

# De top-modèle à photographe Le parcours pas banal de Nadine Hennelly

Nadine Hennelly a quitté le Québec à 17 ans pour une vie pleine de rebondissements, et ce, sans plan de carrière ni stratégie.

TEXTE: CHRISTIANE GUÉRARD

Elle a 17 ans, un joli minois et vit heureuse entre un père de Laval et une mère de Westmount. Un été, un ami de sa mère l'engage pour participer à un défilé de mode dans une petite boutique. Un photographe européen de passage déjeune dans un restaurant à côté. Attiré par le bruit que provoque le défilé, il découvre celle qui deviendra le mannequin-vedette d'une campagne publicitaire pancanadienne pour un designer dont Nadine a aujourd'hui oublié le nom, mais pas le cachet: 350\$. «Tout ce dont je me souviens, c'est que nous étions déçues des conditions, ma mère et moi : pas de maquilleur, pas de coiffeur, pas d'assistants! Le studio était vide, le photographe en question m'a demandé de troquer mon jean pour une robe noire que j'avais apportée, de relever ma tignasse avec une pince pour dégager mon visage, et c'est tout! Trois semaines après, il m'informait que j'avais passé avec succès les tests photos et que j'étais engagée!»

Après ce premier contrat, ce fut la manne : l'agence Ford veut envoyer Nadine à Paris ; John Casablanca de l'agence Elite la réclame pour faire la page couverture de la revue Mademoiselle; Gilles Bensimon la sollicite pour le Elle américain. Elle fait la page couverture de plusieurs magazines, dont Cosmopolitan et Vogue. La carrière de Nadine est lancée, et ce furent des années fabuleuses. «J'ai mené une vie hors du commun, j'ai voyagé à travers le monde, j'ai dormi dans des palaces et fréquenté quelques grands. Mes collègues de travail s'appelaient Cindy Crawford, Naomi Campbell, Linda Evangelista, Uma Thurman... J'avais la chance de travailler avec de véritables légendes de la photo, comme Francesco Scavullo, Richard Avedon, Oliviero Toscani, Arthur Elgort, Albert Watson, Michel Compte, Walter Chin, Steven Miesel, Peter Beard, etc. »

Deuxième coup de baguette. La grande décennie des top-modèles s'achève. Que faire? À ce moment précis, David Letterman (l'animateur du célèbre Late Show with

David Letterman) entre dans la vie professionnelle de Nadine. Il la connaît comme mannequin, l'a rencontrée dans des mondanités et a apprécié son humour. Il lui propose de participer chaque soir à son émission dans le cadre de sketches : elle devient une des Hi-Ho Girls, qui accompagnait Letterman dans ses délires! L'aventure télévisuelle durera huit ans, sept jours sur sept, du nonstop. La vie de Nadine est plus que jamais un tourbillon de paillettes. Elle va de cocktalls en vernissages, rencontre toutes les célébrités sur le plateau et en coulisse. Elle habite un loft de trois millions de dollars au cœur de Manhattan, mais n'y vit qu'en coup de vent. Elle mêne une vie de papier glacé où c'est en jet privé mis à sa disposition qu'elle va, pour Noël, remonter le moral des troupes américaines au Kosovo.

Troisième coup de baguette. Années 2006-2007: alors que Nadine est de retour à Montréal après s'être distinguée comme photographe professionnelle faisant les portfolios des nouvelles recrues pour les agences comme IMG Models, T-Models, Supreme Models, Elite, Ford, Id Models, qu'elle souffle et savoure les joies de la maternité, elle est sollicitée pour faire, en tant que photographe cette fois, les photos publicitaires d'une mégacampagne médiatique autour du mannequin hollandais Frédérique Vanderwal, égérie de Victoria's Secret.

Aujourd'hui, Nadine Hennelly a quitté les paillettes: s'occuper de son fils, bien manger, voir des amis, être entourée d'espaces verts, profiter de Montréal qu'elle vénère, voilà ses priorités. «Ma vie a toujours été une succession de coups de foudre, une chaîne de hasards heureux. » Alors, de quoi demain sera fait, elle n'en a aucune idée, mais elle n'a aucune crainte non plus.

Nadine Hennelly, photographe www.nadinehennelly.co Tél.: 514 799-9992









Si vous connaissez une histoire de vie hors du commun, un « parcours pas banal », écrivez-nous ! Nous pourrions peut-être la raconter.



Nadine Hennelly with one of her works from PLAY.

