

WOMEN'S MARCH

To our fellow women marchers,

As we planned the Women's March, many people doubted our ability as women to organize and mobilize such a major event. We were constantly undermined and questioned. Many people underestimated what became one of our most powerful tools – our ability, as diverse women, to understand the connected nature of our struggles.

Women and our allies came out to march for all different reasons. What we all saw on January 21 was that the things that separated us were trivial compared to our mutual desire be counted as those who were trivial compared to our mutual desire be counted as those who believe in a world that is equitable, just and safe for all. The message, on day one of the new administration, was clear: we have to love and protect each other, seek to understand each other and stand up for each other.

Six months later, we've continued to see that collectively we have the power to make our voices heard together and hold our leadership accountable. Over the past six months, we've seen white women take to the streets of Washington, D.C. to demand justice on behalf of Philando Castile and we've seen black women rush to airports across the country to protest the Muslim ban. We've seen more women deciding to run for office than ever before.

However, we've continued to get attacks on all sides and the most marginalized among us remain unsafe. We continue to face racist, sexist and misogynistic rhetoric and policies that attempt to divide our movement and harm us.

But our movement, and movements before us, have seen these tactics before. It will not stop us. We will continue to listen to each other, empathize with each other, and stand up for each other. That is the power of this movement.

We've come a long way but we have much further to go.

SIGNATURE TK

Tamika Mallory, Bob Bland, Carmen Perez, Linda Sarsour
Women's March co-presidents

SHE SAYS

“It is imperative that, when looking at equality for women, we look at equality for all people”

BOB BLAND, WOMEN'S MARCH



Front row: Women's March organizers Linda Sarsour (far left), Tamika Mallory (center), Carmen Perez (center right) and Bob Bland (far right)

“We have to love and protect each other, seek to understand each other and stand up for each other”

The Women Marchers

The activists behind this year's defining act of female solidarity, the Women's March

On January 21, the morning after Donald Trump took office, the four female organizers of the Women's March galvanized 1.2 million people in Washington and some four million beyond (including in Los Angeles, New York, London, Paris, Oslo and Sydney), in the largest single-day protest ever seen, its urgency and cry for women's rights felt the world over. Prompted by an electoral campaign marked by its incendiary slights against women and

SHE SAYS

“I intend to continue to push my country to respect the rights of all its citizens”

LINDA SARSOUR

minorities, the Women's March was organized at lightning speed by ethical fashion designer **BOB BLAND**, 34; **CARMEN PEREZ**, 40, an Hispanic juvenile justice activist of 20 years (and co-founder of Justice League NYC); civil-rights and gun-control activist **TAMIKA MALLORY**, 36; and Palestinian-American political activist (and former executive director of the Arab American Association of New York) **LINDA SARSOUR**, 37. The Women's March took place without resulting in a single arrest, unlike the inauguration day protests the day before (a fact attributed to a triumph of civility) – and its goals were clear: foregrounding not one but an array of issues, including reproductive justice, equal pay, healthcare, immigration, xenophobia, Black Lives Matter, mass incarceration and LGBTQIA. In one instance of its wide-reaching impact, Emily's List (which helps pro-choice Democratic women get into office) reported more than 6,500 women making contact in its aftermath – nearly seven times the number in the 22 months before Trump's victory – an uplift shared by Vote Run Lead, which similarly encourages women to run for office.

Photographs: Kisha Bari; Rex; Features: Bjorn Tooss

Elaine Welteroth

OCCUPATION Editor-in-chief, *Teen Vogue*
AGE 30

INCREDIBLE MOMENT When an op-ed piece, *Donald Trump is Gaslighting America*, by 25-year-old journalist Lauren Duca went viral, it pushed the *Teen Vogue* site's traffic up by nearly five million from the year before, hitting a high of 9.2 million in the coming months. This exemplified – and validated – editor Elaine Welteroth's push to transform the title into a destination for serious journalism on topics as diverse as racial profiling, sexual objectification and new feminism. Through her efforts, California-born Welteroth has succeeded in energizing and politicizing a whole new generation of readers.



A M E R I C A N

Yuriko Koike

OCCUPATION Governor of Tokyo
AGE 65

INCREDIBLE MOMENT Last August, Japan's former Minister of Defence defied Japanese Prime Minister Shinzo Abe to run for the Tokyo gubernatorial race and won by a landslide (with nearly 45 percent of the vote), becoming the city's first woman governor. Koike has since taken a hard line on corruption and financial waste. With approval ratings of 86 percent, Koike is the most popular leader in Japan and, unsurprisingly, has prompted talk of her becoming the country's first woman prime minister. **SHE SAYS** “If we can show that female leadership in politics and society can make a difference, I think that will encourage more women to get into politics.”



THEY SAY “Koike is an example for women all around the world.” Anne Hidalgo, Mayor of Paris.

J A P A N E S E

incredible women



OCCUPATION Chairman, Universal Pictures
AGE 49

Donna Langley

INCREDIBLE MOMENT As the head of one of Hollywood's biggest studios, Donna Langley has not only broken glass ceilings, but used her position to promote female talent and content aimed primarily at women, with franchises such as *Fifty Shades*, *Pitch Perfect* and next year's *Mamma Mia!* sequel. Her latest success was this year's female-led comedy *Girls Trip*, a \$19-million movie that grossed over \$100 million worldwide. Behind

SHE SAYS

“[I'm having] many more discussions about diversity and inclusion and I'm encouraged by that”

DONNA LANGLEY

the scenes, Langley is just as committed to championing women through mentorship, both at Universal Pictures (where a new program helps employees in lower-level positions rise through the ranks) and with the Big Brothers Big Sisters' Mentoring Program (pairing inner-city girls with top-level executives). She also works closely with Vital Voices, an organization that offers support to extraordinary women (and would-be leaders) around the world.

B R I T I S H

incredible women

Ariana Grande

OCCUPATION Singer AGE 24

INCREIBLE MOMENT After a suicide bomber killed 22 people during an Ariana Grande concert in Manchester in May, the Florida-born singer refused to give in to fear and sent out a

lifeline to the many young people and parents affected, by organizing the One Love Manchester concert to benefit victims of the attack. Grande pulled the show together only two weeks after the attack, roping in serious star power – including Pharrell Williams, Miley Cyrus, Katy Perry, Justin Bieber, Coldplay, Black Eyed Peas and Manchester-born Liam Gallagher; while all the artists played for free and promoter Live Nation undervrote the cost. Grande also visited victims in hospital and spoke to bereaved parents in the wake of the attack. In a statement in July, Grande vowed to return to Manchester, saying: “We won’t let hate win.”

VITAL STATS Nearly 15 million people watched the show on BBC One and it was streamed in more than 50 countries, raising more than £2 million for the We Love Manchester Emergency Fund.



The Brave Athletes

Two champions who inspired the world by overcoming

devastating setbacks

After the tendons of her racket hand were injured by a knife-wielding intruder in her home last

December, two-time Grand Slam winner

PETRA KVITOVÁ, 27, feared she might never play tennis again. After

four hours of surgery, gruelling physical therapy and time spent playing with her other hand, the Czech winner of 20 singles titles returned to Wimbledon this summer, making it through the first round to fan adulation and showing her resolve: “This is only the beginning



of my new journey and I will come back stronger,” she said. In 2012, just four weeks before the London Olympics, Jamaican sprinter NOVLENE WILLIAMS-MILLS was diagnosed with



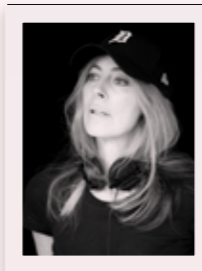
breast cancer at age 30, though it didn’t stop her from winning a bronze medal in the 4 x 400m relay. This summer, the self-described “private person” posed naked, post-double mastectomy, on the cover of ESPN magazine, using her visibility to challenge perceptions of strength and femininity.

