad of the household, and he just took care of everyone. You would just walk in the house and feel heard. He would just come in and start making food and be the provider for

everyone. He was always making sure that I had something to drink and that I had something to eat. He is really a caretaker and I didn't need to hold his hand and coddle him and tell him how to do stuff. I just loved his assertiveness and take charge attitude and confidence. That is what drew me to him.

## 8. Can you talk about your relationship with John or Dr. Johnny?

I just know that some big realizations came about on the island. Even after I came to these realizations, some old thoughts came creeping back up and so that is something that I struggle with for the rest of the season. I am kind of going back and forth. I was pretty confident in my decision but I was just back and forth. I kept second guessing myself and the rest of the season is a reflection of that and it shows the journey that I went through.

#### 9. Do you have any guilt from the show?

Yes, I have guilt. I have guilt in respect to my relationship. Regardless of the relationship that was developing with Johnny, I was still ultimately in a relationship with John. It was hard on me to walk that tight rope. It was hard for me to be true to myself and still be respectful to my boyfriend.

## 10. Would you recommend this show for other couples? If not what would you suggest for other struggling couples?

Absolutely not. I do not recommend this for other couples. I don't think it's a good idea. I would not recommend it. It's harder than people think. No matter how confident you are, you get there and realize how hard it is.

#### 11. What would you recommend couples do if they are faced with the decision of whether they should stay or break off their relationship?

If you are in a place where you question your relationship and you are still in the dating stage, I think time apart is helpful to clear your mind but not on a platform of a reality show. Take some time apart and some time away. Go on vacation, by yourselves, unplugged. Give yourself time and breath, pray and go to counseling if you want to do some traditional things together as a couple.

### 11. What's life like now that you are back in the real world and people are watching the show?

It's funny because I feel like a normal person in my everyday life until I get online. When I get online that's where things really circulate and that's when I realize that people recognize me. And, online it really hits me that I am on a reality show. I get recognized out in public occasionally. It happens more when the three other girlfriends and I are together. I mean it is a cool feeling, but we are just like, we are just normal people who did this crazy thing.

#### 12. What made you put the necklace around Katherine?

Literally when the girls walked out, she just stuck out to me. There was something about her. I don't know if it was the energy she was putting off. I mean, obviously, she was beautiful. They are all beautiful.

When she made her introduction, she was saying, she is a southern belle. It's funny because what they didn't show was that she messed up her first time coming out and saying her introduction. She actually cursed and had to start over. It was so funny and cute and charming that I thought, okay I like her and I don't want to like her. So, I thought John would like her.

## 13. Is there anything else you can tell us from the show? Do you still talk to Dr. Johnny or John?

I still talk to everyone from the show. I don't know what I

can say right now.

#### 14. Lastly, can you tell us what's next for you?

I don't know. Right now, I'm just focusing on myself and my career. I don't really know. Whatever life throws my way. I'm a pretty spontaneous person and I'm all about seizing opportunities and I want to live life to the fullest. I have no set plans right now. I have a marketing firm that I am slowly getting off the ground. I am focusing on that and having fun.

Looking for more Kady after the show? You can keep up with her on <u>Instagram</u> and <u>Twitter</u>.

# Celebrity Interview: 'Bachelor' Alum Ben Higgins to Host "The Wedding Party"





Interview by Lori Bizzoco. Written by Courtney Shapiro

Most people know reality television star Ben Higgins from *The Bachelor*, but this busy entrepreneur has also opened up *Generous Coffee Co.*, which helps those in need, and *Ash-Kara*, a restaurant in Denver serving up Israeli and middle eastern cuisine. Next on the list, the self-confessed romantic is pairing up up with **DiningOut Events** to create a large, one of a kind wedding event called, *The Wedding Party*. If you are newly engaged this could be for you. The Wedding Party is looking for a dozen couples to experience the unique opportunity to have a ceremony and reception with all the fun and none of the headache.

In our exclusive <u>celebrity interview</u>, we chat with Higgins about the creation of the Wedding Party, his entrepreneurial endeavors as well as his current dating life and relationship advice.

# Check out our celebrity interview with Ben Higgins to see what the reality star is up to today:

1. Hi Ben, you must be excited about your new endeavor with the Wedding Party. What inspired you to get involved and would you ever consider this type of wedding for yourself?

The Wedding Party is a first-of-its-kind mass wedding ceremony, reception, and festival all rolled into one. I am not aware of another wedding that has ever been quite like this. I am very excited! I've known the founders Jeff Suskin and Shalisa Pouw of DiningOut Events for some time — we are involved in a few projects together. They approached me over coffee with a wild idea and I was immediately hooked. I've always been a romantic at heart, so I didn't need much convincing.

I would consider this type of wedding for myself, but then again, I'm not the only one who would have a say in the matter!

#### 2. If not, what would your dream wedding look like?

I love a big celebration! Whether it be a group wedding like The Wedding Party or a more traditional setting, the celebration and energy of the attendees is what matters. My ideal wedding would be filled with lots of laughter, dancing, smiling, and enjoyment.

## 3. Can you tell us what your role will be at The Wedding Party and any specific things that you will be doing?

I'm hosting The Wedding Party. The real job is to make sure everyone is enjoying themselves and having a good time. It's going to be a special day for the couples and attendees, and I want to make sure we throw one hell of a celebration!

4. Who else will join you in this process of choosing the couples and what specific characteristics or traits will you be looking for during the selection process?

The couples are chosen by a group of people including myself and the team at DiningOut Events. We are looking for couples from all different backgrounds and love stories. We are looking to bring people up on stage who are all different, all diverse, and all excited about making the commitment! Couples can apply online at <a href="https://www.theweddingparty.love/">https://www.theweddingparty.love/</a>.

5. Aside from the cost savings, can you give our visitors 2 to 3 additional reasons why they might want to consider sharing their special day with a bunch of other couples and their families?

The modern wedding experience is very expensive, with tired rituals and too much stress for everyone involved. The Wedding Party is a way for couples to share in the fun and excitement at a blown-out shindig with a couple thousand people there to support them!

6. Let's move on to you. Ben, we hear that you are dating again. We are so happy for you. What can you tell us about this new woman in your life? So many fans want to see you happy!

Jessica and I have been dating for a few months, and it has been great since the beginning. However, the relationship is new and we want to be wise about how much pressure we put on our relationship. Timing is important in any relationship and we both wanted to figure out if this was going to be something that we were going to try and make last before we publicized our relationship.

7. We know that communication is critical in a long distance relationship. Any advice to help our readers who are struggling with dating someone long distance?

Long distance relationships are much harder to maintain, but it can be done. Communication is key! Trust also plays a big role. Face-time is a huge asset to long distance relationships! The best thing about long distance is that you are forced to have intentional conversations and as a result dig into the lives of the person you are pursuing. I encourage anyone out there to write down some questions that you maybe wouldn't ask if you were in person and then ask those while you are on the phone so you can use that time to your benefit.

## 8. Ben, where do you want to live and start a family? Does Denver have your heart long-term or would you move for someone special?

Denver is an incredible city! I love Denver and do consider it home, but I am not necessarily stuck in Denver. I am open to the discussion but right now Denver is the number one place for me to call home (and ideally I would be in Denver a long time).

## 9. As the owner of two businesses, have you always been passionate about entrepreneurship? What was the inspiration behind Generous Coffee Company and Ash-Kara?

I've always been passionate about entrepreneurship, especially if there is a purpose behind the business. That's what inspired me about Generous Coffee. The profits are used to fund sustainable, life-changing work around the world. As for Ash-Kara, it was more of me fulfilling my childhood dream! The idea that I can be a part of so many different things that may last beyond my time here on earth is exciting to me. I want to leave a legacy.

## 10. Is there anything else that you'd like to leave us with or anything else that you are working on that you'd like us to cover?

Currently, my life is fairly consumed in Generous International, Humanity and Hope International, Ash Kara, The

"Almost Famous Podcast" with iHeart radio, and The Wedding Party. I do not know what is next, but right now these are the items in this world that bring passion, purpose, and excitement to my life!

Ben Higgins will be hosting *The Wedding Party* this upcoming September in Denver, CO. You can keep with Ben on *Instagram*, *Twitter*, as well as his <u>website</u>.

# Celebrity Interview: Ashley Iaconetti and Jared Haibon Talk Wedding Plans and Dating Tips





Interview by Lori Bizzoco. Written by Courtney Shapiro

Known for her tears on season 19 of *The Bachelor*, seasons two and three of *Bachelor In Paradise*, and season one of *Bachelor Winter Games*, Ashley Iaconetti never gave up hope for her happy ending. Jared Haibon was known for being on season 11 of *The Bachelorette*, and seasons two and three of *Bachelor in Paradise*. The two originally met on season two of *Bachelor in Paradise* back in 2015, and three years later are happily engaged.

