



Emmanuelle Vaugier - Vancouver's Talented Beauty

Vancouver View, March/ April 2011

With Her Career and Favourite Charitable Foundation Both Flourishing, Emmanuelle is one of Vancouver's Most Sought After Show Business Exports.

I rise in Hollywood. And though she may now call Los Angeles home, Emanuelle remains one of Vancouver's most sought-after show business exports and most frequently photographed faces.

"Ever since I was in the second grade, acting was what I wanted to do," she says. "I thought about a few other things, like being a veterinarian because I love animals so much, but then I realized very quickly that I don't like to see animals suffer. Then I thought of law— from seeing lawyers on television— and then I quickly thought that I can do all of these things by being an actress. I can be a lawyer one day, a veterinarian the next and I can be an assassin on another day—and wouldn't that be fun?"

While Vaugier's introduction to Hollywood began with appearances in such locally shot television productions as Highlander, Smallville and Supernatural, it was a recurring character on CSI: NY and the role of Mia alongside Charlie Sheen in the hit comedy Two and a Half Men that really put her on the fast track to stardom.

"It definitely brings you to the forefront as far as visibility for other producers doing other projects goes," she says of portraying Sheen's on-screen love interest.

"It opens doors and you get brought into more rooms; I loved doing it. It was a blast. I had never really experienced the sitcom world until I came to LA, because we don't really do sitcoms in Canada. It's a completely different world for me from the one-hour world; the days are much shorter and more manageable, and you get to laugh all day long, really. The first time I was in front of a studio audience was a little daunting—but you learn to channel that nervous energy into the work and it becomes exciting as opposed to scary."

Canadian publicist Lesley Diana has witnessed her client's steady ascent up the Hollywood ladder. "I first met Emmanuelle in 1999 when I was the unit publicist on the Rodney Dangerfield feature film My Five Wives, where she played one of the wives," says Diana.

"I then went on to work on two other films that she was in. One day she walked into my office to ask if I would be her personal publicist. That was eleven years ago, and we have been working together ever since.

Emmanuelle was my first actor client and since then we have worked with over 100 actors over the years. I have her to thank for opening the doors to that division of my business."

Given the Vancouver native's beauty, it's no surprise that Emanuelle Vaugier spent time modelling prior to embarking on an acting career.

"I got an opportunity to go abroad and do the modelling thing in Japan for about three years," she notes. "That helped me financially, so that when I came back I was able to focus on the acting and take classes and study. Everything kind of snowballed from there."

And while acting shuttled her frequently between Vancouver and Los Angeles, her ever-expanding



portfolio of work necessitated a permanent move ten years ago.

“Moving down south is one thing; staying down south is a whole other story,” says Vaugier. “I spent the first five years coming back and forth. I kept a home in LA but split my time between there and Vancouver. It wasn’t until 2001 when I chose to stay down here and it wasn’t until 2007 that I bought my first home here and sold everything I had in Canada. Now, this is home.”

It’s also become home base for her charitable work with animals.

“About a year and a half ago I started looking for a charity to support. I had done some fostering and animal rescue work in the Los Angeles area, but I wanted to do more. In my search, Best Friends Animal Society kept popping up, and a friend introduced me to the co-founders, Silva and Francis Battista. I decided to then go to their animal sanctuary in Utah and see for myself what goes on, and I was so floored by the level of work that they do. They have so much compassion and love for these animals that I really wanted to support them.”

That support would eventually spin off into her own annual animal fundraiser called ‘Fluffball’.

“I love to have parties and love to have friends around so I decided to throw a cocktail party at my house a year ago,” says Vaugier. “It was a great success and we raised a little over \$6,000 just in an afternoon. Grey Goose did the cocktails, Chef Nick Lorenz did all the food, and it was just a lovely afternoon, really, to raise awareness and raise money.

This year, I thought, ‘we need to step this up a notch’, because I want it to be bigger and better every year.” “Seeing Emmanuelle at her second annual ‘Fluffball’ was amazing,” says Lesley Diana. “She was looking for an idea of how she could use her love of animals with her growing success and celebrity to do some good in society. The idea grew from a lovely party in her home with 70 guests and expanded to over 200 guests in a mansion with a team of volunteers and companies all pitching in their time, products and talents. It was nothing less than amazing, and raised nearly \$25,000. The success proves how one idea can help to support her favourite animal charity, Best Friends Animal Society.”

With her career and her favourite charitable foundation now both clearly flourishing, Emmanuelle Vaugier has adapted well to her new home, which enjoys a climate notably different from the conditions she was used to her Hollywood North.

“I miss my friends and family in Vancouver but I sure don’t miss the rain,” she says.

“In LA, rain is kind of a welcome change; an excuse to stay in and watch a movie. In Vancouver, you’ve got to deal with it on a daily basis. Now when I go back, I’m not used to that any more!”

Written by Joe Leary
Photographed by Brie Childers



PHOTO: ERIN CHILDERS, WWW.ERINCHILDERS.COM STYLING: JUSTIN DUCOTT MAKEUP: JONNAKUPREL.COM HAIR: CHING, MORIAN ZAAGLIA

SHE IS— IN EQUAL MEASURE— BOTH ALLURINGLY BEAUTIFUL AND FASHIONABLE, SELF-DESCRIBED AS “GRAVITATING TOWARD CLASSIC DESIGNS”.

In the acting world, Emmanuelle Vaugier is also clearly on the rise in Hollywood. And though she may now call Los Angeles home, Emmanuelle remains one of Vancouver's most sought-after show business exports and most frequently photographed faces.

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▲ PHOTO: PRODUCER, CREATOR & WRITER CHUCK LOBBE (TWO AND A HALF MEN, BIG BANG THEORY), EMMANUELLE VAUGIER AND CAA'S DAVID O'CONNOR, (THE EVENT WAS HOSTED BY DAVID AT HIS HOME).

▼ PHOTO (BOTTOM LEFT): BEST FRIENDS' FOUNDER SILVA BATTISTA AND FRANCIS BATTISTA WITH EMMANUELLE AT THE SECOND ANNUAL WINTER FLUFFBALL.



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