Kathryn Bigelow

OCCUPATION Director AGE 65

INCREIBLE MOMENT Continuing her series

of features on the frontline (after *The Hurt Locker* and *Zero Dark Thirty*), Kathryn Bigelow, in her latest movie *Detroit*, recreates the riots that overtook that city in July 1967 to dramatize issues that are still painfully relevant in America – racial tension and police violence. Her achievement is political as much as artistic, as the film taps into the rage of black lives not mattering and a feeling of powerlessness.



“I hope I can encourage a bridge between a racial divide”

KATHRYN BIGELOW



OCCUPATION CEO, Saint Laurent AGE 47

INCREIBLE MOMENT

Since Francesca Bellettini became CEO of Saint Laurent in 2013, she has ridden the company to astonishing new heights, culminating this year in its sixth consecutive year of growth (more than 20 percent) and total revenues of €1.22bn, making it the second largest brand in the Kering group’s luxury portfolio (after Gucci). Despite the change of Creative Director at Saint Laurent from Hedi Slimane to Anthony Vaccarello in 2016, Bellettini has steered the company confidently throughout, streamlining operations and devolving power to regional heads to encourage a culture where local clients are served locally. She now has her sights set on Saint Laurent hitting the €3bn mark in the near future, which given her record seems likely to happen.

SHE SAYS “I think the biggest success of what was done at Saint Laurent was to bring back a little bit of coolness, easiness, freshness – not only to Saint Laurent, but to the whole industry.”



Francesca Bellettini

CZECH

AMERICAN

ITALIAN

Photographs Alexander Straulino, Brigitte Lacombe

“When the powerful use their position to bully others, we all lose”

Meryl Streep

OCCUPATION Actress AGE 68
INCREIBLE MOMENT While accepting the prestigious Cecil B. DeMille Award for lifetime achievement at the Golden Globes in January, Meryl Streep dispensed with the usual thank yous, using her platform to respond to Donald Trump’s bruising electoral campaign – decrying bullying and hate-mongering, and defending a free press in a message that not only brought the house down, but clearly ruffled the President Elect. His retaliation, via Twitter to “the most overrated actress in Hollywood” (who this year picked up a cool 20th Oscar nomination), prompted a number of droll responses, including from *The Late Late Show*’s James Corden who quipped: “Truth is, this was actually good news for Meryl – because ‘most overrated actress in Hollywood’ was literally the only award she hadn’t won yet.”

Meryl Streep

American comedian Stephen Colbert also offered his jocular support for Streep on *The Late Show* when he added, “Look, Mr Trump. You can refuse to release your taxes. You can call to ban an entire religion. You can play footsie with a dictator. But calling Meryl Streep overrated? No! No! Too far!”

WINNING FACT For the past three years, in a bid to nurture female filmmaking talent, Streep has funded Writers Lab, a script-development and mentorship project for women screenwriters over the age of 40.

SHE SAYS “It’s terrifying to put the target on your forehead... the only way you can do it is if you feel you have to. You have to!”

THEY SAY

“Meryl, you, have a powerful voice – one that inspires others to speak up. It is so important that we ALL speak up”

ROBERT DE NIRO



MISTY COPELAND

To every woman who has ever felt like she is not good enough, beautiful enough or strong enough.

I hear you. I see you. I am you. We all have those moments when we look in the mirror and we don't like what we see. What's more, there have been moments, probably far too many, when people try to make us feel badly about ourselves, only reinforcing everything we view as negative.

As a ballerina, my entire career revolves around what people see and think of me on the stage. My body is my instrument. So I am keenly aware of how it feels to be under a microscope and to have many doubts about my self-worth.

Here's my approach. Each day is a new day. Try to block out negative judgment from yourself and from others. Do I feel great every day? Am I always at my best? Absolutely not. There are days when I don't have the performance I'd hoped for. There are days when I'd love to stay in bed rather than go to ballet class and rehearse all day. There are also days when I'm frustrated and not in a good place emotionally. I'm sure you've had those days as well. Yet, what I've learned to appreciate is that today is not the end, and tomorrow is always another day to start over and be better.

When I think of today's society and how we communicate, social media has certainly turned up the volume of both the positive and negative voices. I've found that judgment usually comes from a negative place. On the other hand, I know that the critiques I receive daily in my career come from a place of love and support, whether from the artistic staff of my company or my family and team. I choose to live my life surrounded by and listening to people I trust and respect, who I know want me to be the best dancer and person I can be.

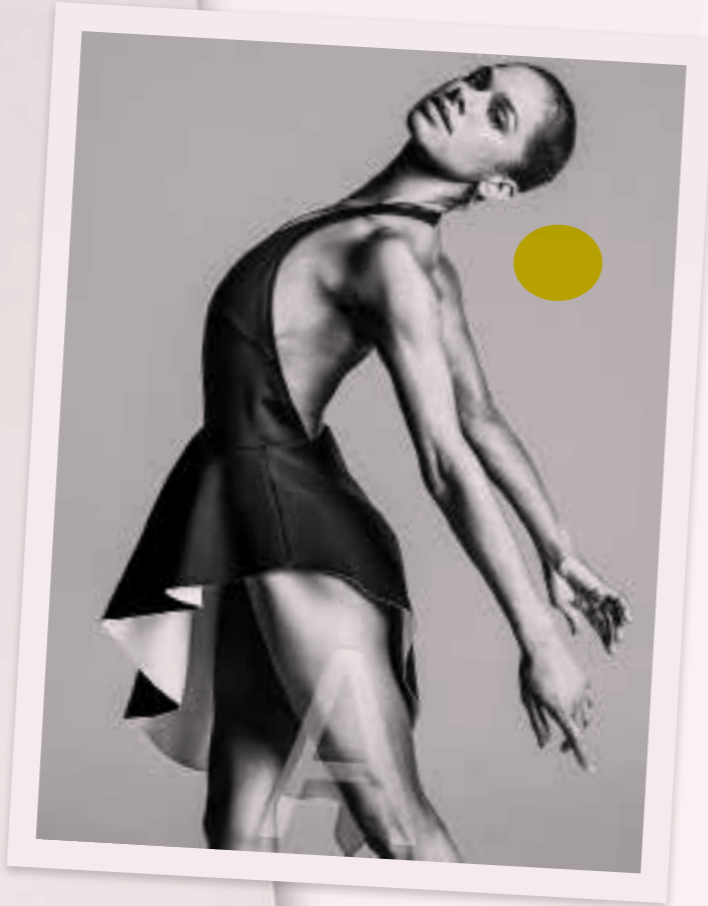
So trust me, my fearless, wonderful, gorgeous girlfriend: you've got this! Life is a journey that we're all on. Let's help each other, and push each other to accept ourselves for the incredible women we are and to celebrate the uniqueness that each of us is.

Misty

Misty Copeland

“Try to block out negative judgment from yourself and from others”

Misty Copeland



THEY SAY

“As a father of two daughters, Misty is a great example of strong women who are out there breaking barriers and doing great stuff”

BARACK OBAMA

Photographs Sebastian Kim; Rex Features; courtesy of Metropolitan Police; Suki Dhanda

Misty Copeland

OCCUPATION
Ballet dancer
AGE 35

INCREIBLE MOMENT

In her second season as principal dancer for the American Ballet Theater (the first African-American woman to achieve that rank), Misty Copeland took on the classics *Giselle* and *Don Quixote*, imbuing the roles with her individuality and exceeding expectations. “A *Giselle* for these times,” praised the *Financial Times*, while noting the Misty-effect on the diversity and size of the audiences that had come to see her perform. With her celebrated backstory of talent outshining a turbulent and impoverished childhood, the Kansas-City-born dancer has earned a visibility and international draw far beyond the ballet house: a Barbie doll launched last year in her likeness, while she recently published her third title, a health and fitness book, *Ballerina Body*, ahead of making her film debut next year in Disney’s *The Nutcracker and the Four Realms*.