In our exclusive <u>celebrity interview</u>, we chat with Iaconetti and Haibon about their relationship, their partnership with NET10 Wireless, and what their future holds for their <u>celebrity wedding</u>, kids, and careers.

## Celebrity Interview with Ashley Iaconetti & Jared Haibon: Wedding

## Plans, NET10 Wireless, and Dating Advice

Iaconetti, star of the *Ben and Ashley I Almost Famous* podcast, is known for wearing her emotions on her sleeve; it's one of the many traits that makes her so lovable! When asked about her ability to share emotions so easily, Iaconetti confesses, "I have so much confidence that I don't care about being vulnerable and tearful. I embrace it." That confidence is what motivated her to pursue Haibon relentlessly. "The connection between us was super special, and I didn't think it was worth giving up on." Iaconetti says of Haibon's original rejection, "There were times I thought we were just going to be friends, but we had such a strong friendship that the relationship just came naturally."

Haibon, who was hesitant about pursuing a relationship with Iaconetti at first, shares that the couple were just friends after their brief stint in paradise; they didn't actually start dating until 2018. "I think that's the one thing that is misunderstood about Ashley and I," Haibon says. "We never dated before this year. People say to us that they are happy we got back together, but there was no getting back together. We were never together until now." When asked how he came to realize that he wanted a relationship with Iaconetti, Haibon says, "There was a reason why Ashley and I were best friends. We had this wonderful friendship that I was so unwilling to let go of." When asked, "Why now?" Haibon admits that when you lose something it sometimes makes you realize that you can't live without somebody, referring of course to Iaconetti's relationship with Kevin Wendt, her ex-boyfriend from Bachelor Winter Games.

Related Link: <u>Celebrity Interview: Former 'Bachelorette' Ali</u> <u>Fedotowsky Shares Her Tips on Staying Fit as a New Mom</u>

Before the two lovebirds dated, they kept in touch with the help of technology. "When Ashley and I were just friends, we kept the communication open. I know that I used a lot of data during this time," he laughs. It's a good thing, because Iaconetti was in L.A. and Haibon was in Rhode Island. Haibon reflects on the beginning of their relationship saying, "We talked almost every day and that was only because we have these phones at our disposal." That's why the celebrity <u>couple</u> partnered with NET10 Wireless this season to make digital-age dating easier in the hopes everyone will find love likes theirs. Iaconetti explains, "[NET10 Wireless is] now giving customers, for a limited time, double data and the unlimited plan is starting at \$35, which is great, especially if you're in a budding relationship that needs the help of face time or texting." Haibon adds, "The promotional deal is only running until the end of the year, so you have until December 31st."

Speaking of Rhode Island, we couldn't end the conversation without talking about this pair's upcoming wedding plans. "I got lucky when Ashley and I got engaged," Haibon notes. "[Ashley] didn't really have any sentimental feelings to anywhere in the world that she wanted to get married." So, it was an easy decision that the couple will be tying the knot in the state where Haibon grew up. "I'm from there, my family and friends are there, so we were able to go wedding venue shopping a couple of months ago." The couple confirmed that they found a venue. "I think it's safe to say that it will be in Newport," Ashley slips while Haibon says, "Or Westerly," trying not to give too much away.

Many fans from *Bachelor* Nation are curious to know whether the wedding will be televised, but the couple says it is highly unlikely. "We may share it with *Bachelor* Nation in our own way and our own control, but right now we aren't televising it."

Related Link: Celebrity Interview: Reality TV Star Becca Tilley on 'The Bachelor' Finale: "Well, I Read the Spoilers!"

Speaking of *Bachelor* Nation, we had to know if longtime fans Ashton Kutcher and Mila Kunis would be coming to the wedding. Haibon and Iaconetti previously met Kutcher and Kunis at a Dodgers Charity event this past summer, and Iaconetti said, "They are going to be invited," while Haibon chimed in, "Whether they come or not is out of our hands."

The pair is eager for their future together. We played a little game with them, asking how many kids they each want. They both answered simultaneously, "Two or three." It seems like we'll have another *Bachelor* family in our midst! The *Bachelor in Paradise* alumni also discussed how they're quite content in L.A. right now and will continue living there for their foreseeable future.

Jared and Ashley have such a great love story, and it is filled with hope for other singles. "There are a lot of guys out there like myself who have insecurities and doubts, and are afraid of commitment, but also afraid of disappointing the person they are with," Haibon says. "I think Ashley does give a lot of hope to women, but personally I think our story as a couple gives a lot of hope to not only women but men as well."

You can keep up with <u>Ashley Iaconetti</u> and <u>Jared Haibon</u> by following them on Instagram. You can also check out the <u>Benand Ashley I Almost Famous</u> and <u>Help! I Suck At Dating</u> podcasts.

## Celebrity Interview: Actress Haylie Duff Talks

# Thanksgiving Meals and Marriage





Interview by Lori Bizzoco. Written by Courtney Shapiro

Between being a mom, an actress, and a blogger, Haylie Duff has her hands full. With the holidays fast approaching, she needs to find recipes and meals that are quick and delicious for her family.

In our exclusive <u>celebrity interview</u>, we chat with Duff about her favorite Thanksgiving memories, while she gives us some great advice for preparing easy meals during this time of the year.

# Celebrity Interview with Haylie Duff: Thanksgiving Dinner Advice, Family Traditions, and Life with Two Kids

Duff loves spending Thanksgiving with her family, and when asked about her favorite memory, she didn't hesitate to share. "One [memory] that really comes to mind is we were thawing our big turkey, for the big day, out on our front porch when we lived in the hill country," she said. "Somehow our neighbor's two dogs got a hold of it while it was thawing out in the hot air of the South." Duff says that the disappearing turkey was a great mystery for her and her family that year. She recounts that she didn't really even care about the turkey; she was just happy to celebrate with loved ones.

While talking about Thanksgiving dishes, the mom of two tells us that she would rather do all of the prep work before the big holiday meal, so that she can spend more time with her family. That's part of the reason the actress partnered with Libby's during this busy time of year. "I really love using Libby's canned vegetables because they're pre-sliced and they're pre-chopped," she admits. Not to mention, "They are also celebrating their 6th annual getbacktothetable.com/cansgiving sweepstakes and I'm all about giving back and thinking about the things I'm thankful for," she said.

Related Link: <u>Celebrity Interview: Former 'Bachelorette' Ali</u> <u>Fedotowsky Shares Her Tips on Staying Fit as a New Mom</u>

After being the only one in her family who lacked cooking skills, Duff decided to start *The Real Girls Kitchen* blog. "It was time for me to learn how to cook for myself," the blogger

said. "I started posting things online that I did well on and that I made mistakes on." She loved that her readers were learning along with her and that sometimes the mistakes turned out to be good surprises. She shares with us that her go-to side dish is baked sliced carrots and beets with maple syrup and seasonings, bringing a colorful, tasty addition to the table.

Related Link: <u>Celebrity Interview</u>: <u>'Fuller House' Actress Lori Loughlin Talks About the Holidays & Her 'Tight Knit Family'</u>

Before wrapping our celebrity interview, we had to know if marriage to Matt Rosenberg, Duff's fiancé and father of her children, is expected in the future. "We talk about it all the time, but show me a free weekend," she laughs. Being a mom of two kids along with a job, a clothing line, and a blog can make it very difficult for this <u>celebrity couple</u> to find time to settle down.

You can keep up with Haylie Duff by following her blog, The Real Girls Kitchen, or The Real Girls Kitchen Instagram page. You can also follow Haylie's personal Instagram.

# Celebrity Interview: TV Heartthrob Sterling Sulieman on New ABC Drama 'Station 19'





Interview by Lori Bizzoco. Written by Courtney Shapiro

One of the hottest actors on television right now is heartthrob Sterling Sulieman. Sulieman is one of the cast members of the new drama, *Station 19*, where he plays Grant. A spin-off of *Grey's Anatomy* and produced by no other than the brilliant Shonda Rhimes, the series centers around firefighters who put their lives and hearts on the line for others. And of course, Sulieman's character Grant is a firefighter.

In our exclusive <u>celebrity interview</u>, we talk to Sulieman about his current role on *Station 19* and the path he took to get where he is today.

