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ALIEN NATION

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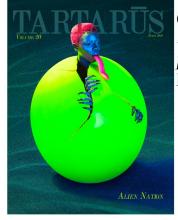
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Letter from the Editor



Nora Kobrenik photographed by Jenessa Michelle | "The Astronaut's Wife" February 2020

It's hard to imagine that I've dreamed up this magazine, this idea 5 years ago. 20 volumes ago I watched Viktoria Modersta's music video for her song "Prototype" and thought that this is the type of things I want to see created and to create myself. I wanted to create something so out of this world that it wouldn't have a shelf to fit on. Something that was in the league of its own. Tartarus was forged in the deepest recesses of my psyche from history and myth and an entirely extra terrestrial spark. In Volume 20 I gave in to our most unusual and alien impulses, Alien Nation explores our relationship with the unknown. It explores extra terrestrial from every imaginable angle, we question whether aliens are indeed real, what's hiding in Area 51 and how this current

pandemic of Coronavirus started and how it spreads. I myself am personally a huge believer in the supernatural and the paranormal. Our universe is vast with all of space, time, planets, stars, galaxies, and all other forms of matter and energy. I believe that we cannot be the only life form out there, all that space and time must hold something else. That something else may be in the form of bacteria not visible to the naked eye or it can be a fully evolved race of humanoids equipped with tentacles and no visible irises or it can be masses of gas floating above lakes of poisoned glass. No matter what - we are not alone out there. Let me prove it to you.

Welcome to the issue.

Nora Kobrenik Editor-in-Chief and Founder



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BATTLE FOR TERRA PHOTOGRAPHY BY ASHOT GEVORKYAN









Devil Girls



From Mars



Photographed by Pol Kurucz













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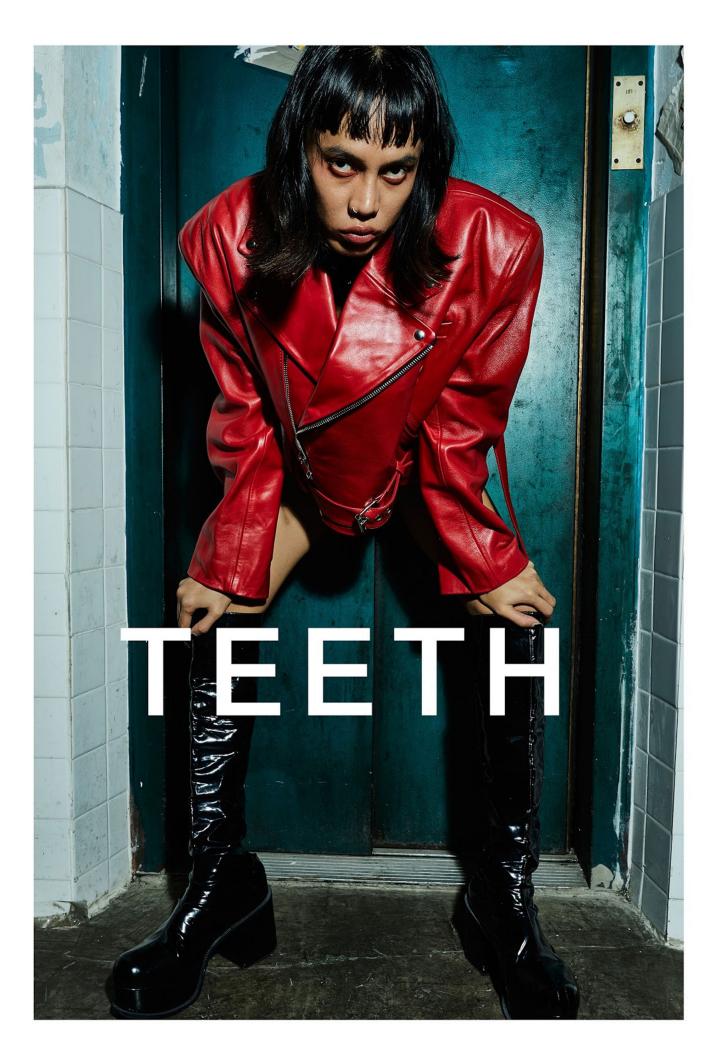










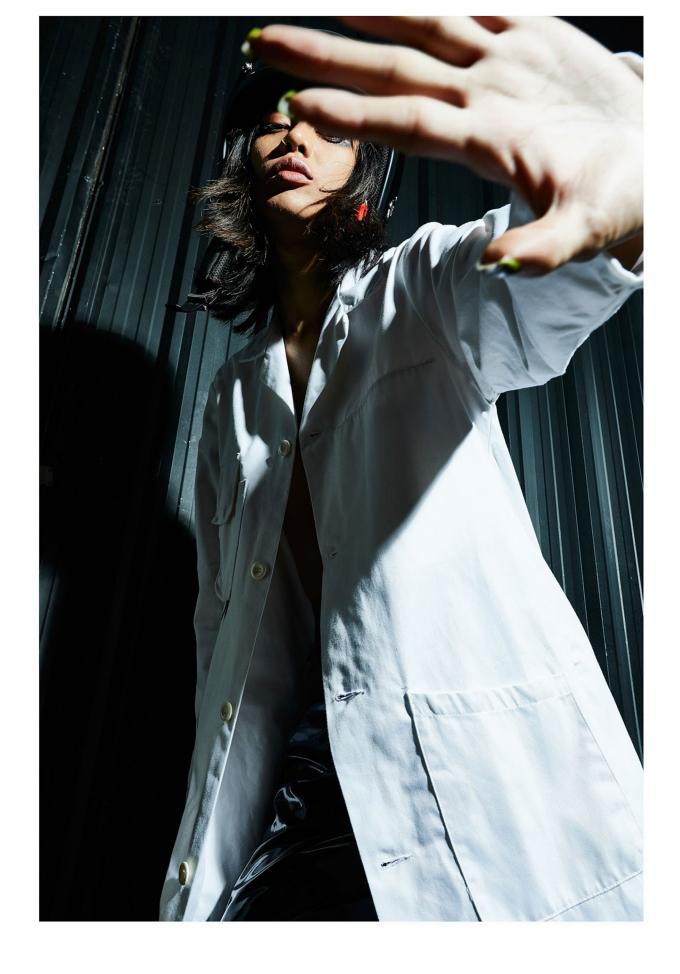
























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VIIA MOGLIE E UN'ALIE
PHOTOGRAPHED BY ANDREA TORRESAN
JOLENE MANNA CONTEMPLATES ALIEN ABDUCTION

