

Alyson Le Borges
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A wild and adventurous spirit that cultivates the art of patience, self-acceptance and that which the future holds in store. If desires are nurtured, surprises make life much more exciting...

Like the wolf with which she appears in these pages, Alyson Le Borges – pronounced Le Borgesse – has a wild, untameable, vital and adventurous spirit. We meet on Venice Beach, where she has been living for a few years; just a few steps from the beach, where she often goes to surf. “Los Angeles is an immense metropolis, which incorporates multiple cities; you can live different lives here; the days here have an infinite space-time pendulum – in the morning you go to the sea, at lunch you are skiing in the mountains. I need to move, I don't want to stay put and wait for something to happen; life must be lived today, not tomorrow. This does not mean that I do not know how to appreciate the patience one acquires over time, with maturation; growing also means learning to accept one's own shortcomings, to love ourselves for that which we are. Only after years have I begun to respect my hair, always unkempt, dehydrated from the sun and the salt. I have understood that they reflect my personality – they are crazy, rebels like me.” It is impossible to ignore the intense blue of Alyson's eyes, her elegant features and her high cheekbones, which, like her dark, thick eyebrows, resemble those of her famous grandfather, Alain Delon. “Everyone knows the story. My mother, Marie-Hélène, was a ballerina at the Crazy Horse and had a relationship with my father, Anthony Delon (author's note: Alain's son), who never officially recognized me. But I am certain that sooner or later we will become closer; when the jealousy and anger have subsided, when everyone is ready, then we will tell each other our life stories.” Patience, then, in life and in work. “I hope to be able to continue acting. It is difficult to succeed in this job, so it doesn't help to want everything right away – desires need to be nurtured, and it is best to avoid thinking too much. Things that are planned are not always interesting; rather, surprises make life much more exciting.” For Alyson, the surprise came with her first acting role, in a film for television directed by Nadine Trintignant, director, screenwriter and producer, wife of the unforgettable Jean-Louis. “I was 14 years old when I filmed ‘L'île bleue’ in 2001. It was an extraordinary experience that gave me the opportunity to work with incredible actors, like Pierre Arditi and Anouk Aimée. Even though I fell in love with acting from the very first day of shooting, I still wanted to finish high school.” At 17, while walking down the street with her mother, Alyson was discovered by an agent, who convinced her to start modelling. “I accepted because it allowed me to see new places; although, when I travel I prefer to live the life of normal people, to discover the local rhythms and gradually absorb the culture of the location and of the people who live there. Travelling, discovering

different countries and customs is like being reborn, starting a new life. That is why I moved to London after high school and made a living like everyone else, working as a waitress, a bartender, a sales clerk in a shoe store – I wanted to learn to survive like all of the young people who leave their own country to feel alive, to experience life.” Her love of film brought Alyson to Paris, where she attended Cours Simon, the prestigious school of theatre acting. “I have always loved French comedy, actors like Gérard Depardieu, Thierry Lhermitte, Daniel Auteuil, Audrey Tautou and Juliette Binoche.” However, her favourite actress has always been Charlize Theron. “She also started her career as a model, and later she became a brilliant actress. She is magnificent, and she has a unique sensuality and elegance. And I also like her because she promotes other projects, such as her commitment to humanitarian causes in Africa (charlizeafricaoutreach.org). I also admire Penélope Cruz. Her performance in ‘Vicky Cristina Barcelona’ is absolutely extraordinary.” Her favourite film? “‘American Beauty’. I love everything about that film – the story, the actors, Kevin Spacey, Annette Bening, Thora Birch, Mena Suvari, Chris Cooper. I would like to have a role in such an intense film.” Alyson’s most recent role is in ‘Neon Angel’, a chapter from ‘The Skin Territory Trilogy’, directed by Jean-Louis Daniel. “They are films based on true stories, portraits of women who work in the world of ‘high-glam’ prostitution, jet set models, gogo-dancers – drugs and underground sex trafficking are part of their lives. I play Salomé, a killer who eliminates only the scum of delinquents – paedophiles, rapists and human traffickers. They say that my character bears a strong resemblance to the one interpreted by my grandfather in ‘The Samurai’. A great compliment – my grandfather Alain is a legend. He once told me that he would be very proud of me if I became a movie star and followed in his footsteps, carrying on his name.” Despite her nomadic life, Alyson’s roots are extremely strong. “When I return to Paris, the first thing I do is go with my mom to a patisserie and eat my favourite sweets – éclair, religieuse e millefoglio.” Future projects, other than film? “A trip to explore Costa Rica next month. Culture and surfing, in one of the most beautiful places on earth. I am always searching for the ‘human experience’. Without it, life just doesn’t have meaning. I love people, the experiences of life and human warmth. In theory, I can’t stand any kind of charitable organization. I am more drawn to a ‘hands-on’ approach. When I am travelling, I prefer to enrich my life and the lives of others by helping them in their everyday existence.” Alyson’s last trip was to India. “I spent three weeks at an orphanage, playing with the children, helping them to discover human contact, because they didn’t know how to hug another person. At first they didn’t understand; they laughed and made fun of me. But when we hugged as a group, they felt love through human contact, and they wept with joy. This is my life.”