## Celebrity Interview with Sterling Sulieman: Acting as a Career

When asked if he knew anything about firefighters, Sulieman acknowledged that he didn't know too much or have any friends who fought fires when he was growing up. In fact, he says that

stepping into this role helped him understand their day-to-day life much better. "It's so interesting, but most of us don't realize the ins and outs of what they [firefighters] do," the actor says. "They do so much more than we know and they risk their lives." He says that this role has been a very eyeopening experience for him.

While talking about his career, the 34-year-old explains that there are many ways an actor can connect to their character. He said when you're preparing for a part, you always look for similarities between you and the person you are playing. "It really makes you examine yourself," Sulieman told us. "I do share some of the same qualities as Grant."

Related Link:\_\_Celebrity Interview: Katherine Heigl Says
"Family Comes First"

However, Station 19 was not Sulieman's first encounter with the inspirational Shondaland TV production company. He also starred in their television series, Still Star-Crossed as the power-hungry Prince Escalus. When Cupid's Pulse asked Sulieman what he's learned from working with the Rhimes productions he said, "I've learned a lot from exploring the characters they've given me because they are so three-dimensional," he confessed. "I really have to figure out where they are coming from, and what they do, and it makes me think about my life." After getting offered the role in Station 19, the Still Star-Crossed alum jumped at the opportunity to work with the renowned producer again.

Many people find their passion by experimenting with different hobbies and interests or they explore what they like and eliminate aspects that aren't as fun or interesting. Sulieman chose acting after trying many different interests. He said that he's had a love for theater and performing arts since the age of seven. "I knew that I wanted to act at a very young age," the Oahu native explained. "I played sports and took art classes, but it eventually came back to acting."

Related Link: <u>Celebrity Interview: Dance Mom's Teen Star Ava</u>
Cota

Sulieman has faced his share of challenges while being an actor. There is always the possibility of rejection or not being successful, but he says that hasn't stopped him from doing what he loves. His advice for people who are starting out in this career is to stay focused on why you love what you do. "Create opportunities for yourself, and it will fall into place," he says.

Before finishing our interview with Sulieman, we had to ask him about his dating life and whether or not he would date another actor. He shared, that he was "single as can be" and dating another actor was very complicated, but admitted, "You never know." Sulieman also explains that dating a non-actor presents difficulties too since non-actors have a hard time watching their significant other kissing someone else on the screen. Well, whatever the future holds in love or career, one thing is for sure, Sulieman is following his passion!

You can catch Sterling Sulieman in Station 19 or by following him on <u>Twitter!</u>

Restaurant Review: SUR Restaurant & Lounge in LA Is a One-of-a-Kind Dining

### Experience





By Bre Gajewski

In West Hollywood, just a block off of Melrose Avenue lies SUR Restaurant & Lounge, a beautifully designed space with several unique rooms, a charming wait-staff and delicious food.

Restaurant Review: <u>SUR</u>

<u>Restaurant</u> is serving up delectable

Southern European cuisine, making

you feel like you have traveled

#### abroad without leaving LA.



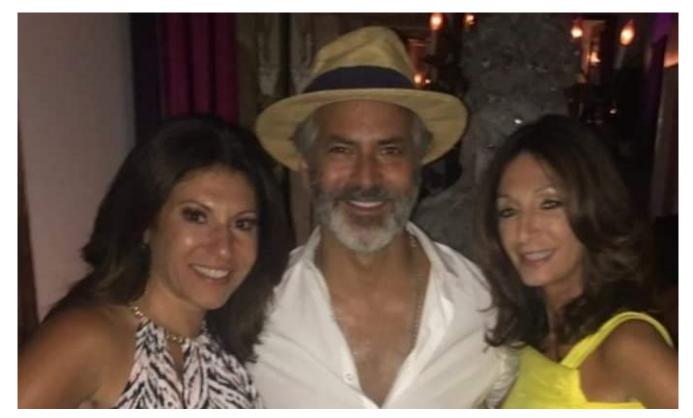
An elegant dining area at SUR

SUR is owned by two couples: Guillermo Zapata (the original owner) and his wife Natalie alongside Lisa Vanderpump and Ken Todd, whom you may know from hit reality TV show Real Housewives of Beverly Hills and Vanderpump Rules. In fact, the latter show follows the employees at SUR as they build their futures.



The owners of SUR restaurant: Ken Todd, Lisa Vanderpump, Guillermo Zapata and Nathalie Zapata

Lori Bizzoco, Founder and Executive Editor of Cupid's Pulse, recently had the opportunity to not only meet Guillermo and the staff at SUR, but also to enjoy a meal when she was in Los Angeles last week. "What you see on the show does not depict the politeness and attentiveness of the staff," said Bizzoco. "We were definitely expecting to see some more drama but everyone we met were so sweet."



Lori Bizzoco, Guillermo Zapata and Tonia DeCosimo at SUR

It turns out that the ambiance at SUR truly stands up to its name: Sexy Unique Restaurant. Each smaller room in this large venue creates an intimate dining setting. Along with its indoor dining, SUR also has a romantic outdoor patio and a chic private-party room. "It was beautifully decorated with fresh flowers everywhere," Bizzoco mused. "It felt like I was in an old mansion or walking through a Victorian maze. There was room after room, each one more elegant than the last."



One of the many dining rooms at SUR

Outside of the ambiance, the food is what makes this restaurant stand out. Bizzoco had the opportunity to try out various items from the SUR menu. She started out with the Chicken Steamed Dumplings and Fried Goat Cheese appetizers, which were both delicious.

Bizzoco also tried the Shrimp Risotto, which she described as "incredible" in addition to the Jumbo Shrimp Fettuccine. "The shrimp melted in your mouth, and the fettuccine was so creamy and smooth," she said.



Roasted Salmon Dish

That being said, Bizzoco's favorite dish was the Roasted Natural Salmon depicted above. "It was amazing," she said. "Beautifully seared on the outside and so moist on the inside that it melted right in my mouth."

With it's beautiful ambiance, seasoned wait-staff, and delicious menu, SUR definitely stands up to its self-description as being on the "cutting-edge of style and cuisine." Dining at SUR (or even just stopping in for drinks) is an experience unlike any other.

Check out their <u>website</u> for more information and don't forget to follow them on <u>Facebook</u>, <u>Twitter</u> and <u>Instagram</u> to fill your timeline with mouth-watering food.

# Celebrity Interview: Fashion Designer & Beauty Guru Matt Sarafa





Interview by Lori Bizzoco. Written by Carly Horowitz

You may have seen fashion designer Matt Sarafa recently on *The Real Housewives of Beverly Hills* (RHOBH) alongside his godmother, Kyle Richards. However, Sarafa is no newcomer to reality television. He got his start by competing on Lifetime's *Project Runway Threads* and then went on to compete in *Project Runway Junior*. Sarafa is also one of the youngest designers to show at both New York and Paris Fashion Week. In our exclusive <u>celebrity interview</u>, Sarafa opens up about the success of his clothing line, "FAKE" and what he has in store for the future.

# Celebrity interview with fashion designer and beauty guru Matt Sarafa

Gaining notoriety on reality TV and then skyrocketing to success with a fashion line is no doubt a major accomplishment for a 20-year-old college student."It has been such a crazy, but amazing journey, and I am so grateful for it," Sarafa said.

Things changed for Sarafa's "FAKE" design line when his beautiful faux fur coats were featured on an episode of *The Real Housewives of Beverly Hills*. The combination of his highend and ready-to-wear street fashion captured the public's attention so fast that the line sold out immediately. "I was so beyond shocked," said Sarafa. "I would never in a million years have expected the crazy amount of success after *Real Housewives* ... I wasn't expecting anything crazy, but within 24 hours after *The Real Housewives* episode, I had sold enough faux fur to put me through college for all four years." The red coat, which our staff completely loves and Kylie wore on the show, was his biggest seller. If you haven't seen this episode of *RHOBH* or don't get BravoTV, you could always go over to <u>BuyTVInternetPhone</u> and see if they have some cable television options that may work within your budget.

Related Link: Celebrity Interview: Michael Canalé Talks About
His New Product Line & The Latest Celebrity Hair Styles

For those who missed the episode, the question we really want to know is what inspired Sarafa's ingenious faux fur designs? He explained that he's on the red carpet all the time now that



he's in the limelight, and when he went shopping to find faux fur to wear to those events, he discovered that the options were all "so tacky and so cheap" looking. He thought, "I'm a fashion designer, so why don't I try to solve this problem?" And solve it he did. "I created these furs that look and feel real, and they give you that same super luxurious feeling of

real fur, but without any of the downside," he said. And, for those who think his designs may be a little over-the-top, Sarafa added, "That's just who I am as a person, so that's what I try to translate into my designs."

