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





Interview by Lori

Bizzoco. Written by Jessica Gomez.

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:** <u>'Martha & Snoop's Potluck Dinner Party' Producer</u> 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.

# Former 'TLC' Member Rozanda 'Chilli' Thomas Denies Dating Wayne Brady





By Brittany

## Stubbs

Despite the rumors, Rozanda "Chilli" Thomas and Wayne Brady are not a couple; Chilli denies that they are dating. Although the pair were spotted together in Las Vegas last weekend at the MGM Grand allegedly holding hands, the Whose Line Is It Anyway? comic and R&B singer want to make it clear they're not romantically involved. "They are not dating, they've never dated, they've only ever been friends, that's it," a rep for Thomas shares with <u>People</u>. "They had dinner together after New Year's because they were on the same show. They are old friends."

How do you keep rumors about your dating life from escalating?

## Cupid's Pulse:

So we're not all celebrities who feel the need to publicly announce and clarify who we are and are not romantically involved with, but there are still times it's important to avoid rumors starting regarding your personal life. From a professional stand point, for example, you don't want anything flying around about your dating life, especially if it involves someone in the same workplace. So avoid anything getting escalated:

1. Be cautious of body language: It's normal for the opposite sex to be affectionate to one another, even if they're just good friends. But an innocent hug, arm wrap behind the chair, or kiss on the cheek between you and your friend, can be seen as flirting and foreplay to someone else. So be both cautious and mindful of how your body language can be perceived by an outside party. If you are seeing someone but are not ready to share your new relationship with the rest of your social circle, keep the hand-holding, hand-on-knee, and any other body language that might reveal l-o-v-e, behind closed doors. **Related:**<u>Rumor: Are Miley Cyrus and Kellan Lutz Dating?</u>

2. Be careful on social media: So you may think the picture you uploaded of you and [insert name] grabbing dinner and drinks one night is totally harmless; everyone knows you and him are just friends, you believe. But this is false and can actually be used as proof to confirm someone's suspicions. So if there's already some possible whispers about you and someone being more than just work pals, avoid posting anything that might add fuel to the fire.

**Related:** <u>Justin Bieber and Selena Gomez Reunite in Instagram</u> <u>Photo</u>

**3. Confront the rumors:** At the end of the day, the easiest way to dissolve rumors or gossip is by facing them head on. If you know there is someone spreading around something about your personal life, approach them about it and lay out the facts. Approaching them while other people are around is a way to publicly confront the rumors and set the record straight.

How do you keep rumors about your dating life from escalating? Share your thoughts below.

# "I Want My Clients to Have Fun With It," Says Wedding Planner Sandy Malone of TLC's 'Wedding Island'





By Whitney Johnson and Kristin Mattern

Sandy Malone is the woman behind Weddings in Vieques, a fullservice destination wedding planning company that will take your wildest island fantasy and make it come true. The vivacious personality is dedicated to making each and every bride happy with her special day and will do whatever it takes, as showcased in a recent episode when she found a helicopter at the last minute. Now, viewers can share the high tension and drama when they join this thick-skinned wedding planner on her escapades as she creates romantic magic on *Wedding Island*, TLC's new series that showcases Malone and her company.

## **Related Link:** <u>5 Conversations Every Couple Should Have Before</u> <u>Marriage</u>

Malone's wedding planning career began in 2004 when she had to save her own wedding to the love of her life, Bill Malone. "I hired a wedding planner that *said* she knew Vieques, but clearly, she didn't. It was awful," the reality star recalls. "I was getting frantic phone calls and dealing with vendors who were asking me if I was still getting married. I panicked! We had to fire her and start over."

Malone was able to plan their wedding on her own and realized that she could make a full-time gig out of that sort of work – but only if her now-husband was on board too. When the two first met, Bill was part of the Metro Transit Police Department, and Malone was working as a political journalist. He asked her out, but she politely declined. After many persistent attempts and chivalrous deeds, like clearing the snow from the path to her house, she finally came to her senses and let Bill into her heart.

The pair bought a house in Vieques a year after their wedding, and in 2007, when Bill retired, they decided to make the remote island their home. Soon after, they launched their company with the assistance of a close friend. "She helped me put together our original logos and actually referred our first client, who ended up being someone I knew in grade school," Malone shares. "We did the wedding on 07/07/07 and thought we'd do two weddings per month. We ended up planning forty or fifty weddings that first year."

In addition to adding wedding planning to their resumes, the couple also jumped right into running a business together for the first time. "We've worked hand-in-hand since the beginning. Sometimes it's hard – we're not the perfect couple, but we respect each other," the event-planning wonder explains. "I focus on the planning, and he focuses on the execution, and we don't interfere with each other's work."

**Related Link:** <u>Kelly Ripa on Her Marriage to Mark Conseulos:</u> <u>"We Still Dig Each Other"</u>

Along with her team, Malone has now put together over 400

weddings — and the number continues to grow as more and more engaged couples chose Vieques for their big day. "It's been voted one of the top Caribbean spots for the past few years by *Travel and Leisure* magazine. It's pretty spectacular," she says of the island, seven miles off the coast of Puerto Rico. "You can go to the beach everyday and not go to the same one twice for weeks and weeks."

