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AND ENTREPRENEUR

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Alea Vigil

Hello Alea!

Please tell our audience your name and where from originally. "My name is Alea Vigil, and I'm originally from Denver, Colorado. My journey into modeling has been anything but traditional. I grew up facing a lot of challenges—losing my father at a young age, time in foster care, and later surviving a decade of domestic violence. For a while, I thought my dream of modeling was over.

But modeling became my lifeline. It restored my confidence, gave me my voice back, and reminded me of who I am. I began live brand modeling at Dolly's in Denver in 2012, and by 2014 I had my first official shoot with Dillon McWhite at Dragon Pancake Studios. From there, everything began to grow—I even made prohibition history by launching The Real Stoner High Girls, the first-of-its-kind modeling agency.

Modeling has been more than just a career for me—it's been a journey of survival, empowerment, and transformation."

Tell us your story/How did you get into Modeling? "My brand, The Real Stoner High Girls, has been fortunate to gain major recognition, including features alongside our brothers The Hated Crew in Billboard Music, The Hype Magazine, The Source, and even MTV. On a personal

level, I've been published in MAXIM over 80 times and recently graced the cover of the French fashion publication Maxi Magazine, along with countless independent magazines.

In 2019, I won the People's Choice Award for Model of the Year, and I've been honored with three total nominations. I was also nominated for a Cannabis Business Award for Woman of the Year. My work has even been recognized by Hustler Magazine, who featured the swingers club I co-founded, 'Club Amorous.'

Beyond print, I've made appearances in music videos with artists like DJ UNK, Lil Flip, Baby Eazy-E, Afroman, Stevie Stone, and several incredible local talents. I also appeared in a PBS documentary about Queen Palmer in Colorado Springs.

One of my proudest milestones was becoming an official Playboy Bunny—a dream I achieved a year and a half ago after Playboy accepted my application. Along the way, I've had the privilege of doing numerous radio interviews and news features that continue to share my story and my work with wider audiences."

Tell us about your experiences working with Maxim and Playboy and others that stand out. "My experiences with Playboy and Maxim Magazine have truly been a dream come true. I can remember sneaking peeks at my stepfather's Playboy collection when I was younger and being mesmerized by the beautiful women on those pages. I wanted to look like them, to embody that kind of glamour **and confidence. By the**

time I was 17, I had a Playboy Bunny tattooed on my stomach as a symbol of that dream—even though I never imagined it would one day become a reality.

What makes today's industry so unique is the way technology has reshaped the path for models. It's no longer just about walking into an agency with a portfolio and comp cards. Now, we're creating new standards and new platforms to empower and recruit models in fresh ways. Maxim has pioneered this through their contest-based model tiers, and Playboy is about to launch Playboy Selects for the very first time online—I'm proud to share that I'm already set up and approved to compete.

When Hugh Hefner passed, The Real Stoner High Girls honored him with a special tribute shoot, because for so many of us, his legacy symbolized not only beauty and glamour but also freedom of expression. To now be part of the Playboy family as an official Bunny is something my younger self could have only dreamed of."

Have you appeared in any Shows in connection with the magazines? "I have some really exciting projects on the horizon. On October 1st, I'll be competing in the Playboy Selects Competition, which is their new online platform to discover the next Playmate publication feature. It's such an honor to already be approved and part of that launch.

On September 20th, I'll be appearing as a special celebrity model guest at Santa Fe Nights in Denver—a fashion and car show where I'll be walking the runway for designer Cherie Niola. Cherie and I have both had our work featured in Maxim Magazine, so it's going to be an incredible collaboration.

I also have a shoot scheduled with Frank LeBoeuf, one of Colorado's most recognized photographers and founder of Models of Colorado (MOC) Magazine. In addition, I'm working on scheduling another radio interview with my dear friend Dr. Kush on 1Blunt Radio 92.9FM in Denver. Dr. Kush has appeared on MTV and even did an interview with Nancy Grace, so it's always a fun and dynamic conversation with him.

This upcoming interview will cover my journey with Playboy and Maxim, my cover feature with Maxi Magazine, my history-making agency The Real Stoner High Girls, and of course—what's next.”

What advice would you offer those considering modeling as a profession? “Through my agency, we provide every signed model with a Model Safety Handbook, and my biggest piece of advice is to always practice it. Safety, professionalism, and self-respect should come first—because while modeling is supposed to be fun, it also needs to be empowering.