Over-the-top or not, Sarafa's "FAKE" designs are now worn by a diverse demographic. Prior to when his episode of *RHOBH* aired, the designer's primary customers were much younger, and many of them were his social media fans. Now, the demographic for Sarafa's coats includes people of any age, size, or location. "It's for the bad bitches of the world, who don't care about what other people think, who want to wear exactly what they want to wear, and who really are just true to themselves." As a result, he's excited to expand his line in the future with new colors, new styles, and new designs.



Related Link: <u>Celebrity Interview: 'RHONJ' Star Teresa Giudice</u>
Opens Up About New Book, 'Standing Strong'

Speaking of the future, we got the inside scoop on Sarafa's upcoming plans. In addition to completing classes full-time at UCLA, he's working on a new runway show, which he hopes will be featured at either L.A. or New York Fashion Week next season. "I'm just trying to balance everything," he said. "It's very hectic, but I do my best." When asked how he can possibly do all that he does, he said, "The thing with me is that if I care about something enough, I will do everything in my power to get everything that I need to done. I'm a very hard worker, and I'm great at deciding what needs to get done at what time, so I've been powering through."



So, want to know what it takes to break into the fashion business like Sarafa did? The designer revealed a valuable tip, so listen up. He said, "If you are looking to get into this industry, the first thing you should know is that it's very cut-throat, and it's very difficult ... But, if you have a real genuine passion for fashion, that will get you pretty far." He added, "Just keep going, and don't let anybody tell you that you can't ... You just have to keep going no matter what gets in your way."

You can keep up with Matt and his journey by following him on Instagram @mattsarafa and check out his makeup videos on YouTube. To purchase Matt's products, visit mattsarafa.com or Kyle Richards' boutique stores, Kyle by Alene Too, in Beverly Hills, New York City, Palm Beach, or Boca Raton!

### Executive Director Dr. John

# Sessa Opens Up About Creating a Better World for Dogs Through The Vanderpump Dog Foundation & Rescue Center





Interview by <u>Lori Bizzoco</u>. Written by <u>Karley Kemble</u>.

Since its inception in 2016, The Vanderpump Dog Foundation has worked tirelessly on its founding mission to create a better and more humane world for dogs. After learning about the mass abuse of dogs at China's annual Lychee and Dog Meat Festival in Yulin, celebrity couple and reality TV stars Lisa Vanderpump and husband Ken Todd were inspired to create their organization, along with Executive Director Dr. John Sessa. More recently, the power duo hopes to continue spreading their

message to people worldwide with their new documentary, *The Road to Yulin and Beyond*, which is Dr. Sessa's directorial, writing, and producing debut.

In our exclusive <u>celebrity interview</u>, we talk with Dr. Sessa about the award-winning documentary, how the Foundation has helped stop animal cruelty in Yulin, and how you can help out.

## Exclusive Celebrity Interview: The Vanderpump Dog Foundation



Though the Dog Meat Festival in Yulin shows mass animal abuse and cruelty, it is just one "example of the torture that many dogs in Asia face," Dr. Sessa explains. "The cruelty varies, and the methods of cruelty change as well, but the underlying torture for consumption is the same." In fact, 30 percent of the Chinese population still consume dog meat, and unfortunately, the percentage is about the same throughout the rest of Asia.

Related Link: <u>Celebrity Interview with 'Lucky Dog' Host</u>
<u>Brandon McMillan</u>

The Vanderpump Dog Foundation has played a direct role in saving many of the dogs who fall victim to the cruelty in Yulin. Last year, Dr. Sessa says they surrounded trucks that

were illegally carrying dogs to their slaughter. Since a harrowing 80 percent of the dog meat trade in China comes from stolen pets, the Foundation worked with local police to enact a law that requires origin certificates for every animal that is transported. Because the animals were stolen and no certificates were on hand, the animals were seized and passed into the care of trusty local medical triages. They then tried to reunite them with their owners or find new forever homes. "This is the only way we have found that does not perpetuate the trade," Dr. Sessa explains. "The dog traders are fined, and their inventory is taken away from them."

The Road to Yulin and Beyond documentary gives audiences an accessible look into the harsh realities of Yulin, highlighting the Foundation's travels to China, rescue missions, visits to slaughterhouses, and legislative lobbying. Ultimately, it gives an overarching review of what the Foundation has done to stop the dog meat trade. After its premiere at the L.A. Awareness Film Festival in 2017, the documentary snagged the Audience Choice Award. Dr. Sessa says that they hope to eventually host a showing for U.S. Congress and are discussing avenues of global distribution in order to make the most impact and reach the most people.



The Foundation is also gearing up for their third annual World

Dog Day fundraiser, coming up this June. "The summer date serves as a juxtaposition of the Yulin Dog Meat Festival," adds John Blizzard, PR and Events Coordinator for the Foundation. "We try to have it during the same time period so we can show the world what a 'real' dog festival looks like."

Locally, The Vanderpump Dog Foundation recently launched The Vanderpump Dog Rescue Center and hopes their mission will continue to make an impact in many dogs' lives in California and beyond. In the first year of operation, the center adopted out nearly 500 dogs, and they're hoping to increase this number in 2018.

#### Related Link: Dating Advice: Picking Out a Pet Together

Though The Vanderpump Dog Foundation has taken huge steps in creating a better world for dogs, they know their reach will have an even greater impact when people enact change on local levels. If others want to start their own fundraiser with friends and family, they can visit The Vanderpump Dogs Classy Fundraising Page, where they can set up individual campaigns. They can also follow the Foundation on social media — @VanderpumpDogs on Twitter and Instagram — for the latest updates and ways to help take action.

No matter where in the world The Vanderpump Dog Foundation may be — whether in China, Los Angeles, or Washington D.C. — Dr. Sessa knows one thing to be true: "We will always continue our four spheres of advocacy: grassroots, education, awareness, and legislation."

For more information about The Vanderpump Dog Foundation, check out their website.

# Celebrity Interview: Reality TV Producer SallyAnn Salsano Opens Up About New Show 'Hear Me, Love Me, See Me'





Interview by <u>Lori Bizzoco</u>. Written by <u>Jessica Gomez</u>.

If you're a fan of <u>reality TV</u>, then you are probably a fan of <u>SallyAnn Salsano</u>, the television producer behind popular series like *Jersey Shore*, *Party Down South*, and *Martha & Snoop's Potluck Dinner Party*. Lucky for you, we have the behind-the-scenes scoop on her latest show *Hear Me*, *Love Me*, *See Me*, straight from Salsano herself! In our exclusive <u>celebrity interview</u>, Salsano opens up about the new TLC series, which premiered Saturday, March 3rd, and also reveals

why she believes <u>The Bachelor</u> franchise has such staying power.

### Celebrity Interview with Reality TV Producer SallyAnn Salsano

The 495 Productions executive tells us that she loves the concept of *Hear Me, Love Me, See Me,* a unique dating show where women who are looking for love meet three different men and get to know them through live streaming. Think about it: "You date someone for a long time. Then, you meet their friends and family. Then, you learn about their job," Salsano explains. "It takes so long to get to the bottom of all of that." The idea behind the new TLC show is that people don't need to spend months and years getting to know one another before they decide the person isn't right for them.

Related Link: <u>Celebrity Interview: 'Ex Isle' Executive</u>

<u>Producer SallyAnn Salsano Talks Reality TV</u>

On each episode of *Hear Me, Love Me, See Me*, a woman dates three different men without meeting them. Each guy wears a camera and shows off their daily life — you see their friends and family, their hobbies, and so much more. It's interactive because the audience gets to play along as well. By the end of the episode, the woman often picks someone she usually wouldn't have dated. Salsano says that the show concept received great feedback when she shopped it around to the networks.

With this type of dating process, from the very beginning, the women can see what their relationship will potentially look like. As our founder and executive editor, Lori Bizzoco explains, "Everyone has a checklist and a type — which is what makes this show work in a different way from others. Here, women are forced to look beyond their must-haves and truly

consider the man they're dating."

There are three episodes filmed so far with tentative plans for more, depending on the viewers' response. There is also a possibility to take the show outside of the United States and even reverse the roles with men looking for love. What a twist!

In addition, to *Hear Me, Love Me, See Me,* Salsano is working on *Jersey Shore: Family Vacation*, a reunion show that she first mentioned to us over a year ago. Fans can expect to see exactly what they've been missing: the entertaining dynamic of the cast, finally together again on television. Of course, until the premiere date — Thursday, April 5th on MTV — Salsano couldn't reveal much, but she guarantees it will be fun to watch. It's also "100 percent of what producers were looking for" — which says a lot!