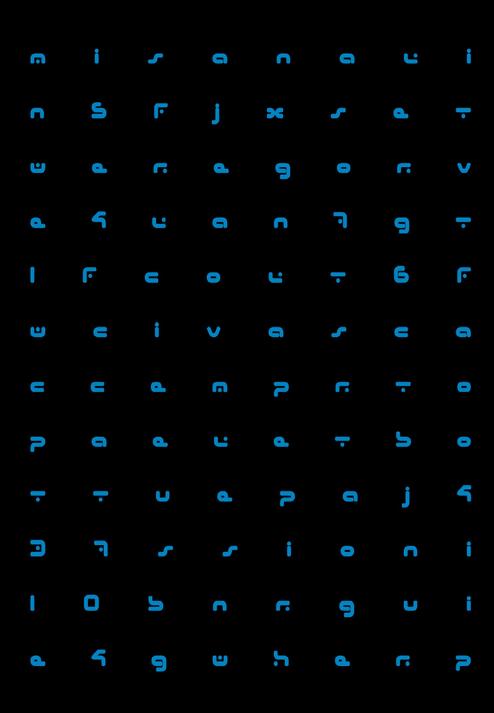


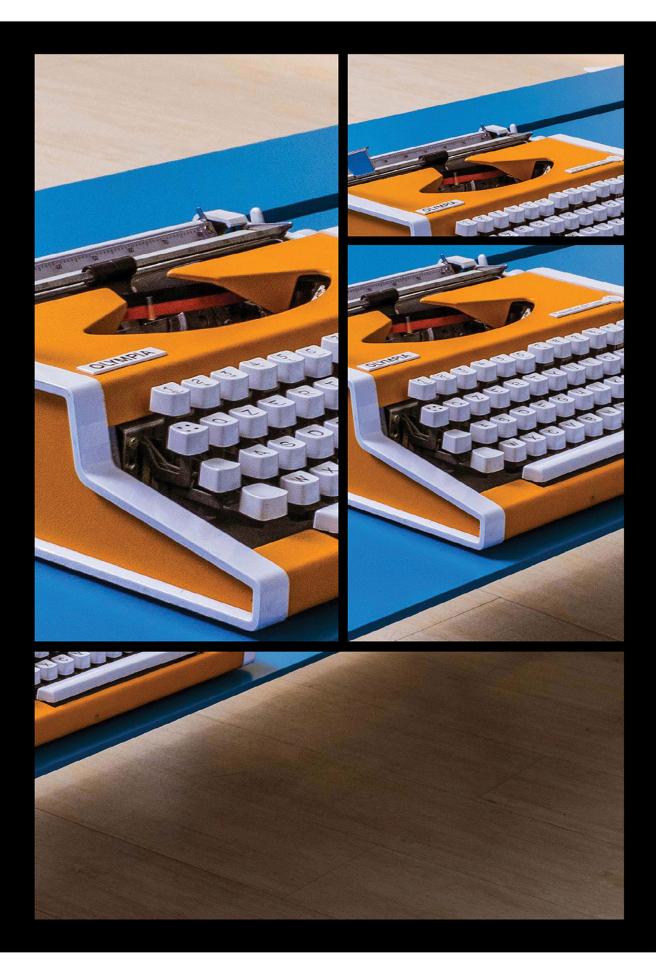












hile the term "alien abduction" did not achieve widespread attention until the 1960s, modern speculation about some older stories interpreted them as possible cases. Mainstream scientists reject claims that the phenomenon literally occurs as reported. However, there is little doubt that many apparently stable persons who report alien abductions believe their experiences were real. John E. Mack, John Wilson, Rima Laibow and David Gotlib assessed that while psychopathology was associated to some cases, most reports were from sane, common people. Some abduction reports are quite detailed. An entire subculture has developed around the subject, with support groups and a detailed mythos explaining the reasons for abductions: The various aliens (Greys, Reptilians, "Nordics" and so on) are said to have specific roles, origins, and motivations. Abduction claimants do not always attempt to explain the phenomenon, but some take independent research interest in it themselves and explain the lack of greater awareness of alien abduction as the result of either extraterrestrial or governmental interest in cover-up. Although different cases vary in detail (sometimes significantly), some UFO researchers, such as folklorist Thomas E. Bullard argue that there is a broad, fairly consistent sequence and description of events that make up the typical "close

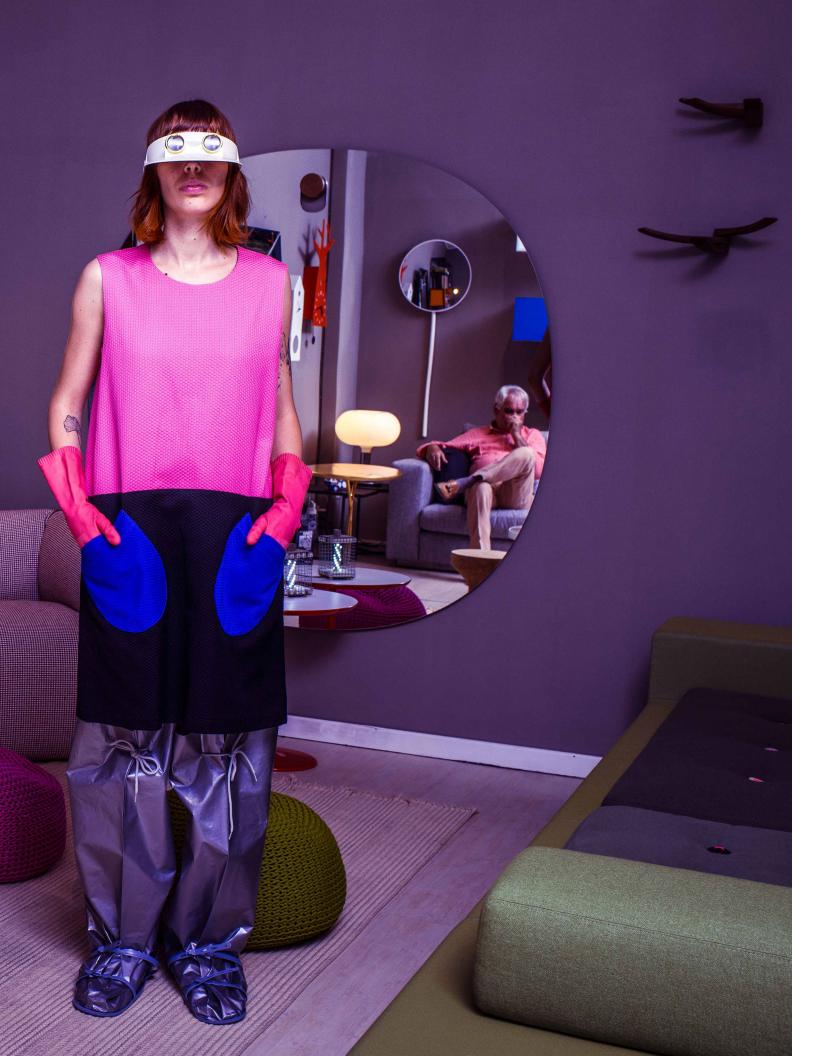
encounter of the fourth kind" (a popular but unofficial designation building on J. Allen Hynek's classifications). Though the features outlined below are often reported, there is some disagreement as to exactly how often they actually occur.

Bullard argues most abduction accounts feature the following events. They generally follow the sequence noted below, though not all abductions feature all the events:

- 1. Capture. The abductee is somehow rendered incapable of resisting, and taken from terrestrial surroundings to an apparent alien spacecraft.
- 2. Examination and Procedures. Invasive physiological and psychological procedures, and on occasion simulated behavioral situations, training & testing, or sexual liaisons.
- 3. Conference. The abductors communicate with the abductee or direct them to interact with specific individuals for some purpose, typically telepathically but sometimes using the abductee's native language.
- 4. *Tour.* The abductees are given a tour of their captors' vessel, though this is disputed by some researchers









ho consider this definition a confabulation of intent when just apparently being taken around to multiple places inside the ship.

5. Loss of Time. Abductees often rapidly forget the majority of their experience, either as a result of fear, medical intervention, or both.

6. Return. The abductees are returned to earth, occasionally in a different location from where they were allegedly taken or with new injuries or disheveled clothing.

7. Theophany. Coinciding with their immediate return, abductees may have a profound sense of love, a "high" similar to those induced by certain drugs, or a "mystical experience", accompanied by a feeling of oneness with God, the universe, or their abductors. Whether this is the result of a metaphysical

change, Stockholm syndrome, or prior medical tampering is often not scrutinized by the abductees at the time.

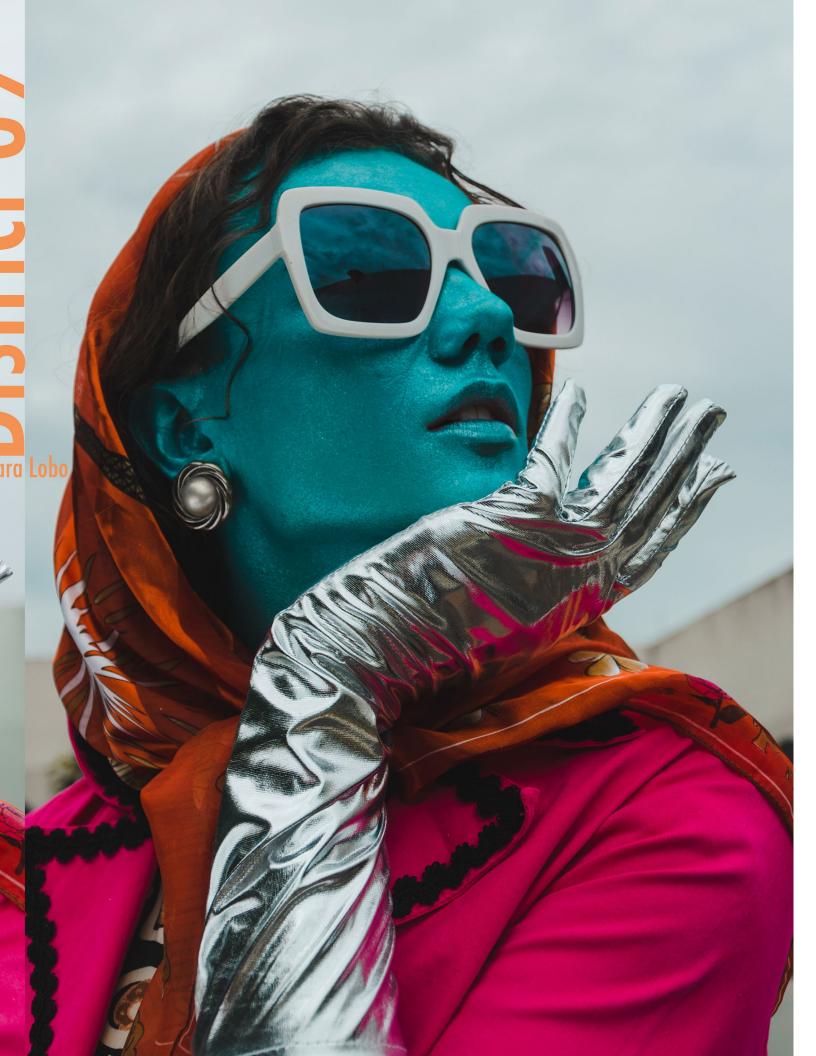
8. Aftermath. The abductee must cope with the psychological, physical, and social effects of the experience.