SHE SAYS

“I’m often asked if I’m OK being referred to as the black ballerina. I don’t think that’s something I want to change. We are still at a point where it needs to be acknowledged all the time”

MISTY COPELAND

in Disney’s *The Nutcracker and the Four Realms*.

“We are not going to be quiet”

CHELSEA CLINTON

Chelsea Clinton

OCCUPATION
Vice chairman,
Clinton Foundation
AGE 37

INCREIBLE MOMENT This May, Chelsea Clinton published a bestselling children’s book, *She Persisted*, which celebrates 13 American women who have challenged patriarchy and injustice by refusing to back down. Featuring the likes of abolitionist Harriet Tubman, pioneering investigative journalist Nellie Bly, astronaut Sally Ride and media mogul Oprah Winfrey, the book is, Clinton says, for “everyone who’s ever been made to feel less than”.

SHE SAYS “Most women have, at some point, been told to be quiet and to sit down. We are not going to sit down. We are going to continue to stand up and speak out.”



AMERICAN

IN MEMORIAM
Franca Sozzani

In December 2016, the renowned editor-in-chief of Italian *Vogue* tragically lost her private battle with cancer. Over her 28 years at the magazine, she was admired for her fearless vision – in 2008, she confronted non-diversity in fashion by producing an all-black model issue; while the taboo-busting Linda Evangelista and Steven Meisel plastic-surgery cover story in 2005 is one of the most iconic fashion stories of all time. In the month before her death, Sozzani was presented with the Swarovski Award for Positive Change at the Fashion Awards in London.

SHE SAID “To make a change means to take a risk.”



ITALIAN

incredible women

The First Responders

The reassuring heads and steady hands

coordinating emergency services at times of crisis

A paragon of considered response, British police officer CRESSIDA DICK, 56, stepped into her role as the first woman Metropolitan Police Commissioner on April 10, the same day she attended the funeral of PC Keith Palmer, who was killed during the March terrorist attack in Westminster.



BRITISH

During her speech, Dick encouraged the 5,000-strong crowd to “take some inspiration and positivity forward” from the tragedy. Less than two months later, she addressed a horrified nation after the June 3 attack in London Bridge that killed eight people.

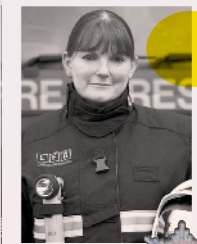


“Impressive”, “authoritative”, “brilliant” and “quietly competent” were all words used to describe her afterwards.

On June 14, the world was left speechless by images of the west London Grenfell Tower housing estate engulfed in flames.

DANY COTTON, 48, who had been appointed the first woman commissioner of

the London Fire Brigade six months before, managed the response, making a quick assessment to send firefighters into the blaze, a decision that made her feel “physically sick, looking at the building and knowing I had a hundred-plus firefighters in the building at any one time.” But it was a choice that she stands by: “We wanted to save as many people as we could. That was the bottom line.” she says



BRITISH

incredible women

Taylor Swift

OCCUPATION singer-songwriter
AGE 27

INCREIBLE MOMENT After a headline-making trial in August, the world's biggest popstar, Taylor Swift, won her battle to have radio host David Mueller convicted of assault and battery, after he put his hand under her skirt and grabbed her bottom during a photo op in 2013. She sought just \$1 in damages, desiring instead that her victory empower other women who feel silenced.



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I want to help those whose voices should also be heard

TAYLOR SWIFT



OCCUPATION CFO Alphabet Inc
AGE 60

Ruth Porat

INCREIBLE MOMENT Proving her worth as possibly the sharpest financial strategist in Silicon Valley, Ruth Porat showed true leadership when she instituted cost-cutting and accountability measures at the company that owns Google when she joined two years ago, for which she has been widely praised across the industry.

SHE SAYS "Women are still not reaching the most senior levels of corporations. This is not the shortcoming of women. We're talented and smart."



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Serena Williams

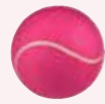
OCCUPATION Tennis player
AGE 36

INCREIBLE MOMENT Not only did the world's most celebrated player secure her 23rd Grand Slam singles title by winning the Australian Open in January – a record number in the Open era (not including her doubles titles) – but she was eight weeks pregnant at the time. Proving that pregnant is strong and beautiful, Williams, whose fiancé is the co-founder of Reddit Alexis Ohanian, went on to use social media to celebrate her changing body, posting videos of herself doing tennis drills and appearing nude on the August cover of *Vanity Fair*.

WINNING FACT Widely considered the best tennis player of all time – she has an aggregate winning percentage of 85.76% – Williams displayed cool under pressure when she tactfully responded to John McEnroe's pronouncement that she would be "like 700 in the world" if she had to play the men's circuit. "Dear John, I adore and respect you but please please keep me out of your statements that are not factually based," she tweeted.



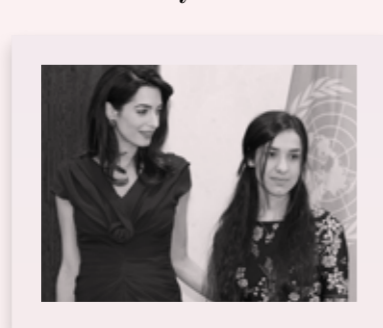
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The Justice Seekers

Two women fighting one cause
Human-rights lawyer
AMAL CLOONEY, 39,
made news in

March when she joined forces with the 24-year-old Kurdish-Yazidi activist NADIA MURAD to demand justice for Isis-committed genocide and the urgent gathering of evidence so Isis generals could be brought to trial. Murad was named a UN Goodwill Ambassador and winner of the Václav Havel Human Rights Prize last fall, after speaking out so courageously about her experiences of being raped and enslaved by Isis jihadists after they attacked her village in Iraq in 2014.



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OCCUPATION European commissioner for competition

Margrethe Vestager

AGE 49 **INCREIBLE MOMENT** In her continued efforts to take global companies to task for not playing by the rules, Vestager made history this June by slapping an unprecedented €2.4 billion fine on Google for breaching EU antitrust rules in favoring its own comparison shopping service. The career politician, who keeps a statue of a raised middle finger in her office in Brussels



(as a reminder that you can't please everyone), has also charged Apple with €13 billion in back taxes (she deemed its tax benefits in Ireland illegal), while pursuing Amazon for tax evasion, Facebook over its acquisition of WhatsApp and Qualcomm for selling chips below cost.

SHE SAYS "I think it is one of the fundamentals, not only of the European Union but also of free trade, that competition is fair."