Related Link: 'Martha & Snoop's Potluck Dinner Party' Producer SallyAnn Salsano Talks About Her Hit Reality TV Shows & Possible 'Jersey Shore' Revival

As if that's not enough, Winter Break: Hunter Mountain premieres on Friday, March 16th on MTV2. It's not a typical relationship show, the television producer explains. "It's like Jersey Shore on ice. The dating, the hook-ups, the sex, the make-ups — the drama on this show is ridiculous," she shares in our celebrity interview. "What goes on between that cast — the intermingling — I've never seen that before. It's such a fun, twisted turn of events." Thanks to that introduction, we can't wait to watch!

Salsano first got her start working on *The Bachelor*. With the dramatic finale of season 22, we had to ask for her thoughts on the popularity of the franchise. After so many seasons, she believes that the people on the show have become more normal, more real. "It's candy. Everyone can relate to it," she explains. "Everyone's been that girl; everyone's dated that

guy, and everyone's had their heart broken. It's like a version of Fantasy Football for women."

With a plethora of shows and ideas in her back pocket, we cannot wait to see what Salsano will be working on next!

Don't miss the next third installment of Hear Me, Love Me, See Me on TLC, airing on Saturday, March 17th at 10 p.m. EST.

### Celebrity Interview: 'RHONJ' Star Teresa Giudice Opens Up About New Book, 'Standing Strong'





Interview by Lori Bizzoco. Written by Karley Kemble. In our exclusive celebrity interview, Teresa Giudice candidly discusses her new book, her four daughters, and her controversial past. Standing Strong is all about finding strength during tough times — something that the Real Housewives of New Jersey star knows the importance of from firsthand experience. Ultimately, she hopes to use her celebrity status as a platform to help women struggling with financial infidelity. Her words of advice to the masses? "Stand strong — nothing bad lasts forever," she shares. "Even though you feel like you're going through a rough time, you're gonna get through it."

As for the future, expect to see more from this bestselling author. "The sky's the limit, and I'm all about empowering women," the <u>reality TV</u> star says in our celebrity interview. "So, you know, we'll see what comes my way in the future."

You can follow Teresa on Instagram at <u>@teresagiudice</u> and purchase her book on <u>Amazon</u>.

Celebrity Interview: 'Love Blows' Creators SallyAnn Salsano & Patti Stanger Discuss Reality TV & Modern Dating





Interview by Lori Bizzoco. Written by Marissa Donovan.

Television producer <u>SallyAnn Salsano</u> and famous matchmaker Patti Stanger have teamed up to create a new <u>reality TV</u> show on WE tv called *Love Blows*, which follows the drama of a

Chicago family's matchmaking business. In our exclusive <u>celebrity interview</u>, Salsano and Stanger chat about their show, previous television projects, and today's dating world.

# Read and listen to this celebrity interview from the masterminds behind the matchmaking reality TV show Love Blows!

http://cupidspulse.com/wp-content/uploads/2017/08/Sally-Ann-Sa lsano-and-Patti-Stanger-Interview-for-Love-Blows.mp3

SallyAnn, we last spoke about *Martha and Snoop's Potluck Dinner*, so I have to start off with saying congratulations because that's a tremendous success and your first Emmy nomination! How does that make you feel?

**Salsano:** I'm super proud of that. They are such power houses, superstars, and household names worldwide. Working with them — there's almost nothing they won't do. They are super dedicated 24/7 and on set with you morning, noon, and night. And creatively, it's really fun. We really had a great time.

Related Link: 'Martha & Snoop's Potluck Dinner Party' Producer SallyAnn Salsano Talks About Her Hit Reality TV Shows & Possible 'Jersey Shore' Revival

You've said that there are a lot of commonalties between them, even though people may view them as so different. Do you think that played a role in the show's success?

**Salsano:** There's all this hullabaloo now in our world about different people and people being against each other. If the country was more like this show, we'd be in a better place. If you like someone, nothing brings you together more than a good meal and good conversation. Just get together and have a good

time! It doesn't matter where you're from, where you're raised, or what you're like. At the end of the day, we all like to eat, laugh, and have fun. That's basically what this show's about.

Absolutely — great point. Patti, last month, you were on Hollywood Medium with Tyler Henry, and you shared that your adoptive mother was really good at giving you advice. What was that experience like?

Stanger: It's not so much what he says and how he says it. It's more like, when you're in the room, there's a strong energy. You feel the presence of your loved one. He's a guy that brings in the energy of your loved ones, and you feel loved. My mom died a really horrible death of lung cancer, and at the end, she was in a lot of pain. So knowing that she was okay was important to me. And then my biological mother showed up — that was all really nice. I never met her, but I felt a presence. You can't tell that though the television though.

Related Link: <u>Celebrity Interview: 'Hollywood Medium' Star</u>
<u>Tyler Henry on His New Memoir & Career: "This is Fundamentally</u>
<u>What I'm Meant To Do"</u>

Now, let's talk about *Love Blows*. This is just an amazing collaboration. Who came up with the idea?

**Salsano:** Patti!

**Stanger:** I came up with the idea. I wanted SallyAnn involved because she did *Jersey Shore*, and I envisioned this show to be in the same style. I just thought she was the perfect powerhouse to go into Chicago and turn it upside down. Chicago didn't have it's own reality TV show, which was really important.

These are people I work with - I'm like the head affiliate for matchmakers around the world. I'm the one generating leads, giving them advice, and training them. So Lisa used to fix me

up — we were like sisters. One day, she told me the story about her husband who cheated on her with her best friend — and she stills works with both of them! Their kids are now training to take over the business. I was like, "Oh my god, this is a reality TV show."

I originally sold the show in a different format to Bravo, but when I left Bravo, I took it back. SallyAnn reformatted it and came up with a better concept than what I had. It was just going to be a pilot at first, but of course, given the powerhouse that she is, she made it go straight to series. We're super excited. It's going to connect to viewers like *The Real Housewives of Beverly Hills* and *Vanderpump Rules*. It's a show you can keep watching for two hours straight.

#### So you knew Lisa before you started developing the show?

Stanger: She's someone I work with on a regular basis. All matchmakers work with me; we all work with each other. What's great about this show is that you're going to see this unveiling of the industry. You're going to see behind the scenes of matchmaking, which is a real business that you cannot major in at college. The only place you can get certification is through my old assistant who owns the Matchmakers Institute in New York. You train with matchmakers. You shadow them, like other matchmakers have shadowed me. It's cool because it's always handed down generation after generation — the way Lisa plans on handing it down to her daughter Annie.

A lot of crazy things happen in these episodes, a lot of cliff-hanger drama. And I'm appearing in a lot of episodes, which is fun.

SallyAnn, you've produced a lot of shows about love and relationships. What do you think makes this one different?

Salsano: It's actually real. There's something about a family dynamic that you can't change. If you combine the young and

beautiful people on *Vanderpump Rules* with the drama of *Flipping Out* and the family dynamic of *Cake Boss*, then you get *Love Blows* — this show has it all. And it's all coming from a place of helping other people find love.

Mixing Patti's star power and expertise with their family dynamic is a recipe for success. Still, there's a lot of disastrous moments behind the scenes too. It's the stuff that reality shows are made of — and it's completely authentic.

Related Link: <u>Celebrity Video Interview: 'Millionaire Matchmaker' Star Patti Stanger on How a Relationship and Love Changed Her: "I'm Much More Relaxed"</u>

Shifting gears, let's talk about digital matchmaking versus traditional matchmaking. Do you think singles are ready to get back to true matchmaking — where a matchmaker (instead of a website or app) sets them up on a date?

**Stanger:** Personal attention will never be defeated by an app. Ever! With a matchmaker, you have someone selecting potential partners for you and talking to you on a daily basis…versus an app that has no information! You don't even know how tall they are, how many kids they have, if they're divorced. That's why matchmaking is older than prostitution — it's as old as time.

### Do you think the show could help bring back the matchmaking industry?

**Stanger:** I wanted to make it a major in college — where you could actually major in it and open your own business. The industry is really going to change in the next 10 years. We've already passed the two billion dollar mark — internationally, not just in the United States.

We've never been able to use FaceTime matchmaking because people want to hide their looks, their voices, their age,

their height, and their weight. So that's the next frontier: Will you FaceTime with somebody? Will you show them who you are in broad daylight without makeup on and your hair up?

That's brilliant! Getting back to the show, Patti, we'd love to know a bit more about your role on-camera.

**Stanger:** You see a little bit of a softer side of me. I come in to help Annie, and I have to shut Lisa down because Lisa's more of a screamer than I am in this particular season. On top of it, I go on three dates.