For those brides not lucky enough to be in Malone's capable hands as they plan their walks down the aisle, consider this advice: "If you're working with a wedding planner, talk to them and tell them why you're feeling overwhelmed. If not, talk to your fiancé or bridesmaids. A lot of times, the problem in your head isn't such a big deal. Write it all down, and then bite it off in little chunks."

Ultimately, the wedding planner just wants to represent her industry and her island well. "I hope the show is a good reflection of the wedding environment. I just want my clients to have fun with it all. And we want people to come to the island — most people haven't heard of Vieques."

You can catch Malone and her team on Wedding Island on TLC on Thursdays at 10/9c – see above for a preview of tonight's episode! For more behind-the-scenes details, check out her Huffington Post blog, www.huffingtonpost.com/sandy-malone/. You can also follow her on Twitter @SandyMalone\_.

# NY Ink's Ami James Chats about New Season and Inking

## Your Partner's Name





By Jennifer

Harrington

The holidays are the perfect time to catch up on television shows, new and old. If you're a fan of tattoos and drama, we have good news for you! The TLC reality hit show 'NY Ink' will be kicking off Season Two on December 29. We had the opportunity to catch up with renowned artist and main character Ami James, the driving force behind the show and Soho-based tattoo shop- Wooster Street Social Club. In our chat with Ami, we discussed his inside perspective on the series, as well as current tattoo trends. Here's what the reality star had to say in the days leading up to the start of the second season of 'NY Ink'!

Related: Jon Gosselin Gets Tattoo In Honor of New Girlfriend

# Tell us about your experience so far in New York. What's been the biggest challenge?

New York has been home for me for 15 years, although I live in both Miami and New York. I'm constantly going back and forth between the two cities, so I would say the biggest challenge has been giving the Miami and New York shops equal attention, and juggling my family and personal obligations as well.

#### How does New York differ from Miami?

Miami is very laid-back, where New York is more hustle and bustle. You can really feel the energy in the air in New York. So the cities are different, and the shops in the cities are different as well. The one common thread is really the clients.

## Tattoos used to be considered pretty taboo, but it seems there has been a shift in perception. Do you agree?

The world of tattoos has really changed in the past decade, and with the television shows, tattoos have been brought into people's living rooms. The timing of the shows was right. People have learned more about tattoos, and there has been a dramatic increase in the amount of the population with tattoos.

### What's the biggest tattoo trend you are seeing right now?

There are always trends in tattoos, but thought and education are important when considering a tattoo. Be sure to think long-term and know that the tattoo will likely last a lifetime. That being said, the biggest trend I'm seeing right now is women getting tattoos on their ribs. The upside of this location is the ribs are usually covered by clothes, but the downside is this is a very painful location!

So many people ink the name of their significant other on their body. We all remember when Kasey Kahl got a tattoo to declare his love for Bachelorette Ali Fedotowsky. What do you think motivates people to do this? It's popular to get these types of tattoos, but I don't recommend it unless it's somebody you absolutely know you will love forever. I respect the freedom of choice, but I do try to give people insight that the tattoo is permanent. And I can speak from personal experience; I have a portrait tattoo of my ex-wife [Jordan]! Today, we're best friends so I can honestly say I don't regret the tattoo. I embrace it as part of my personal history.

Related: Angelina Jolie Inks New Tattoo for Brad

# For people who decide to get a tattoo with their partner's name, is there a place on the body you recommend that is best for this type of statement?

In our business, we don't typically provide recommendations as much as we advise customers of locations on the body that might not work very well. For example, some spots on the body are very painful to get a tattoo. It's all about making sure the customer is informed and making the best decision for their body.

## We all know tattoos are permanent, but sometimes relationships are not. What advice do you give to people who may have a tattoo of a former lover?

Well, we know relationships have the potential to end up as disasters. I'm thinking of Tiger Woods right now, and we all understand what it's like when a relationship ends. Personally, I have a tattoo linked to my ex-wife, but we were lucky. Although our marriage didn't last, we ended the relationship really respecting each other, so I'm okay with the tattoo. If you end up with a tattoo you don't want, you really have two options, cover it up or laser it off.

## How many tattoos do you have, and which is your favorite?

I have so many great tattoos. I especially like a tattoo I had done in Japan, because it really taught me a lot about the Japanese culture. I also really like my tattoo that is a portrait of my daughter [Shayli Haylen James].

Thanks to Ami for sharing his perspective into the world of tattoos! In case you missed season one of NY Ink, you can pick up the DVD (available on December 20) and catch up before the second season begins.

# Michelle Duggar Admits That Lots of Kids Aren't for Everyone





If you thought

reality TV's largest family couldn't get any bigger, you thought wrong. The Duggars, stars of TLC's 19 Kids and Counting are expecting another addition to their humongous

brood. Following the birth of pre-mature Josie, Michelle Duggar has been taking extreme precautions with this latest pregnancy. "I have been getting counseled from a high-risk pregnancy doctor in Little Rock and taking good care of myself," she tells <u>People</u>. Despite the media's shock , the couple is excited to welcome their 20th child. "We know that having this kids isn't for everyone, but we are open to receive whatever gifts God wants us to have." Guess we'll see how this pregnancy pans out on the next season of 19 (or 20?) Kids and Counting.

