



Now Available on iTunes & Google Play





DOWNLOAD YOUR DIGITAL ISSUE

Go to the App Store and search for OK! Pakistan















CONTENTS

FEATURES

4 SOCIETY PAGES

6. SABA QAMAR

The actress extraordinaire gives insight into her life, career, and helping the industry grow with the acclaimed Kamli

14 MEL C

There's nothing this singer would like more than to be back on stage with the Spice Girls band

20 WAQAS KHAN

The NCA graduate and Akhtarabad native is an internationally acclaimed and award-winning artist

26 JOEY KING

The 22-year-old actress on Bullet Train and what it was like working with Brad Pitt

FASHIONISTA

34 EDITORIAL: HIGH VOLTAGE

42 RED CARPET

44 FASHION EDIT: BARBIE CORE

46 STYLE CRUSH: JENNIFER LOPEZ

47 MENS EDIT: PASTELS

48 JEWELLERY EDIT: PERIDOT

PIZZAZZ

LIFESTYLE

49 WHAT'S IN HER BAG?: JAVERIYA

HANIF

50 BEAUTY EDIT: INTO THE WOODS

51 BEAUTY ESSENTIALS

52 THE LIFE OF ANUSHEH ASAD

53 ENTERTAINMENT

54 OK! SPOTLIGHT: MERUB ALI

58 OK! RECIPES

62 OK! HEALTH: TROPICAL

TERRORS

64 OK! TRAVEL: BERLIN BALL

66 TRAVELLERS TALE: DUBAI





SHAMAELA H PARACHA CHAIRPERSON

SAHER H PARACHA CEO, PUBLISHER & CREATIVE DIRECTOR

EDITOR-IN-CHIEF – SARA AMIR TURAB ALI

MANAGING EDITOR – MAIRA PAGGANWALA

CONTRIBUTING FEATURES EDITOR – YUSRA ASKARI

CONTRIBUTING FASHION & BEAUTY EDITOR – ALYZEH RAHIM SHIRAZI

STYLE EDITOR – RAO ALI KHAN

LIFESTYLE EDITOR – FARAH VAYANI

FEATURES WRITER – HAIDER RIFAAT HUSSAIN

FASHION & BEAUTY WRITER – FATIMA DANISH

CREATIVE DESIGNER – ATIF MEHMOOD

DIGITAL MEDIA EXECUTIVE – MEHR KASSIM

HEAD OF MARKETING – HUNAID ALI

OK! INTERNATIONAL

OK! AUSTRALIA – SHARI NEMENTZIK

OK! BULGARIA – NEVENA DYAKOVA

OK! CHINA – FENG CHUXUAN

OK! CYPRUS – PETRA ARGYROU

OK! GEORGIA – NINCHO JIBLADZE

OK! GERMANY – TIM AFFELD

OK! GREECE – NIKOS GEORGIADIS

OK! JAPAN – KANA SUGAMORI

OK! LATVIA – LAILA PASTARE

OK! PAKISTAN – SAHER H PARACHA

OK! ROMANIA – ELENA STOICHITA

OK! RUSSIA – VADIM VERNIK

OK! THAILAND – WEERAWUT UJJUTAMANUS

OK! UNITED KINGDOM – CAROLINE WATERSTON

OK! VENEZUELA – ALEJANDRO GUTIÉRREZ TREMOLA

OK! WORLDWIDE LICENSING

HEAD OF OK! WORLDWIDE – EMMA RADFORD

OK! WORLDWIDE LICENSING MANAGER – JULIA TAYLOR

OK! WORLDWIDE LEGAL CONSULTANT – DR JOHNSON OKPALUBA

OK! Pakistan is published by Juicy Publications (PVT). LTD. Produced under licence from Reach Magazines Worldwide Limited Registered Number (6395556) – One Canada Square, Canary Wharf, London E14 5AP. "OK!" and "OK! FIRST FOR CELEBRITY NEWS" are registered trade marks of Reach Magazines Worldwide Limited. All rights reserved. Reproduction in whole or in part without written permission is strictly prohibited.

Printed by Atlas Printing Press L.L.C, Dubai



HUBLOT

Durti Johnson

BIG BANG UNICO GOLF

Texalium case. In-house UNICO movement, equipped with a unique mechanism dedicated to golf scoring.



KARACHI: G-11 Dolmen Mall Clifton T: +922135297873/4 LAHORE: 24 Pavillion Mall PC Hotel T:+924236306041 FAISALABAD: 6A-GF Lyallpur Galleria T:+92415211151 QUETTA: 6-2F Gold City Shopping Mall T:+92812826636







"I don't waste my time on negativity caused by others"

SABA QAMAR

The actress extraordinaire sits down with OK! Pakistan to give insight into her life, career, and helping the industry grow with the acclaimed film Kamli





talent powerhouse, Saba Qamar shines in every role she plays. This year, she portrayed Hina, a titular character in Sarmad Khoosat's strikingly unique project, Kamli. Throughout a long, illustrious career, Saba has played a range of characters, including that of a writer in *Digest* Writer, a manipulative sibling in Maat, a former supermodel in Besharam, a rebel in Cheekh, and essayed public figures like Noor Jehan and Qandeel Baloch in Manto and Baaghi respectively. Qamar proved her acting talent effortlessly in India, playing the female lead opposite the late Irrfan Khan in *Hindi Medium*. The role earned her popular acclaim. With a career that only keeps growing, there is no stopping Saba Qamar anytime soon. Uncover the star power of Saba in our latest cover story.

Saba, what more do you anticipate out of your career?

SABA QAMAR: To be honest, I am very happy with what I have and where I am. All I expect is consistency and positivity in all aspects of life.

It is said that an actor's life is only to a certain point. Do you see yourself acting 15 years from now?

SQ: I don't agree. Acting is forever and I see myself

acting until I say goodbye to the world, which I believe is not happening soon!

You starred in this year's acclaimed film *Kamli*. Walk us through the premise of the movie and why people should watch it?

SQ: People should watch the film to understand

44 I am proud of our industry and the way we are growing every day. 77

the meaning of how mental illness is important in all forms of life. They should also watch it because there is nothing like *Kamli* that has been made yet in Pakistan.

Why did you agree to play a character like Hina? What was so compelling about this role?

SQ: Hina is someone that everyone can relate to. It is a character that will give you goosebumps! I had never played a role like this in my life, so I

decided to go for it.

As an actor, what do you think was Sarmad Khoosat's intention behind the making of *Kamli*?

SQ: He is a maestro. He wanted to make a masterpiece and he did exactly that.

At the Lahore premiere of *Kamli*, you wore a blue outfit and the local media quickly compared you to Marilyn Monroe. Did you really pay homage to her or is the media misreporting?

 $\textbf{SQ:}\ I$ am glad they noticed something that I was actually doing. They are smart people.

Walk us through your current struggles in the industry.

SQ: There are none. I am past that stage now anyways.

What were your initial career struggles, and what did you learn from them?

SQ: There were a lot of struggles, but in the end they helped me turn into a very humble person.

What is key to surviving in an entertainment industry like Pakistan's?

SQ: Positivity and consistency. ▶









11 I see myself acting until I say goodbye to the world. 77

Many actors try to justify nepotism, claiming that it is rampant in other fields as well. However, they choose to turn a blind eye to the entertainment industry, where the majority of actors land roles because they have strong family ties. What are your thoughts on nepotism that grants easy access to select people in our show business?

SQ: Everyone has their own set of struggles in getting recognition and fame. Nepotism only helps to some extent. The rest is all your talent.

Having also worked in Bollywood, do you find any similarities and/or differences working in India compared to Pakistan?

SQ: There is a huge difference because India's industry is huge compared to ours. There is more professionalism in Bollywood, and that is what we have to learn as an industry.

Do you think Pakistan's entertainment industry has an identity, or are we in the process of building it?

SO: We do have an identity. Our dramas have a huge fan base, and unfortunately Indian television cannot even come close to the content of our dramas. I am proud of our industry and the way we are growing every day.

To follow up, most of our drama themes hold men in powerful positions and women are often subjugated in the process. How can our television content become more gender-

SQ: That can only happen if we start rejecting scripts that are centered on gender discrimination and show women as frail in front of men. If we take a stand and encourage gender neutral scripts, that is when our content will improve.

Do you feel that producers have to compromise on quality content for the sake of TRPs?

SO: Yes, to some extent that is true, but producers always bear the responsibility of the content that is aired on television.

How are you different as a person now than you were five or ten years ago?

SQ: I have become very content and peaceful. I don't let negativity affect me because I have learned to live with my positive vibes. I don't waste my time on negativity caused by others.

What makes you special?

SQ: I will leave that on my fans to decide but I like my positive energy, and the act of letting go that I have learned from my personal life experiences.

To conclude, how do you want people to remember vou?

SQ: As a thorough professional. There is no one like Saba Qamar. 📉

> INTERVIEW: HAIDER RIFAAT STYLING: 9SOLUTIONS & RAO ALI KHAN JEWELLERY: ROUGE BY ROOJ AMIR PHOTOGRAPHS: MHM





"COUNT ME IN FOR A SPICE GIRLS REUNION!"

It's been over 25 years since Mel C and her fellow Spice Girls first wowed the world with their chart-topping debut Wannabe and legendary Girl Power mantra. They still share a strong sisterhood bond and there's nothing Melanie Chisholm would like more than to be back on stage with the Spice Girls band



he years that followed the inception of Spice Girls saw Melanie Chisholm and her bandmates – Melanie Brown, Emma Bunton, Geri Halliwell (now Horner) and Victoria Adams (now Beckham) – play a major part in the Cool Britannia era and become some of the 90s' most popular showbiz icons.

In 1998 however, the girls began making moves towards their solo careers — with Mel among those releasing her own music — before calling it quits for good in 2000.

But now, Mel tells us she's been "manifesting" the day they can announce the band are officially getting back together – with Victoria included!

"You've got to manifest these things!" the 48-year-old laughs. "I've taken a leaf out of Mel B's book — she always said, 'It'll happen, we just need to manifest it,' so that's what I've been trying to do."

Reminiscing on performing her solo set at Glastonbury last month – which included Spice Girls' smash hits *Spice Up Your Life* and *2 Become 1* – Mel believes now is the perfect time to reunite, teasing a potential festival headline act for 2023. "I was down in those fields in the midst of those magical festival feelings and I just thought, we need to make this happen. I'd love to be back on that stage with the girls, it would be incredible!" she says. "And we know it's what the fans desperately want. You can count me in, but I think others might need a bit more convincing!"

The band delighted fans when they set out on a UK reunion tour back in 2019. But at the time, Victoria explained she wouldn't be involved as her priorities had changed since having children. "I'd rather concentrate on my family and my company," she said. "I'm 45 now and very happy to be the woman I am."