I'm still going to lose my cool because I'm Patti, but I'm not in charge, so it's a different side of me. It's hard because I'm used to calling the shots. I'm more like the therapist that comes in to fix the problems in the family.

Related Link: <u>Celebrity Interview: 'Ex Isle' Executive</u>

<u>Producer SallyAnn Salsano Talks Reality TV</u>

I have a couple additional questions for you, SallyAnn. The last time we spoke, I asked you if there would be a reunion for the *Jersey Shore* cast…and then *Reunion Road Trip* happened!

**Salsano:** That had nothing to do with me. Oh my god, I would kill to do one — with the entire cast and have them talk about the past.

As you probably know, Ronnie Ortiz-Magro and Pauly D have both been on the show Famously Single. Have you watched it?

Salsano: Of course. I watch this show and everything those cast members do. We have a group text going, and we always support each other. They're like my children. They call me "Mom." It makes me feel 900 years old, but it is what it is! There's something different when you know somebody before anyone else did. I think you just kind of have a different bond with them and different insight into who they are.

Any final words about Love Blows?

Salsano: Just watch it!

**Stanger:** You need to watch it live. We have this expression on WE tv: "Live or Die." You're going to get tips about what to do if you want to open your own business, if you're dating someone and it's not working out, if you want to get back in the game after a divorce. People date on Saturdays or Sundays, so they need to tune in on Friday night! They need to have these tips in their arsenal. We can basically be your dating coaches.

Check out the buzz for yourself by watching the premiere of Love Blows on WE tv TONIGHT at 10/9c!

Celebrity Interview: 'Famously Single' Dating Coach Dr. Darcy Sterling on Relationships, Communication & Her Own Marriage





Written By Melissa Lee. Interview by Lori Bizzoco.

Relationship expert and dating coach Dr. Darcy Sterling is no stranger to training individuals on their communication skills. As the mentor on E!'s Famously Single and the co-owner of a group practice, Dr. Darcy has spent the past 21 years counseling those on their relationship skills. Famously Single is only a sneak peek into the type of work Dr. Darcy does on a daily basis as a dating coach. As a clinical social worker, Dr. Darcy strives to help individuals open up and communicate in order to receive the most fulfilling romantic relationships possible. In our recent celebrity interview, Dr. Darcy revealed some of the drama that went down on this season, key relationship issues, and how her show has helped her own marriage.

## Dr. Darcy Spills Some Drama on Season 2 of *Famously Single* in

### Celebrity Interview

Since the show essentially revolves around relationships, it's not a surprise that several co-stars ended up dating both during and after filming. Former Jersey Shore star Ronnie Ortiz-Magro and DASH Dolls alum Malika Haqq did not shy away from sharing details on their relationship on social media, but broke up shortly after filming ended. "I think they needed to learn how to have a fight. They had different communication styles, they needed to learn how to resolve conflict, and they needed to learn how to communicate effectively," Dr. Darcy says. She even confessed that her and wife Stephanie Koncicki offered to coach them after the show had ended, but Ronnie wasn't interested.

Related Link: Celebrity Interview: "The Cycle" Co-Host Aliya-Jasmine Sovani on Work, Life, Love and Balancing It All

Bachelorette contestant Chad Johnson soon ended up revealing his love with model Zoe Baron. When asked whether or not Dr. Darcy thinks Chad has learned much from the show, she informed us that the couple had very recently broken up! "They broke up two nights ago, so you tell me," she says.

And when it comes down to Calum Best, who was also on the show last season, Dr. Darcy explained that it was much easier to get deep down and solve his relationship conflicts. "The amazing thing with Calum is that I got to go so much deeper with him because I already had a relationship established with him, so I didn't have to earn trust or build a foundation of a relationship," Dr. Darcy says. "I'm a little rough on Calum this season."

### The Advice Dr. Darcy Gives Is As

#### Real As It Gets

As a licensed psychologist, Dr. Darcy also has her own group practice in addition to an advice column. At times, it can be up for debate whether or not the advice she gives is the same she'd give to her private clients — but she quickly shuts that down. "You have to start with the basic skills — communication skills, conflict skills, how to have a fight. Those are the biggest issues."

She explains that regardless of whether she's counseling in private or in the public eye on television, it is of great importance that individuals are working on their communication and conflict resolution. "We need them with all of our relationships. I need them with my friends, family, even my clients."

Related Link: Celebrity Break-Up: 'Famously Single' Stars
Ronnie Magro & Malika Haqq Have Split

Dr. Darcy further emphasized the fact that feelings get hurt in relationships, and it's somehow inevitable. "We need to know how to have a fight, and how to communicate when someone's hurt our feelings because in relationships, we hurt each other's feelings," she says. "Everyone does it."

### Famously Single Improved Her Marriage

Dr. Darcy married her partner, Stephanie, in 2009. She mentioned that Stephanie also does relationship counseling, but coaches couples together, whereas Dr. Darcy prefers one-on-one. "We teach relationship skills all the time. We're incredibly mindful of practicing what we preach, and it's really enhanced our relationship," Dr. Darcy disclosed.

The two even have an online course together called

"Relationship Skills Bootcamp." The workshop is designed to teach participants to improve skills within their relationship, similarly to the way their face-to-face counseling is.

Related Link: <u>Celebrity Interview: Former 'Bachelorette' Ali</u> <u>Fedotowsky Shares Her Tips on Staying Fit as a New Mom</u>

It turns out that hosting Famously Single has actually been a huge positive influence on her marriage. "We're much better to each other, we're more careful, we're on our toes with each other," she says. "How many people say getting a television show actually enhanced the relationship?"

Tune into Famously Single on Sundays on E! to see what relationship advice Dr. Darcy is giving this week!

# Celebrity Interview: Dr. Darcy Sterling Reveals Chad Johnson and Zoe Baron Split





By Mallory McDonald

Dr. Darcy Sterling, television personality and star of E! Network's hit show Famously Single hosted a Season Two viewing party at CRAVEN restaurant in New York City last night. Lori Bizzoco, the founder and executive editor of Cupidspulse.com, got an exclusive interview with Dr. Darcy onsite. When asked if the work former <u>Bachelorette</u> contestant Chad Johnson did on the show, led to the success of his relationship with model Zoe Baron, Dr. Darcy shocked us with the news that the celebrity couple broke up two days ago!

Related Link: <u>Celebrity Couple News: 'Bachelorette' Villain</u>
Chad Johnson Is Dating Zoe Baron

Tune into to E! on Sunday nights at 10/9c to watch Dr. Darcy work with Chad Johnson on Famously Single!!

# Celebrity Interview: Former 'Bachelorette' Ali Fedotowsky Shares Her Tips on Staying Fit as a New Mom





Interview by Lori Bizzoco. Written by Noelle Downey.

It's no secret that, when it comes to being a new mother, things can get pretty hectic. This sentiment certainly rings true for celebrity mom and former star of The Bachelorette, Ali Fedotowsky. She recently chatted with CupidsPulse.com about her best survival tips for maintaining work-life balance, how to find time for fitness, and her exciting partnership with healthy snack company, goodnessKNOWS. Plus, she dishes on all things Bachelorette and

### Celebrity Mom Ali Fedotowsky on How She Stays Fit

There's no doubt about it: Fedotowsky is busy! With her recent March wedding and her daughter Molly's first birthday coming up in early July (they're celebrating with a unicorn-themed backyard barbecue!), her life is filled to the brim with the happiest kind of chaos. So how does this reality TV star manage to do it all while also keeping herself sane? "For me, it's about taking little steps to take care of myself," she shares in our celebrity interview. "For example, if I need some time to myself, I tell Kevin. I have an amazing husband who always tells me to go do what I need to do."

Related Link: Celebrity Baby: Ali Fedotowsky Says She's Ready to Be Pregnant Again

Even when she's not dishing about the latest styles on her thriving lifestyle blog or spending time with her sweet family, Fedotowsky doesn't let herself slack off. Since she became a new mom last year, she has committed herself to staying fit. "Sometimes, I'll do the tree pose while holding my daughter," she admits with a laugh.

She enthuses about her newfound love of yoga in more detail, saying, "Yoga is the best. Yoga is the only thing I do — I'm not a gym person at all. I love how I can do it at home. I love the convenience of it and how it shapes my muscles in ways other workouts don't." Seems that this familiar and fun form of exercise is the perfect mix of convenience and challenging for this busy celebrity mom!