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Photographs: Google; iStock; Rex Features; Nico Busto

"Everyone has the right to speak up; it doesn't matter what you do"

Jane Fonda

Jane Fonda

OCCUPATION Actress and activist
AGE 79

INCREIBLE MOMENT On 21 January, Jane Fonda led the Los Angeles Women's March, flanked by Miley Cyrus and Barbra Streisand among others, and rallied a 350,000-strong crowd, in what became a stirring expression of her status within Hollywood as the patron saint of celebrity activism – a role she has inhabited ever since she protested the Vietnam War in the 1970s and was nicknamed 'Hanoi Jane'. It was also the culmination of her late-career resurgence – on film, TV and in popular culture – as a fabulous firebrand who speaks her mind and refuses to be silenced or side-lined. And thank goodness she does, for she continues to inspire women across all generations, sometimes simply by acknowledging her mistakes (including her "disease to please" which she says led to her blaming herself for the abuse she suffered at the hands of men), but also through her fierce determination to affect change and her grassroots savvy about how to accomplish that. "We have to systematically block, resist and disrupt," she told the crowd. "We have to train and support organizers, we have to identify and groom righteous women to run to office... We have to show solidarity across race and class." **SHE SAYS** "Remember that popular activism on the street or in the office can change policy." **THEY SAY** "Thank you for how vocal you were and are. It has paved the way for so many of us." Actress and PORTER cover star Brie Larson



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The Mold Breakers

The women bankers changing the face of finance in the Arab world

In a country where women still do not have the right to drive (and a third are without work), SARAH AL SUHAIMI had already achieved the remarkable feat of being named the first female chief executive of a Saudi investment bank, a role she took at NBC Capital in 2014. Then, in February this year, she broke ranks once again to become the first

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woman to head Saudi Arabia's stock exchange, which at \$439 billion is the largest exchange in the Middle East. In the same week, fellow Saudi RANIA MAHMOUD NASHAR rose to the role of CEO of Samba Financial Group, one of the country's largest national banks. Both Al Suhaimi's and Mahmoud Nashar's appointments are a signifier of

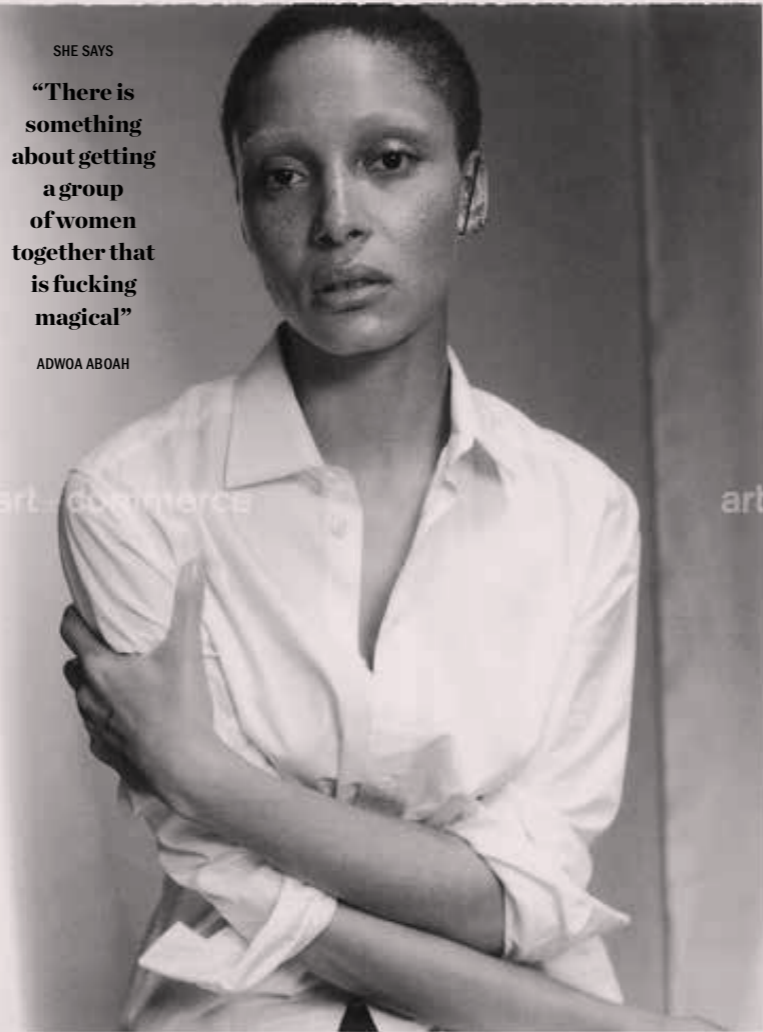
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hopeful change in female leadership as the number of Saudi women entering work begins to swell, with a female workforce that doubled to 350,000 in five years between 2010 and 2015.

“If you believe in yourself, there is light at the end of the tunnel”

CARA DELEVINGNE



SHE SAYS
“There is something about getting a group of women together that is fucking magical”

ADWOA ABOAH

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with Gurls Talk, a digital platform for girls to talk openly about mental health, sex and body image, which she founded in 2015 after years battling addiction and depression. This year, Gurls Talk went global – with events in LA and London – as did Aboah's modeling career, with the 25-year-old fronting campaigns for Dior, Miu Miu, Simone Rocha, Versus, Gap and H&M, and the March cover of US *Vogue* (with six other models, dubbed “Fashion's Fearless Females”); the coverage cemented her status as the poster girl for a new kind of inclusivity-promoting beauty.

Two courageous, generation-defining voices who deserve to be heard

Models on a Mission

Living up to her “embrace your weirdness” motto and her determination to voice her opinions unfiltered, 25-year-old model turned actor/activist CARA DELEVINGNE added ‘author’ to her CV this October with the publication of her new YA novel *Mirror, Mirror*. About a group of teenage misfits, the book holds up a reassuring mirror to a generation grappling with their identity in the distorting glare of social media – a subject Cara (with 40.5m followers on Instagram alone) is undoubtedly an authority on.

Cara's best friend and fellow Brit, ADWOA ABOAH, has similarly empowered young women

Photographs: Craig McDean/Art + Commerce; Alexandra Natarf; Hugo Glendinning; Rex Features; Ben Hassett; Jason Schmidt © the artist, courtesy of Lisson Gallery; Justine Stoddard; Ascom Fio Cruz

Pat McGrath

OCCUPATION Makeup artist
AGE 47

INCREIBLE MOMENT

It was proof of her reputation within the beauty industry (Anna Wintour calls her “the most influential makeup artist in the world”) and of her “disruptive” cutting edge, that when Pat McGrath launched her own



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eponymous range of makeup recently, she did so through a series of visually ravishing Instagram teasers, then it sold out within minutes of going live. This year, McGrath replicated that success with the launch of her Pat McGrath Labs Matte Trance, a collection of nine richly pigmented and velvet-like lipsticks. It follows her being honoured with a CFDA Founders Award earlier this year for her contribution to beauty.

Carmen Herrera

OCCUPATION Artist AGE 102
INCREIBLE MOMENT
Enjoying a well-earned turn in the limelight,

Carmen Herrera was the subject of a career-defining show at New York's Whitney Museum last fall called *Lines of Sight*. Widely



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regarded as a ‘must-see’, it was her first solo museum show – and she was 101 years old. A latecomer to acclaim, the Havana-born artist, who was frequently disregarded by gallerists for being

Cuban, and female, only sold her first work aged 89. But her abstract, geometric paintings are now held in the permanent collections of MoMA, Tate Modern and the Hirshhorn, and sell for hundreds of thousands of dollars. SHE SAYS “Somebody once told me if you wait for the bus, the bus will come.”

“Women writers have changed my life”

NAOMI ALDERMAN



OCCUPATION Author AGE 43
INCREIBLE MOMENT In an astonishing

year, Naomi Alderman's fiction novel, *The Power*, about a world where women are the dominant sex, became a literary sensation and took the 2017 Bailey's Women Prize for Fiction. Her win followed

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Celina Turchi

OCCUPATION Artist AGE 64
INCREIBLE MOMENT
Dubbed ‘the Zika detective’ by *Nature*,

the infectious-disease expert helped dramatically reduce cases of microcephaly in Brazil by linking it to the Zika virus. Turchi's research has paved the way for scientists to announce successful vaccine trials, while her rapid response in reaching out to global experts has been hailed as the model for how to react to a local crisis that could have global consequences.