Now Mel is hoping she may have had a change of heart, admitting, "There's nothing we'd love more than to get Victoria back."

Spice Girls fans are bound to be feeling the excitement after the group's official Twitter account posted a tweet with the hashtag #Spiceworld25, hinting at an announcement marking the special anniversary of the band's Spice World album and movie.

Unable to give too much away just yet, Mel appeared to hint at a potential sequel to their

"The Spice Girls isn't just a girl band. There's a huge Spice family."

on-screen success. "Obviously, we've got the anniversary of the song and film, so let's just say we've been in talks with Universal, the label that produced our first film..."

She adds, "I don't want to get into trouble for spilling the beans on a big secret! But there will be big celebrations in the coming months, I can

tell you that."

Though they may not perform together any more, Mel insists that the Spice Girls' sisterhood bond is as strong as ever.

"We're one big dysfunctional family!" she jokes. "Our relationship extends beyond the five of us because our parents are friends and our siblings are friends."

She continues, with a smile on her face, "The Spice Girls isn't just a girl band. There's a huge Spice family. And what's lovely is, everybody has their own lives and careers and responsibilities, but we're always there for one another. We still have that sister bond. That will never ever go away"

Mel – who shares her 13-year-old daughter Scarlet with ex-partner of 10 years Thomas Starr – also revealed that their youngsters are close friends. "A lot of our children are the same-ish age now, so they're all friends, too – it's amazing. I hope they end up as close as we are."

Mel — who currently shares her time between London, Liverpool and LA with music executive boyfriend of seven years Joe Marshall — tells us that she's always loved balancing being a fultime mum to Scarlet and continuing her career in the music industry. She adds that she found returning to the stage following the pandemic gave her that long-anticipated adrenaline rush.

"This year, being able to perform live in front of enormous crowds has been an absolute dream. It's a joy to see the looks on people's faces when they're singing along to your songs and experiencing that freedom at the same time."

The singer released her eighth solo studio album, Melanie C, in 2020 after being inspired by the Spice World 2019 Tour, just a month prior to the ►





"This year, being able to perform live in front of enormous crowds has been an absolute dream."

winter lockdown.

She adds, "It felt strange to perform my songs live at first, and almost not allowed, but I'm so lucky that I get to do this job every day because you can see it making a difference to people's happiness. To feel that energy bounce off other people again was fabulous.

"I did all the promotion for that album on Zoom from my living room couch, so this year has been like playing catch-up on everything we missed. To be out performing those songs now is amazing."

Having conquered the music world, Mel now hopes to turn her attention back to the world of theatre, with leading West End roles in *Blood Brothers* and *Jesus Chris Superstar* already on her CV.

"The great thing about theatre is that it continues to evolve," she explains. "There's the old classics we'll never tire of, as well as so many new ones. I've been lucky enough to master the West End, so now I'd love to move on to Broadway!

"That's definitely a bucket list thing for me—I wouldn't know what the perfect role for me would be yet. *Chicago* is a classic, so imagine playing Roxie Hart on Broadway! But who knows? I'm open to ideas. Bring on New York!" Speaking of bucket lists, in true Sporty Spice style, Melanie also says she's hoping to see the Lionesses make it to the finals of the Women's Furos

"I couldn't be happier to see that women's football is on the rise," she says. "I'm over the moon to see that young girls are viewing sport as a real career path now. It's no longer just a boys' game. I'd love to see the Lionesses in action. They've really inspired both me and my daughter."

Mel, who is ambassador of travel site Booking. com, the official sponsor of the Euros, adds, "I'm loving combining my passion for sport and my appreciation for travel in this role. I've been lucky enough to travel the world with my job and meet some incredible people, including sports stars, so this does feel like the perfect position for me. Come on, you Lionesses!"



"MY WORK HAS CHANGED ME" WAQAS IXIAN

A 2008 graduate in Printmaking from the National College of Arts, and an Akhtarabad native who today calls Lahore home, Waqas Khan is an internationally-acclaimed and award-winning artist





aqas Khan is a rising star. Taking inspiration from various elements, from architecture and miniatures to weaving, painting and dance, the 1982 born father of two expresses himself through multiple

mediums, including drawing and installation. His signature large scale minimalist drawings employ small dashes and minuscule dots that evolve into compositions of large entanglements resembling webs and celestial expanses that seem to extend into infinity, and have won him much praise from New York to New Delhi.

Speaking exclusively to OK! Pakistan, Waqas talks candidly about himself – the individual and the artist.

Tell us about yourself — your family, your friends, as well as your years at school and college.

WAQAS KHAN: I belong to a humble family from Akhtarabad in Okara. My father initially worked at a small bank. Following its closure, he chose to revert to his roots and took over the reins of my grandfather's agricultural trade business. I feel, it is then that things for us as a family began to settle, so to say. My mother was a Mathematics teacher, a subject that she taught at the local government girl's high school of our town, all her life.

I was a student at Government High School for boys, Akhtarabad and went on to become the first member of my family who bid adieu to our hometown in pursuit of higher education in the city, which my mother was very keen on.

What made you realise that art is what you wanted to pursue as a passion, one that went on to become a profession?

WK: My connection with art was purely by chance. I was a student of Government Islamia College Civil Lines. One day, while sitting in the cafeteria, a gentleman whose friend worked at the cafeteria

"I really love hearing people refer to me as an artist."

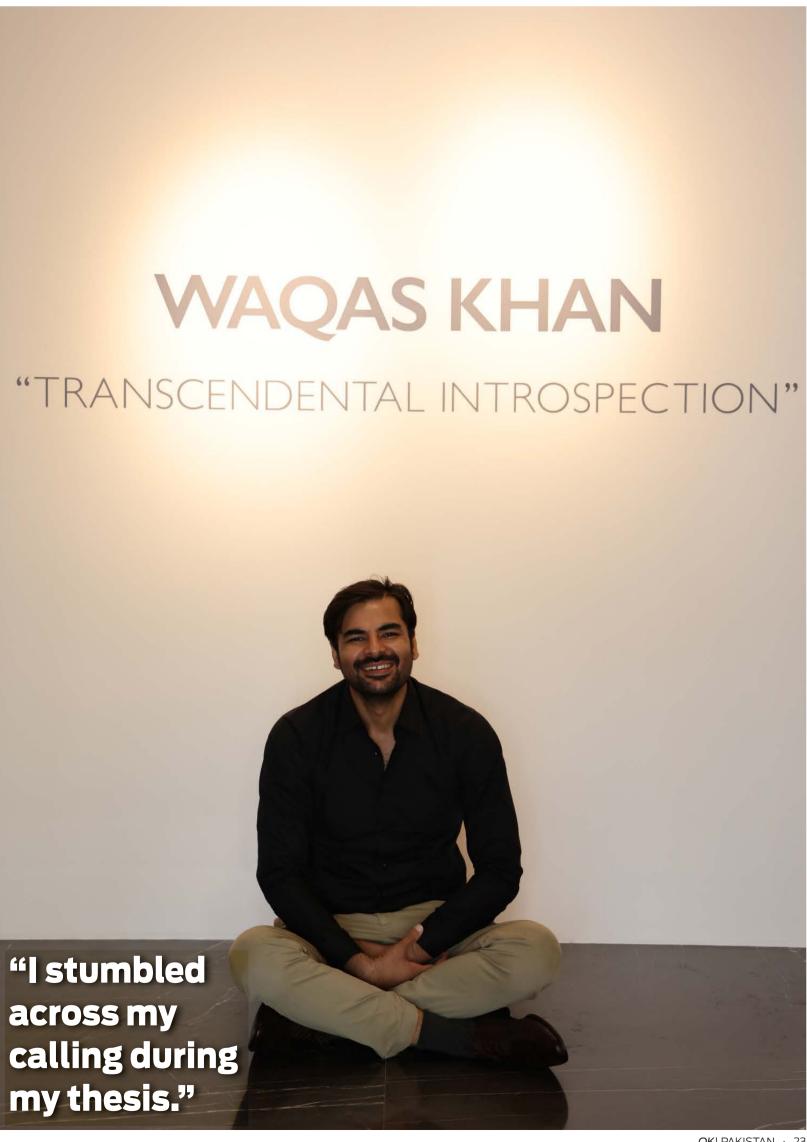
of the National College of Arts, said to me: "Khan sahib, let me show you a college - you will like it". I was game, but I had no idea what I was in for. He took me to NCA from the functional back gate and for me it was an absolute cultural-shock. I wondered to myself, where have I arrived? But when I walked into a studio space in the sculpture department, I said to myself, one day I will attend school here, that's it. I am unable to explain, what it was – was it passion, or maybe a divine call that I ended up being at the right place at the right time.

What in your view has and continues to shape your creative sensibilities?

WK: I come from a background where the idea, the concept of collectiveness is very visible. People are very connected, they have this understanding of helping one another, for being there for each other. With regard to my creative process, I don't want to confine my practice, sensibilities or my views in a box. As an artist, I try to connect with the masses in a way that each individual understands my work based on their own perception. Through my work, I attempt to make a connection sans knowing my backstory. If you look at the works of contemporary artists very closely, you will find a certain narrative which is based on their politics or something which really affects them. I really want to create a dialogue which is open, which is beyond those boundaries, basically - an understanding, a knowing of being connected with each other.

Your large scale minimalist drawings resemble webs and celestial expanses. The contemplation leaving a visible evidence on paper is the crux of the work. What, in your view, powers your artistic narrative?

WK: For me, these drawings, this expression is like writing every day. As human-beings, we are emotionally not static, so as far as I am concerned, my work is an expression of a time and a space in my life. When an individual views my work, he or she is not looking at a just a piece but taking in a moment of my journey. My narrative is very open, it's debatable in a way that I do not want to >



confine myself within boundaries of belonging. Being an artist, I want to come up with an idea, a source that inspires people to question. These drawings are simple doodles which everyone has done as a child. I continue to do them as the little child in me is still very much alive.

Your work 'draws from a myriad of sources and takes a diversity of forms' — as an artist, how would you define your style?

WK: Initially, I was labelled a miniature artist, then my practice was described as abstract. Trust me, I am learning – personally, I can't put a name to my style. Of course, there is a connection with the labour intensive techniques and styles which have been native to the region for centuries, and a connection with this land.

For you as an artist, is working with different mediums similar in terms of sensibilities or is each a different animal with a language of its own?

WK: In my practice, thus far, I have only explored two to three mediums. There is so much exploration going on with just these. I have enjoyed the challenges of the medium I have worked with and I am very successful now.

As an artist you split time between urban Lahore and the rural setting of your native village — visà-vis your work, does this practice enable you to combine the best of both worlds?

