

PORTER

MARGOT ROBBIE, OSCAR-NOMINATED ACTRESS AND COVERSTAR OF PORTER'S WINTER ESCAPE ISSUE, TALKS MARRIAGE AND BABIES, PLAYING ICONIC MONARCH ELIZABETH I, WORKING WITH QUENTIN TARANTINO AND HOW SHE HATES THAT FAME HAS MADE HER CYNICAL



PORTER MAGAZINE ON SALE GLOBALLY FROM FRIDAY DECEMBER 7

Academy Award-nominated actress Margot Robbie talks to global fashion magazine **PORTER** about marriage, tackling the iconic role of historic monarch, Elizabeth I in *Mary Queen of Scots*; finally working with Quentin Tarantino, and why she hates how fame has made her cynical, *“Yes, you’re gonna get screwed over, you’re gonna get your feelings hurt, people will be taking advantage. But, for the sake of your happiness and sanity, presume the best in people.”*

Robbie speaks candidly to **PORTER**’s Features Director, Vassi Chamberlain, in the Winter Escape issue (on sale December 7), photographed by Yelena Yemchuk and styled by Camille Bidault-Waddington. The 28-year-old natural beauty was shot in Los Angeles, where she was filming the highly anticipated *Once Upon a Time in Hollywood*, written and directed by Quentin Tarantino. Working with the award-winning director was a *“life goal”* and she tells **PORTER**, *“When I first sat down with my team in America and they asked me what I wanted in my career: ‘Pie in the sky? Tarantino.’”*

The warm, down-to-earth actress has proven she is a master of transformation, having won critical acclaim for her satirical portrayal of Tonya Harding in *I, Tonya*, and this month will take on the role of Elizabeth I in *Mary Queen of Scots* alongside Saoirse Ronan. Robbie tells **PORTER** she had trepidation about playing the iconic English monarch. *“She’s been portrayed on screen by some of the world’s greatest actresses, including Cate Blanchett and [Dame] Judi Dench. Who am I to think that I could join that legacy? So initially I thought, ‘No chance, no way.’ I didn’t think I could pull it off.”*

The Australian native also talks marriage (Robbie married screenwriter and producer Tom Ackerley in 2016). *“Being married is actually the most fun ever, life got way more fun somehow. I have a responsibility being someone’s wife, I want to be better.”* Robbie also speaks candidly about the powerful #MeToo movement and how it has personally educated her. *“I didn’t know that you could say ‘I have been sexually harassed’ without someone physically touching you, that you could say ‘That’s not OK.’ I had no idea. I now know because I’ve researched what constitutes illegal sexual harassment so as to have negative connotations for your job and how you get paid.”*

PORTER’s editor-in-chief Lucy Yeomans says: *“I have been struck by the quiet but impressively strategic way Margot Robbie has approached her career. In the wake of #MeToo, it has been invigorating to see Hollywood’s leading ladies take charge, with many now adding producer, writer or director to their résumés. Robbie is the absolute embodiment of this change and shift of incredible women leading the way for the next generation.”*

PORTER speaks to the double-amputee, motivational speaker and model Aimee Mullins about adding Hollywood actress to her extraordinary résumé of achievements. The Paralympian also reminisces about her late friend Lee McQueen, having opened the Spring/Summer 1999 Alexander McQueen show 20- years ago, wearing hand-carved wooden prostheses designed by McQueen. *"They were so beautiful they invited you to look. Not for shock value. Shocking is too easy. To provoke thought."*

Also within the issue, PORTER shares previously unpublished images of original supermodel Iman, who speaks about being discovered by female photographer Mirella Ricciardi and not Peter Beard – the man widely credited with discovering the model; *"It was Mirella – absolutely – I met her before I met Peter. The story of Peter discovering me is very patriarchal – the pen that writes history, and all that! When patriarchies and men are involved, they usually lay claim, and we say "well, OK" – but it's not OK!"*