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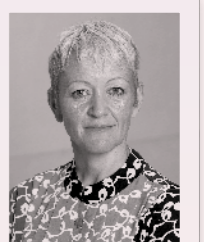
incredible women

The Art Champions

The women taking charge of some of the world's most important art collections

In January, MARIA BALSHAW was appointed Director of Tate, the first ever woman to take charge of the British galleries, which include Tate Liverpool, St Ives, Britain and Modern, and contain one of the world's leading collections of international art. Throughout her career, Balshaw has championed diversity and global thinking in art – her New North and South initiative at Whitworth Art Gallery connected art institutions in the North of England with those in South Asia – and she says, “We absolutely need to be speaking to the whole of our society.”

Listen to PORTER'S Maria Balshaw PODCAST



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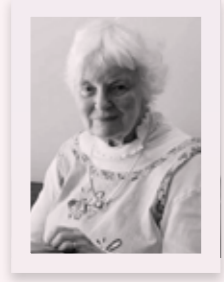
Five days before Christmas last year, Pope Francis announced BARBARA JATTA'S tide-changing appointment as director of the Vatican Museums, established in

1506 and comprised of 54 galleries with 640 employees and six million visitors a year. It is the first time a woman has been in this role at the epicenter of the Catholic church, indicative of the Pope's appointment of more women into high-ranking positions at the Vatican than ever before. Jatta, an Italian art historian who worked in the Vatican library for 20 years, will be in charge of the 200,000-strong collection of priceless works including the Sistine Chapel, Raphael's *Transfiguration* and Caravaggio's *Entombment of Christ*.

Two tenacious architects making their mark and getting their due recognition

The Master Builders

Last year, the 85-year-old, Philadelphia-based **DENISE SCOTT BROWN**, known as the ‘mother of postmodernism’, scored a huge victory in a long-fought battle to be a woman recognized fairly within her profession. Thanks to her, the Pritzker Prize (the world’s leading architecture award, which her husband Robert Venturi had picked up in 2013 as a sole honoree) revised its rules, so that her contribution as fellow practice-partner could be recognized. Crowning her achievement, she was awarded this year’s Jane Drew Prize for raising the profile of women in a notoriously male-heavy field.



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SHE SAYS “I’ve always said ‘judge me by my work’.” In London, **AMANDA LEVETE**, 61, completed her £54.5m extension to the Victoria and Albert Museum, a dazzling porcelain



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piazza (each of whose 10,100 tiles bears a geometric pattern designed by Levete) above a startling 11,840 sq ft underground gallery. The extension was justly lauded as a triumph of space and engineering, and will enable more of the blockbuster shows with technological wizardry, for which the V&A is already proving to be a world leader.

SHE SAYS “There’s only one thing in life that you can’t design and that’s heritage, but we have a responsibility to breathe new life into it.”



Listen to PORTER’s Amanda Levete **PODCAST**



“I just try to create things that didn’t exist before”

REI KAWAKUBA



Sally Yates

OCCUPATION Former acting attorney general
AGE 57
INCREIBLE MOMENT

In January, Obama-appointed Sally Yates exercised her authority as America’s chief law-enforcement officer when she refused to defend Trump’s executive order banning entry into the US of nationals from seven predominantly Muslim countries. Her action led to her prompt dismissal, though she was

hailed a heroine by some, amid hashtags #ImwithSally and #SallyYatesisaPatriot. **WINNING FACT** When called to testify before a Senate Judiciary Subcommittee, Yates offered a cool rebuke to Senator Ted Cruz who questioned her right to overturn Trump’s order by citing US code. In

THEY SAY “Before she was fired, few people had heard of Sally Yates, but she became a hero to the Trump opposition.”

RYAN LIZZA, THE NEW YORKER

reply, she cited another statute saying visas cannot be denied on matters of race, nationality or place of birth – an exchange that became a social-media sensation.

SHE SAYS “I have a voice that I didn’t have before and want to use that voice to impact things that really matter.”



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Imelme Umana

OCCUPATION President, *Harvard Law Review* **AGE** 24
INCREIBLE MOMENT

January, Imelme Umana, the daughter of Nigerian immigrants, made history when she was elected the first black woman president of the 130-year-old *Harvard Law Review*, the world’s most widely circulated law journal. She follows in the footsteps of Barack Obama,



the journal’s first black president 27 years ago. **SHE SAYS** “Minorities have been excluded from the legal landscape; we’re just now making some important inroads.”

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“We are all the same, we are all equal, we all deserve the same rights”

EMMA STONE



OCCUPATION Actress
AGE 28
INCREIBLE MOMENT

Emma Stone

Sometimes a performance captures the mood. This year that was Emma Stone’s heart-breaking, and Academy Award-winning, turn in *La La Land*, which was full of charm and wistful hope. Despite being named the world’s highest paid actress, Stone has also been reworking the rules of competitive Hollywood, writing an email of solidarity to fellow Oscar winner and PORTER cover star Brie Larson, and speaking openly this summer about male co-stars who had agreed to take a pay cut to match her salary in the name of fairness.

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Jean Liu

OCCUPATION President, Didi Chuxing **AGE** 39
INCREIBLE MOMENT The leader of China’s largest ride-sharing company Didi Chuxing, Jean Liu took on its biggest rival Uber China and conclusively

won this summer when she bought out the company for \$35 billion in one of the most impressive coups of the year. Praised for her collaborative outlook and deal-making abilities (such as investing in rival companies abroad), Liu has a synergistic approach to business that is often compared in stark relief to the former president of Uber Travis Kalanick’s demeaning treatment of competitors.

SHE SAYS “A focus on winning and losing just limits your potential.” **THEY SAY** “Didi Chuxing’s innovative commuter-tracking technology could help traffic jams go the way of the flip phone.” Apple CEO, Tim Cook

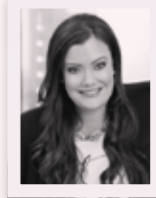


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Jamie Kern Lima

OCCUPATION Founder & CEO of IT Cosmetics
AGE 40
INCREIBLE MOMENT

In a staggering endorsement of what she had achieved – namely tapping into a largely under-represented market in beauty – Jamie Kern Lima’s IT Cosmetics brand was acquired by L’Oréal last year for \$1.2bn, their biggest acquisition to date, making her the first female CEO of any of L’Oréal’s brands (34 in the US alone). A former local news anchor in California, who struggled to find makeup that would stand up to HD lenses and cover her hereditary rosacea, Lima spent nine years developing her own makeup range aimed at “real women with skin issues”. **SHE SAYS** “We want women to look in the mirror and see what’s right, not what’s wrong. That’s the heart and soul of what we do.”



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Rei Kawakubo

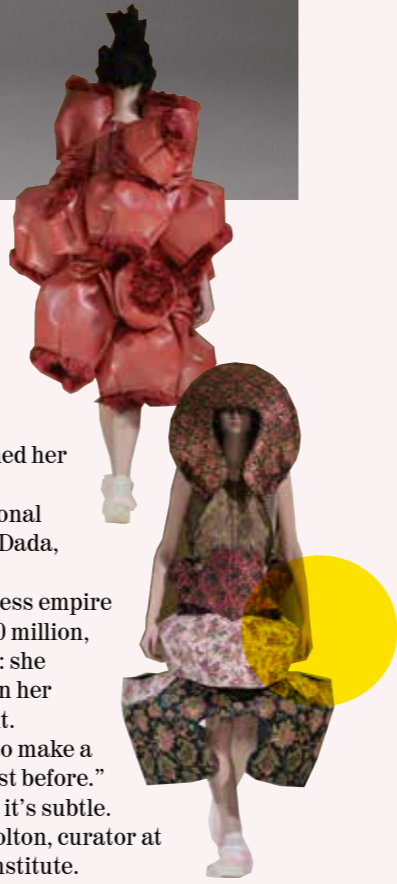
OCCUPATION Fashion designer **AGE** 74
INCREIBLE MOMENT The woman who founded Comme des Garçons in 1969 was celebrated this year with a spectacular

show at the Metropolitan Museum of Art in New York, the first to honor a living designer since Yves Saint Laurent’s showcase in 1983. The exhibition, featuring pieces from her Comme des Garçons womenswear collections, underlined her avant-garde creativity and quest for originality, with garments that combine aspects of menswear, traditional Japanese tailoring, punk, Russian constructivism, Dada, and much else besides, to thrilling effect.