WK: My father passed away on the 18th of May 2021. Prior to that, I would return to the village every two weeks but now I visit home more and more often. I split my week between Akhtarabad and Lahore, as after my father, I have responsibilities towards his business and towards the community he used to fulfil. I also have a studio space in Akhtarabad, so my work accompanies me. But for the larger works, I have to be in Lahore.

Tell us about your body of work for HBL – how did this project come about and what does it mean for you as an artist and an individual?

WK: The project was conceived in 2018 and is the brainchild of Mr. Sultan Allana and his team. The bank had acquired a new building in Karachi for which they were in the process of acquiring and commissioning works to create a permanent exhibit. When they approached me, I suggested a collaborative exhibit as I hadn't showcased my work in Pakistan for many, many years and they very kindly agreed. For me as an artist, this was a challenging project because I was exhibiting in my home country after a very long time and I had to curate the works so that they became part of the space they were intended for.

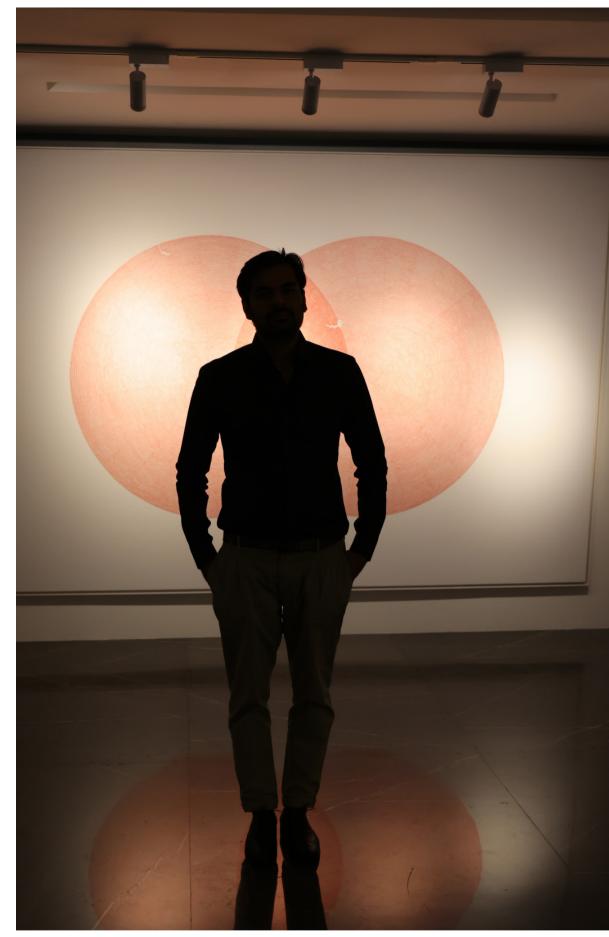
Looking ahead, do you intend on more such large works in public spaces?

WK: Of course! Now that I have discovered the medium of canvas, working with size isn't an issue, there is no looking back. Lots more to come.

Thus far, what has been the greatest high and the biggest challenge of your career?

WK: For me as an artist, the biggest challenge was transitioning paper to canvas as a medium. That time was a big war of self as I had to undo the limitations I had boxed myself into. Moving on to the next stage was very difficult.

As an individual, the challenges I encounter aren't very different from those faced by others, but you have to survive. One day can be good and the next day not so much, but you have to keep thanking



God, hold your head high and move on.

How, as an artist and as an individual, have you changed over the years?

WK: Indeed, I have. I never ever thought of becoming an artist. Even as a student at NCA, my life was totally different. I was never really the best of students, I stumbled across my calling during my thesis and that was it. Before that I had no clue I was going to be an artist. I was a completely different person. My work has changed me – the idea of community, a sense of my surroundings, falling in love, getting married, everything happened after this realisation. I still have that wild animal inside me which is now tamed but today, I am a different man.

Both as an individual and as an artist: 1) what motivates you to push and raise the bar, 2) what inspires you, 3) what is your motto, 4) your comfort zone, 5) your getaway?

WK: My surroundings are undoubtedly my inspiration — I love, love green spaces, which is where I believe I belong. Also, architecture is in my blood. Personally, I keep striving to raise the bar — it is very important to keep challenging myself in a bid to learn, not to surprise but share with others.

Your favourite artist/artists and why?

WK: I do not have a big list because I don't know that much yet. But I do have a few names, a short list of artists whose works I have been very, very lucky to see and experience. Artist par excellence,



Mark Rothko whose work I first saw at the Tate — you need to do no more than just sit and take it all in. And of course, artists Anwar Saeed and Afshar Malik — my teachers at NCA who pushed me to be who I am as the artist I am today.

I am also very inclined towards architecture, I enjoy spaces very much. In my view, architects are also artists. Like the incredible Dutch architect, Rem Koolhaas – I love his work. Locally, Raza Ali Dada, the sensibility of whose drawings I really enjoy. Architect Saifullah Siddiqui from Islamabad is phenomenal.

Had you not been an artist, what alternatively might have been your calling?

WK: Becoming an artist is something I had never really envisaged. Had I not been an artist, I am not really sure what profession might have been my calling, but whatever I would have chosen to do, I would very definitely have been in the quest to surprise. After my father's passing, my foray into framing wasn't part of the plan either, but I am doing it with passion. I am using 12 years of experience as an artist to activate, to experiment — I am looking to do things differently. I could have anything but really love hearing people refer to me as an artist and I cannot believe it.

Five years from now, where do you see Waqas Khan?

WK: I really, really want to pursue my mother's dream of supporting girl's education in rural areas – to draw in more support in a bid to create a community to rally for the cause.

Your wife Bushra is a celebrated artist in her own right — does that translate into you bouncing creative ideas off one another or are your professional spaces solely your own?

WK: We are both printmakers who, for the last seven years, have been witnessing up close

the trajectories of each other's personal and professional lives, so processes and sometimes even outcomes are, of course, connected at some point. As artists, both Bushra's and my work is very labour intensive but our perception of things is very different and that is the beauty of it. As far as mine and Bushra's practices are concerned, these are like super energies happening in the same house. Bushra's studio is downstairs and mine is upstairs. When we are in the throes of our creative process, we sleep different hours of the clock so we don't intermingle our practices. But of course we live in the same home and share so much in our lives that

"I want to come up with an idea, a source that inspires people to question."

we are always talking about how things are coming along – we are each other's most vocal critics and advocates at the same time.

Are your sons artistically inclined?

WK: Our elder son, Abdul Aziz has turned six this year and has been part of our travels and artistic sojourns since he was a baby. From the age of five months, he

has visited different exhibition spaces, galleries, and museums. Though as he grows older he does get bored, we know that he has a creative soul in him and he thinks out of the box. Momin, our little one, has not been able to travel as much due to Covid but he does spend time in both Bushra's studio and mine. With his mother he mimics her style with a blunt scissor and when with me enjoys making repetitive dots, lines and circles on paper with a marker. The arts are very evidently part of their everyday life and so far they both seem to enjoy it.

Tell us about Nathuu — the idea behind the project and what it hopes to attain? Also, what does Nathuu mean?

WK: A non-for-profit social project, Nathuu nurtures a community of young artists irrespective of their location, culture or background, both socially and creatively by giving them a platform to narrate their diverse journeys through creative expression. We believe in helping the youngest of artists among us fulfil their potential by curating educational art workshops in alliance with schools and organisations working for the benefit of children. All proceeds from our products go back to the community where these artists are based. Through this social platform we want to disrupt conventional ways of teaching art and create a culture of thought sharing and freedom of expression for the next generation of artists.

What's next for Waqas Khan?

WK: With the limbo of the pandemic behind us hopefully, workwise there is a lot in the pipeline. Lots of international showings which I am looking forward to – my works will be on display in New York, Miami and Paris over the next few months. Exciting times ahead, stay tuned.

INTERVIEW: YUSRA ASKARI PHOTOGRAPHS: JAFFER HASAN



"I'VE ALWAYS HAD A BIT OF AN ACTION STAR IN MY BONES"

JOEY KING

The 22-year-old actress on entering new screen terrain with action thriller *Bullet Train*, and what it was like working with Brad Pitt



oey King has been destined for stardom ever since she appeared in a Life Cereal TV ad at age 4. Ever since she's been studiously climbing the Hollywood ladder and endearing herself to audiences over the last few years as Elle Evans in the three instalments of The Kissing Booth film franchise. She's also demonstrated her dramatic chops in the taut Hulu 2019 crime drama miniseries, *The Act*, in which she played a teen murderer.

Now the 22-year-old actress is entering new screen terrain as 'Prince', one of five assassins who wreak havoc in Bullet Train, a wild action thriller starring Brad Pitt that opened in UK theatres on August 3rd. The film is directed by David Leitch, the former stunt coordinator who has emerged as Hollywood's top action film director.

King admitted to feeling like a "fish out of water" working on a big budget action movie requiring a lot of stunt work and action choreography. But both David Leitch and Brad Pitt had her back.

"I've been acting for a long time, but I had a zoom-out Hollywood moment of 'Wow, this is insane. I'm in an action film directed by David Leitch, the king of stunt work and action, with Brad Pitt," King said. "I felt like this was my first day at school when I was with such heavy hitters...But he and Brad were so supportive. Everyone was like, 'No, it's not your first day at school. You're gonna do great,' and I was like, 'Aw, thanks guys.'...I cannot wait to see this movie because from the stuff we filmed and from the stuff I saw, it is just so cool. It is so ridiculously cool."

Added King: "I love my character, Prince. She's so crazy. I learned a lot about guns and just being a super cool assassin lady. I've always had a bit of an action star in my bones."

Joey King lives in Los Angeles. In February she announced that she was engaged to be married to Steven Piet, 30, whom she has been dating for three years after meeting him on the set of the Hulu crime series, *The Act*, which Piet directed and produced and where she played the lead role.

How would you describe your wild character

" It's always exciting to play the villain!"

Prince?

JOEY KING: Playing the Prince was quite the journey, I absolutely loved playing her, she was psycho, evil...She's kind of a bitch. I think it's always fun to play the villain and it's a really good time to slip into a character that's so unlike yourself. And also play off these amazing actors that were in the cast - they're so funny and they elevate every scene.

Bullet Train takes audiences on this fun, wicked ride. What kind of experience was it for you while making the film and getting to play such an over-the-top kind of character?

JK: It was extremely enjoyable for me because

I was playing a villain. That is so much fun. To be able to play a heightened version of yourself and just go for it — this movie was one of the more enjoyable films I've ever made.

How did you approach playing Prince?

JK: My character is so evil and sleuthy and conniving and innocent and all these things. But I also had a lot of fun finding the humour in her, building her, and doing dialect training for her and learning a bit of a new language for her. So there were a lot of cool things that went into getting to play her.

What was the atmosphere like on set?