To anyone considering modeling, I always encourage you to give it a shot—you never know where it can take you. When I first started, people laughed at me. If I had listened to the negativity or allowed myself to be discouraged, I wouldn't be where I am today. Instead, I chose to challenge myself and keep going.

The truth is, the worst thing anyone can say to you is ‘no.’ But there’s always another 50% chance of hearing ‘yes.’ That’s why I tell aspiring models: bet on yourself, take risks, and don’t wait for opportunity to come to you—sometimes you have to step up and grab it before it passes you by.”



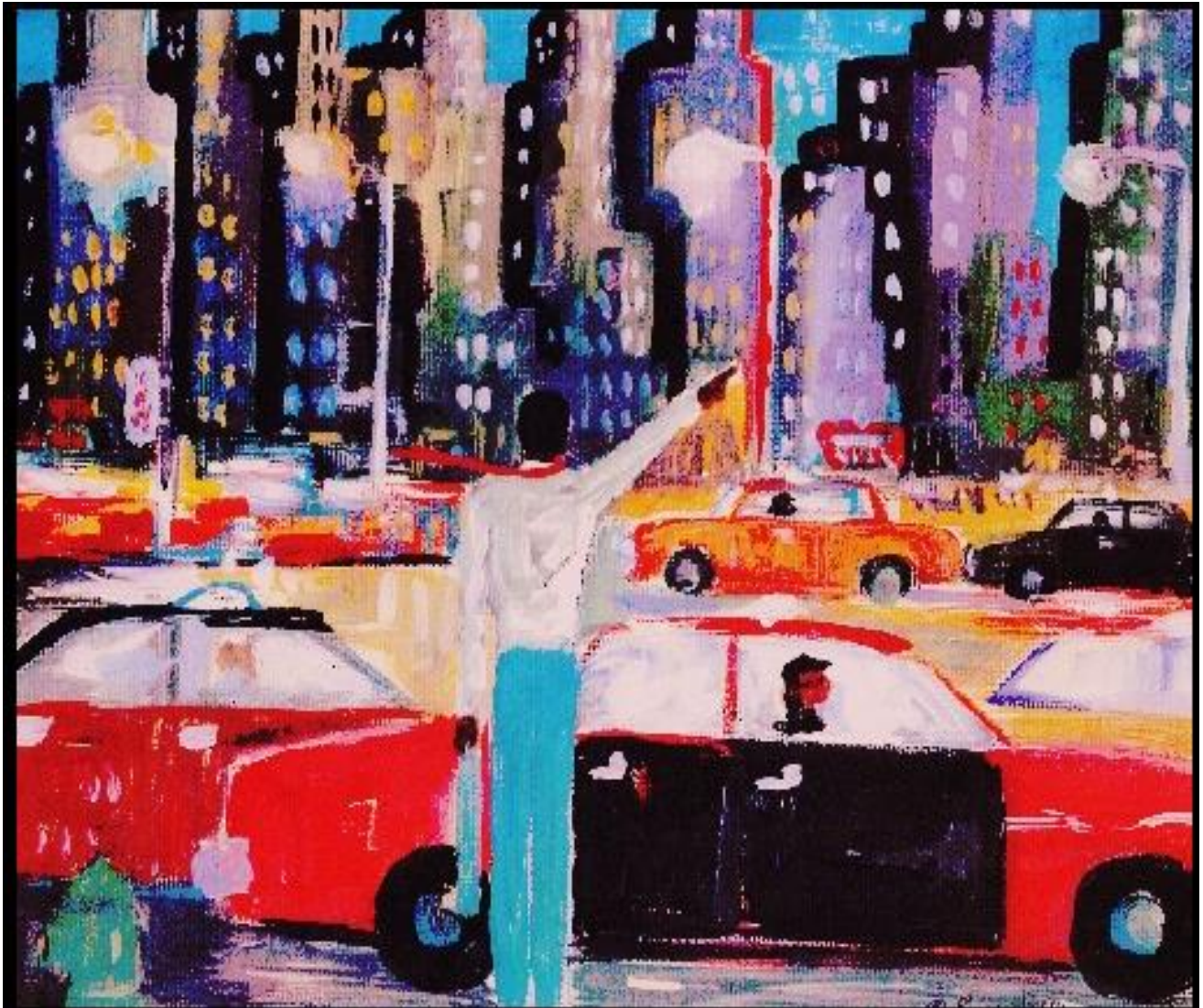
Photographer: Mark Weitz/Elegance Imaging





CAT'S MEOW PHOTOGRAPHY

EMMETT WILLIAMS



TAXI!