When describing the "abduction scenario", David M. Jacobs says: "The entire abduction event is precisely orchestrated. All the procedures are predetermined. There is no standing around and deciding what to do next. The beings are task-oriented and there is no indication whatsoever that we have been able to find of any aspect of their lives outside of performing the abduction procedures."





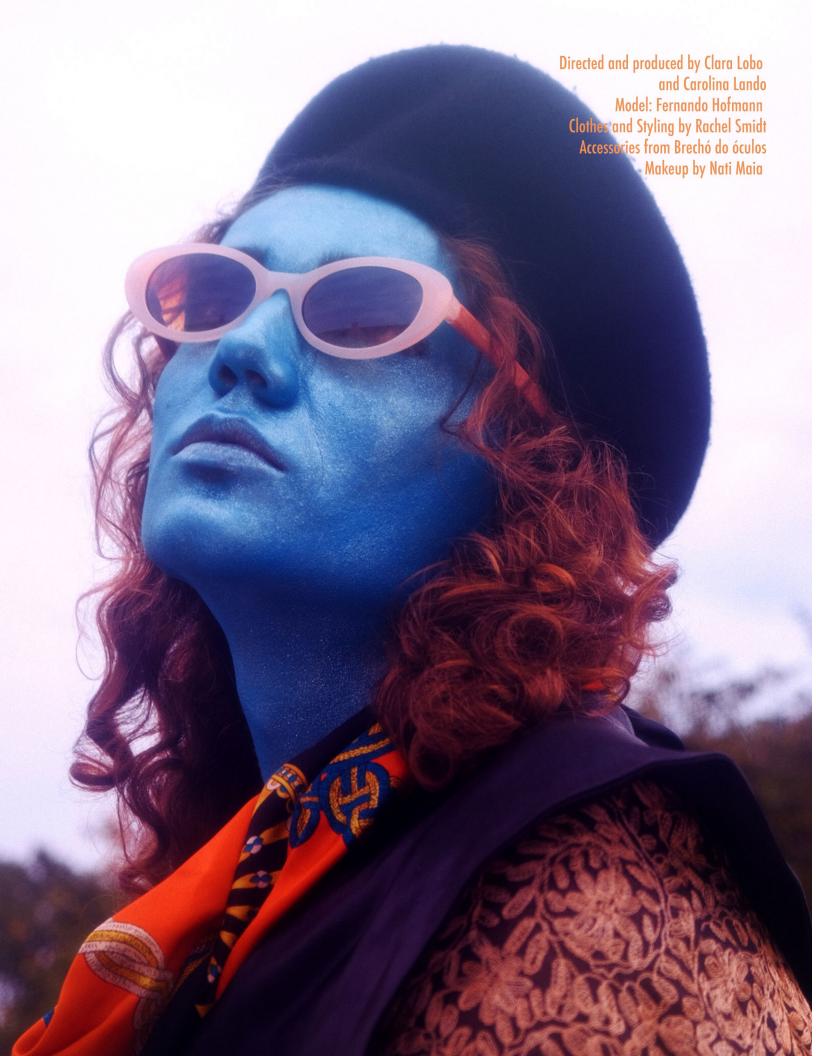






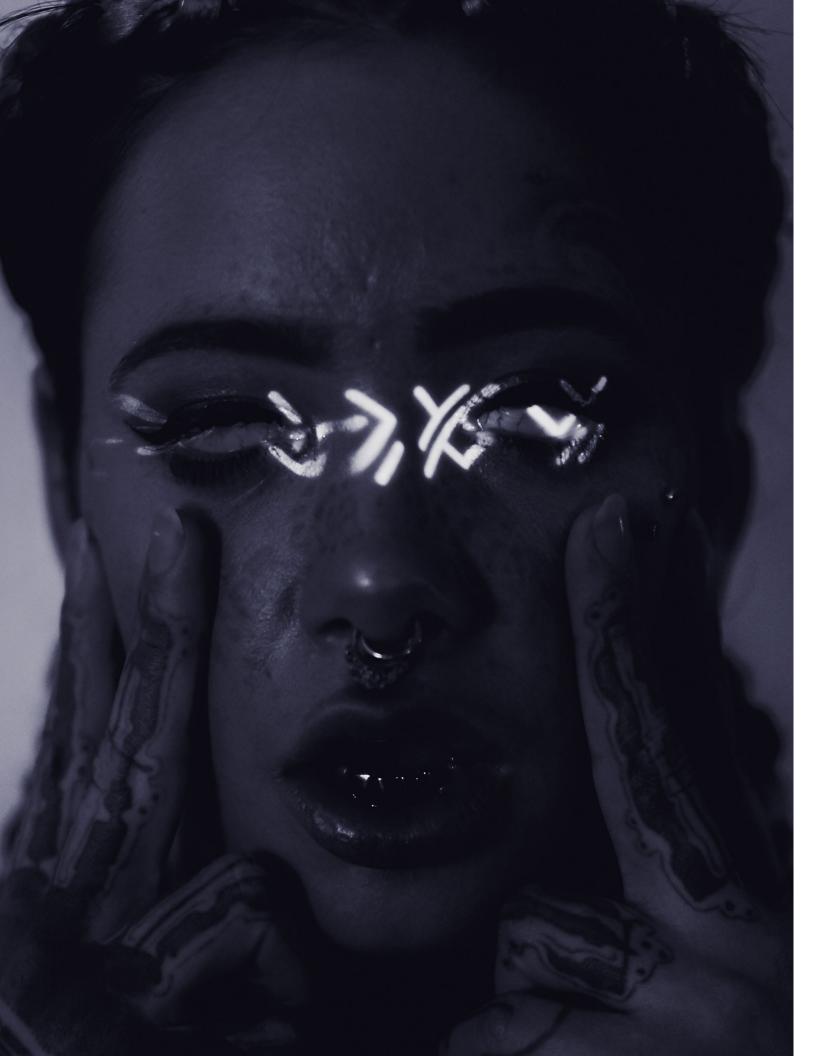






THE VISITOR

PHOTOGRAPHED BY CLAUDIO FOCO TRAVIS ORTA ON CORONAVIRUS









020 greeted us with an outbreak of 2019-nCoV most commonly known as coronavirus. Wuhan is the capital of Hubei and is the seventh-largest city in China, with a population of more than 11 million people. It has been a major transport hub of the country throughout the ages, long known as the "Nine Provinces' Thoroughfare" and now as the epicenter of the outbreak. During December 2019, a cluster of cases displaying the symptoms of a "pneumonia of unknown cause" was linked to Huanan Seafood Wholesale Market, which had a thousand stalls selling fish, chickens, pheasants, bats, marmots, venomous snakes, spotted deer, and other wild animals. In January 2020, the hypothesis was that this was a novel coronavirus from an animal source. Coronaviruses mainly circulate among other animals but have been known to evolve and infect humans as in the cases of severe acute respiratory syndrome (SARS) and Middle East respiratory syndrome (MERS) together with four further coronaviruses that cause mild respiratory symptoms similar to the common cold. 2019-nCoV's genome sequence is 75- to 80-percent identical to SARS-CoV, and more than 85-percent similar to several bat coronaviruses. All coronaviruses known to infect humans have been shown to spread between people. Transmission of coronaviruses is primarily thought to occur among close contacts via respiratory droplets generated by sneezing and coughing. Those infected may be asymptomatic or have mild to severe symptoms, like fever, cough, shortness of breath, and diarrhea. The time from exposure to onset of symptoms is estimated at 2 to 10 days by the World Health Organization, and 2 to 14 days by the US

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). Upper respiratory symptoms such as sneezing, a runny nose or sore throat are less frequent. Cases of severe infection can result in pneumonia, kidney failure, and death. The natural wildlife reservoir of the 2019-nCoV and intermediate host that transmitted the 2019-nCoV to humans has not been confirmed. However, it is likely that the primary reservoir for the virus is bats. Research suggests that the 2019 novel coronavirus has possible bat origins, as 2019-nCoV is 96% identical at the whole genome level to a bat coronavirus identified in 2013. Earlier reports that snakes might have been the natural reservoir for the virus have been widely disputed. Some argued that the reservoir must be bats and the intermediate host, bird or mammal, not snakes (as snakes, unlike humans, are poikilotherms), while others used data on recombination and SARS/MERS codon usage bias to refute the reasoning. The recombination event mentioned probably happened in bats. The phylogenetic tree showed that 2019-nCoV significantly clustered with a Bat SARS-like Coronavirus sequence, whereas structural analysis revealed mutations in Spike Glycoprotein and nucleocapsid protein. The authors concluded 2019-nCoV is a coronavirus distinct from SARS virus that probably was transmitted from bats or another host that provided the ability to infect humans.