### How do you know how many kids will work best for you?

### Cupid's Advice:

It's important to discuss with your partner how many kids you're interested in having before starting a family. As your relationship progresses along with work and other things, you'll know how many children you can handle:

1. Babysit: Of course one of the best ways to see how many children you'd want to have is to babysit. Offer to help out with a friend's kids for a weekend just to get some insight into the ups and down of raising a family.

**2. Know:** Know how many kids you and your partner want before having children. Kids need constant attention, so you need to be able to provide financial and emotional support for them.

**3. Decide if you're ready:** A lot of couples plan for a specific time in their relationship to have children for different reasons. Talk to your significant other and see if you're even ready at this moment in time for kids.

How do you know how many kids will work for you? Tell us below.

# Vanessa Minnillo and Nick Lachey Get Married





When Vanessa

Minnillo and Nick Lachey tied the knot on Friday in a tropical paradise surrounded by their nearest and dearest, their guests had no idea what to expect. According to <u>People</u>, their wedding invitations came in the form of a place ticket with the only instructions being to dress "island chic." The day of the ceremony, the lucky guests were swept off to a secret island location. On July 30th, viewers everywhere will also get to witness this special ceremony at 9 p.m. ET/PT on TLC as part of the Nick & Vanessa's Dream Wedding special.

What are some creative wedding themes?

## Cupid's Advice:

Having a theme wedding is a great way to make your wedding memorable for your friends and family. If you're considering revolving your wedding around a theme, here are some fun ideas:

Holiday theme: Have your wedding on your favorite holiday.
Valentine's Day is always a popular choice, but having a St.
Patrick's Day or Christmas wedding can also be fun.

2. Fire and ice: Even the best relationship can still run hot and cold once in a while. Embrace both the fiery and icy aspects of your relationship with some great decorations. Candles and ice sculptures are a great combination.

**3. Wild Wild West:** It may not be for everyone, but if you're a honky tonk kind of couple, go for it!

Was your wedding themed? Share your experience below.

# Jon Gosselin and Kate Gosselin Agree to Share Custody of Kids for Thanksgiving





<u>RadarOnline</u> has

learned that TLC reality stars Jon Gosselin and Kate Gosselin have come to a custody agreement for their eight children this Thanksgiving. After a very public divorce, the two have decided that Kate will have the kids on Thanksgiving, while Jon and his girlfriend, Ellen Ross, will celebrate Thanksgiving with the kids on a different day. While no agreement has been set on how the divided family will spend Christmas, a similar arrangement may follow.

What are ways to make the holidays enjoyable after a divorce?

Cupid's Advice:

Dueling parents is no way to celebrate the holidays, especially with young ones around. As difficult as it may be, putting aside your differences for a few days will do everyone good in the long run:

1. Make a schedule: One of the best and easiest ways to avoid fights on the holidays is to make a schedule. One parent gets the kids one year and the other gets the kids the following year. It's not an ideal situation, but it's better than holiday drama. 2. Rotate: Split up the time by day. Perhaps one parent will always see the children on Christmas Eve while the other parent gets Christmas Day. Make it clear that Santa Claus makes exceptions and may come more than one day in their situation!

**3. Look to the future**: In a few years, the kids will be grown and what will have become your holiday routine will slowly disappear. When the kids begin to decide on their own, act like Switzerland and stay neutral on the decision making process.

# TLC's Sister Wives & Hubby Under Investigation





No matter what

your take is on TLC's reality series Sister Wives, there is no doubt that Utah's most famous polygamist family has caught America's full attention. Unfortunately, according to RadarOnline, Kody Brown and his multiple wives have also caught the attention of the feds. Though bigamy is a thirddegree felony in Utah, it's rarely investigated. But due to all of the publicity surrounding the show, a full-out police investigation on the Browns is underway. In response to potential legal action, the Brown family issued the following statement: "We are disappointed in the announcement of an investigation, but when we decided to do this show, we knew there would be risks. But for the sake of our family, and most importantly, our kids, we felt it was a risk worth taking."

What should you do if you love two people at once?

## Cupid's Advice:

Cheating is one thing, but what if you really love two people at the same time? Cupid has some things to consider:

1. Alternative lifestyles: Whether it's for religious reasons

or other moral considerations, there will always be people out there who have alternative love lives. As long as those people are happy and not hurting anyone around them, there's no reason we shouldn't accept relationships which differ from our own.

2. Making equal time: If for some reason you do end up in a consenting relationship with two or more people, the top priority must be to give equal attention to all the parties involved. If one person believes they aren't loved as much as another, it can lead to drama or depression.

**3. Multiple commitments:** If you don't believe in polygamy, but are in love with two people at the same time, it's time to start analyzing each relationship separately. Focus on factors outside of the love. With which mate are you most compatible? Which relationship can truly go the distance?