# **Urban inspirations**

Published on November 22nd, 2010

# By Hiba Zayadin

Being surrounded by skyscrapers, bridges and an intricate system of highways doesn't necessarily inspire creativity in the average person — but photographer Nadine Hennelly has managed to portray Montreal's landmark sites and industrial parks in an artistic fashion that brings out the beauty in concrete formations.

Topics : Montreal

"With photography, what I love is that you could take something huge and still transport it," said Hennelly, who launches a new series of images entitled PLAY this week at Studio H.

This exhibition is the second part of her series Urban Abstractions. This time, she decided to focus mainly on photographing amusement parks.

"I really wanted to invoke that feeling of childhood and playfulness in this series," she said. According to Hennelly, amusement parks are industrial sites created for the sole purpose of pleasure. For the last two years, she has been photographing them in and around the Montreal area.

One thing that makes Hennelly stand out is the way she presents her images. As most are abstract, she offers collectors a chance to interact with her art by giving them the freedom to combine different images and hang them in various ways.

"I don't like to dictate things to people," she said. "I like having an exchange. I like people to take my work but then infuse it with their own ideas. Then the work is not just about me — it becomes about you, and how you see it and how you want to put in your place. So it would reflect something of you."

When a piece is grouped with either its mirror image or another piece, she said, it changes the relationship between the two images and creates a new meaning of the work.

Hennelly's exhibition runs from Nov. 27 through Dec. 15 at Studio H, 2252 St. Antoine Street West. Vernissage is Friday, Nov. 26 from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m.





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The Bridgi Garden, 122 E. 70th St. (PH7) 757-0001

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TVII ALNON'S HAD MY bands somewhere the.' away former model Natione Blennelly (nadionenal: inc/Bleak.com). She nodered and exhibited her action/Bleak.com). She nodered and exhibited her action/s while appearing in fashion magazines. She tooch ghoton in her spare time while working as a model on the Late Show with David Latemans. Last years, the Montreal native took the plange and devoted bersell full time to photography. She shoots in time to TVE AUXILIS HAD MY

photography. She shoots in digital (usu-alls with the Fujifeln FinePix S2 Prs). ally with the Fugities Front're ST Privi. and offers uses a processing technique that desaturates and recoloriess the photons, which gives the images an "almost paintenly, otherworldly" effect. "I prefer to be behind the sames instead of in front of it," she says. "For have total control." — "Serea Ma

ate Show with David Letterman. Elle signe maintenant des photos qui sont publiées Nadine Henneley, qui a vécu à Paris et New York, les connaît bien. Après une carrièle de top model, qui lui a valu les pages couvertures des Vogue, Elle, Cosmopolitan et autres, elle a participé pendant sept ans à l'énission culte américaine ans Thémisphiere Nord, les grandes villes se ressemblent au matin de Noël et du Premier de Fan. La photographe et sculpteure montréalaise dans les magazines américains et européens.



mobilier design, dont les New-Yorkais ont le secret. À obté du canapé Ligne Roset qui ne se sépare pas de Man-Bay, son chien. L'arbre est truffé de plumes roses l'association fluide des plames et du cristal aux œuvres d'art moderne et au FÉRTIC DASTE Ben n'évoque mieux la Grosse Pomme, à Noël, que un sapin aux couleurs de sorbet est dressé pour Winston, le fils de Nadine, et de guirlandes saumon, sven savoots ookts rouwets tr'accessores owe ut sven

NADINE HENNELLY





à SAVOUREE des yeux la décor postique et insultire s'andre dans un ambragement dest l'échet tisse en parfaisement authori. Missis et lauteu sont centre de planne et de boules. Un troi de suplois et d'imposant hougevier en rais en former de bois de année autiment la table qualbouise en pin entourée de chaire-se littre Hances acteurées chez Tereson Coman à Landers. En effention dans le missis, une ancientne equantile orientale petint à la mois sur fessille d'argent. Come l'albébaus poins, le companie de la raisine actuellé des compre coloriers et un bouspert de puetilles flass, servant au part et unes anti-correction ent servant autre des coupes coloriers et un bouspert de puetilles flass, servant au part et unes anti-correction ent servant autre de sur correction en la companie de la compani

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garde-à-vous sous use composition d'unures d'un, un buffet des années 60 se jette à un arrangement festif néunissant une collection de cause-noiseme. As centre de la composition resuale, une-création du groupe Paper Rad, signée Jack Jacob Clooct; à droite, un collage texte et photo en noir et blanc de Nadine Hesseley, suvoies et excusors otoseme procurent en consecution en collection de la coll

# The control of the co

# A STAR IS BORN

A LATE-NIGHT MODEL'S PHOTO CAREER TAKES OFF, NEW BOOKS, AND MORE.

fter spending an afternoon shooting New York.