PHOTOGRAPHY BY POL KURUCZ

























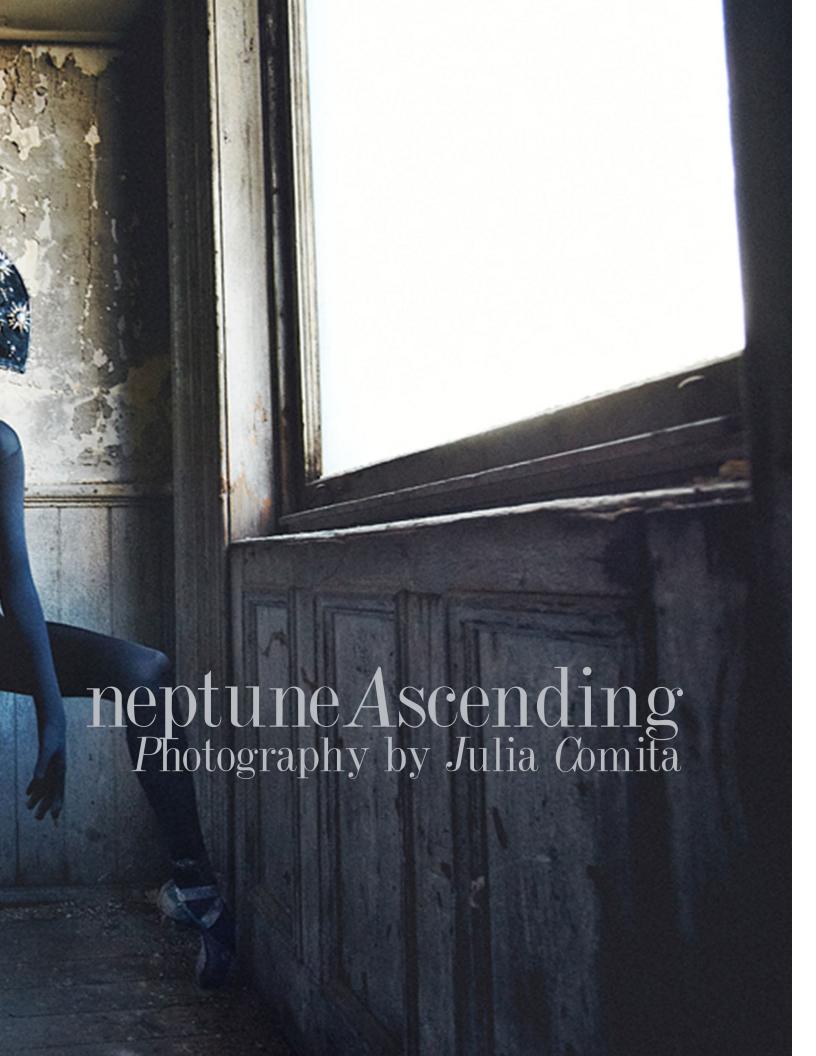










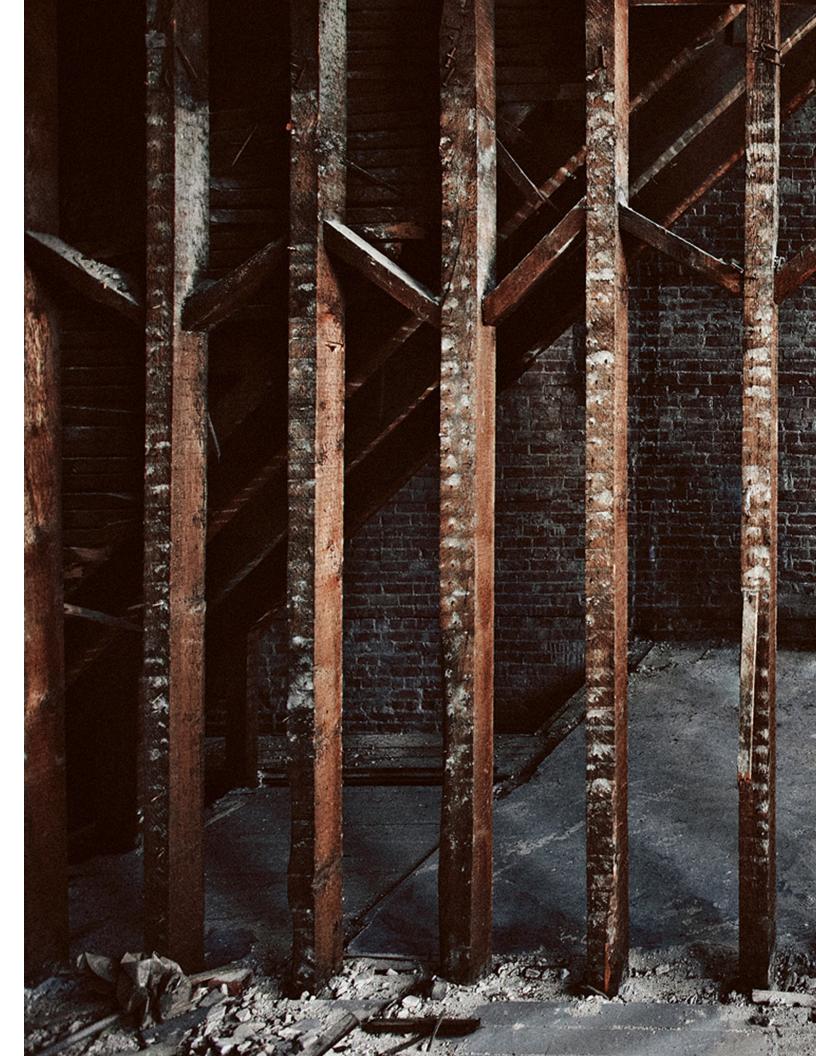
























AN EXCERPT FROM VICTOR TERRERO PHOTOGRAPHY BY JARRED PHOTOGRAPHY





get to the professor and boy am I out of shape! "Enough about that, that painting you did before about that thing you were seeing in your dreams - I need to see it now!" I yell.

"Why Jimmy, you said yourself that it was cra-..."

I cut the professor off, "Oh it's not crazy. Show me the painting."

"Ok," he says, "It's inside."

"Good. You lead", I follow behind the professor as he's practically dragging his dog who had unfinished business with the yard into the house and the second I step into his study I spot the painting. I run towards it grabbing whatever paint and bushes I could find. "Where's your turpentine, prof?, he hands me some colors, the turp and I get to work. I sit there for hours mixing colors, adding strokes to that canvas and waiting for paint to dry. Layer over layers, making no mistake of what I'm looking at, all the while both the creature and the professor are looking over my shoulder like children watching a colorful television show.

"I think you have the wrong color for my face, I don't think I'm brown," says the creature, "I'm more of a caramel color."

"Stop talking, you."

"Well, that's just rude!"

"Jimmy, who are you talking to?"

"You'll see!"

"OI! I'm talking to you, you can't just ignore me, especially now that I know you can see me." says the creature.

"I said shut up!"

"Jimmy, calm down there's no one here."

"OH, yes there is!", replies the creature annoyed. "You don't know how lonely it's been, just talking to myself."

"There, I'm done. Is this what you saw in your dreams all those year ago?" Big, doughy, sad eyes, beige skin, with a tiny build about the size of a small monkey. It looks like a Slow Loris if you had to compare it to something, but it isn't clinging to a tree, and can actually walk upright. The professor begins to tear up, "Yes, it's exactly what I saw. It's exactly what I used to see." he falls to his knees, "Where did you see this?"

"I'm seeing it right now. It's in this room as we speak." The professor stares at me with a look of shock as he finally realizes that all those sleepless nights trying to recreate the image of what he saw in his dreams weren't in vain.

We spent the entire day trying to understand what exactly he was, and getting a sense of where he came from, and why he was here. "So what are you exactly?" I asked. "I'm a Cranianthan from another world other than yours, where we lived for what would be in your

ense of time, millions of years. Until the Abyssal came, and drove us from our homes."

"I'm not going to call you a cranium, it draws wayyy too much attention to your large forehead," I said. "Cranie, yeah that's it. Cranie for short, kind of rolls off the tongue, don't you think?" "THE ABYSSAL, is a force of unimaginable greed and gluttony. It travels the universe looking for planets that have abundant life, on which it feeds upon until there is nothing left. It comes and swallows everything in it's path. Literally everything, and it corrupts anything it touches to use as servants to bring it more food. Until they outlive their usefulness, resulting in their deaths. There are other life forms on our planet which sided with the Abyssal in order to stay alive. The Crothons, are you could say a precursor of what a Cranianthan is today. They don't share our brain capacity, and what they lack in intelligence they make up for in brute strength.

"Wait, the one attached to my father is a Crothon?"

"Yes, but he is different. There was a splintered fraction of Crothons that didn't want to live under oppression. They sided with us, on the condition that they be left alone to their own devices."

"That doesn't explain what these tethers are, and why I'm the only one that seems to be able to see you and the tethers."