MARGOT ROBBIE INTERVIEW HIGHLIGHTS

Robbie on being married to Brit Tom Ackerley (the couple married in 2016 on the Gold Coast, Australia) *"Being married is actually the most fun ever, life got way more fun somehow. I have a responsibility being someone's wife, I want to be better."*

Robbie on never spending longer than three-weeks apart from her husband: *"Even if we both have to fly to a country in between where we both are for one night, we'll do it and then fly back to work the next day. And we speak all day everyday on the phone."*

Robbie on whether she is ready for babies: *"No! Definitely Not. Three days ago my husband stopped by a dog shelter on the way back from the airport, and we now have a pit-bull puppy. We already have a two-year old who still acts like a puppy. I love him but he's a handful, and for the last three days I haven't slept. I'm like 'we're fostering her for the week' and my husband's saying 'No! We're keeping her' and I'm saying 'we absolutely cannot and if anything, you are now cementing in my mind that we cannot have kids. I can't cope with two puppies, let alone children!' If I'm looking into my future 30 years from now, I want to see a big Christmas dinner with tons of kids there. But definitely not at the moment. That's 100 percent certain."*

Robbie on feeling daunted at playing the historic monarch, Elizabeth I in *Mary Queen of Scots*: *"She [Elizabeth I] is an incredibly iconic and historic figure. She's been portrayed on screen by some of the world's greatest actresses, including Cate Blanchett and [Dame] Judi Dench. Who am I to think that I could join that legacy? So initially I thought, 'No chance, no way.' I didn't think I could pull it off."*

Robbie on first meeting her co-star Saoirse Ronan in the upcoming *Mary Queen of Scots*: *"I remember thinking, she is so freaking cool. And intelligent and grounded and fun. I had a major girl crush on her from that moment on."*

Robbie on working with Quentin Tarantino: *"That's a life goal. When I first sat down with my team in America and they asked me what I wanted out of my career and I said: 'Pie in the sky? Tarantino.' Everyone asks me: 'How is it, how is he on set?' I've been on sets for pretty much the last 10 years and I still walk on and think, 'This is soooooo coooooo! Look at that! That's amazing! Oh my gosh!' I'm like a kid in a candy shop and then Tarantino walks on and he's got the same, if not more, enthusiasm and he's so excited. It's his film set and he's not jaded at all – he's just so happy to be there."*

Robbie whether she has experienced sexual harassment: *"Yes! But not in Hollywood. I struggle to find many women who haven't experienced sexual harassment on some level. So yes, lots of times. And to varying degrees of severity throughout my life."*

Robbie on sexual abuse following #MeToo: *"I didn't know what constituted sexual harassment until the #MeToo movement. I'm in my late twenties, I'm educated, I'm worldly, I've traveled, I have my own business, and I didn't know. That's insane. I didn't know that you could say 'I have been sexually harassed' without someone physically touching you, that you could say 'That's not OK.' I had no idea. I now know because I've researched what constitutes illegal sexual harassment so as to have negative connotations for your job and how you get paid."*

Robbie on the fickle nature of fame: *"It's just a strange thing – there's no other way of putting it. Your relevance in the current conversation changes, sometimes you're in everyone's face, other times you're not. There are moments when you feel the heat, then it cools off a little bit and you can breathe, and then something"*

comes out of left field and totally side swipes you. So you're kind of on your toes trying to keep your head above water I guess."

Robbie on how she hates that fame has made her cynical: "Every time someone does something nice, there is a voice in my head wondering, 'Are they being nice to me because they like me or are they being nice because they want something from me?' It doesn't matter if it's a family member or a complete stranger, that voice in your head is always there and I hate that voice so much, questioning someone's good intentions. But I'd rather be fucked over and still have a positive view of the world than be this cynical, sheltered, negative person who never gets fucked over. I'd rather get fucked over 10,000 times and still believe the best in people. So a couple of years ago I just stopped and said to myself, 'Yes, you're gonna get screwed over, you're gonna get your feelings hurt, people will be taking advantage. But, for the sake of your happiness and sanity, presume the best in people.'"