JK: It was very loose and also the kind of place where you looked forward to coming to the set every morning...I was excited to discover the spontaneity of what Prince would become with this cool cast.

The best part was when I had finished putting together all the different elements to Prince so that when all those things were in place I got to come on set and be with the coolest group of people and find her essence in relation to the other actors and their characters.

Everyone will also want to know how you felt about working with Brad Pitt and what he was like on set?

JK: Brad's amazing - he's great - and he's absolutely hysterical in this film... He was also so supportive of me while we were working on the film and giving me a lot of advice, mainly about life in general and the kinds of things you have to deal with as your career progresses. That meant a lot to me. He's just a very generous human being and so wonderful to





"Brad Pitt was so supportive of me while we were working on the film!"

be around.

And how was it working with the director David Leitch?

JK: I was nervous at first because I had never done this kind of stunt work before and David is one of Hollywood's masters in this field. But right from the beginning he made me feel very comfortable...He's such a gentle and considerate man and I learned so much from being a part of this film.

And how did it turn out for you while shooting this daring kind of action film?

JK: Honestly the shooting was, for the most part, smooth sailing and one of the easiest shoots I've ever done mainly because of the people I was working with.

But the biggest challenge was that we were filming at the beginning of COVID before there was a vaccine. So it was kind of isolating and weird being in the middle of this pandemic while all of this was happening and testing every day, masks, gloves, smocks....

But somehow it created a familial environment and I really loved these people I got to work with

As much as you loved playing a villain like Prince, were there any aspects about her that were hard for you to adjust to?

JK: There was one moment where I felt like I wanted to be playing someone else. There was this time when there was a re-write in my trailer one day and I looked at it and it was a monologue and it was a scene where there were potentially a couple of lines in the monologue which were not only new but in a different language.

So I texted David and asked him whether the monologue is supposed to be in English or in another language. And he replied: "The other language would be cool."

I was like, "Cool. It's in ten days? I don't know this language and at that moment I was thinking I had to learn this really quickly and I really didn't want to be my character for that scene!

You've been on a whirlwind press tour of Europe with stops in London, Paris, and Berlin. What's that experience been like for you?

JK: It's been so exciting... It's been pretty crazy and wild to hear people chant my name...I'm trying to take it all in.

The above comments by Joey King were made on July 19th in Berlin where she was promoting her new film, Bullet Train as part of a European press tour. Her comments have been condensed and edited for length and clarity.

INTERVIEW: JAN JANSSEN (WENN.COM) PHOTOGRAPHS: W ENN, SHUTTERSTOCK



MORE INSIGHTS LESS CATFIGHTS MORE GLAMOUR LESS DRAMA





ON SALE EVERY MONTH

For advertising enquiries please email: ads@okmagazine.com.pk







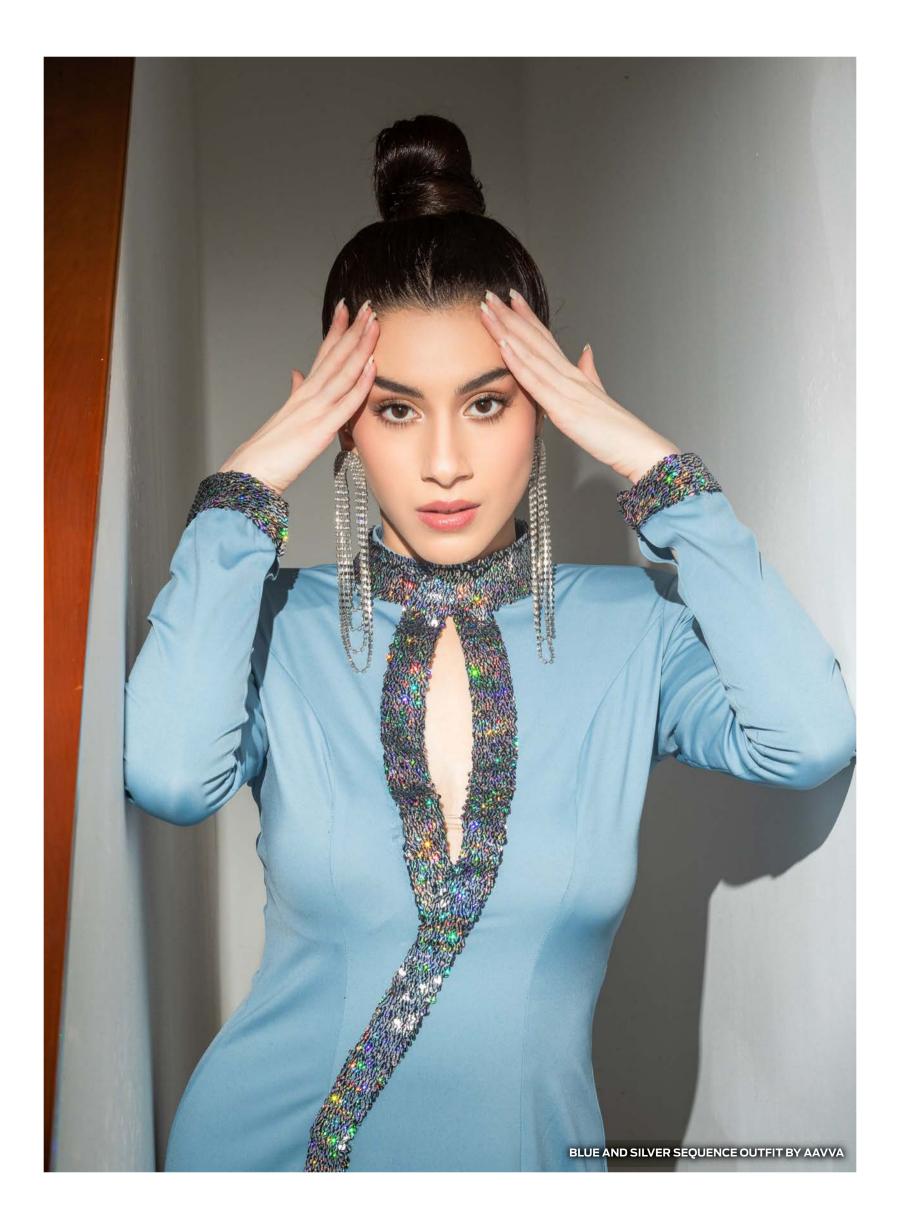


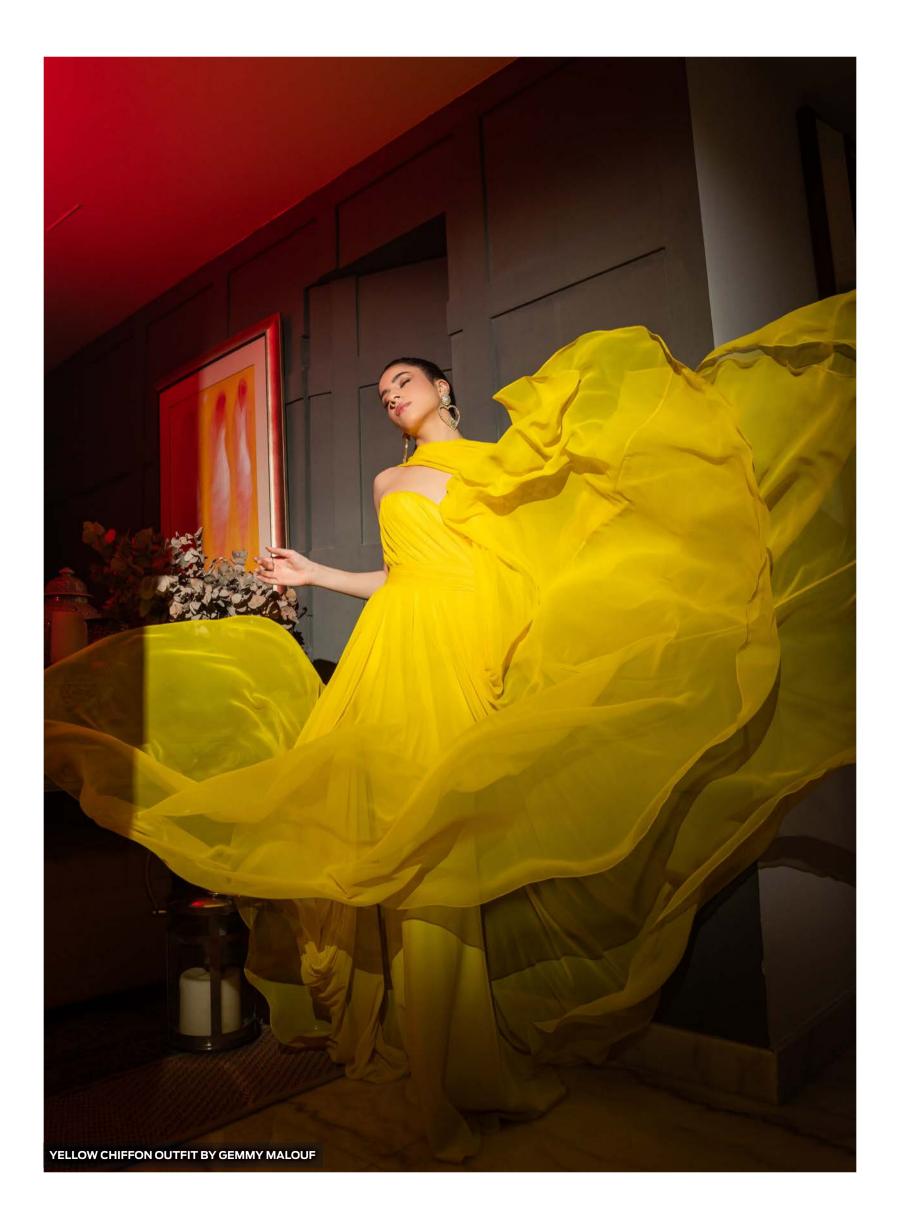
HIGH VOLTAGE

With the world coming out of lockdown, we're now looking forward to giving our loungewear a rest. We're embracing color, texture and looks that wow! The glam quotient is on a rise and we can't wait to partake.















OK! Red CARPET



ROCKSTARS







OK! Fashion EDIT











CHRISTIAN DIOR Cat-Eye Sunglasses, PKR 90 000

BARBIECO

The internet is abuzz with this hue and after Valentino's all pink haute couture show, it's no doubt that fall's It colour will be pink. With the new Barbie movie releasing soon, donning pink is now known as Barbiecore.