"There have been others throughout

your time that have seen us. But to explain as to why you can't see us - we created a hole into another dimension as a means to escape the Abyssal. Merely traveling to another world wouldn't have helped. It would have found us eventually. Gathering our resources we developed a way to travel between dimensions. We are virtually undetectable. Well to the ones who can't see us that is. But there are others like you like I said before."

"What about the tethers? And why doesn't the professor have one of you guys attached to him?"
"They are our life lines. They feed us."

"Feed. You!" I exclaimed. "Yes but not in the way you think. It's more of a symbiotic relationship. We feed off your emotions, your dreams, your positivity. We influence you to be great in return, thus fueling us with more positive energy. Crothons on the other hand feed on anger, laziness, and greed. The negativity increases them in might and size. As for your friend, the reason he can't see me is because I used to be the Cranianthan that he was attached to. He is a perfect steady supply of positive energy and it became boring if I'm being honest. That is until I saw



he negativity oozing from you. And saw the Crothon attached to you and wanted the challenge. I tricked the Crothon into leaving you and latching onto a dog, in return for me foregoing the relationship between me, and your friend. I would latch onto you."

"What is he saying Jim?"
Putting my hand on the Professors shoulder, "I'm sorry prof, but your friend is attached to me now. Which is why I know what he looks like. He left you because they feed on positive energy and found you too perfect. So perfect in fact that frankly he found you boring. He saw me reveling in negativity and he attached himself to me."

"Oh."

"They come from another world, and escaped because a being was essentially feeding on his people. Causing them to escape."

"Oh dear!" He yelled in shock.

"That's the gist anyway."

"Oh and you can't see him because he's tucked away in a different dimension."
"Yes, and you somehow gained the ability to peer into our dimension after being bonked on the head. It must have changed the frequency your brain works on."

"Whoa, that's cool. I gained a superpower! Wait... you said you

influence people to do things? Like to become better people or going to poo?"

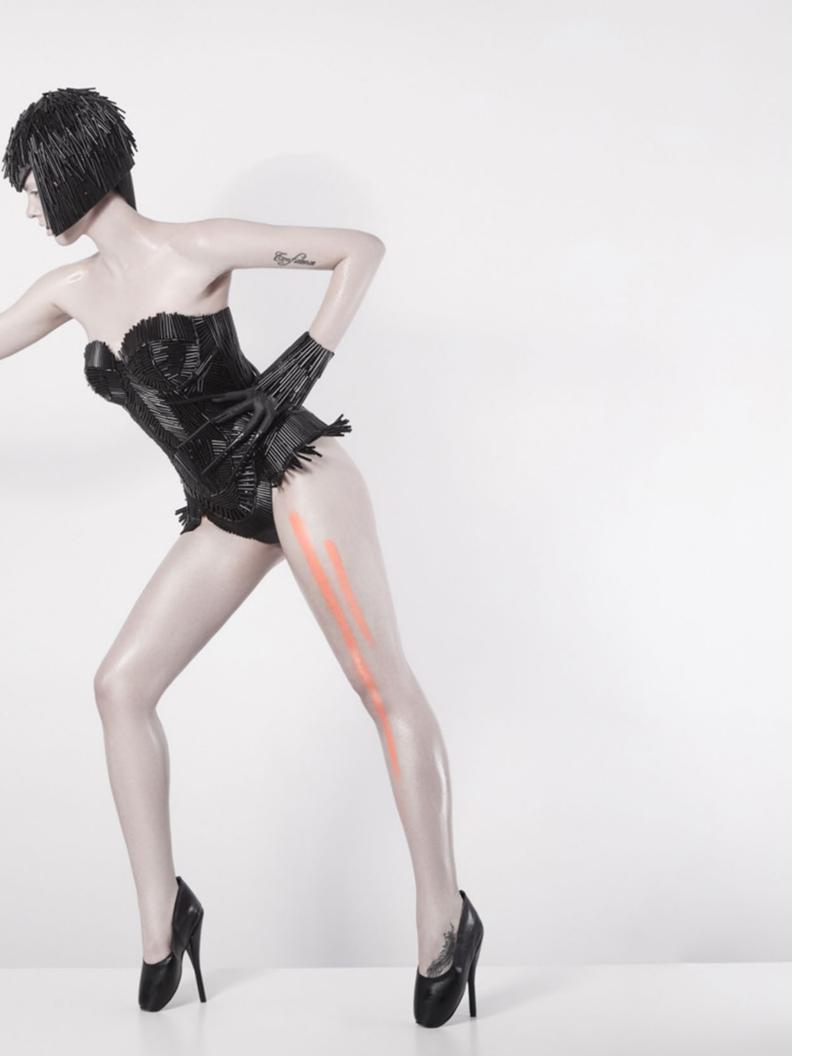
"I don't control your bodily functions, James. I can influence you to try something new, step out of your comfort zone, and overall become a better person. Although there are some who influence the wrong people. We can't change evil. Surging an evil person with positive energy creates an evil person with ambition. That's why throughout history you have some truly terrible people who were motivated enough to do very heinous things. We can't counteract that, although sometimes I wish we could." Hours and hours went by, and Cranie explained everything. At around 8pm we left the professor's place, as we were leaving he told me how happy he was that he wasn't crazy. How much it felt like a piece of him was restored, happy he was to see the Cranie helping me out of my negative slump. On the walk back home I could see the Cranies. Crothons out and about with their humans. But the only thing I could think about was what in the world was I getting myself into.



















n July 2019, more than 2,000,000 people responded to a joke proposal to storm Area 51; which appeared in an anonymous Facebook post. A further 1,500,000 people said they were interested in the event, scheduled for 20 September 2019, and billed as "Storm Area 51, They Can't Stop All of Us", an attempt to "see them aliens." Air Force spokeswoman Laura McAndrews said government officials knew about the proposal. In a statement to The Washington Post, she said: "Area 51 is an open training range for the U.S. Air Force, and we would discourage anyone from trying to come into the area where we train American armed forces. The U.S. Air Force always stands ready to protect America and its assets." The media reported that the proposal's creator has said it was satirical and meant as a joke. Between 1,500 and 3,000 people showed up at the festivals in rural Nevada, while over 150 people made the journey over several miles of rough roads to get near the gates to Area 51. In one instance, authorities dispersed 40 people gathered around the gate. Five people were reportedly arrested at the event. All jokes aside, what exactly is Area 51 because we're clearly not buying into Ms. McAndrews' explanation? The CIA

publicly acknowledged the existence of the base for the first time on June 25, 2013, following a Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) request filed in 2005. Details of the facility's operations are not publicly known, but the USAF says that it is an open training range, and it most likely supports the development and testing of experimental aircraft and weapons systems. Sure, sure. The intense secrecy surrounding the base has made it the frequent subject of conspiracy theories and a central component of unidentified flying object (UFO) folklore. The base has never been declared a secret base, but all research and occurrences in Area 51 are Top Secret/Sensitive Compartmented Information (TS/SCI). So let's all just agree that the base is being used as storage, examination, and reverse engineering of crashed alien spacecraft, including material supposedly recovered at Roswell, the study of their occupants, and the manufacture of aircraft based on alien technology. Because, what else can it possibly be?



















think every single one of us at one or another point in our lives seriously thought about aliens, I think we all question their existence regardless of our education or believe system. Every one of us is made up of atoms that were once part of an exploding star, including atomic carbon, nitrogen, and oxygen — some of the fundamental ingredients for life. Over billions of years, these ingredients condense to form gas clouds, new stars, and planets, which means that the ingredients, and therefore the potential, for life beyond Earth are scattered across the universe. What's more, a number of recent discoveries also strongly suggest that alien life exists, either in our own solar system or beyond. In 2015 a team of scientists estimated that about 4.5 billion years ago at least one-fifth of Mars was covered in an ocean more than 450 feet deep. Any signs of life that swam in these waters could therefore be hidden in the Martian soil. But water isn't enough. You also need time. As it happens, a study in 2014 discovered that water had existed on Mars for 200 million years longer than previously thought. What's more, there was life on Earth the same time as some of the last lakes on Mars. Asteroids and comets are key to the formation of life on Earth, scientists think. In particular, comet

impacts, likely caused amino acids to combine and form the building blocks of life. From what we know about solar-system formation, there are other comets in other planetary systems that could be doing the same thing right now. It's possible that life can only form and thrive on Earth-like planets, which would mean our only chance of detecting aliens is on planets beyond our solar system. 5 years ago scientists detected an Earth-like planet 1,400 light-years away. Its size, orbit, sun, and age provide the "opportunity for life to arise somewhere on the surface ... should all the necessary ingredients and conditions for life on this planet exist." If there are millions of intelligent alien civilizations out there, many ask, then why haven't we heard from them? It could be that our home galaxy, the Milky Way, is not an entirely hospitable galaxy for life, according to some scientific reports that suggests other galaxies in the universe could host 10,000x more habitable planets than the Milky Way. Either way we know in our heart of hearts that we're not alone out

there.









