



Behind every great model there's a rock 'n' roll star; Jerry Hall and Mick Jagger, Stephanie Seymour and Axl Rose, Rachel Hunter/Penny Lancaster and Rod Stewart, ooooh Christie Brinkley and Billy Joel... Then there's Little Boots Big Boots; Agyness Deyn's band with boyfriend **Josh Hubbard**, the guitarist with Hull's finest, The Paddingtons. He's a dashing lanky Northerner who's a right fookin' laff and loaded with 100% proof attitude to power Agyness down the catwalk.

Text Jeremy Abbott

IT'S BEEN a hard afternoon for Josh. boozing, interviewing The Clash's Mick Jones and swaggering around Highgate's Boogaloo pub. Aggy's showed up and she's popping off for a Chinese with Carl Barat and Dirty Pretty Things' Gary Powell. While they're gone, it's time to throw it down with a swift interrogation of Josh about the flowers of romance, and why Aggy's his number one, competition is none, and what's up with his band The Paddingtons who had it all right there, ready to blow, but hit a record industry roadblock of bollocks n' bullshit...

So how did all this happen with Agyness?

Josh: Agyness is an associate of mine, that I met back in early 2005 and fell in love with the minute I met her. Fullstop. And I haven't stop loving her from that moment, and we both help each other through life and we're gonna take this journey together.

Mick Jones: With me too.

Josh: And Mick Jones is producing this journey!

Where did you meet Agyness?

Josh: We met on our tour bus in Paris. It was Hedi Slimane's birthday party, and one of our management team brought her onto the bus and she sat next to me, and said this is Agyness and I thought, 'Woah. You're amazing.' But not from England and I don't speak French. She sat next to me and she's like, 'Hello.' And I'm like, 'Fookin' 'ell. You're Northern. And from England. I'm also from the North of England!'

I told her that I loved her that night. Stupidly.

Mick Jones: Don't ever say that! Josh: Actually I never said that. I said I fell in love in Paris that night. But I had a bird at the time, and we were always touring. So...

Mick Jones: Oooohhh, I've had

Josh: See, I follow the perfect blueprint set by Mick Jones. I base my life on Mick

Mick Jones: I base my life on Josh.

Josh: So we met in Paris, a lot of stuff happened in between. Trying to finish with my bird was one of those things and trying to get Agyness to be my girlfriend. I generally try and be nice to people so it was difficult to finish that relationship without hurting her feelings. But I knew I'd fallen in love with Agyness. So it was easy enough at the end of the day. We met up at the Leeds festival in 2005. And then we got together.

So what happened in Leeds? Josh: I'd lost me wallet and didn't have any money and I'd just seen Mick play and I thought, 'Fook this, I need to go to bed.' He'd worn me out. And I saw Agyness, we went back to our hotel in the centre of Leeds and we'd both lost our keys and couldn't get into our hotel rooms. I'd lost my wallet, so she got us another room. And then we woke up the day after and went back to my house in Hull. She met my Mum and Dad and we had a bonfire and made love under the fookin' stars. No we didn't really. Well we had a dance under the stars while the bonfire was going and danced the night away.

And then what followed in the next chapters of this story?

Josh: It was just like life. Any relationship. She became my best friend and it's one of those things that doesn't happen in your life very often I imagine, when you meet certain people and you have a relationship that you can't describe and you can't explain it to any other person, other than the person you're in a relationship with. And I'm fookin extremely happy and overwhelmed with this relationship and I'm never gonna forget it because it's now and it's what's happening to me, and we've been best mates ever since, and I hope we're best mates till we die. And that's it. We're both very busy people; whether it be in legal battles with the record industry or moving from one agent to another and becoming a fookin' superstar. I knew the day I met her that she'd

be doing what she's doing because of her personality. She looks amazing and she has an amazing effect on people.

And what's up with The Paddingtons, you went quiet?

Josh: We recorded our second album. It might come out, it might not. Music industry politics. Bollocks, bollocks, bollocks and politics have buried it in the label. Whether it comes out on that label or another isn't important, we're looking to the future. We're on to the next one now.

Mick Jones: I'm gonna produce their new record. You're right at the point of inception. This is the point that it's starting. We are pissed. But, this we mean from the heart, none the less. This is the next chapter.

Josh: This is true. I'm deadly serious and I'm gonna hold him to it.

Mick: That won't be a problem.

Josh: There. You've heard it now.

We've just finished that album, and I'm glad to take on another chapter with this man. And experience the experience.

So how have you both managed to navigate through the transition that Agyness has made from model to supermodel to celebrity?