WINNING FACT Despite being at the helm of a business empire that brings in annual revenues of around \$260 million, Kawakubo herself is something of an enigma: she rarely gives interviews and prefers to focus on her work than self-publicize. A model of refinement.

SHE SAYS “There is no meaning. I am just trying to make a business out of creating things that didn’t exist before.”

THEY SAY “Her influence is huge, but sometimes it’s subtle. It’s about the purity of her vision.” Andrew Bolton, curator at the Metropolitan Museum of Art’s Costume Institute.



#INCREIBLEWOMEN

Photographs: Timothy Greenfield-Sanders/Contour by Getty Images; Imoisset; Matt Hollyoaks; Rex Features; Liu Qing; Lorin Granger

The Life Savers

Two groundbreaking scientists changing the face of medicine

In 2016, British paediatric neurologist **MANJU KURIAN** discovered a method for diagnosing and alleviating the symptoms of dystonia, a rare degenerative disorder, often mistaken for cerebral palsy. Kurian's discovery means that the disorder can be identified at an early age and symptoms can be drastically reduced.

Nanoparticles designed last year by Lebanese-born **NIVEEN KHASHAB**, which look set to make radical improvements in the way diseases are diagnosed and medication delivered, have already been successfully tested on cancer cells, meaning that the agonizing process of chemotherapy may become a thing of the past.



BRITISH

Khshab, who picked up a Unesco For Women in Science Award this March for her research at Saudi Arabia's King Abdullah University of Science and Technology, had previously discovered a technique that can identify oxidative stress – the cause of many diseases, including cancer.



LEBANESE

Catherine Hettinger

OCCUPATION Inventor
AGE 62
INCREDIBLE MOMENT This year, the

fidget spinner, modeled after an invention devised by Catherine Hettinger, became the toy of the moment, with tens of millions sold globally. The spinning device has been banned in some schools, while other educators claim it focuses children with attention disorders. Hettinger came up with the idea when her ability to take care of her young daughter suffered, due to a temporary bout of autoimmune disorder myasthenia gravis. Though Hettinger no longer holds the patent, so hasn't benefited financially from the craze, she's delighted it's been such a success, and a crowdfunding initiative has been launched to get her a small amount for her work.



AMERICAN

Emma Grede & Khloé Kardashian

OCCUPATION Founders of Good American
AGES 34 & 33
INCREDIBLE MOMENT Last October,

Good American jeans, a new range of body-positive denim, conceived by Londoner Emma Grede and Khloé Kardashian, became the most successful denim launch in history, with \$1million worth of product sold in one day, thanks to the social-media support of A-list friends and family, including Ashley Graham, Kylie Jenner and Bella Hadid. Significantly, after developing the collection, which spans sizes zero to 24, Grede and Kardashian refused to work with retailers who wouldn't stock the entire size.



AMERICAN

The Sexism Slayers

A pair of whistleblowers taking on workplace sexism
In February, **SUSAN FOWLER**, a 25-year-old former

Uber engineer, blew the lid on a toxic work culture at the Silicon Valley Goliath (and one of the world's most valuable private tech companies) with a 3,000-word blog post exposing systemic sexism, harassment, discrimination and a "Game-Of-Thrones political war" raging within upper management. The post went viral and triggered an internal investigation that, by June, saw the toppling of combative Uber CEO Travis Kalanick. In a separate case, ex-Fox News anchor **GRETCHEN CARLSON**, 51, received a standout \$20 million settlement against her former boss Roger Ailes, who was forced to step down as CEO and chairman of Fox News network following her sexual harassment claims, made last July, and others that followed. Carlson (pictured, opposite, with her Incredible Women letter)



AMERICAN

SHE SAYS
"Don't forget you can make a change. It only takes one person"

SUSAN FOWLER

has continued her mission to purge workplace sexism by launching her Gift of Courage Fund to support women and girls; writing a new book, *Be Fierce*; and by developing a forthcoming documentary on harassment. She also plans to testify on Capitol Hill against arbitration agreements, which are routinely used to cover up such complaints.

SHE SAYS "If it helped my daughter be a stronger woman and my son to see what I did, it was all worth it."

BRITISH

GRETCHEN CARLSON

"I'd like to encourage all women and girls to stop being people pleasers"

Gretchen Carlson

To all women who suffer in silence,
On July 6, 2016, I jumped off a cliff all by myself not knowing what would lie below. It was the biggest decision of my life but, as I approached 50 at the time, I wanted to fully realize my life motto, which has always been "carpe diem". So, I finally decided to seize the day; to stand up and to speak up. I decided to be fierce in the hopes my voice would empower others.

What I've learned in the past year, after hearing from thousands of women across the world, is that the floodgates regarding sexual harassment have been opened, and more and more women are also deciding to say "enough is enough". I've learned through their powerful stories and my own experiences, that courage can be contagious. Now I want to offer encouragement to women who feel they are being put down or held back in any aspect of their lives – whether by unwanted come-ons, bullying, pay inequity, not getting promoted or being left out of the boardroom.

It's wrong that 70 percent of tech companies have no women on their board of directors. It's wrong that a recent study showed that girls at the age of six already don't believe hearing something 'smart' could have come from a woman. It's wrong that one in five undergraduate women say they've experienced sexual assault and only 12.5 percent report it. It's wrong that these young women fear no one will believe them and that they'll be grilled with questions like: What were you wearing? How much were you drinking? Are you sure you said no?

I'd like to encourage all women and girls to stop being people pleasers and perfectionists – and... stop being so damn nice!

We need to celebrate our own failures because it's through our toughest times that we truly come to understand and appreciate the real meaning of success. If we collectively decide to speak up and stand up, we can all become warriors in the path for a better future for us and our children.

SIGNATURE TK

Gretchen

THEY SAY

"[Gretchen Carlson] is a true heroine in the field of sexual harassment"

ATTORNEY LISA BLOOM

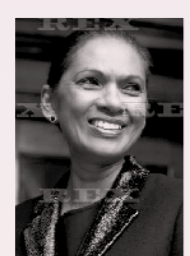
AMERICAN

Photographs Getty Images; courtesy of Good American; Brigitte Lacombe



Gina Miller OCCUPATION Investment manager AGE 52
 INCREDIBLE MOMENT A campaigner for

democracy and due process, businesswoman Gina Miller took on the British Government and won when judges ruled in November that Parliament must be allowed to vote on the timeline for triggering Article 50, thus initiating the UK's departure from the EU. No stranger to lobbying, Miller, set up the True and Fair campaign in 2009 calling for transparency in the investment and pension industries – she is the co-founder of investment company SCM Direct – and also raised £300,000 this spring for her Best for Britain crowdfunding drive to support candidates opposed to a hard Brexit.



OCCUPATION Model/campaigner AGE 34?

INCREDIBLE MOMENT Exemplifying how to affect change locally, Noëlla Coursaris Musunka launched her Malaika foundation in 2007 – and opened a primary school for girls in 2011 – in Kalebuka in her native Democratic Republic of Congo. Ten years on, the school educates 275 girls – where nearly half of school-age children do not attend school – and

Noëlla Coursaris Musunka



its first year of graduates started at the newly opened secondary school this September. Musunka, whose mother sent her away to Belgium for a better education, has sat on a Unicef panel on Girl Power and Potential, given a TEDx talk and was just named a Global Ambassador for the Global Fund in Geneva, in her ongoing mission to provide girls with more opportunity.