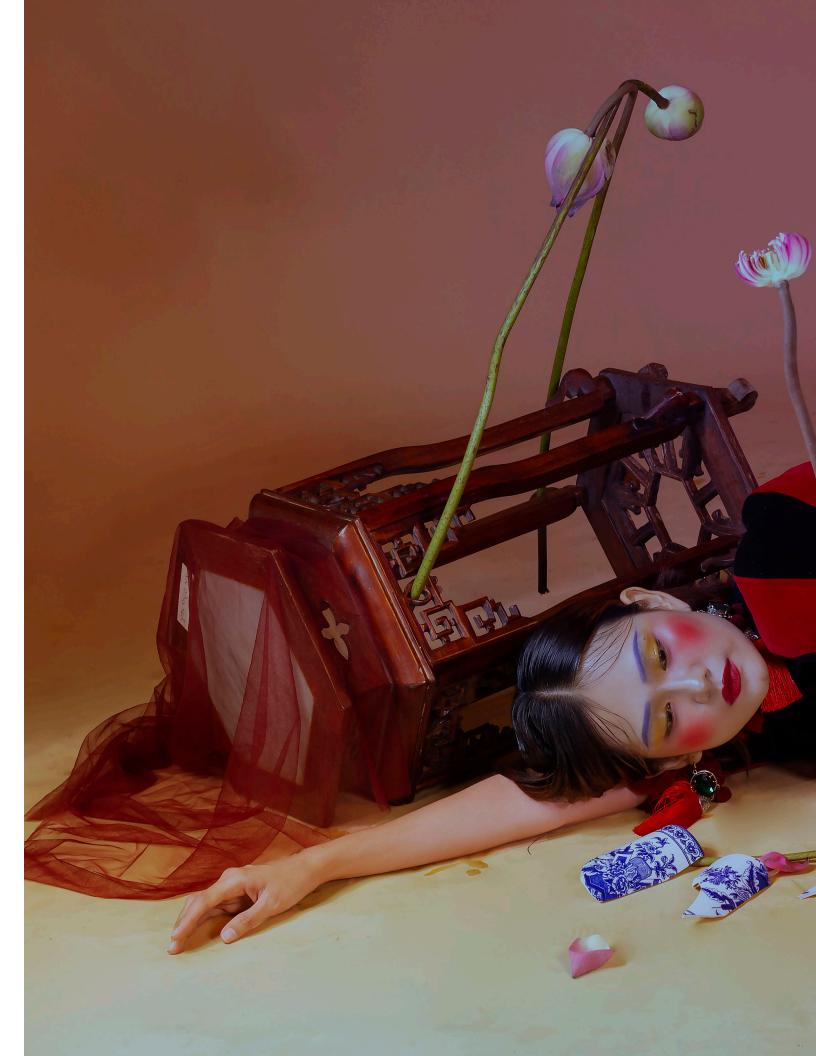












CHIRON DUONG'S THE LAST STARFIGHTER











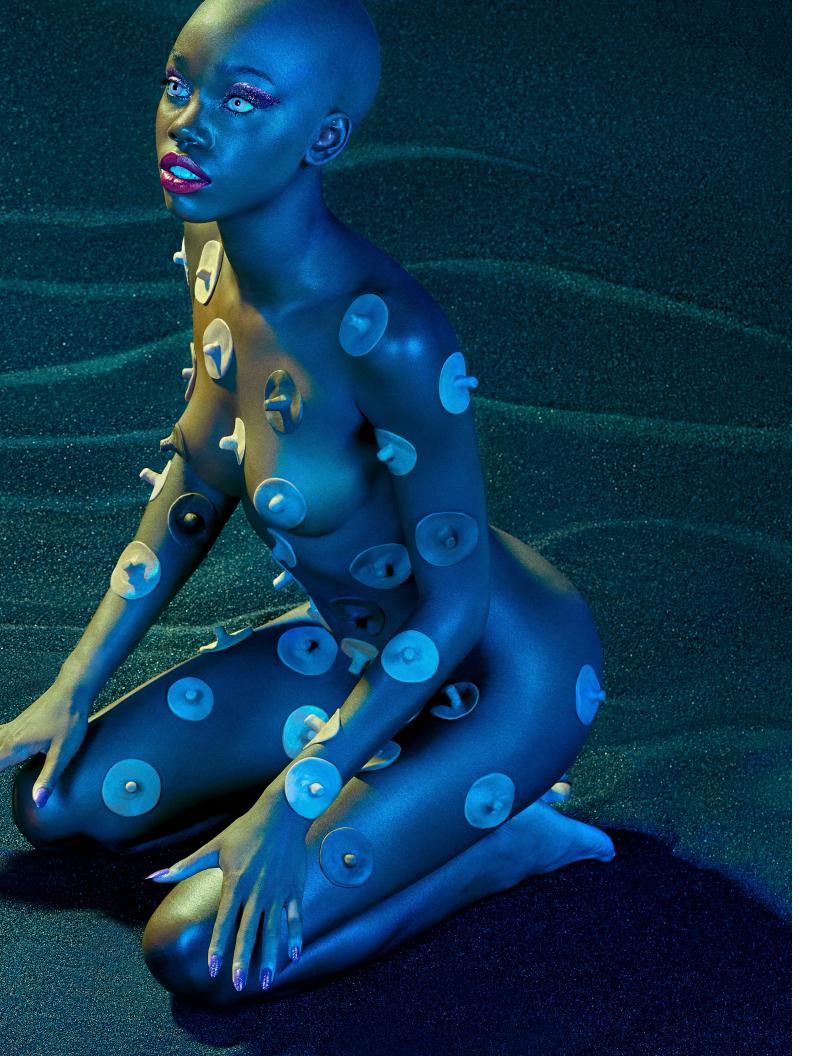




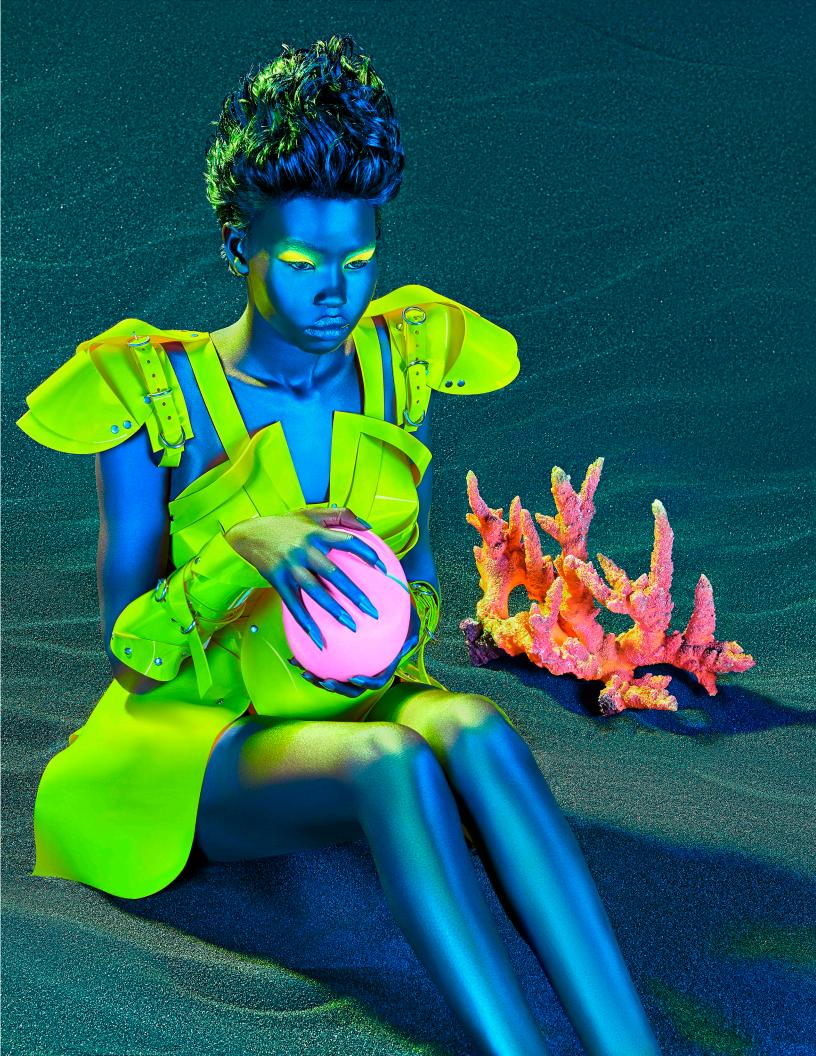


