the young hollywood issue

NYLON

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+ st. vincent taylor kitsch and sneakers! sneakers! sneakers!

45 stars of the next generation, including: kat dennings + olivia thirlby

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star power

Here at *NYLON*, we always get particularly excited about our annual Young Hollywood issue. All year, we're going to screenings, checking out film festivals, meeting with actors, and of course, watching a lot of TV to figure out who the faces of tomorrow will be. We feature the people we find in every issue, but this is the one where we really go to town. And our success rate has been pretty good: Two years ago, for example, our Young Hollywood issue included Shia LaBeouf, Kristen Stewart, Ellen Page, Amanda Seyfried, and Megan Fox, to name just five of the young actors who have gone on to become stars. This year, though, we've put together our most ambitious portfolio ever.

We photographed the actors in this issue in four cities (London, Philadelphia, New York, and Los Angeles) over one long, sleep-deprived week. Despite this, the energy at each shoot was electric—it was as if everybody on set knew that they were a part of something special.

Choosing just two cover girls from a group this talented was never going to be easy, but I've been a fan of Kat Dennings and Olivia Thirlby for years and felt that this was the right time to put them front-and-center. They're both destined for big things and have unique qualities that make them two of the most exciting young actresses working today.

Also, look out for Zoe Kravitz, Juno Temple, Dev Patel, and Taylor Momsen. One day, they'll all be household names.

-MARVIN SCOTT JARRETT

photographed by stephen walker.

fast future

generation '09

in hollywood, there is a light that never goes out. the 39 young actors over the next 30 pages are carrying the torch. meet the new class.

FROM LEFT: dreama walker, amanda setton, nicole fiscella, yin chang

BY KATE KELLAMS. PHOTOGRAPHED BY KAYE PARROTT

FROM LEFT: dress by 3.1 phillip lim, necklace by ananda galonia turn vintage; top by stella mccartney, skirt by opening ceremony, belt by milandrino, necklace by ananda galonia turn vintage; top by cynthia rowley, shorts by jill stuart; tee by ghesquiere, wheel (worn as waist) by monsoon, scarf by mark jacobs, headset by metal potato.

dreama walker amanda setton nicole fiscella yin chang

A leader needs followers and, in *Gossip Girl*, Blair Waldorf has hers in Penelope (Amanda Setton), Isabel (Nicole Fiscella), Nelly (Yin Chang) and Hazel (Dreama Walker).

In person, though, *Gossip Girls'* Mean Girls—who are all New York-based—seem highly unlikely to ever deliver sniping undercuts to anyone, much less each other. They giggle and joke throughout the photo shoot, snapping pictures of each other and excitedly calling their moms, their energy never flagging as the day drags on. "Us girls, we click. It makes the experience on set so much better," Setton says. Chang agrees. "I feel lucky that I get to work with amazing co-stars, and we get along so well." For all four, *Gossip Girl* has been their first major role. Setton and Walker had cameos in *Sex and the City*, and Chang and Walker in various versions of *Law & Order*, but for Fiscella, a model who auditioned for the show at the urging of her agent, it's her first role ever. "At first, I didn't really care, because I was never an actress. But once I got into the second and third round, I was like, 'OK, I really want this,'" she says. "I remember everyone at my agency saying, 'Make sure you look really, really attractive for this one. This show is ridiculous!'" Fiscella says. "So I was like, 'Oh my God!' and spent forever doing my hair and makeup."

"One of the most obvious things that makes the show fun is the fashion," Setton adds. "Just getting to wear those clothes is great, especially because Penelope's style is so different from mine."

And as much as the four are Blair's followers, they are also her foils, displaying a loyalty to each other over Blair and occasionally showing flashes of empathy and morality, especially in the case of Nelly Yuki. "Nelly is a nerd. But she's not only book smart. She really struggles to fit in and conform to the group," Chang says, then adds with a laugh, "But she's still a fashionable nerd."

They're also often the comic relief, and Walker—who jokes that the only successful person from her hometown of Tampa, Florida, is "Nick Carter from the Backstreet Boys, and I'll forgive you if you don't know who that is"—will soon appear in the Ricky Gervais-directed *This Side of Truth* with Jonah Hill and Tina Fey, and as the lead in indie flick *In the Meantime*. The over-the-top satire of *Gossip Girl* is something she relishes. "The lines are so bitchy, you don't really have to put a lot of bitch behind them," Walker says. "Sometimes all you have to do is add a little smile, and they become that much meaner."

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