Robbie on not feeling pressure to always look perfect: "My view is that for some people, it's part of their brand to look a certain way. I've been in hotels where I've run into someone the morning after an awards ceremony and I know they were out, and they are 'on' – full face of makeup, full blowout and perfect outfit. That's their brand. I want people to see me as an actor. I am not a model."

Robbie on strangers taking her picture: "I hate people taking pictures without asking, it's the grossest feeling and it happens all the time. Everyone's got a phone with a camera on them at every second of the day in every part of the world."

Robbie on what money means to her: "I know that I can get by with very little money. I know how to do it. I've done it and I'm not scared of it."

Robbie on her close friendship with sisters Poppy and Cara Delevingne: "I'm the boring person on the planet compared to those two. Cara would say, 'I'm going to this mud-wrestling thing tonight.' And I'm like, 'I have a meeting at 7am, I can't go mud-wrestling – it's a Wednesday night!'"

Robbie on committing to *that* scene in *Wolf of Wall Street* with Leonardo DiCaprio: "It doesn't come across when you're watching the movie, but in reality we're in a tiny bedroom with 30 crew crammed in. All men. And for 17 hours I'm pretending to be touching myself. It's just a very weird thing and you have to bury the embarrassment and absurdity, really deep, and fully commit."

Robbie reflecting on what the industry thinks of her as an actress: "I often wonder that. You know when you're with friends and you're like, 'OK, what movie are we gonna watch?' And then someone mentions a movie and everyone says, 'Errr no, I can't stand that so-and-so on screen, I just wanna kill myself, they're awful!' I wonder how many people out there think, 'I cannot watch a film with... I hate that Margot Robbie.' So yes, I do wonder how I irritate people, or if I do an interview, they'll say, 'Urgggghh, she's so this or so that.'"

Robbie on finding her feet in Hollywood: "I say fake it till you make it, because everyone's pretending they know what they are doing and almost everyone doesn't."

AIMEE MULLINS INTERVIEW HIGHLIGHTS

Mullins on the challenges of being typecast when she first started acting: "It's taken me so long to get traction, just to be competing for parts against my peers. When the offer came in to play this deadbeat, down-and-out woman in *What Breaks the Ice*, I thought, 'Great!' Ten years ago, I would get calls like 'Oh, we have this role of a landmine victim...'"

Mullins on opening the McQueen Spring/Summer show at London Fashion Week in 1999, wearing hand-carved, wooden prostheses: "They were so beautiful they invited you to look. Not for shock value. Shocking is too easy. To provoke thought."

Sarah Burton on Mullins: "Seeing Aimee walk in the McQueen show was an incredibly moving moment. It was one of the only shows that I've seen Lee move to tears. Aimee is an inspiration to us all."

Mullins in calming last-minute nerves before making her runway debut: "My head and neck were locked, and Lee's shows were always so theatrical so there were these spinning discs all down the runway. I had to say a silent prayer not to hit one and wipe out. The only thing free was one shoulder. How could I 'sashay' when the only part of me I could control was an arm? It was Erin O'Connor who said 'Right, take this

arm, and put it on your hip.' All the swagger had to come from there."

Mullins reflecting on the backlash after walking in McQueen's show: *"It was my first experience of the scary side of the press. He was so upset that people were accusing him of exploitation, of something cheap. He took good care of me, we took care of each other. He wanted to check I was OK, and I told him 'I know exactly what we did. I have no regrets.'"*

Mullins on learning McQueen had died: *"I talked to him just a few nights before, so it was a huge shock. I remember talking to Nick Knight's wife Charlotte on the phone and we were just crying."*

Mullins on paying tribute to her parents for not letting her disability define her: *"They had bigger, more stressful things on their plate like paying bills. They didn't shelter me from anything, from being stared at. It was always like, 'Fend for yourself, figure it out, find a pithy comeback...' The more parents try to protect their children, to make their lives as easy and as comfortable as possible, the more disenfranchised children become. They hit their twenties and can't cope in a crisis."*