MUSIC FOR THE SOUL

You go to a Bar and you think it's to drink your troubles away. You only half right. You go in and a nurse, I mean a waitress serves you an anesthetic/drink and the Dr. is on the way in to work your soul. You learn Miles Davis is on call. He prescribes a tune called, **I Gotta Right to Sing the Blues**.....to get your soul healed this evening. **Sarah Vaughan** and **Billie Holiday** are gonna do the crying for you **through the Art of Jazz Music**, so save your tears for home where your trouble started...the devil is after your peace of mind again, so you fled to safety. **Frank Sinatra**, Old Blue Eyes is gonna let you know in song, that you ain't the only one with girl troubles *buddy-boy*. You hear honesty in their tones, that resonate, and reflect back their own scar tissue upon hearing their lyrics. **Amy Winehouse**, a vocal genius, melodically crying and dying while performing for the benefit of all around her, with no one to Sing her whole again.

Miles Davis

Listening to Miles you can hear a 'heroic' tone come through, a determined steady March towards the goal of respect, for one's self, craft or people perhaps. The whole of American Jazz Musicians, marching, if you will, and on the same page of Sheet Music towards respect for what I would call Classical or Modern Classical Music's inclusive form. Billie Holiday and others, mighty in talent found their way to Carnegie Hall in their own time, and Godspeed where they belonged. I see all Music truthfully as Soul Music, as it is or can be a healing tool, like a surgeon's instrument, notice how medical tools and Musicians tools are called Instruments, as they both have healing powers. The Singers Song and Musicians notes, REACH into you, by different means, but similar effects. You feel...better after someone

tries at least to remove what ails you. **Elevator to the Gallows** and **Solea** play in my studio endlessly some days.

I marvel at the last works of **Johnny Cash** and **David Bowie**. Country Cool...and a once glittering Glam Rock god, poured out their unique souls into Musical Shot Glasses and served us all ***One for the Road***.

Listening to positive sounds, songs and some audio mirrors of our pain to let us know, "Hey..me too, I've been there!"

Miles' notes appear slowly as they are allowed out of the horn and hover a bit to build the suspense in your heart. Then they start their March, then the notes Stagger purposefully, then ascend up to their peak and let the notes fall sublimely.

The Best Artists/Musicians never stop learning and interpreting life's experiences with style, and power, leaving an eternal mark on the world who comes upon their work in various forms long after their lives end. Below is a piece I call DIZZY BLUE an original oil on canvas.