## Reality TV Star Reveals Partnership with goodnessKNOWS in Celebrity Interview

Of course, it takes a lot of energy to stay fit and take care of your body. Fedotowsky swears that she has the secret weapon for keeping your energy up: goodnessKNOWS snack squares. The snacks, which combine essential vitamins with a delicious cruncy texture and great taste, are her lifesaver when it comes to eating healthy. "My girlfriends and I are all very conscious of what we put into our bodies," she reveals, "so we can have a little bit of wine and be naughty but also have the cranberry almond dark chocolate goodnessKNOWS snack squares. They're only 150 calories for all four!"

In fact, the celebrity mom was so thrilled with goodnessKNOWS and their healthy snacking initiative that she recently took things a step further and partnered with them on a new project for National Yoga Day. "We did a Facebook Live stream. It's all about yoga and how you can do it at home and how good it can make you feel," she explains in our celebrity interview. She hopes to show other new moms that they don't have to be any kind of fitness guru to live their healthiest lives.

Related Link: 'Bachelorette' Alum Ali Fedotowsky Gives Birth to Celebrity Baby Girl

### Ali Fedotowsky Dishes On the Newest Season of *The Bachelorette*

Every busy mama needs a break, and Fedotowsky is no exception. Just like so many of us, during her free time, she has been keeping up with the current season of *The Bachelorette*. "I love this season and Rachel," she enthuses. "I think she's

poised, fun, articulate, beautiful - everything a Bachelorette
should be!"

Of Lindsay's reality TV journey so far, Fedotowsky adds, "There are some guys who keep sneaking through the cracks. Like Lee is still there — that's a questionable decision." Ultimately, though, the lifestyle blogger believes that Lindsay is destined for love: "Rachel's not stupid. She knows what she's doing. I think she's doing an incredible job opening up her heart!"

To keep up with Ali, check out her lifestyle blog Ali Luvs.

# Celebrity Interview: Courtney Paige Talks About 'The Arrangement' and If It's Really About Tom Cruise and Katie Holmes





Interview by <u>Lori Bizzoco</u>. Written by <u>Whitney Johnson</u> and Miriana Rexrode.

If you're as hooked on E!'s hit scripted series *The Arrangement* as we are, then there's no doubt that Courtney Paige has made a lasting impression on you as the mysterious (and up-to-no-good) Annika. In our exclusive celebrity interview with the star, she opens up about her role on the show and what fans can expect in tomorrow night's finale. Plus, she talks to us about her film company Crazy Sunshine Films as well as her love life.

## Celebrity Interview: Courtney Paige Talks About *The Arrangement*

As fans know, The Arrangement is a 10-episode series that follows the journey of up-and-coming actress Megan Morrison, who receives a lucrative offer to enter a staged marriage with movie star Kyle West. Paige's character Annika is working behind-the-scenes as hired help to ensure that their celebrity relationship lasts. Of playing the scandalous and manipulative

villain of the show, Paige says, "Annika is so different from anyone I've played before because she has so many layers. It's quite a challenge for me."

Related Link: Celebrity Interview: 'The Arrangement' Star Lexa
Doig Says Viewers Can 'Expect a Bit of Everything'

Of course, playing the bad girl can be fun. "It's such a treat," she adds. "You never know what she's going to do next."

We've read that Annika has a "big secret" to reveal in this season's finale episode. When asked about what's next for her character, the Canadian native reveals, "I think all of the characters on *The Arrangement* have some sort of big secret. The viewers are really left on the edge of their seats until the end. It's really well written."

It's been rumored that the show's storyline is based on a celebrity couple that we're all familiar with: <u>Tom Cruise</u> and <u>Katie Holmes</u>. Luckily, the actress clears up any suspicions and says, "I think arranged relationships have been going on since before our time — long before Tom and Katie. So if anyone thinks it's deliberately about them, it's really not."

Related Link: <u>Celebrity News: Jamie Foxx Celebrates 48th</u>

<u>Birthday with Katie Holmes</u>

The actress is lucky to share the small screen with a number of famous faces, including Michael Vartan. "Michael is so lovely and so talented," she shares in our celebrity interview. "It's amazing how humble everyone is on set. Everyone is so nice to each other, and it's a great cast to be apart of." Thanks to the show's addicting storyline and great cast, we were excited to learn that writers are already working on the second season.

Not only is Paige an actress, but she's also an up-and-coming writer and film director. She started her own film

company called Crazy Sunshine Films and has a feature film in the works called *Neon Candy*, set to premiere in September. She, of course, shares her thoughts on the potential strike of the Writers Guild of America (WGA). Although she is not part of the WGA, she believes that if anyone is not feeling valued or being underpaid, then they should take a stand. We couldn't agree more!

#### Courtney Paige on Her Love Life

The Arrangement may be filled with romantic drama, but off-screen, Paige's love life is much more low-key. While she's not currently looking for a celebrity relationship, she's not opposed to finding someone special. "I'm still single, and I'm really focusing on my career, but if you know any single guys...," she says with a laugh.

When it comes to her dream date, she likes to keep things simple. "I'm a pretty big country girl. I love to get out of the city and do anything outdoorsy. Fishing, hiking, watching the stars, or something else in nature is right up my alley," she shares.

Related Link: Date Idea: Get Close with Nature

Every man's dream girl, right? Not according to Paige. "I'm a lot to handle," she adds. "Actresses are emotional, and they wear their hearts on their sleeve."

Of course, Paige's first love is acting, dating back to her early years in the theatre. To young girls watching *The Arrangement* and hoping to become actresses, she advises, "Make sure that you start in the theatre. I think it's important to not get caught up in all of the Hollywood glitz and fluffiness and to really stay true to your roots. Always remember what's important about the craft."

Catch Courtney Paige on the season finale of The Arrangement

on E! on Sunday, May 7th at 10 p.m. EST. You can follow her on <u>Twitter</u> and <u>Instagram</u>.

Celebrity Interview: Stylist Rachel Zoe Shares Her Tried and True Tips for Organizing Your Life in the Most Fashionable Way





Interview by Lori Bizzoco. Written by Noelle Downey.

When you're constantly on-the-go, living your best and busiest life, it can be difficult to find the time to stay both organized and on trend. Designer, author, entrepreneur, and celebrity mom Rachel Zoe knows all about this concerning conundrum. Fortunately, she recently spoke to CupidsPulse.com in an exclusive celebrity interview about how to prioritize and keep life mess-free. Watch the video above for her best tips for a fashionable, focused, and clutter-free life!

### Celebrity Interview with Fashion Stylist Rachel Zoe

Zoe is not only a fashion icon and successful professional; she's also the mother to two adorable boys: Skyler, 6, and Kaius, 3. When she's not being a super mom for them, she and her handsome hubby Rodger Bergman are taking the fashion world by storm with Zoe's designer label, online fashion periodical The Zoe Report, and her sensational style books. So what's her best advice for keeping things in order while still having it all? "Well, staying organized — it's hard. In my personal life, it's a lot of staying on top of ever-changing weather and keeping my go-to items in the forefront of my closet," she shares.

Related Link: Fashion Advice: 'Wow' the Crowd with Color

Not only does this make Zoe's getting ready process "easier," but she also gets a head start when it comes to refreshing and reorganizing. "I think it's just about cleaning — cleaning everything, from your beauty cabinet to your car — and staying organized because you'll actually feel better," she confides.

Of course it's not just about killing it when it comes to keeping things clean. The stylist also dishes about what to

keep and what to part with when it comes to revamping your style. "Definitely get rid of the things that you have not worn in years. When there's nothing about you that relates to this thing anymore, it's time to get rid of it," she advises.

### Celebrity Mom Rachel Zoe Talks Spring Cleaning

But what's her secret weapon for making sure her busy lifestyle and two kiddos don't get in the way of a pristinely clean environment? "I've partnered with Lysol on talking about this incredible product," she reveals. "It's actually a Laundry Sanitizer. Especially since we have young children, we're always washing their blankets and bedding and clothes, and adding this Laundry Sanitizer makes everything you wash virtually free of all harmful bacteria."

She has also designed a limited edition blanket to show how the sanitizer works and keep your little ones stylishly cuddled and clean. These products are a lifesaver, perfect for busy moms who want to avoid the leftover bacteria that other cleaning methods might leave behind. "Knowing that I'm taking the germs out of what my kids wear every single day is a lifechanging thing for me," Zoe enthuses.

Related Link: Celebrity Fashion Trend: Break Out the Floral Print

Of course, getting organized is just the first step to looking fabulous. You also need to stay on-trend! Zoe let us in on some insider info for how to look stylish as the weather warms up. "I always have a lot of jackets," she shares. "I love a lightweight jacket in a natural color, like camel, blush, or white. It looks really fresh for spring." You heard it here first: Jackets are the must-have staple of your wardrobe for spring according to this famed fashionista!