STOCKISTS: BALENCIAGA www.balenciaga.com; COS www.cos.com; CRYSTAL HAZE www.crystalhazejewelry.com; CULT GAIA, JACQUEMUS, STAUD, SCHUTZ www.shopbop.com; CHRISTIAN DIOR www.dior.com; GAUGE81, PETIT KOURAJ, THE FRANKIE SHOP, THIRD FORM www.modaoperandi.com; H&M www.hm.com; ISABEL MARANT, PIFERI, STERLING KING www.farfetch.com; MANGO www.mango.com; OUTFITTERS www.outfitters.com.pk; REMAIN BIRGER CHRISTENSEN, VALENTINO www.netaporter.com; RIVER ISLAND www.riverisland.com; ZARA www.zara.com; prices are approximately

OK! Style CRUSH





JENNIFER LOPEZ

Jennifer Lopez has been on everyone's radar since her first ever song release, even more so now with her fantastic day-to-day style, and of course the rekindling of her love with Ben Affleck. Here's how to get her look:



 ${\tt STOCKISTS: DIOR\ www.dior.com, CELINE\ www.netaporter.com, JOHN\ LEWIS;\ \it prices\ are\ approximate}$



PASTELS

Ryan Gosling is a ray of sunshine in these pastel hues & we think you can be too!



STOCKISTS: CLUB MONACO www.clubmonaco.com; G/FORE, OFFICINE CREATIVE www.mrporter.com; H&M www.hm.com; MANGO www.mango.com; MANOLO BLAHNIK www.mangoloblahnik.com; $MOSCHINO, POLO\,RALPH\,LAUREN\,www.fraffetch.com;\,OUTFITTERS\,www.outfitters.com,pk;\,PRADA\,www.prada.com;\,RIVER\,ISLAND\,www.riverisland.com;\,TOM\,FORD\,www.tomford.com;\,ZARA\,www.zara.com;$



STOCKISTS: BOODLES www.boodles.com; BVLGARI www.bvlgari.com; CHANEL www.chanel.com; GUCCI www.gucci.com; HEMMERLE www.hemmerle.com; KIKI MCDONOUGH www.kiki.co.uk; MARGOT MCKINNEY www.margotmckinney.com; MIRARI www.mirari.com; MISAHARA www.misahara.com; VERDURA www.verdura.com.



What's IN HER BAG?

From fronting Sana Safinaz and Misha Lakhani, there is no campaign you haven't seen her in. Here's what you'll find in Javeriya Hanif's bag!



Neutrogena wet wipes these are especially handy on location for shoots

GUCCI

Neutrogena^a Hydro Boost



pandemic

- this has been a go to even pre-



great

ABSORBS OIL AT THE ROO INSTANT PURITY & FRESHNE

40Z-115g

Neutrogena sunscreen in Ultra Sheer - this is the number one beauty essential



Bandages - always prepared K



Mac lipstick in Flat Out

Mask - a

staple of life now









BEAUTY Esentials



CHEEK TO CHIC

Laura Mercier's Tinted Moisturiser Blush, PKR 6,400, is the easiest way to fake a flawless flush this summer. Like its name suggests, it's a creamy skincare/make-up hybrid that blends effortlessly onto cheeks for a look that definitely says "freshfaced and youthful" rather than "spent a tad too long sitting in the sun". Find it in 14 adaptive colours, with sunny shade names like Parasol and French Riviera.



SUPERMARKET SWEEP

The Marks & Spencer beauty halls are still a bit of a hidden treasure trove, packed with top brands and fab finds that you may not expect. One such gem is M&S's own skincare line Formula, which has been quietly racking up five-star reviews for years – and which has now been reformulated to work even better. Hero products to look out for on your next shopping trip include Sleep & Replenish Ultimate Sleep Cream, PKR 5,800, Restore & Nourish Skin-Perfecting Face Oil, 5,500, and Prevent & Brighten Multi-Action Retinoid Serum, PKR 7,000.



LIGHT FANTASTIC

Narciso Rodriguez's scents are famous for their powdery heart notes, which are nuzzly rather than "nana" on the muskiness scale. Narciso Eau de Parfum Cristal, PKR 23,000, is the sparkling new summer addition to the fragrance family, bursting with bergamot, rose and white flowers before settling into that familiar musk. A sprightly snuggle in a bottle, if you will.



prices are approximate

OK! PAKISTAN · 51

THE LIFE OF ANUSHEH ASAD

Not just a regular socialite - Anusheh Asad is the epitome of how to take it up a notch. She has ventured into writing, modelling and acting, in addition to being L'Oréal Pakistan's first brand ambassador



Signature scent?
Flowerbomb
Nectar by Viktor &
Rolf

Favourite designer/s?

I'm not a big designer person. I wear what I love whether it's designer wear or not.

Guilty pleasure? Coca-Cola.

What's your instant mood lifter?

Counting my blessings has been an instant mood lifter for me whenever I've felt a bit down. The Almighty blesses us infinitely, and a quick reminder helps me in changing my mental state.



Three things you can't live vwithout?

My chaostick, iced

My chapstick, iced coffee, natural light.



Most exciting celebrity

celebrity Nebahat Çehre (of Ishq e Mamnu and Mera Sultan). She gave me so much time and importance, and I felt over the moon meeting her.



ANIMAL

Kingdom.

Getting in

Last show you

binge watched?The latest
season of *Animal*

shape or couch potato?
Getting in shape.

All time favourite film?Shutter Island.



Ideal weekend? Chilling with my husband and kids.



Current song on repeat?
Peru by Fireboy and Ed Sheeran.



Last thing you splurged on? Clothes!

First thing you'll do post the pandemic? Take off my mask! **Favourite restaurant?** I'm a foodie and consider

myself to be a bit of a connoisseur so I have a long list of favourite restaurants.
For now I guess I'd say Zuma.

ENTERTAINMENT

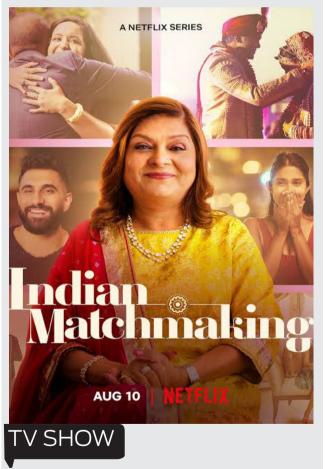


his film is based in the 1950s and tells the story of a widowed cleaning lady based in London who falls in love with a Dior dress and spends all her savings on a trip to Paris to buy herself her dream dress. The film depicts how Mrs. Harris goes through a complete transformation upon her visit to France in addition to a transformation of the House of Dior. With a 94% rating on Rotten Tomatoes, the film is definitely worth watching.



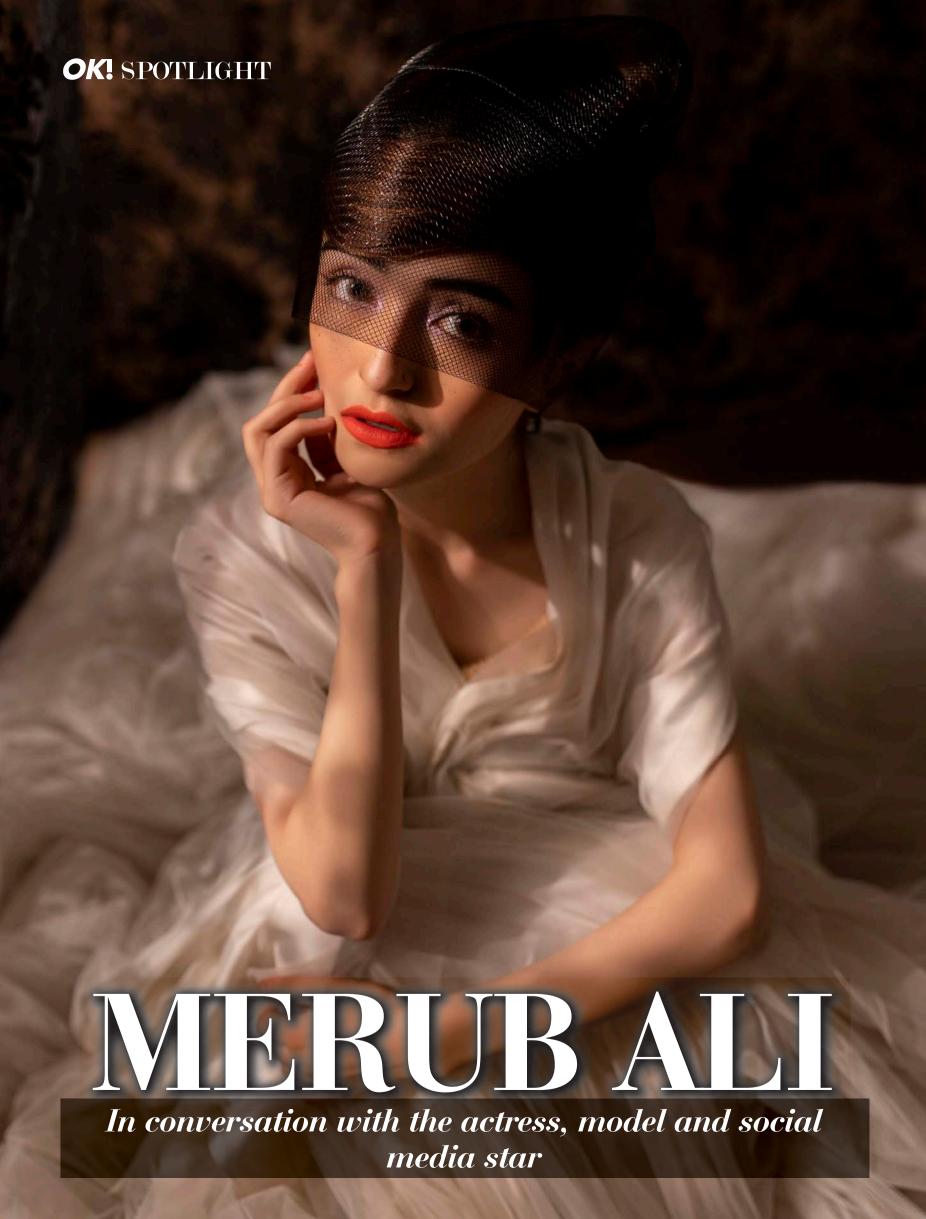
THE LAST WHITE MAN BY MOHSIN HAMID

ohsin Hamid's latest book, despite being just recently published, is already on everyone's reading list. While the book is fiction, it's one that tugs at its readers, truly making them think. The story revolves around individuals waking up to discover that they are no longer their original skin tone and instead have darkened. Hamid's newest literary work has already been referred to as the the best book of the summer by Elle, TIME, Entertainment Weekly, USA Today, and more.



INDIAN MATCHMAKING

eason two of this highly talking about reality show is back, and we're excited! South Asia's most renowned match maker will make you laugh out loud, cringe, and keep you extremely entertained throughout as she makes matches between potential couples in the United States and India.





erub Ali is a 20-year-old actress and model from Lahore. She recently debuted in the TV series Sinf-e-Aahan, which gave her instant recognition. Here she talks to OK! Pakistan about challenges, the changing entertainment industry, success, and so much more.

