

FALL

BEAUTY



DEITY OF DANGER

She plays a goddess in *Thor* (and its upcoming sequel)—and has the looks to match—but Jaimie Alexander is not your average Hollywood/Valhalla dweller. The 28-year-old honorary Texan (she moved from South Carolina when she was four) collects hunting knives, does most of her own stunts and is not averse to a shot of the hard stuff every now and again. At least she draws the line at walking through fire ...

words by chris purnell + photography by annick wolffers + styling by marika page
hair by sam burnett + makeup by kenny leung using m.a.c. + photography assistance by irina chira

Being told by your drama teacher in high school that your time would be best spent elsewhere is the kind of thing that some people can look back on and laugh. After co-starring in the long-running sci-fi series *Kyle XY*, appearing in cult indie films like *The Other Side* and landing starring roles in American television dramas like *Bones* and *CSI: Miami*, Jaimie Alexander became a Hollywood red carpet hopper in 2011 after landing the role of the goddess Sif in 2011's summer blockbuster *Thor*.

With preparation for *Thor 2* underway, as well as a role in the new Arnold Schwarzenegger action movie *The Last Stand*, Jaimie has also taken the lead in the new thriller *Intersection*. (And, like the A&R man that failed to sign The Beatles in the early '60s, we don't know what became of her high school drama teacher.) Jaimie took time away from her training to discuss her upcoming films, and her knife collection—really.

FAULT: Tell us a little bit about your role in *Intersection*.

JAIMIE: I play a woman who is married to an extremely wealthy, controlling man. After spending her life feeling like a caged animal, she plots to kill him with the help of her lover. Things go awry, and the plan is thwarted after a severe accident in the middle of the desert that leaves she and her husband stranded with strangers.

Is it emotionally and physically draining to have such a dramatic role?

Yes, especially because this character is [so] far from who I am. I really had to struggle to make her actions justifiable.

Is it easy to switch it off and leave it behind when the cameras are turned off?

Yes; I never take my work home with me. I'm not a method actor. I don't enjoy being anyone other than who I am when I'm not working.

As a leading actor in a movie, do you feel added pressure for the film to succeed?

There's always that pressure, but at the same time, I have no control over the final product. I can only hope for the best.

In *Thor* and the upcoming *Thor 2*, do you do your own stunts?

I do most of my own stunts. Sometimes there are CGI stunts that are physically impossible. Also, I stay away from most of the fire stunts. I really don't care to be set on fire.

What is a typical training day like on the set of *Thor 2*?

I love training! I start off with reformer pilates, then I do hours of stunt training, and sometimes [go for] a run. I've also just gotten back into weight lifting and yoga. It's

important for me to be flexible, because I have a lot of martial arts moves in this film.

With the training, the heavy armour and the possibility of being injured during a fight, is making a superhero film worth it? Abso-fucking-lutely!

What have you taken/stolen/borrowed from a set to remind you of the shoot?

While shooting *Savannah* I was given a large hunting knife from the late 1800s. I collect knives, so I was pretty thrilled. It's the oldest one that I have.

Tell me about your knife collection.

I think I have about 27 knives in total. I've been collecting them forever. I'm not really sure when I started, to be honest—probably in my mid-teens. I mainly collect rare knives from flea markets around the world, knives that are handmade and one-of-a-kind. Sometimes I get lucky and buy a knife from the hands of the man or woman who made it.

What was it like meeting Arnold for the first time on the set of *The Last Stand*?

He was super funny and very warm. I was so excited to be working with him, as I've been a fan of his my whole life. I think the first Arnold film I ever saw was *The Terminator*, with my brothers, on VHS. I was pretty young, and it scared the shit out of me!

What advice would you give a younger you just breaking into Hollywood?

Be yourself. There is no one like you! It's good to be different. Stand up for yourself and never let anyone take advantage of you.

What is your *FAULT*?

I can be too much of a people-pleaser.



This page: Top and skirt by Bally; necklace
by Atelier Swarovski by Hariri & Hariri.
Previous: Necklace by Atelier Swarovski
by Christopher Kane.



This page: Jumper and skirt by Alberta Ferretti; bracelets by Atelier Swarovski by Christopher Kane. *Opposite:* Dress by Chalayan; shoes by Christian Louboutin.



BEAUTY
jaimie alexander

Dress by Alberta Ferretti; jewellery by
Atelier Swarovski by Hariri & Hariri, shoes
by Christian Louboutin;