Salma Hayek

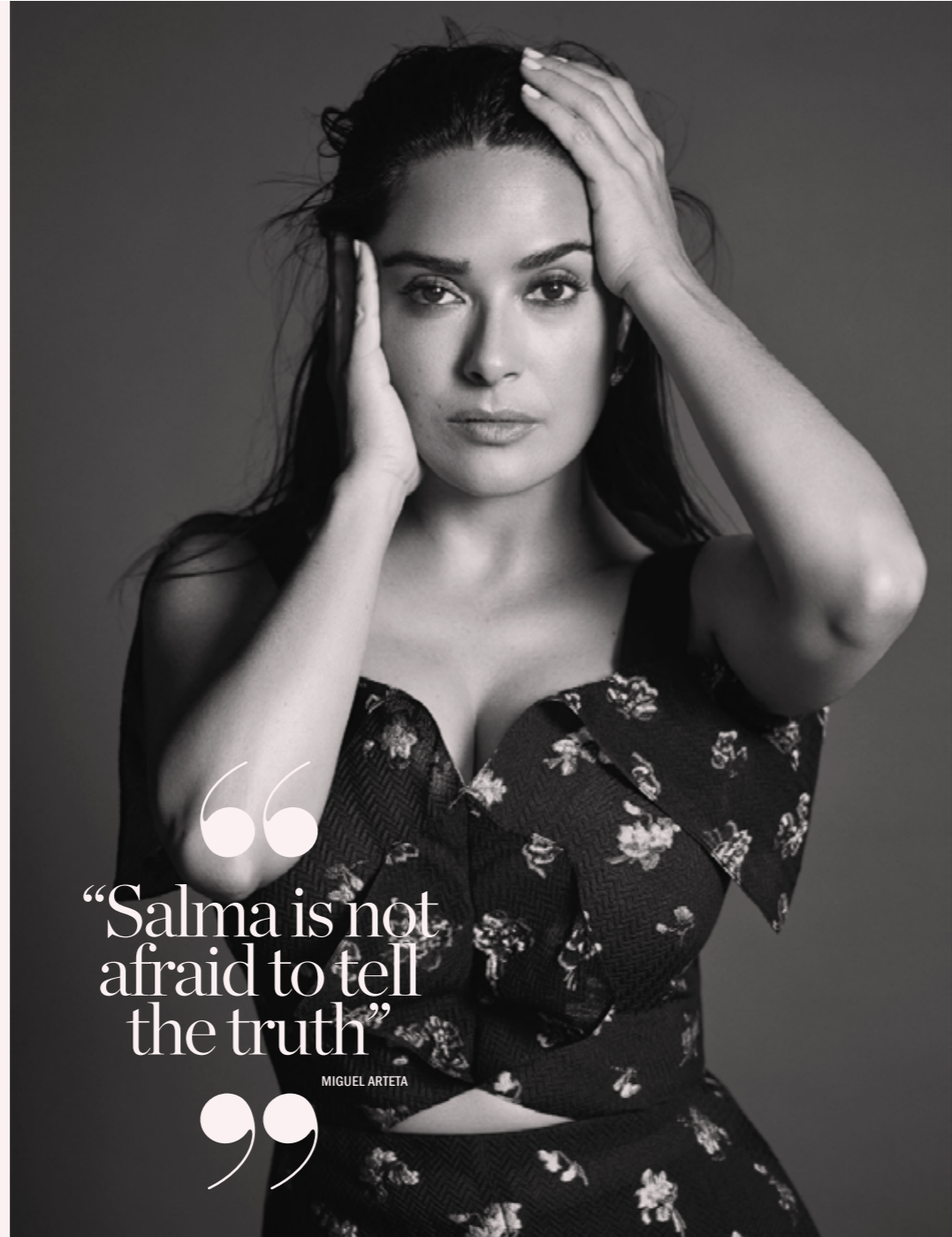
OCCUPATION Actress, producer, activist AGE 51
 INCREDIBLE MOMENT This June, Salma Hayek took on the role in Puerto Rican director Miguel Arteta's *Beatriz at Dinner* that she seemed destined to play, giving a performance that exemplifies her philosophy of "acting as activism". In what is being heralded the first film of the Trump Era, Hayek plays a Mexican massage therapist who ends up at a rich client's dinner party, where she delivers a number of home truths, giving voice to an outrage at white male privilege that has fired so many of her philanthropic efforts off-screen. Through the Salma Hayek Foundation, Hayek has campaigned for abused women and disadvantaged children – last November she announced her sponsorship of an orphanage in Tijuana – while she has also visited Syrian refugee children in Lebanon with Unicef. THEY SAY "Salma's personality is so perfect for portraying what it's like to be an immigrant. She has a huge heart, she's extremely intelligent and hardworking." *Beatriz at Dinner* screenwriter Miguel Arteta

SHE SAYS "It's been there since I've been a child. When I see things that make me think we are degrading and degenerating mentally it makes me want to do something."

#INCREDIBLEWOMEN

BRITISH / GUINESE

MEXICAN / AMERICAN



Victoria Beckham OCCUPATION Fashion and beauty entrepreneur AGE 43
 INCREDIBLE MOMENT In

a beauty world dominated by millennials and flash-in-the-pan products, Victoria Beckham launched a capsule makeup collection with Estée Lauder last fall that showed the makings of a classic. Informed by Beckham's own wish list ("things that have been discontinued, things I liked... and what I couldn't find in my makeup bag"), the collection was carefully edited for women juggling busy lives, children and careers, with an illuminating primer that works for every skin tone,

SHE SAYS

"I want to reach as many women as I can around the world. I want her to feel like the best version of herself"

VICTORIA BECKHAM

another testament (after her hugely successful fashion lines) of Beckham's ability to appeal to what woman really want and need.



Photography Rex Features, Getty Images, Nico Bustos; Jem Mitchell



incredible women

Listen to PORTER's
 Ruth Rogers
 PODCAST

OCCUPATION Chef proprietor AGE 69

Ruth Rogers

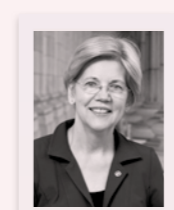
INCREDIBLE MOMENT This year, Ruth Rogers celebrated 30 years of the River Café – the Italian restaurant

with a Michelin Star that she co-founded with the late Rose Gray in west London. Rogers marked the anniversary with the release of a new book, full of seasonal dishes and artworks by some of its famous clientele. Despite being a culinary refuge for London's great and good (Stella McCartney, Jemima Khan and London Mayor Sadiq Khan), the restaurant still adheres to Rogers' unstuffy vision. The waiting staff help to prepare the food and Rogers greets patrons herself.

WINNING FACT Over the years, the Café – in whose kitchen Ruth keeps a 50/50 gender split – has been an incubator for some of the country's chefs including Jamie Oliver, Hugh Fearnley-Whittingstall and April Bloomfield.