Who is Merub Ali?

Merub Ali: She is just a 20-year-old girl trying to find her way through life and living her life.

Can you describe what influenced you to pursue a career as an actor?

MA: Nothing really influenced me - there was no life-changing moment that made me become an actor. I really liked acting from the beginning so when I got an opportunity, I took it.

What do you think can make a role challenging?

MA: If the role isn't that challenging then you, the director, and your on-screen actor have to understand the script better. Only if it's not properly understood, can a role be difficult. Once the script is properly understood, the role becomes much easier.

How would you approach a scene if you don't get along with your co-actor?

MA: I think it's the art of acting - you can't let your viewers know that you don't get along with your on-screen partner. That being said, I do think that it is also very important that you have good chemistry off-screen in order to show it on-screen.

Which styles of acting do you think you're most suited for?

MA: I haven't tried much but I would really like to go for a fun character who is really funny and happy. I just want to be myself when playing the character.

What do you think makes a performance most believable?

MA:The most believable performances are those that you do from your heart. Make yourself believe you're the character when you walk on set and

to some people easily and some work really hard but don't get that success. **J**

when you're in front of the camera. I really want to learn how to do that - by observing other people and maybe picking up some of their habits, like how they talk, etc. - so I can really fit into the character that I play.

What do you believe is the most challenging aspect of being an actor?

MA: For me it would honestly be the call times. I will be super honest -waking up at 9:00 am or 10:00

am for a shoot and then coming back at 11:00 pm or sometimes 12:00 am is really challenging for me.

What has been you most memorable project and why?

MA: Sinf-e-Aahan taught me so much. I had the opportunity to work with some of the biggest stars of Pakistan. It was amazing and I will always remember it.

What would be the one thing you could change about your work?

MA: Again, the call times - I just don't want to wake up at 8:00 or 9:00 am. It's fun sometimes but sometimes you just get really tired.

Do you think success is easy to achieve, or is it not meant for everybody?

MA: Success is honestly very easy to achieve, but difficult to maintain. Success comes to some people easily and some work really hard but don't get that success. It totally depends on the hard work you put in and also the luck that you have.

How do you react when you receive a negative review about a performance?

MA: I am all up for negative reviews and I don't mind people giving their honest feedback. I just don't like destructive criticism and I prefer a constructive one. If I were to receive constructive criticism, I would love to work on whatever fixes it and improve my performance. I am open to that.

If you weren't an actor, what would you be up to right now?

MA: I would be a lawyer or a doctor.



receive constructive criticism, I would love to work on whatever fixes it and improve my performance. I am open to that. 77

How do your friends treat you after you became a celebrity?

MA: Not much has changed as I've had the same couple of friends from five years. They are really proud of me but they really haven't started treating me any different and I'm glad for that.

How do you manage your personal and professional life?

MA: I manage both really well. When I am back from work I like to spend time with my family and friends. Sometimes it's hard to keep a balance but those are just some days, and the rest of the days go really well. I am good at spending time with my family and also going to work, and my family is very supportive.

The entertainment industry is changing rapidly. Where do you see yourself in the next five years?

MA: I really don't like to plan for the future. I like to go with the flow. Like you said, it's changing - if I plan now and things change in another five years, nothing will go according to my plan - so I'd prefer to go with the flow and I'm glad the industry is changing.

Anything in the works that you can talk about? Any exciting new projects?

MA: I can't say much but I'm working on a project for Hum TV. I've announced it on my Instagram and I'll be playing Maham. It's a project with Amin Iqbal and I'm really excited.

Would we be seeing Asim and Merub in an upcoming project soon?

MA: Not just yet but hopefully in the future Insha'Allah

Ideal Destination?

MA: Amsterdam.

Last movie you watched?

MA: Gangubai with my mom and I loved it. I think only Alia Bhatt can take on such powerful roles.

Three things you can't live without?

MA: My family, my phone and Vaseline, because you don't want to have chapped lips.

Acting to you is...?

MA: ...Fun and it's become my passion now.

Coffee or tea?

MA: Coffee everyday.

Favourite cusine?

MA: Japanese - I love sushi.

INTERVIEW: MEHR KASSIM PHOTOGRPHS COURTESY MERUB ALI





WINNING WAYS

FAMILY-FRIENDLY RECIPES FOR STRESS-FREE MEALTIMES





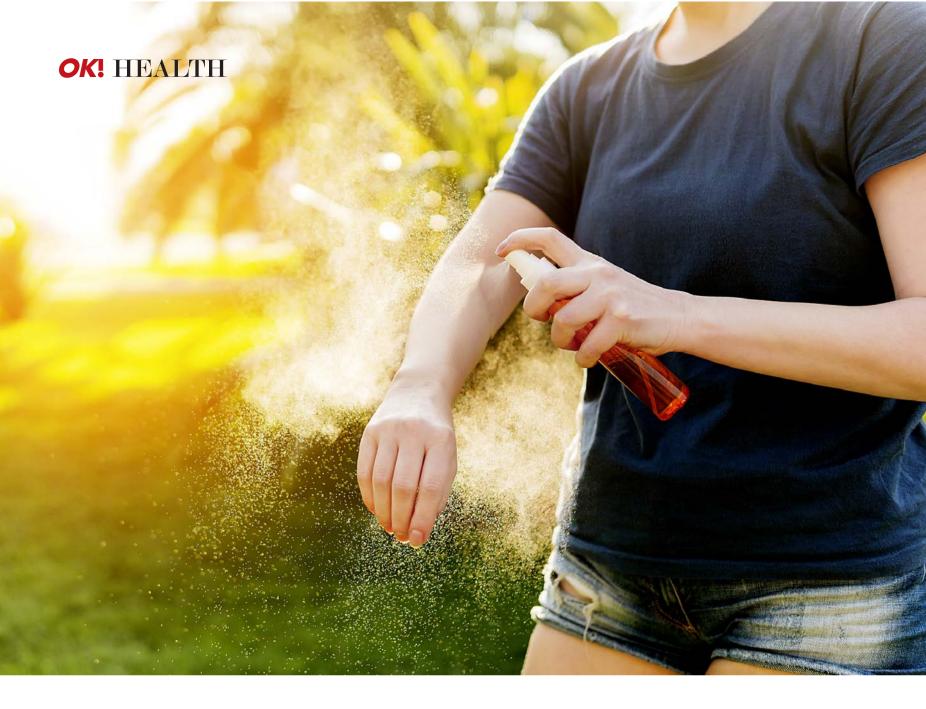


- 200°C/180°C fan/gas mark 6.
- 2. Unroll the shortcrust pastry and use it to line a round 22cm pie dish.
- **3.** Trim the edges and use a fork to pierce several holes in the pastry base.
- 4. Cover the pastry with a large piece of baking parchment and fill with baking (or dried) beans.
- 5. Blind bake the pastry base in the oven for 20 minutes.
- 6. Remove the pie dish from the oven, allow to cool a little,

- and parchment and set aside to cool completely.
- 7. Once the pie base has cooled, preheat your oven to 190°C/170°C fan/gas mark 5.
- 8. To make the crumble topping, place the flour, baking powder and cold butter cubes in a large bowl.
- **9.** Using your fingertips, rub the butter into the flour until it resembles breadcrumbs. Don't worry if you have large chunks in there - it adds to the texture.
- with the salt, egg and vanilla extract, then mix it all together with your hands. You should have some fine crumbly bits and some big clumps.
- 11. Now make the filling. In a medium-size bowl, mix together the blueberries, sugar, lemon juice, cornflour and flour.
- **12.** Spoon the mixture into the pastry-lined pie dish.
- **13.** Sprinkle the crumble mixture over the top of the blueberries.
- and cook for 45 minutes. You may need to cover the dish with foil after the first 25 minutes, to prevent the topping from browning too much.
- 15. Remove from the oven and leave to cool.
- 16. The pie needs to cool at room temperature for 3-4 hours to allow the blueberry mixture to thicken. If you prefer to serve it warm, you can just leave it to cool for 30 minutes – but the filling will be a lot juicier.



(KYLE BOOKS)



TROPICAL TERRORS

BEFORE JETTING OFF IN SEARCH OF ADVENTURE, GET CLUED UP ON THE RARE, YET DEADLY, INFECTIONS AROUND THE GLOBE

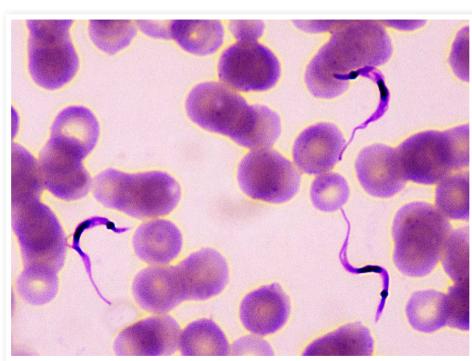
fter almost two years of Covid restrictions, we're all desperate to board a plane and fly away to more exotic climes. But while sun, sand and sea are an exciting prospect, worrying infections lurk in all corners of the world. This month, the third annual World NTD (Neglected Tropical Diseases) Day will be raising awareness and encouraging action in the fight against NTDs. There are 20 around the globe – three of which kill more than 200,000 people a year! From flesh-eating bugs to heart-stopping parasites, it pays to be aware of these terrors in the tropics...

Chagas disease

Up to eight million people in Mexico, Central and South America have this parasite. Blood-sucking insects called triatomines bite people's faces and 62

infect them with their faeces.

Pregnant women can infect their babies and you're also at risk from uncooked contaminated food. If untreated, the infection may be fatal. Fever, fatigue, body aches and vomiting are among the early symptoms, lasting weeks to months. There may be swelling at the bite site or where the faeces has been rubbed into an eye - known as Romaña's sign.



Later, up to 30% of sufferers develop heart problems, including cardiac arrest, and stomach complications, but most have no symptoms at all. Antiparasitic medication is needed to rid your body of the infection.

