

LOS ANGELES CINEMA



*Una proprietà di lingua ha come,  
una splendida preoccupazione per l'agricoltura 20  
e un film in visita con George Clooney.  
20 anni donatamente esplosivi*

# SHAILENE WOODLEY'S NATUREY

TEXT R. VALENT



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# SHAILENE WOODLEY'S NATURE

Uncommonly well spoken, a shining concern for agriculture 2.0 and a film about to be released with George Clooney. Damnably explosive 20 years old.

TEXT R. VALENT

**A SOUND VOICE, A YOUNG LAUGH AND AN ADOLESCENT ENTHUSIASM HARD TO HIDE WHEN EVERYONE IS PREDICTING FOR YOU A SUCCESSFUL CAREER IN THE WORLD OF CINEMA.** to hide when everyone is predicting for you a successful career in the world of cinema. Tall, very tall, with never ending legs and a rusty blonde head of hair. All of this, coupled with a few freckles on her face, remind us of the hidden sensuality of a very young Lea Massari.

According to George Clooney, with whom she's worked with for four months, Shailene Woodley – recently nominated for a Golden Globe and an Independent Spirit Awards – , during the filming of Alexander Payne's latest movie *The Descendants* (the same director of *Election*, *About Schmidt*, *Sideways*) due for release in Italy on the 17th of February, she is Hollywood's new "It Girl", the one to watch.

"Aloha!" she says smiling, looking straight into your eyes, as she explains that "aloha is not just a simple greeting, it is something a lot more important, much deeper; when someone says 'aloha' it suggests that it appreciates your spirit, that shares with you those cosmic energies that regulate your life; that's why Hawaii is such a special place, truly spiritual. I had never been there before, as my dad always used to bring me to Mexico because it was cheaper! In Hawaii, the energy is different, incredible, it might be the oxygen, the lack of pollution. I notice all these things because I am a naturalist, I am an outdoors lover, hence why Hawaii is in my opinion a paradise, and even though my body resides in LA, my heart belongs to all islands of the archipelago".

Please note: even though she's just turned 20, she is as well spoken as an adult, shaped by the fact that she has worked in Hollywood non-stop since she was a child.

## **ALOHA SHAILENE... I MUST SAY YOURS IS A WEIRD NAME. WHERE DOES IT COME FROM?**

"My mom made it up. When she was 18, she was stuck in a traffic jam and the car in front of her had Shai written on the number plate, a name she's always liked. When I was born, she added the suffix "lene" common to many American female names (Charlene, Paulene)... so the truth is, there are no philosophical references, it was simply inspired by a car".

## **WHAT MADE YOU WANT TO WORK IN THE WORLD OF CINEMA?**

"Curiosity. I started by taking part in commercials when I was 5, my parents let me continue as long as I did well at school, it was my choice, I found it fun. Then I started working in TV, followed by a small part in a film, and now, here I am".



# SHAILENE WOODLEY'S NATURE

## HOW DID YOU PREPARE FOR THE PART OF ALEXANDRA KING?

“When I read the screenplay I fell in love with the part because it was so humanly real, it wasn’t enriched with a poetic licence. Then I went for the audition and I met the film director Alexander Payne, who asked me just one thing, to stop acting and being myself, he wanted me for the way I was. This is also how I approach all my parts, I don’t do research, unless I have to interpret a real person or a period drama. This is why the film was easy, because the screenplay was really well written, all I had to do was follow the emotional rhythm of the story to interact with the other characters. Sometimes you read a script where at some point you are told to cry, but if you don’t read any words that make you cry you will never manage it, in this instance though, the words provoked thoughts and emotions that made me react precisely how the story needed me to react. Alexander gives you the opportunity to explore, the freedom to risk, that’s why so many famous actors want to work with him”.

## AND GEORGE CLOONEY?

“George is the real Superman, a super-man, someone caring, available, normal, who makes you feel at ease, as if you always knew him. George is positive, philanthropic, generous, intelligent, I have never met anyone that grateful of his own success like him, success that he does not use for materialistic gains, but for the opportunities that can give to others. We all know George for the causes he supports in Africa and in the world, but few know what he does for the common people, those he meets on a daily basis, especially when he works: he helps families pay the rent, to buy clothes, to eat... he would do anything for anyone in need. I feel blessed to have the opportunity to share such an extremely personal side of his life”.



# SHAILENE WOODLEY'S NATURE

## **WHAT INSPIRES YOU THE MOST OF THIS JOB?**

“The creative aspect: acting is an art, a dedication. Honestly, the business aspect is not very interesting, on the contrary. The reason why I keep doing it is for the passion that comes about when I have to work on a new project, those butterflies I feel in my stomach every time I have to prepare a new scene. Obviously if I started to find it boring, I would do something else, I am not interested in the glamour side of this job, the prizes, fame or money. I could never do something that I don't feel passionate about”.

## **ARE YOU NOW WORKING ON ANOTHER FILM?**

“No, I went back to the set of the TV series I've been working on for four years. The Secret Life Of The American Teenager, the story of a young girl who finds out she's pregnant and all the consequences of becoming a mother. A serious and contemporary topic, fundamental for choices and quality of life. As for the next film, I need to find the right project, I'm not in a rush; even though I've only just started, I really need to find a script that truly captures me”.

## **FOR EXAMPLE?**

“At the moment I am very interested in the history of native cultures and I read everything I can on environmental and anthropological issues, including issues such as pesticides, genetically modified foods, crossed pollination and the copyright of corn seeds (used in one forth of the world's food) ruled by a corporation like Monsanto, which is trying to monopolize the future of agriculture. Just to fight these causes you'd need more than a lifetime. But now I have a new allied: thank you George”. ●