City from the Fujifilm blimp, Nadine Hennelly came away with some personal and photographic insight. "It's a great way to take pictures," she says. "You're at a great altitude, and you're moving slowly. I love riding in blimps!"

Even before her ride, Hennelly was familiar with many, many objects that float, courtesy of her most recent employer, David Letterman. For the past four years, she has appeared on Letterman's late night TV show as one of the two models who dropped a bewilderingly wide

array of items, from canned food to bags of fertilizer, into a tank of water to help Dave determine whether or not they would in fact float. "Let's just say it was an off-the-wall and very fun job," says Hennelly.

About a year ago, Hennelly—a former model with the Elite agency who has appeared in Elle, Vogue, Glamour, and other magazines—started thinking about changing careers and moving behind the camera. The Montreal native, who

studied art and has exhibited her own sculptures, began experimenting with digital cameras. She used the Fujifilm FinePix \$2 Pro to shoot an old

friend, supermodel Frederique Van Der Wal (see page 9). "Nadine has an amazing way of coaxing out my strength and femininity and capturing both," says the model.

With a trip planned to Paris to work on a book project, Hennelly recently left The Late Show in order to pursue photography full-time. "Once I started shooting, I knew this was the right kind of work for me," she says. "I love the challenge of fashion, the clothes, the people, and working with light." Will her career sink or

float? We predict the latter. —prefer russ







Hennelly and friends (from top): David Letterman, Whoopie Goldberg, and Paul Shaffer. Right: Hennelly's shot of supermodel Frederique.

# **BOOKS**

Photo Books for Fall: Here are three new essentials for your

library: Classic Baseball (Abrams, \$35), from legendary sports photographer Walter looss, reminds us of the game's grace and edgy excitement.... Photographer Jeff Mermelstein's No Title Here (powerHouse, \$45), shows him to be an arch observer ranking among the likes of Parr, Erwitt, and Winogrand.... The Photography of Charles Sheeler, American Modernist (Bulfinch, \$75) includes his early architectural images, abstract nudes, and later photographs of Ford Motor Company's River Rouge plant.—J.E.

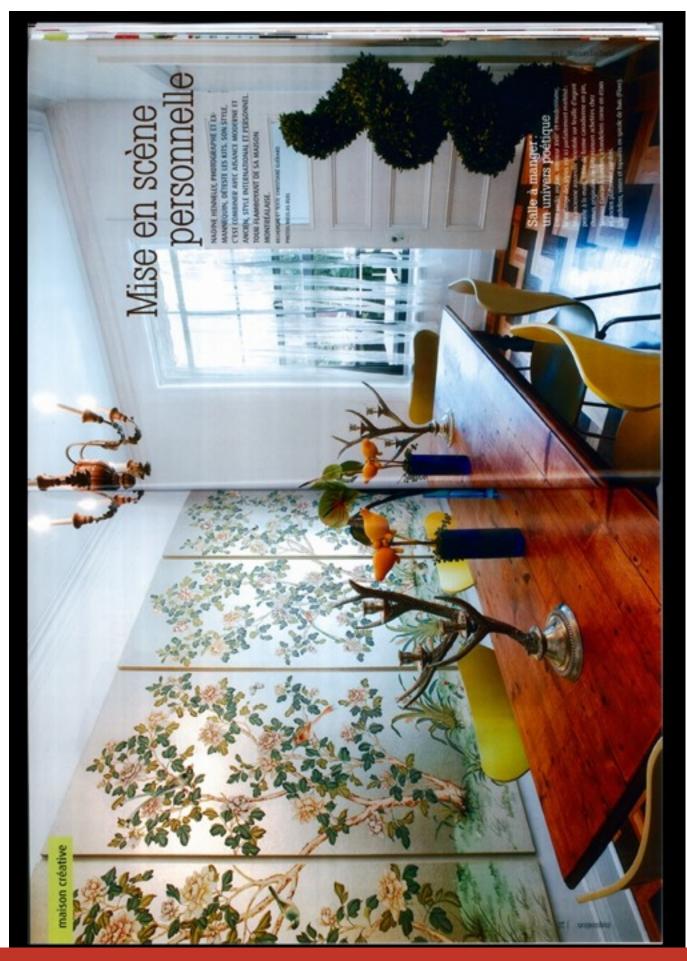








The Pro File An informed source recently urged us to try to uncover the derivation of a relatively new photographic term: "chimping." It is used by sports photographers to describe the act of instantly reviewing images by scrolling through frames on the LCD screens of their digital SLRs. A message board on SportsShooter.com showed the term to be hotly debated by sports-chotography pros. The derivation? "Chimping" refers to the sound the shooters make when they discover they've taken a nice picture—"oh, oh, oh!" Not very dignified, but useful. —i.c.