Mullins on finding the strength in her youth to succeed: *"You have a naiveté when you're young. So many of the things I was being recognized for came about because I didn't know that I couldn't. There was fear and doubt, that's a healthy part of the human condition, but daydreaming, just going for it, is invaluable, and it atrophies if you don't keep leaning on it."*

Mullins on working with the Massachusetts Institute of Technology on a new frontier in prostheses: *"There is still so much to do. I want to set the bar high, starting with ankle movement" – currently ankles on prosthetic legs are fixed at a 90-degree angle – "and ending with sensation. Everything I feel under my feet is imagined – gravel, nubby carpets, wet grass, polished marble – my nerve endings are a foot and a half off the ground. To actually feel the sand between my toes, that's the brave new world."*

Mullins on discovering she was in fact the marrying kind (Mullins married British actor Rupert Friend in 2016): *"We were both standing in the South China Sea, and I thought, wait, did that just happen? I wanted to say yes, but my brain was saying, 'hold on, you're not the marrying kind.' Neither of us had ever wanted to get married and then, suddenly, we found ourselves just completely in love and wanting to be married to each other."*

IMAN INTERVIEW HIGHLIGHTS

Iman on not actually being discovered by Peter Beard but by female photographer Mirella Ricciardi: *"It was Mirella – absolutely – I met her before I met Peter. The story of Peter discovering me is very patriarchal – the pen that writes history, and all that! When patriarchies and men are involved, they usually lay claim, and we say "well, OK" – but it's not OK!"*

Iman on her beauty as a young Somalian girl: *"No one had ever mentioned my 'beauty' before, I was a dime a dozen amongst Somali girls! I was average! I was a refugee!"*

Iman on saying no to racism within the fashion industry during the 1970s: *"Black models were being paid less than Caucasian models and I refused to accept that. I said NO. I'm not different, I don't buy into that, its racism."*

Iman on still fighting against racism today: *"It still goes on. There's still that attitude of – do you wanna be invited to the table? I'm like - fuck you I'll buy my own table."*

Amina Ricciardi on discovering her mother Mirella Ricciardi's unpublished photographs of supermodel Iman: *"I found this lost archive of my mother's photographs of Iman, including the ones she took of Peter and Iman. They were in a tallboy and a Zanzibar chest in the cellar. It was a miraculous find."*

Mirella Ricciardi on the striking differences between her and Beard's images of the supermodel: *"Mine are spontaneous and relaxed, not at all calculated. They're from my eyeballs. I don't know if Iman has ever seen them. But I also love Peter's images, they are wonderful."*

Photo captions:



Margot Robbie wears bikini top by Chanel and earrings by Jennifer Fisher. Photographed by Yelena Yemchuk



Margot Robbie wears top and shorts by Adriana Degreas; blazer by CALVIN KLEIN 205W39NYC and earrings by Jennifer Fisher. Photographed by Yelena Yemchuk



Margot Robbie wears blazer, swimsuit and ring by Chanel. Photographed by Yelena Yemchuk



Margot Robbie wears blazer and shorts by Acne Studios, T-shirt by Calle Del Mar and bracelet by Goossens x Harumi Klossowska de Rola. Photographed by Yelena Yemchuk

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ABOUT PORTER

PORTER, which launched in February 2014, is the only women's fashion magazine to offer a truly global perspective. Edited – and launched – by high-profile British editor Lucy Yeomans, the game-changing luxury-fashion magazine, which combines the intimacy of print with a state-of-the-art, digital shopping experience, is sold in 60 countries and is published by The YOOX NET-A-PORTER Group. PORTER celebrates and is aimed at stylish, intelligent women and offers readers a unique global curation of fashion, lifestyle and beauty. Cover stars have included some of the most iconic women in the world from supermodels Gisele Bündchen and Christy Turlington, to music phenomenon Lady Gaga and Oscar-winning actress Cate Blanchett. In May 2015, PORTER was named best print product at the British Media Awards. In 2018, PORTER launched PORTER Digital, delivering daily original content, every day. PORTER.com