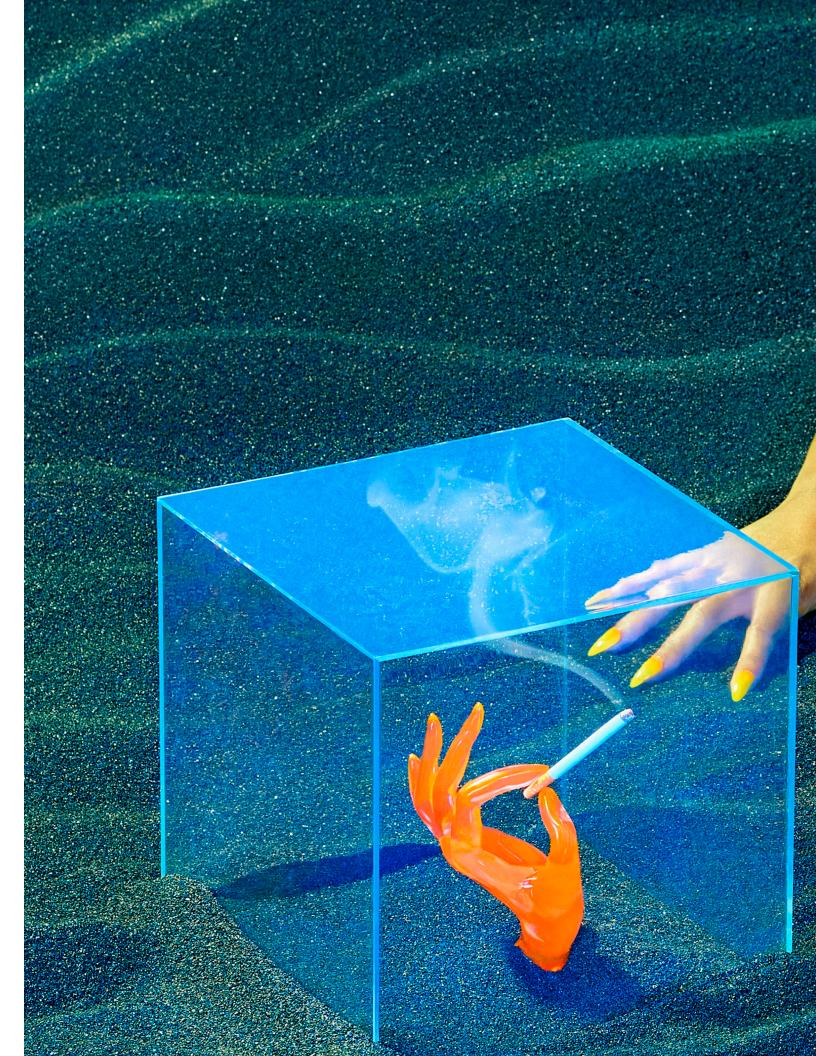


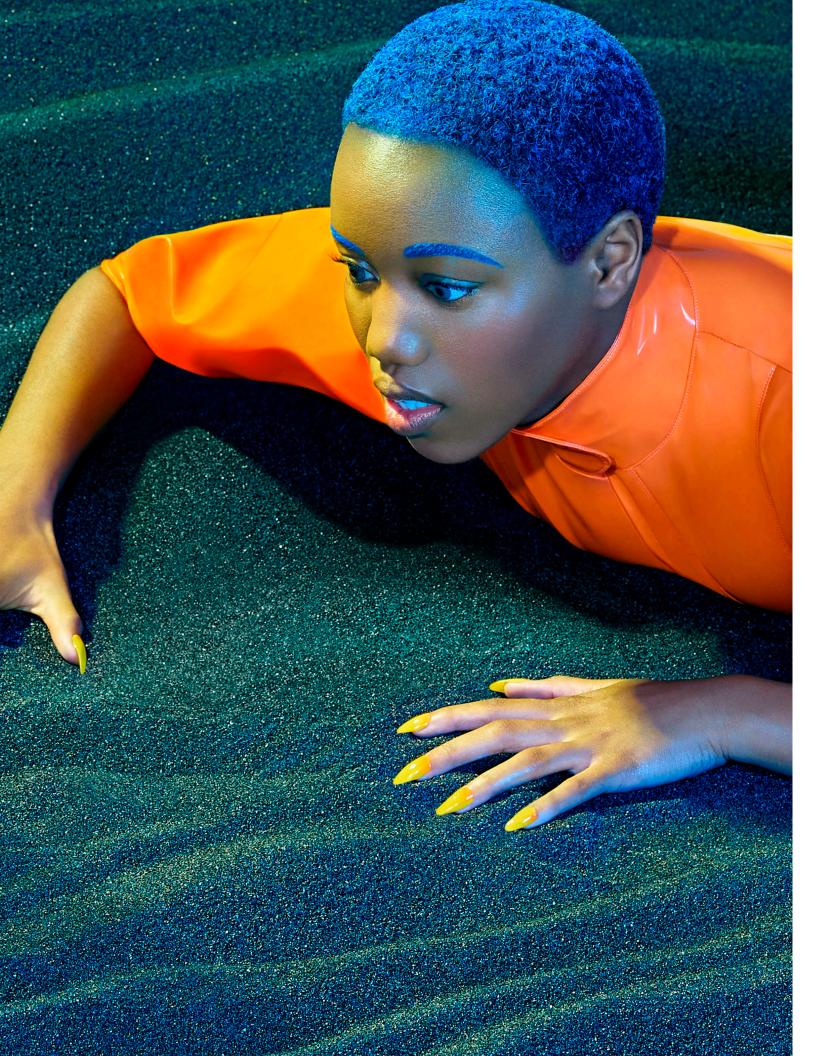
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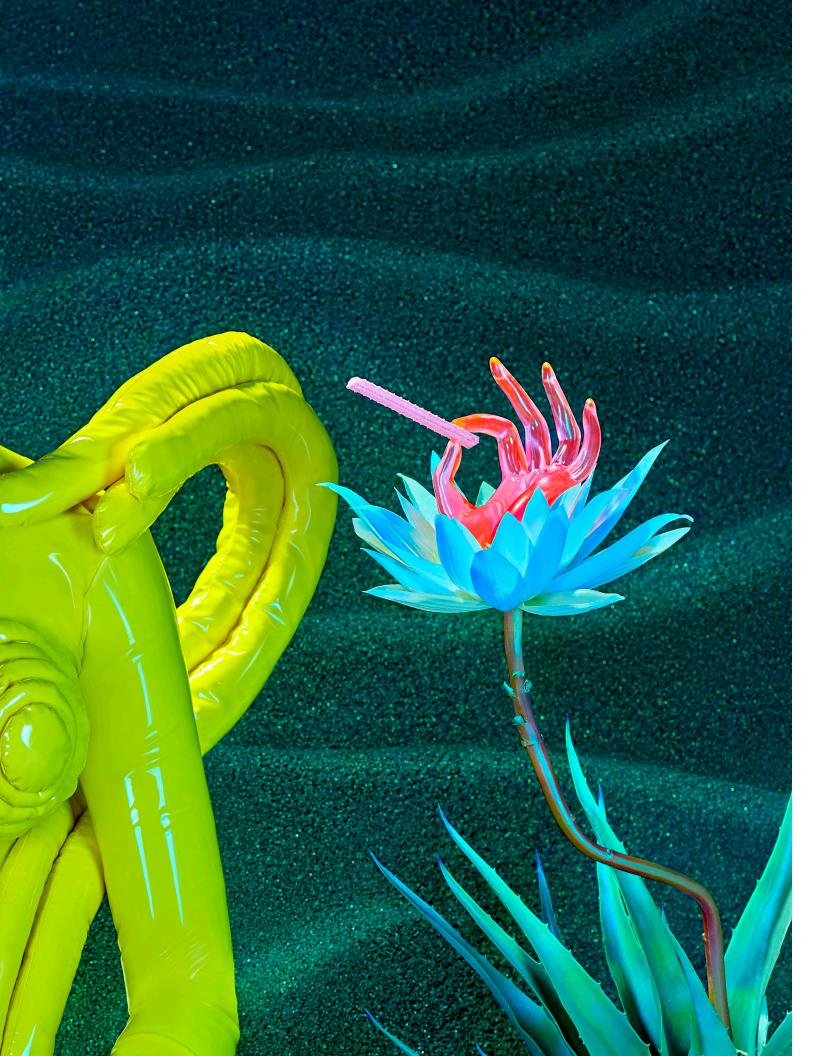