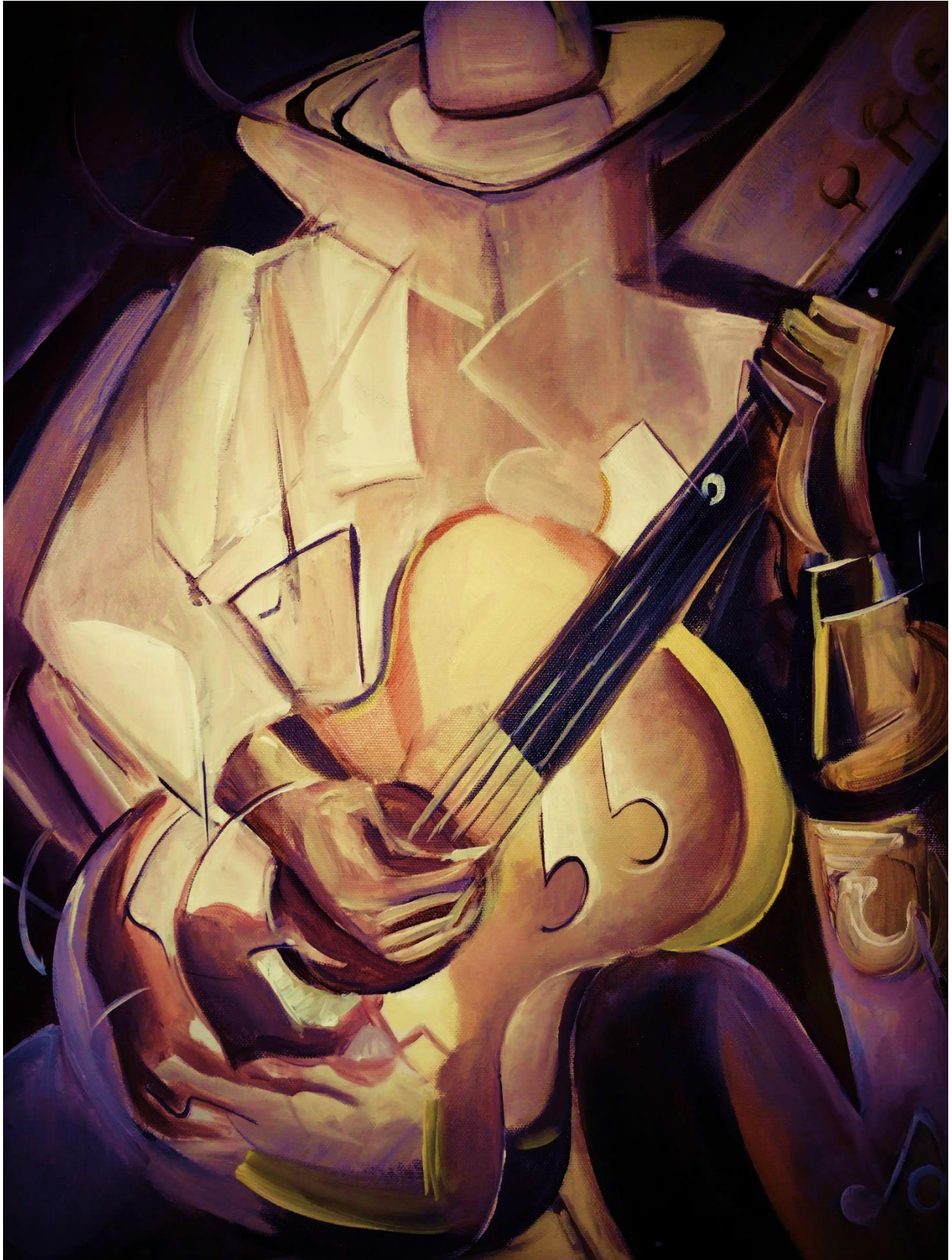




“A Horn Called Coltrane”



"BeBop"



“Ghost Guitar”



“Femme Blanco”



“Urban Blue”



"The Cubist"



“Red Curtains”



“Urban Venus”



"Legs"



“Georgina in English Class”



Self-Portrait as a Dishwasher in Washington, DC. Below Dizzy Gillespie.





“Cubist Woman”



“Hands of a Jazz Piano Player”



So I will end with this Editorial of a sort. A few decades passed the images of the dude trying to hail a Taxi and the Dishwasher and that Limo photo. Both of those guys were me in my dead-end jobs. But while I was doing those jobs I dreamed, however I realize now, 'dreaming' really doesn't describe what really happens in one's head. It's actually focus. Ability to see only what belongs in your life. Put it in your thoughts, and eliminate all else that's not your reality. I made minimum wage..but dreamed of having a Gallery with my name on it.

And then I did that, many more times to the point where in my dreams, that was now the starting point. I seized my first building without a cent in my pocket. I focused on the deal I would pitch a Lawyer who owned the building I chose a year earlier and said nothing. It took 12 minutes to get the key and a contract in my hands and time to renovate it. I asked for and got total creative control over the exterior. I used the renovation process to build interest, and used my powers to mural it u with famous athletes and Jazz Musicians paintings hung in the window spaces. Then came the Press, one by one, then captains of Industry, and Politicians etc. Anything can be done. You can't listen to anyone who says it can't be done. Only business folks would have the faith and will to assist in a big dream. Critics will criticize and Spectators will just do that. Doers Do. I will tell you one thing that is true, if you are certain of the goal, the only way is to conquer your own fears and go and seize it. I limited my own self for a long time, I just wanted rich clients, like the guy who popped out of a Limo with 5 hot dolls, and dude was 80+ years old to see my show. I had only been I the city a month. Dreams do not have limits, so use that and dream bigger.

Before I go I must say to our Cover Girl Alea Vigil for a fantastic Interview! This is a Force of Nature. I'm sure you'll see her in another EM issue, and hopefully soon!