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AMERICAN HARPERS BAZAAR MAGAZINE

WESTPHOUNT INDEPENDENT - December 17-18, 2018 -

# Hennelly hosts vernissage

Recent New York. City transplant and artist Nodine Henselly held a versionage of new works entitled "Virban Albeitstoon" on December 3 of Studies H in St. Henselly The model, "St. Henselly The Months of the model Microscott. The Internet top smolel, who – print to Albeits—The Internet top smolel, who – print to the model of the Internet top smolel, who – print to the model of the Internet top smolel, who – print to the model of the Internet top smolel, the model is the smolel of the Internet top smolel, the Internet top s



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The Friends of the Westmann Library
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## La Cache's Greene store to close





Ville de Wonnessen



Exceptionnellement, elle aura lieu UNE JOURNÉE PLUS TÖT, soit les mercredis précédents : le 24 décembre et le 31 décembre, à la même heurs que d'habitude.

La collecte des matteres recyclaties qui se fait normalement le marqued demaure INCHARGÉE.

UNE JOURNÉE PLUS TÔT! Cellecto d'ordures - Périodo dos fêtes Garbage Cellection - Hollidey Schodule ONE DAY EARLIER! .....

Please take note that there will be no partiage collection on Thursday, December 25 and Thursday, January 1.

Exceptionally, garbage collection for affected streets will instead take place DNE DAY EARLIER on the preceding Wednesdays, December 24 and December 31 at the same time of day.

Please note that recycling collection Wednesday remains UNCHANGED. ion, which normally takes place on



# NADINE HENNELLY

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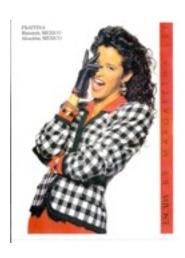


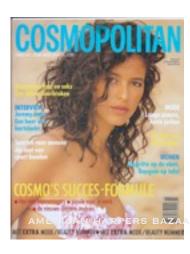
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# NADINE HENNELLY

AFTER LIVING FOR OVER 18YRS IN NEW YORK CITY, NADINE MOVED BACK TO MONTREAL IN 2007. IN NEW YORK THE FORMER TOPMODEL WORKED WITH SOME OF THE WORLDS MOST FAMOUS PHOTOGRAPHERS AND GRACED THE COVERS OF SOME OF THE MOST PRESTIGIOUS FASHION MAGAZINES. WHILE LIVING IN NYC NADINE CONTINUED HER FINE ART EDUCATION AT THE ARTS STUDENTS LEAGUE, THE SCULPTURE CENTER, AND NYU. NADINE'S PHOTOGRAPHY HAS BEEN FEATURED IN SEVERAL INTERNATIONAL PUBLICATIONS. BETWEEN 1996-2003 SHE APPEARED WEEKLY ON THE LATE SHOW WITH DAVID LETTERMAN AS ONE OF 2 MODELS IN OVER 400 SKITS. WHILE APPEARING ON THE LATE SHOW EVENINGS, NADINE WAS HIRED DURING THE DAY BY THE TOP MODELING AGENCIES IN NYC TO SHOOT THEIR NEW MODELS. BOTH HER SCULPTURES AND PHOTOGRAPHS HAVE BEEN EXHIBITED IN NEW YORK CITY, WHERE SHE WAS REPRESENTED IN CHELSEA BY ALEXANDRE DE FOLIN GALLERY.

SINCE 2008, NADINE HAS RETURNED TO CREATING HER WORKS OF ART AND SHOOTING PORTRAITS AT HER STUDIO IN LE PETIT BOURGOGNE. SHE HAS EXHIBITED TWO SOLO SHOWS, PARTICIPATED IN ARTWESTMOUNT 2010, AND EXHIBITED IN "GROUP SHOW GRIFFINTOWN" AS PART OF THE NUIT BLANCHE MONTREAL 2011. THE HUGELY SUCCESSFUL URBAN ABSTRACTIONS SERIES ARE LARGE [72"X 24"] PHOTOGRAPHIC WORKS CREATED IN PLEXIGLASS IN LIMITED EDITIONS OF EIGHT.

FURTHER INQUIRIES CAN BE MADE BY CONTACTING THE ARTIST DIRECTLY.

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