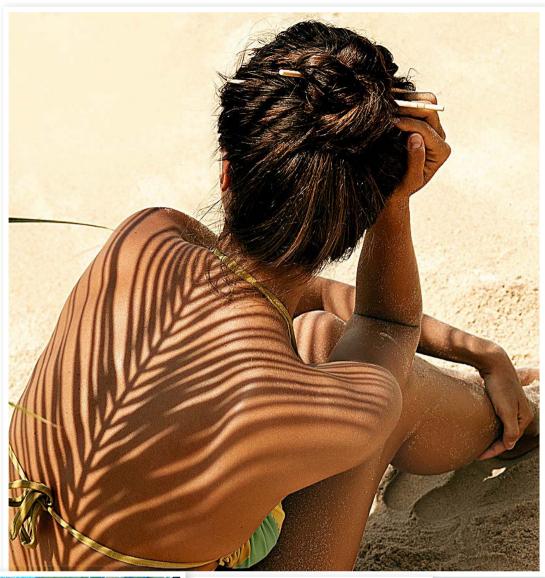
Schistosomiasis

Parasitic worms carry this waterborne illness, also known as bilharzia, infecting more than 200 million people worldwide. Freshwater is contaminated by Schistosoma eggs when human carriers urinate or defecate in it. The eggs hatch and parasites develop and multiply in certain freshwater snails. They then enter the water where they can penetrate skin and mature into worms, which lay eggs. Signs of infection include a rash or itchy skin, fever, chills, a cough and muscle aches. The eggs can damage the liver, intestine, lungs and bladder and, rarely, cause seizures and paralysis. Drugs are effective but also drink safe water, boil bath water and avoid freshwater in atrisk areas.

Leishmaniasis

This parasitic menace appears around 1.6 million times a year in South and Central America, Asia, Africa and also in Southern Europe. Anyone can catch it, including TV's Ben Fogle who caught the flesh-eating bug in Peru and needed "poison injections" to banish it.

Sand flies carry the infection. Their bites cause symptoms such as a high fever, weight loss, skin sores on exposed parts of the body and swelling of the spleen and liver, as well as lowering the number of white blood cells – our body's defence against illness. Look out for bumps, lumps and





ulcers — like a volcano with a raised edge and central crater — although you may have no signs at all. There's no drug or vaccination to prevent it. Cover skin and carry insect repellent.

Dengue fever

Vomiting, rash, aches and pains (muscle, joint or behind the eyes) are common signs of dengue, which affects up to 400 million people a year in the Americas, Africa, the Middle East, Asia and



the Pacific

Infected mosquitos spread the virus by biting humans. Symptoms usually

clear up after seven days but severe infections (one in 20) can be fatal, with the warning signs appearing as the fever begins to ease. Look out for belly pain, bleeding gums and blood in vomit or stools. Rest, fluids and paracetamol will ease mild symptoms.

Buruli ulcer

Limb ulcers are a sure sign of this bacterial disease,

with cases mostly seen in West Africa and Australia. But it's not known how people get the disease.

It can destroy skin and soft tissue, and infect bone. Left untreated, it may cause irreversible deformity or disability. About 6,000 cases are reported a year in 15 of at least

33 countries where it's present. Antibiotics are essential and in rare cases, surgery is needed.

Tropical diseases – the numbers

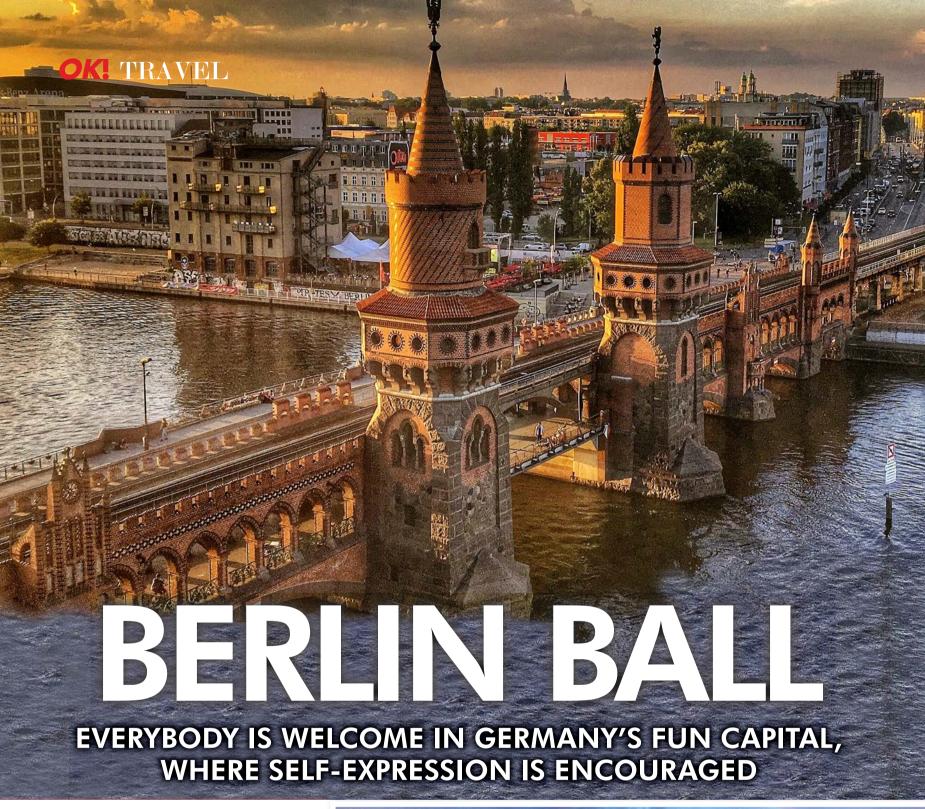
More than ONE billion people – a sixth of the world's population – are infected with one or more neglected tropical diseases.

An additional two billion people are at risk.

Each year, about 185,000 people die from these infections

In 2019, India had the highest number of cases needing intervention, approaching 734 million.

WORDS: KIRSTEN JONES PHOTOS: GETTY



WHY GO THERE?

From 1961 to 1989, German capital Berlin was divided physically and politically by a 13ft wall, stretching 96 miles. With communism to the east and democracy to the west, people lived very different existences on either side of the patrolled barrier. But since the wall fell in November 1989, the city is a very different place — no longer about barriers that divide us but a place where everyone is free to come and go, and to express themselves, as they please.

Visitors can marvel at the monumental Brandenburg Gate – now a symbol of peace – or maybe even find the Holy Grail! Experts say the Knights Templar had a settlement in Berlin in 1200, but what were they doing freezing their beards off in the then tiny fishing village? It's notoriously flat, yet it takes a huff and puff to climb Am Tempelhofer Berg (which translates as "on the tempelhofer mountain"). There are rumours that the fabled cup of Christ could be hidden under the steep street.

The city is also famed for its foodie scene and markets full of bratwurst and schnitzel. But it





was the pastry we fell for. Forget French pain au chocolat – Berlin's bakeries cook up flaky croissants with melted chocolate oozing out of every layer. You'll never look at a Tesco pastry the same way again.

WHERE TO STAY

For a real taste of the city's flourishing culture and cuisine, head south of the Spree river to the Kreuzberg neighbourhood. Less frequented by travellers, these graffiti-lined streets (which echo London's hipster scene) are buzzing with talented artists and home to one of the friendliest hotels around. Orania.Berlin is a luxurious city sanctuary with 41 eastern-themed rooms and a social space so warm and inviting — we loved the crackling open fire — you'll struggle to leave.

Owners Jennifer and Philipp Vogel say comfort is key and they want every visitor to feel like they belong within the hotel walls. We were treated to one of Orania.Berlin's premium suites with rich burnt-orange decor and stunning sunset views of the city. It also featured a spacious living area, plus a rainfall shower and a divine bathtub to soak those tired feet in.

But the highlight was the hotel's resident pooch. Named after the former German Chancellor, fluffy cockapoo Frau Merkel gives guests the sweetest waggy-tailed welcome – and never says no to a cuddle.

WHAT TO DO

There's always something new to see and do in Berlin, whether it's mixing up a unique scent at Frau Tonis perfumery or spending 24 hours in Berghain, the city's most famous and secretive nightclub. We danced around town with private tour guide Stefanie Kruger, who invited us to join the ethics debate at the Humboldt Forum's interactive exhibition, Berlin Global. We discovered tales of revolution, boundaries and war, and cast our votes to see what freedom meant to us. Feeling creative? Pay a visit to Modulor, Berlin's biggest art store — it's like IKEA for artists.

We enjoyed a taste of history, too, sampling Mampe's bitter liqueur, a city staple which claims to fight off disease. None of the makers caught cholera – or Covid!

The city is a shopper's paradise, with bouji boutiques, record stores and souvenirs around every corner. Come back at Christmas for the sweetest festive decorations and unique handmade gifts from the city's many markets.

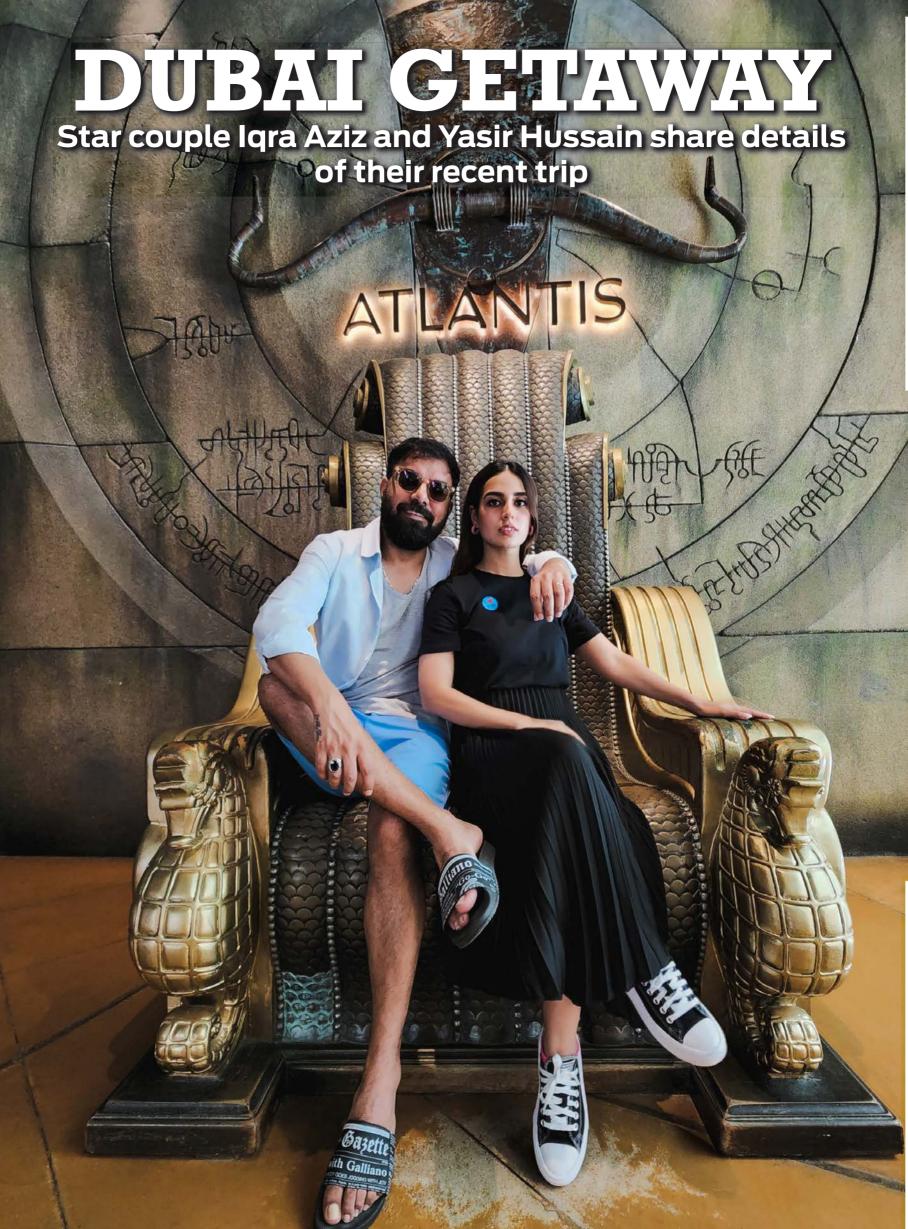
WHERE TO DINE

Save your appetite for multi-course meals at Orania.Berlin. We booked in to enjoy Xberg Duck – duck four ways by head chef Phillipp, including dim sum and authentic Peking duck pancakes, each with its own wine pairing.

