

es magazine

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CLASS WAR
PRIVATE SCHOOLS
FIGHT BACK

MORNING GLORIA
THE VANDERBILT
HEIRESS AND THE
EROTIC NOVEL

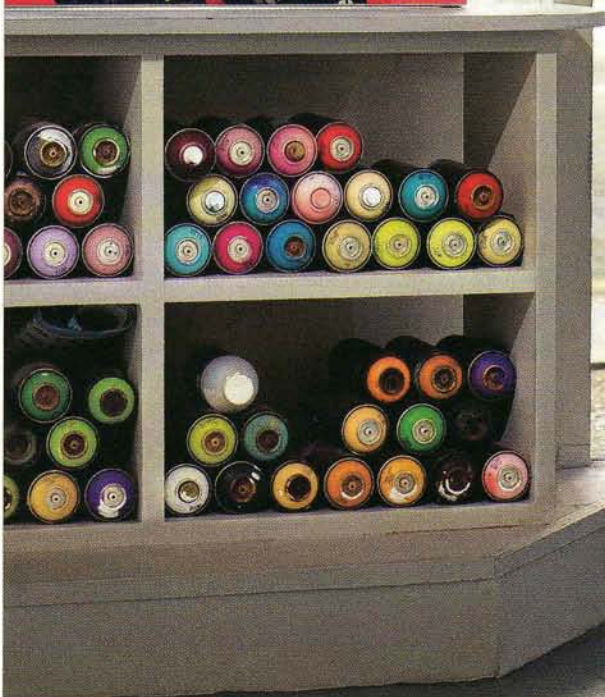
Heavenly creature

**RACHEL HURD-WOOD:
A MODERN GOTHIC STARLET**

**PLUS: Richard Branson, Sienna
Miller and Nicolas Sarkozy**

Introducing A London Lichtenstein

Paul Normansell, with his
Glamorous Indie Rock and Roll, at
Notting Hill's Wanted Gallery



Model artist **Paul Normansell** pops up

Paul Normansell, 30, from Stoke Newington, describes his portraits of celebrities as a cross between pointillism and pop art. He shows his paintings in London, America and Japan, selling them for £3,000 to £6,000 each, and he did the artwork for The Killers album *Day & Age*. 'I absolutely loved doing that. The band was very cool and laidback.' One of his nine Kate Moss paintings hangs in the Rimmel head office. It's a long way from his upbringing in Birmingham, the son of an electrician and a housewife. 'I really don't know where I get my talent from, nobody else in the family is even remotely artistic,' he says.

Were you always drawing as a child?

Not at all, it was only because I was bored in school that I started doodling dots. I realised that with dots you can create an image, so I started to connect those dots and that turned into portraits. Then I went to art college in Birmingham and things evolved from there.

Why Kate Moss?

I started painting Kate Moss about six years ago and she became a bit of an obsession. She just looks so different in every image and that makes it interesting for me to paint her. But I've recently started doing a lot of Agyness Deyn portraits because, well, she's the new Kate Moss, isn't she?

Where do you get your inspiration from?

Music. I actually want to be a musician but I don't play any instruments and I'm probably not very talented, so I turn sounds into colours. All of my art is titled after a song lyric. I love Radiohead, Justice, Damien Rice, Daft Punk...

Who do you admire?

YBA Ian Davenport, he of the poured gloss paintings, for one, and the Irish conceptual artist who taught the YBAs, Michael Craig-Martin. I also really like modern Japanese artist Takashi Murakami. I love how he uses his colour palette.

Which are your favourite paintings?

Probably my latest Kate Moss painting and Agyness Deyn number one. When I finish a painting and take a step back to look at it, there are always a few bits I'm not really keen on, but I really like those two.

Sylvia Mulder

An exhibition of Paul's work is at Wanted Gallery, 15B Blenheim Crescent, W11, until Sunday (agallery.co.uk)

'I started painting **Kate Moss** six years ago and she became a bit of an **obsession**'