From start to finish in this celebrity interview, the designer looked calm, confident, and, of course, effortlessly chic. This celebrity mom has certainly cracked the code to living an organized, successful, and stylish life — and now, thanks to her tips, so can you!

To learn more about Rachel Zoe, visit her website <u>The Zoe</u> <u>Report</u>, or check out her <u>Instagram</u>, <u>Twitter</u>, or <u>Facebook</u>.

Want to watch more videos from Cupid's Pulse? Check out our YouTube channel.

'Martha & Snoop's Potluck Dinner Party' Producer SallyAnn Salsano Talks About Her Hit Reality TV Shows & Possible 'Jersey Shore' Revival





Interview by Lori Bizzoco. Written by Delaney Gilbride.

The queen of reality TV, <u>SallyAnn Salsano</u>, has taken VH1 by storm and is back and better than ever! The self-made American television producer is the CEO and president of 495 Productions, which launched in 2006 and has been a success ever since. Salsano has produced a number of widely-loved television shows, including MTV's <u>Jersey Shore</u> with its equally successful spin-off *Snooki & JWoww*. The entrepreneur has also produced popular reality TV series such as *Friendzone*, *Party Down South*, *Blue Collar Millionaires*, and the new VH1 show that everyone has been raving about, *Martha & Snoop's Potluck Dinner Party*.

### Celebrity Interview with Reality TV Producer SallyAnn Salsano

In our recent <u>celebrity interview</u>, Salsano opens up about the idea behind her latest project. She had collaborated with VH1 in the hopes of creating a new, unique show that viewers would fall in love with — and boy, did they! When speaking about the

birth of Martha & Snoop's Potluck Dinner Party, Salsano says the new president at VH1 asked her what kind of show she had been dying to create. She answered the question with an immediate response: "I would love to do a crazy, energetic celebrity cooking show," which everyone at VH1 jumped right on board with. When going back and forth about who they wanted to co-star in the show, Salsano tells us she asked the room, "Why are we even discussing other people? I think Martha Stewart and Snoop Dogg would be the best show ever."

### Related Link: <u>Celebrity Interview: 'Ex Isle' Executive</u> Producer SallyAnn Salsano Talks Reality TV

After discussing the idea with the world-renowned chef, 495 Productions reached out to the rapper, but when they called him, he had already known about the show through Stewart. "They really are friends," says Salsano. "It's such an honor working with them." Salsano relates the mega-stars to those on another one of her shows, CNBC's *Blue Collar Millionaires*, by expressing how they started out just like every other aspiring blue collar worker: as entrepreneurs. "Even now, at this stage of their careers, they don't take it for granted," she adds.

Feeling inspired by the reality TV stars of her many shows, Salsano shares an important piece of career advice, saying, "You don't have to be a rapper or an NBA star to make it big. You just have to have an interest in something, dedicate yourself to it, and be good at it. And sometimes, loving your job, regardless of what it is, is enough."

Martha & Snoop's Potluck Dinner Party is the number one rated non-sports cable program in its time period with over three million viewers after only the second episode was released. Plus, it's already been renewed for a second season. Salsano believes that the reason why the reality TV show is such a hit is because the duo makes the show extremely fun-loving and humorous for people of all ages.

She adds that the show has an underlying message of, "Come on, everyone — knock it off. We can all get along." The renowned rapper and famous chef continue to cross generations and demographics with their <u>celebrity relationship</u>. People may wonder how they can be friends, but as Salsano explains, "When you look at who they really are as people, you come to realize that they have the same interests and the same sense of humor." It doesn't get any simpler than that.

#### Related Link: Relationship Advice: Stay True to Yourself

It's no surprise that the reality TV producer loves working on the show. "If Snoop and Martha are on set, I'm on set," she reveals. "It's a fun day." The stars actually have a lot of leeway when it comes to what they want to make in the kitchen. While Stewart makes, well, anything and everything she puts her mind to, Snoop is more of a "home cook" and uses recipes passed down by his mother. As Salsano shares, "He claims his mother always used to tell him, 'You know what girls like? A man that cooks.' And from then on, he has been making his signature dishes, like fried shrimp and catfish, for his family and friends." Great relationship advice from Mamma Snoop!

### SallyAnn Salsano Teases Future Bravo Reality TV Show & *Jersey* Shore Revival

Salsano also talked about her future projects in our celebrity interview. "There's still so much I want to do," she shares. The producer teased us with the notion that her first Bravo show will be coming out in the spring, but she's not able to tell us much more than that she's extremely excited to share it with everyone when the time comes. She also revealed that she's constantly thinking about reviving her past reality TV shows, including *Friendzone*, which is still

one of her "favorite shows of all time."

Related Link: Celebrity Break-Up: 'Famously Single' Stars
Ronnie Magro & Malika Hagg Have Split

Of the continued success of the *Jersey Shore* stars, Salsano says, "I love it. I get excited for them, watch everything they do, and root them on. I feel like I have a different kind of love for them — I feel like I've known them from birth." She also wants people to know that the stars of the hit MTV show are more than how they're presented on camera. People don't truly see "what great kids they are and what great families they're from."

Given her love for the reality TV stars, we had to ask if she ever thinks about doing a *Jersey Shore* revival. Without skipping a beat, she exclaims, "Like every day! Every show runs its course, but you never know." We've got our fingers crossed!

Be sure to tune in to Martha & Snoop's Potluck Dinner Party on Monday, March 6 on VH1 at 10pm ET. You can keep up with Salsano's many projects on Twitter @sallyannsalsano!

Celebrity Interview:
Christina Milian Says,
"Homemaker was just mom, and
now it's also grandma, it's

# grandpa, it's stepmom, it's a combination of different people."





Interview by Lori Bizzoco. Written by Cortney Moore.

There's very little Christina Milian can't do. She's a performer that can sing and dance, as well as act. These three traits definitely came in handy during her role as Magenta in the Fox broadcast of The Rocky Horror Picture Show: Let's Do the Time Warp Again, which aired on October 18. In our exclusive celebrity interview, Milian opens up about her relationships, Thanksgiving plans, career and what it's like being a homemaker.

# Learn what Christina Milian thinks it means to be a homemaker in this exclusive celebrity interview!

Milian has recently made news with her friendship to celebrity ex Nick Cannon. The pair dated for two years in the early 2000's, but since then have recently been seen hanging out with each other. Milian confirms that they are only friends, saying, "It was good to catch up, it's been over 10 years, so that was a friendship that I always valued." She also says it's been nice experience for them to reconnect as parents, and that it has been fun discussing family life with someone who understands. Is the next logical step getting back together? Milian laughed, saying, "Well you never know, we'll see what happens!"

Related Link: Christina Milian Talks New Reality TV Show, Viva Diva Wines and the Status of Her Love Life

Meanwhile, Milian's 6-year-old daughter Violet keeps her on her toes. "Now she lets me know how I should be making the decisions in my life and how we should reschedule my life to make sure she's incorporated in every single part of it," which is something Milian went on to say she loved about her daughter. When asked if Violet had any interest in show business, Milian says she's steering her toward education, but would be supportive of her daughter either way. With regard to raising Violet, Milian says her mother and father were a big help. "It really took a village to raise the household, to keep the house clean and safe, especially around the holidays," she says. Everyone in the Milian home contributes in some way, whether it be serving the table or cleaning up after each other. This especially holds true on Thanksgiving As for family traditions, Milian likes to enjoy her Thanksgiving in her pajamas and cooking delicious food. "You

better make two types of stuffing," Milian jokes in reference to differing palates. If you're ever making stuffing for Milian, make sure it has raisins in it!

Related Link: <u>Carmen Milian Talks Reality TV Show and Dating Advice in Exclusive Celebrity Interview: "Love Can Conquer All"</u>

More recently, Milian has partnered with Pine Sol to redefine what a homemaker means. "Homemaker was just mom, and now it's also grandma, it's grandpa, it's stepmom, it's a combination of different people," Milian explains. The initiative hopes to get people to share their stories on social media through #MakersOfHome, to show that other family members contribute to making a home. She is also involved with Pine Sol's charity Together We Rise, which aims to improve the lives of foster children. "This time of year I think it's really great for people to help other people," Milian goes on to add. "Philanthropy is very important to me, especially in the foster care system." Aside from her partnership, she's moved on from her reality tv show to other projects. Keep an eye out for new music in 2017. She also has a role on the new Fox show Superhuman alongside Mike Tyson and Dr. Rahul Jandial, which will begin to air next year.

For more information about Milian, check out her website, www.christinamilian.com. Follow her on Twitter @ChristinaMilian.