New to the hotel's modern menu is Lazy Sunday Orania.Breakfast Club - a daytime eight-course breakfast accompanied by live music. While we lapped up oysters with green apple, buffalo tartare and salmon ceviche tacos (washed down with a few glasses of German fizz), we were treated to smooth, lyrical jazz and tinkling piano tunes. Just down the street sits Berlin's oldest gastropub, Max Und Moritz, offering hearty plates of Germany's signature meat and potato meals. And you must try Berlin's classic Currywurst. Curry At The Wall is the city's most popular pitstop for food on the move. Just five minutes from Checkpoint Charlie (the most famous Berlin Wall crossing point), the street food seller serves up a hearty portion of sausage, curry sauce and chips. If it's chilly, you'll find gluhwein (mulled wine) on the menu, too. And on a clear day, hop on the neighbouring hot-air balloon for panoramic views of the city.

> REPORT: LYNNE HYLAND PHOTOS: GETTY







Where did you go?

Iqra Aziz & Yasir Hussain: We travelled to the golden land of Dubai.

What made you go here?

IA & YH: It was always on our bucket list to visit Dubai because Dubai is such a dreamy destination. Its high-rise skyscrapers and buildings, constant socio-economic development, and global exposure are just some of the several things that tend to attract any tourist to Dubai. So, we went to Dubai as a part of our wanderlust.

What did you pack?

IA & YH: Like any traveller, we packed the daily essentials including travel-worthy clothes and the local currency.

What was favourite meal/restaurant?

IA & YH: It is difficult to narrow down a specific meal or restaurant because Dubai is known to be one of the culinary hubs of the world. But yes, out of every delicacy we tasted there, Hakkasan was our favourite.

What was the biggest highlight of your trip/most memorable moment?

IA: It was special for me when Yasir opted to dine in the sky even though he was apprehensive of the height.

YH: This trip was phenomenal, specifically









because Iqra was by my side. Also, this was a much needed trip after the pandemic. Dubai delighted us in various ways with its options of dining in the sky, death-defying skydives, and fabulous evening and night life. The biggest highlight of this trip was when Iqra defied all odds and went skydiving. It was fabulous because Iqra was soaring high in the sky, just like I wish to see her always.

Favourite shopping destination?

IA & YH: This is a very difficult question because shopping and Dubai are synonymous. It is a hub of fashion and brands. But, our favorite would be the Dubai Mall. It is extremely beautiful and a dream



for every shopaholic.

What are some spots for a night out?

IA & YH: It's difficult to pick just one but Barasti is a very good spot for night life in Dubai. We loved the electrifying atmosphere at Barasti.

Travel essentials?

IA & YH: This depends from person to person. Our essentials include our phone, clothes, and the local currency.

Any travel tips you would like to share?

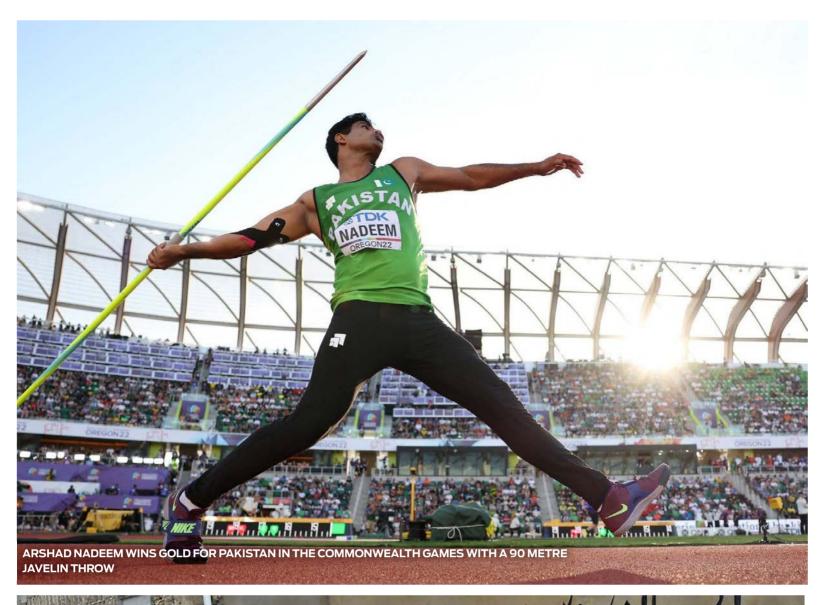
IA & YH: We believe that the journey and the ones whom you take on your travel journey are as important as the destination. One must enjoy and capture as many moments as possible with their loved ones. Apart from this, one must research the local climate, cuisine, and tourist hotspots, before visiting a country. Although we enjoyed our trip to Dubai to the fullest, we've heard that one must visit Dubai in the winter, as we've heard that winters in Dubai are extremely pleasing.

TEXT: MEHR KASSIM PHOTOGRAPHS: COURTESY OF IQRA AZIZ & YASIR HUSSAIN

OK! WORLD IN ACTION









HOROSCOPE & TAROT

IT'S WRITTEN IN THE STARS!

CAPRICORN



Dec 22 - Jan 20

You could be getting hot and heavy with your partner. If you're single, the desire to be serious with someone could be

real. You'll be feeling oh so in your element. You may want to take a vacation, and it's definitely a time to go for it! Opt to visit an exotic new place you have never been to before. By doing so, you're telling the universe you're ready for new experiences.

TAURUS

Apr 21 - May 21



will There ongoing tension between two areas of your life. It's time to embrace change and move forward.

August 18th is a lucky day and the universe will support you in asserting yourself! During the end of the month, life should be easier and more predictable. Channel some ideas, as your brain will be brimming with creativity.

VIRGO

Aug 24 – Sep 23



While the beginning of the month might have a strange vibe, you should begin to feel in your element

soon. If you have work or tasks to complete, Mercury will help you excel! You will feel social and ready to strut your stuff. It will be the best time of the year to set intentions about career and public visibility.

SAGITTARIUS



You are beginning to sink into a slower

Nov 23 - Dec 21

pace of life. Use the first days of August to meditate on the

progress you've been experiencing this year. You will soon be ready to set some realistic goals for your career. Your relationships will be dynamic, and you might need to partner with someone in order to manifest your deepest desires.

AOUARIUS



Jan 21 – Feb 19

August will instigate change in your life, and you're more than ready to tackle it! Your relationships are changing. Some

secret haters might need to be removed from your life. Themes from earlier in the year need to be revised or reworked. If you want to commit to a new spiritual practice, channel time and effort into deepening your mind, body, and soul connection.

GEMINI



May 22 - Jun 21 For you, it's all about communication, could be VOU getting ready finish a project or give an important

presentation. Stay focused on the details. Pay attention to the energy that comes up for you at the end of the month. Themes around ambition and self-assertion will become prevalent for you. Now more than ever, your words hold power, and learning how to use them will be key to your growth.

Sep 24 – Oct 23



begin August focusing on your career. A raise or new project could fall on your lap. Soon it will be party time! You will be

socialising but also networking and mixing business with pleasure. August 18th could be a fortunate day for you. You will start to feel a little more introspective, as you are entering a time in which rest and relaxation will prepare you for your upcoming return in September.

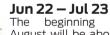
PISCES

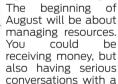


Feb 20 - Mar 20 If you're single and looking, the first ten days of the month are ideal to put days of the month are ideal to put yourself out there. Your seventh house of partnerships will be activated, heralding

a month in which you will be focusing on one-on-one connections. the best time to work with a healer or coach. Healing, in particular, could be very helpful, as it would instigate you to work on your personal values. This is the best time to work with a healer or coach. Healing, in particular, could be very helpful, as it would instigate you to work on your personal values.

CANCER





romantic or business partner. You will begin a period in which the sector of your subconscious mind will be fully alive. You might feel like exploring esoteric and spiritual subjects, and you might become more private than you already are. Pay attention to your dreams, and consider starting a dream journal.

SCORPIO



August is a big month for you, as you will instigated embrace change. This has been a year-long process for

you are inviting new energy into your career and your relationships. For the next six months, a communication or writing project could become crucial. Perhaps it's time to write that book or launch that podcast you've been talking about!

Oct 24 - Nov 22



you in which by abandoning the old,

PHOTOGRAPHS: SHUTTERSTOCK, WEEN

ARIES



You will be growing at a slower pace for the next few months, and that's okay. Ensure that your recent progress is realistic

and sustainable. Tap

into your creativity, as there are many ideas begging to come out. If you're single, you will attract attention from love interests. Enjoy the fun while you can, because August 22nd onwards, you will most likely be very busy with work

LEO Jul 24 – Aug 23



You're enjoying your time in the spotlight, shooting your charm to the roof as you work the room.

Decisions will need to be made, as you will be challenged to see things from a new perspective. Be open to change or abandon. An authority figure or someone who is not ready to see you level up could get in your way. Tension will soon diminish.



SUBSCRIBE NOW ONLINE!



WWW.OKPAKISTAN.COM











CONSTELLATION COLLECTION

KAIA GERBER'S CHOICE

Surrounded by fashion from a very young age, Kaia Gerber is no stranger to the modelling world. While following her famous mother onto the most exclusive runways and photoshoots, she is now choosing to walk a unique path, bringing her own sense of style and personality to the role. It's a family passion, with a very bright future.



OMEGA Boutique: Dolmen Mall, Karachi • Tel +92 21 35297871-2

Available at COLLECTIBLES: Islamabad • Tel +92 51 2600371-2 Faisalabad • Tel +92 041 5211151 Quetta • Tel +92 81 2826636