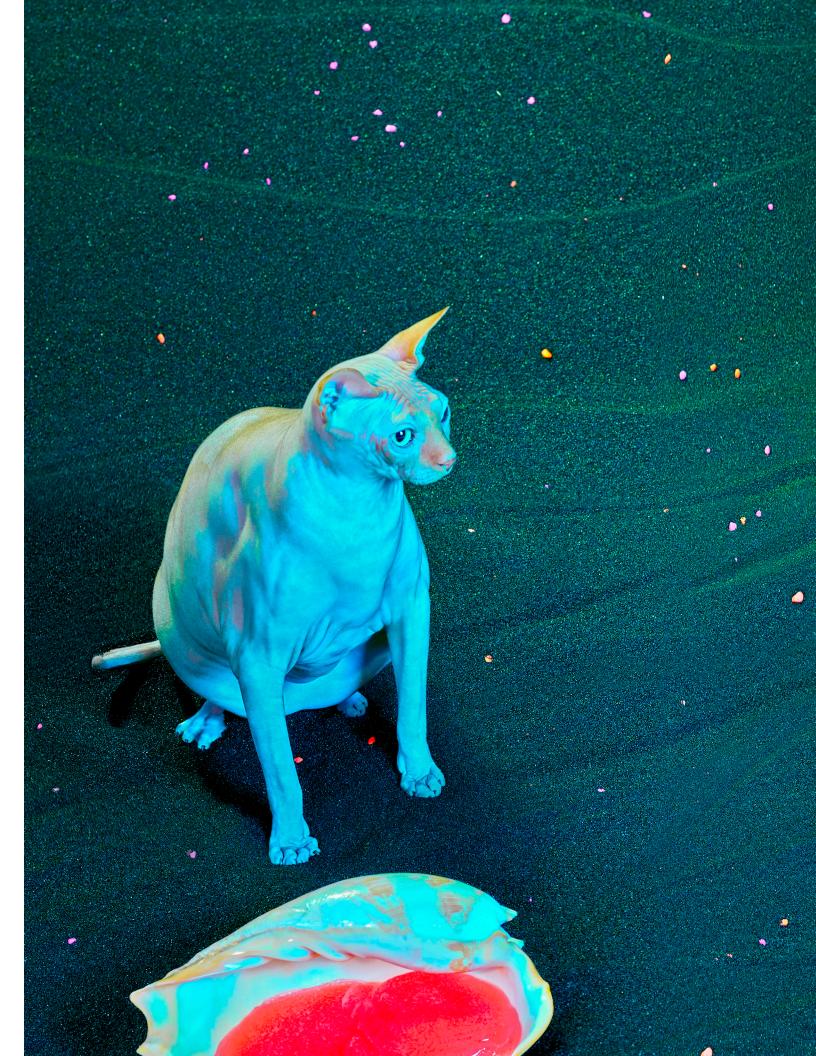


alvjiia, 19, is part of a subculture of self-created oddities and aliens proliferating online and, more recently, leaching into the world of fashion. The most baldly subversive among them, Instagram personalities with mysterious or sometimes off-putting handles like Fecal Matter, Forbidden Knowledge and Genesisfawn, are turning to prosthetics, extreme makeup, props, bodysuits and digital effects to mask the commonly held notions of what it means to be human. If their otherworldly appearance seems familiar, the likelihood is that you've seen it in a tamer form before. Versions of this spectral look date at least from the 1970s, when David Bowie introduced Starman, his pallid alter ego, and appeared as an alien in "The Man Who Fell to Earth." Today there is Maleficent, Angelina Jolie's arch villain, her character's steeply angled cheekbones and imposing crown of horns suggesting some demonic alien race. Now comes fashion, intent on mining this odd aesthetic for impact by releasing onto the runways streams of bloodless-looking and enhanced models that seemed to have beamed down from Jupiter. The look's latest champion, Demna Gvasalia of Balenciaga, introduced a phalanx of these human anomalies in his spring 2020 show, all chalky complexions and vulcanized lips and with prosthetics augmenting their otherwise sunken cheeks. His intention, according to his show notes, was to "play on beauty standards of today, the past and the future." Streamline magazines, too, have climbed aboard, not least of them American Vogue who's known the world over as the tamest of the magazine incarnations, which posted an online feature last year about Fecal Matter, the Instagram

handle of Hannah Rose Dalton and Steven Raj Bhaskaran. Robert Reed, a 26-year-old designer in Brooklyn, creates second-skin costumes wearable art, he calls them — with horns, masks, winged shoulders and elevator shoes in reaction to what he views as an over-stratified society. He documents his work on Instagram. Alessandro Michele, the creative director of Gucci, anticipated the alien invasion more than a year ago with a spring 2018 collection modeled by anemic-looking women, their faces veiled or masked by balaclavas, some toting replicas of their own heads. As an aesthetic, it represents, Michele's suggested, a coming golden age of pan-gender, post-racial, post-sexual identity. "We are in a trans-human era for sure," he said at the time of his show. "We have to decide what we want to be." Pop culture's embrace of such sci-fi extremes comes and goes. Last year, FKA Twigs and ASAP Rocky collaborated on a video in which they appear as glamorous extraterrestrials flashing talons and neon-tone masks. "The alien aesthetic has historically been most popular during extremely conservative periods," said Daniel L. Bernardi, a documentary filmmaker and a professor of cultural studies at San Francisco State University. "It reflects and addresses the tensions of a divided society." In the age where everything and anything goes being an alien is the least of our problems.



















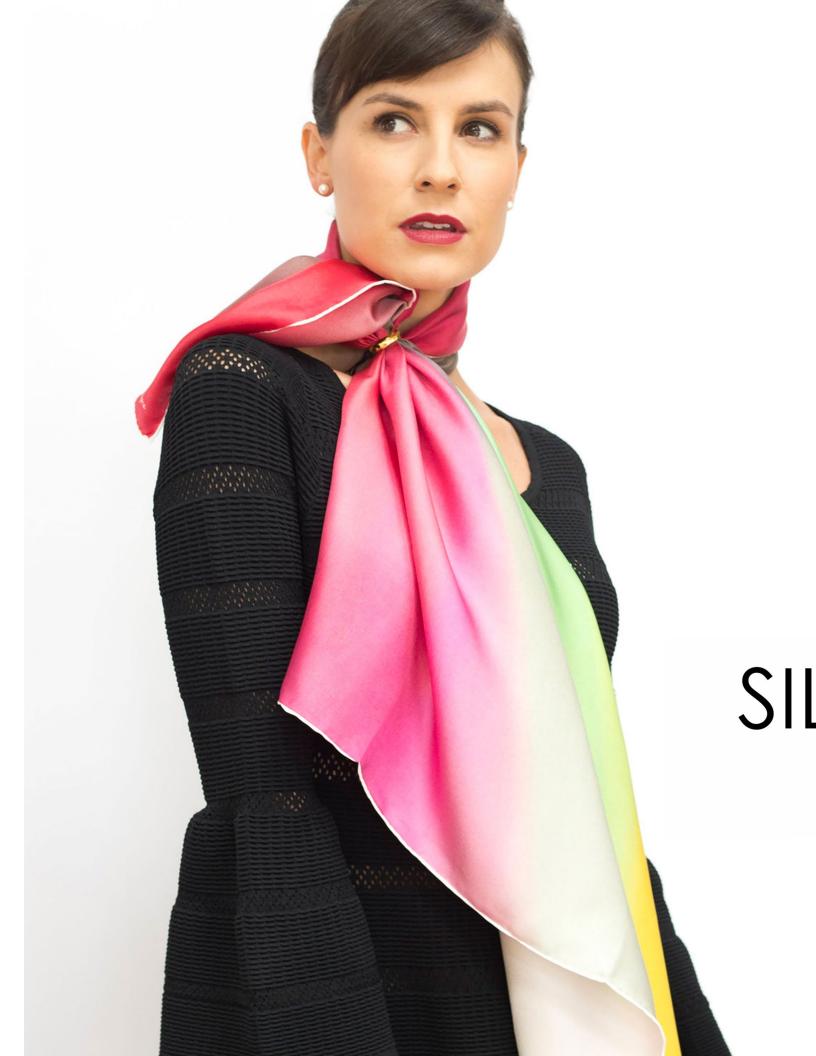












LK ART SCARVES by Phillip Ayers





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Nora's Deities



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1.



- 1. MUSA Cancun
- 2. Food for thought: Sapphire UES
- 3. FIT Ballerina: Fashion's Modern Muse
- 4. Neutrogena SPF 100+
- 5. Visit: Tulum/Cancun MX
- 6. Prada raffia slide
- 7. Derek Lam Modele dress
- 8. Håkon Anton Fagerås pillow sculpture
- 9. The Row leisure suit

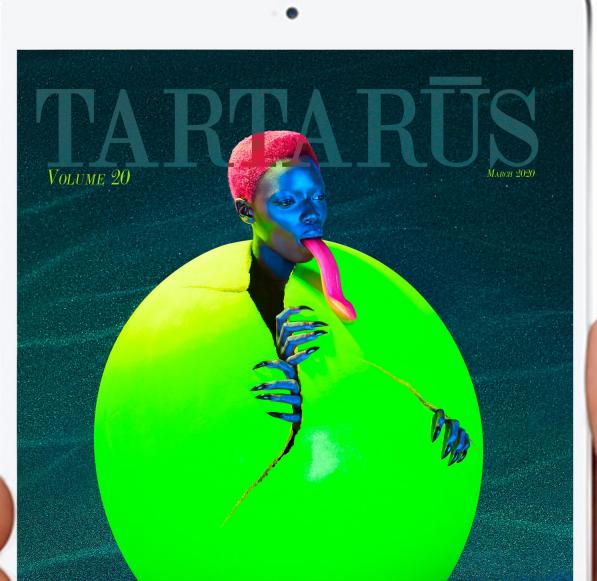








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