BRITISH



These outspoken Senators and 2020 Presidential contenders have their say
 When Senator ELIZABETH WARREN (68) of Massachusetts read out a letter from Coretta Scott King, the

AMERICAN

widow of Martin Luther King, during a debate in February over Senator Jeff Sessions' nomination for Attorney General – a letter that in effect attacked his civil rights record – Warren was upbraided for breaking the rules (which forbid a member from impugning another) and dismissed. But that didn't stop her: she voiced her outrage to her 2.7 million Twitter followers (prompting a #LetLizSpeak hashtag) and read out the letter outside the chamber on Facebook Live, a video that has now had 12 million views. When Republican Majority

Leader Mitch McConnell remarked of cutting her short: "She was warned. She was given an explanation. Nevertheless, she persisted," the final three words of his statement became a meme and rallying cry for women who were tired of being silenced by men. Among them was fellow Democrat,

Senator KAMALA HARRIS (52) of California, a former prosecutor who was interrupted twice (by male senators) within a week in June, during her



AMERICAN

The Persistent Voices

questioning of witnesses at a Senate Intelligence Committee. Afterwards, Warren's tweet in support captured the mood: "Silencing @SenKamala Harris for not being 'courteous' enough is just unbelievable. Keep fighting, Kamala! #NeverthelessShePersisted"



OCCUPATION Senior Innovator, Nike AGE 37

Tiffany Beers

INCREDIBLE MOMENT An engineering graduate (who holds 40 utility and three design patents), Tiffany Beers spent 13 years developing a product, which Nike unveiled this year to wonderstruck acclaim and frenzied demand: the self-lacing sneaker. Inspired by shoes worn 27 years ago by Michael J Fox in the movie *Back to the Future II*, the HyperAdapt 1.0 sneaker, currently only available in the US at a price of around \$720, is a feat of engineering, using sensors inside the shoe that detect the foot and activate a mechanism to tighten the laces. A rare woman within the male-dominated sneaker world, Beer, who has bemoaned the gender gap in sports, hopes more affordable models will be available in the future to benefit pregnant women, older people and those with special needs who are less able to tie laces.



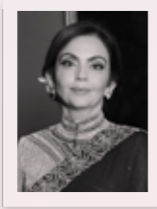
AMERICAN



incredible women

Nita Ambani
 OCCUPATION Founder & chairperson, Reliance Foundation
 AGE 53

INCREDIBLE MOMENT Last August, Nita Ambani became India's first ever female member of the International Olympic Committee, testament of how successfully the Mumbai-raised philanthropist has championed gender equality in India through sport. To date, 2.1 million girls across the



INDIAN

SHE SAYS
 "It is our duty to ensure that every girl in India is given equal opportunity."

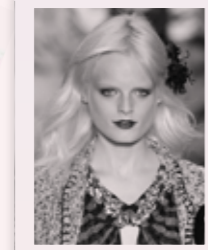
NITA AMBANI

Simone De La Rue
 OCCUPATION Fitness trainer & founder of Body by Simone
 AGE 42

INCREDIBLE MOMENT Known for honing and toning the bodies of Hollywood A-listers, Simone De La Rue has taken dance-cardio mainstream with her Body by Simone workout, which this year went global with a growing community of loyal women recreating her signature routine (#bbs) on Instagram, generating nearly two million hashtags. De La Rue has been key in staging a quiet revolution in fitness, where strong is better than skinny and a woman's physical power is favored over intense dieting or unhealthy attitudes to weight loss.



Listen to PORTER's Hannah Gaby Odiele PODCAST



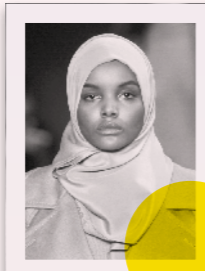
BELGIAN

The Fashion Diversifiers

The fashion champions who are combating stigma and celebrating diversity
 In January, model HANNE GABY ODIELE revealed she is intersex and teamed up with non-profit

interACT to advance intersex equality and advocate against the unnecessary surgeries that many in the intersex community undergo, as she did at the age of 10.

In February, 19-year-old Somali-American HALIMA ADEN also made headlines, as the first hijab-wearing model signed to IMG Models. After her debut at Kanye West's Yeezy presentation at New York Fashion Week, she walked for Max Mara and Alberta Ferretti in Milan, and graced the covers of Carine Roitfeld's *CR Fashion Book* and *Vogue Arabia*.



SOMALI / AMERICAN

Cindy Holland
 OCCUPATION Vice president of original content (including documentaries) at Netflix.
 AGE 48

INCREDIBLE MOMENT In a year when Netflix scored some of the most exciting shows on TV, Holland welcomed the company's first Oscar in February, when *The White Helmets* (about volunteer rescue workers in Syria) won the award for Best Documentary Short. With Netflix recently securing more than 100m viewers globally, Holland has carried the company to record profits of \$186m in 2016.



AMERICAN

“We can accomplish anything we set our minds to”

CINDY HOLLAND

Nicole Kidman
 OCCUPATION Actress
 AGE 50

INCREDIBLE MOMENT In a year of sterling performances, Nicole Kidman also spoke out against gender disparity in Hollywood. At the Cannes Film Festival in May, she vowed to collaborate with one female director every 18 months, in order to boost their representation within the movie industry from a paltry 4.2 percent. It was an impressive bid of support in a year when the Oscar-winning actress had already thrown her bankability behind a number of high-prestige women's stories – made by women and for women – on the big and small screen. She joined an ensemble of women actors (and Colin Farrell) in *The Beguiled*, a feminist retelling by Sofia Coppola of Don Siegel's 1971 Civil War classic film; she starred alongside Elisabeth Moss and Gwendoline Christie in the much anticipated second series of Jane Campion's *Top Of The Lake*; and delivered an astonishing – often painful to watch – performance as a victim of domestic abuse in *Big Little Lies*, which she co-produced with Reese Witherspoon, drawing on her 10 years working with abuse victims with UN Women. **SHE SAYS** “We, as women, have to support female directors. Hopefully [the situation] will change over time.”

AUSTRALIAN



THEY SAY
 “[Nicole Kidman’s performance in *Big Little Lies*] allows for a deeper and more complex understanding of domestic violence”

ROISIN AGNEW, THE POOL

Photographs: Rex Features; Yelena Yemchuk

Nicole Kidman

To my 3.5 billion strong and beautiful sisters, The idea that women and men are equal is part of my DNA. I was raised by a strong feminist mother and a fully supportive father, so it never occurred to me that I should be at a disadvantage because I was born a girl. This conviction has helped me tremendously as I have pursued my career as an actor and a producer. It has guided my choices to often portray strong, independent women who went against the expectations of society. And it has been my driving force to make it in an industry that is still largely run by men.

My feminist roots have also led me to UN Women, and my work as its Goodwill Ambassador. It is in this role that I have come to fully understand the barriers that women around the world are facing. I have focused on lending my voice to women who are survivors of violence. The stories I have heard from them have shaken me to the core and changed me forever. First and foremost because of the suffering and abuse the women who spoke to me had endured, and because I am aware of the devastating fact that one in three women and girls globally will be subjected to violence. But very much also because of their resilience. And because I saw firsthand how crucial the support of others was for them to be able to reclaim their lives.

Each of us, in ways big or small, will come across challenges, often arising out of the fact that we are women in a still unequal world. It has happened to me; I am sure it has to you. In those moments, I like to think of those who had my back, who lifted me up and encouraged me to believe in myself. And I think of the inspiring solidarity I experienced when meeting with survivors of violence during my travels for UN Women.

For me, this has truly turned into a life lesson. More than ever, I am aware of the need to support and celebrate each other. I like to believe that I am part of a global support network of 3.5 billion – half of humanity – who stand up for the rights of every human being to live a life free from discrimination, injustice and violence. Our cheerleaders who lend a helping hand so we can realize our respective dreams and goals, who in moments of self-doubt provide the assurance that we are strong and beautiful in myriad ways, and who tell us that yes, we can do whatever we set our minds on. Imagine: if you can fall back on 3.5 billion sisters, and the many good men who are with us, what could we possibly not achieve? It is a thought that I carry with me wherever I go and try to be true to. Join me?

Nicole x

“It never occurred to me that I should be at a disadvantage because I was born a girl”

Nicole Kidman