Josh: We've never really experienced anything like that, like any celebrity experiencing the transition from when we met four years ago. We both had crazy jobs at the grass roots of our careers and we've seen the peaks and troughs We've actually peaked and troughed at the same time, been through similar situations. When she was going from one agency to another, thinking 'what shall I do, what shall I do?' Well one day she was sat on me Mum's floor, while I was at band practice, and my Mum said, 'Say this to this agency, and that to the other', and she moved on, and she went for it. We were going through the same difficulties moving from one management to another, and that's

when our careers differed. Her's kept raising and ours started plateau-ing and falling, and we never got to spend time with each other. But I suppose it's a best-friends relationship; we'll get through all of that, I think, I hope, It's been tested. like. I mean we've broken up in the past. I don't believe we ever broke up properly, and even then things never change and we never stop talking on the phone. We're back together properly though. It's difficult in this industry, it takes you to extremes, and when you go to extremes, it's difficult to keep a grasp on reality. And we're keeping a grasp on it now. We're just enjoying the ride. And for fooks sake, I'm about to make my third album with Mick Jones. Two thousand n' eight! So much to experience.

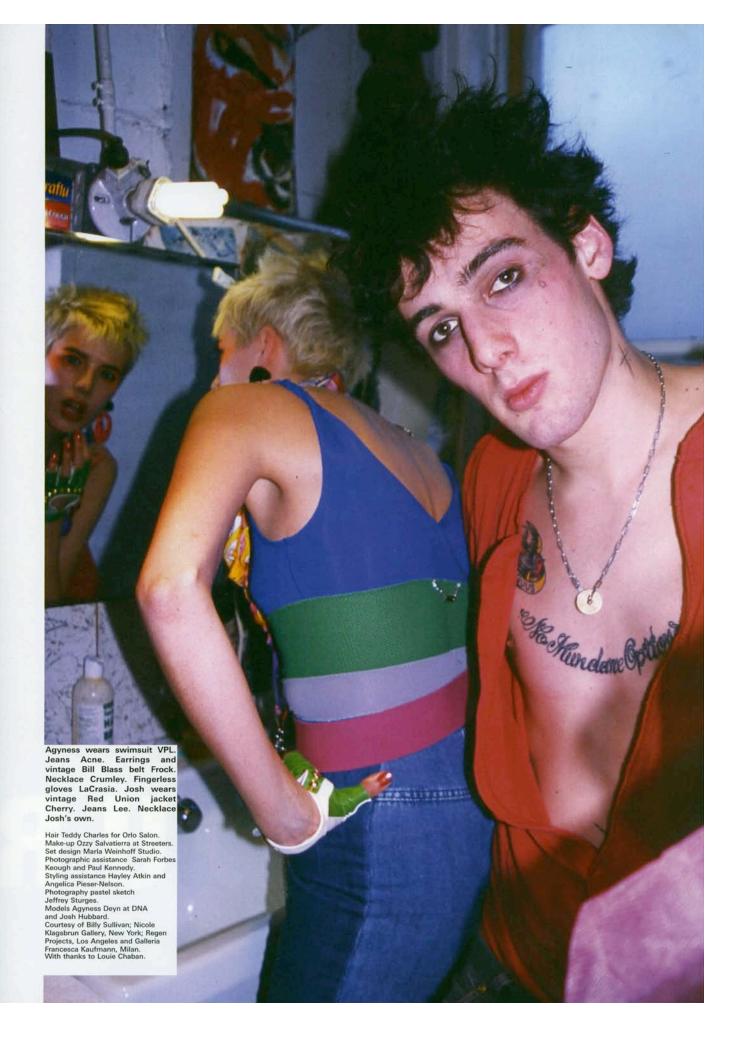
What's the most romantic thing you've ever done for Aggy?

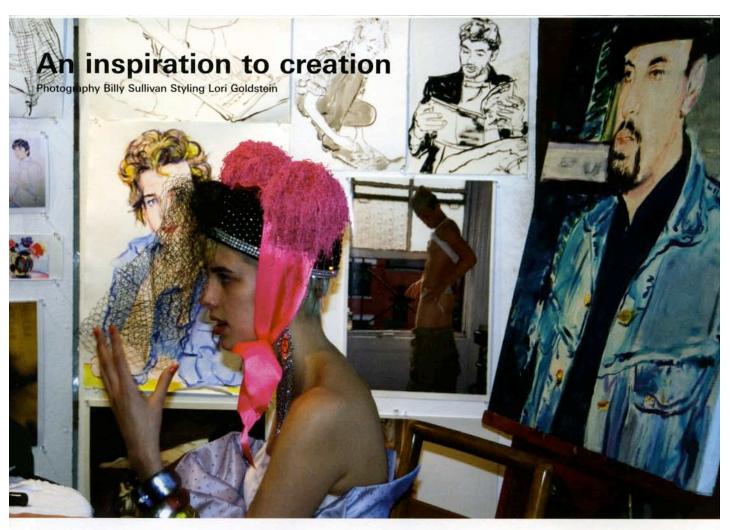
I am quite romantic. Every time she needs the toilet at a festival I hold her hands and hold her up so her bum don't have to touch the seat! (At which point Agyness calls from the Chinese looking for Josh).

Josh: I'm on me way, just finishing the interview. What do I want to eat? I'll just have some of yours. Oh, I'll just have some niceness. I love your

That's it... TRUE FOOKIN' LOVE **1** thepaddingtons.net myspace.com/thepaddingtons

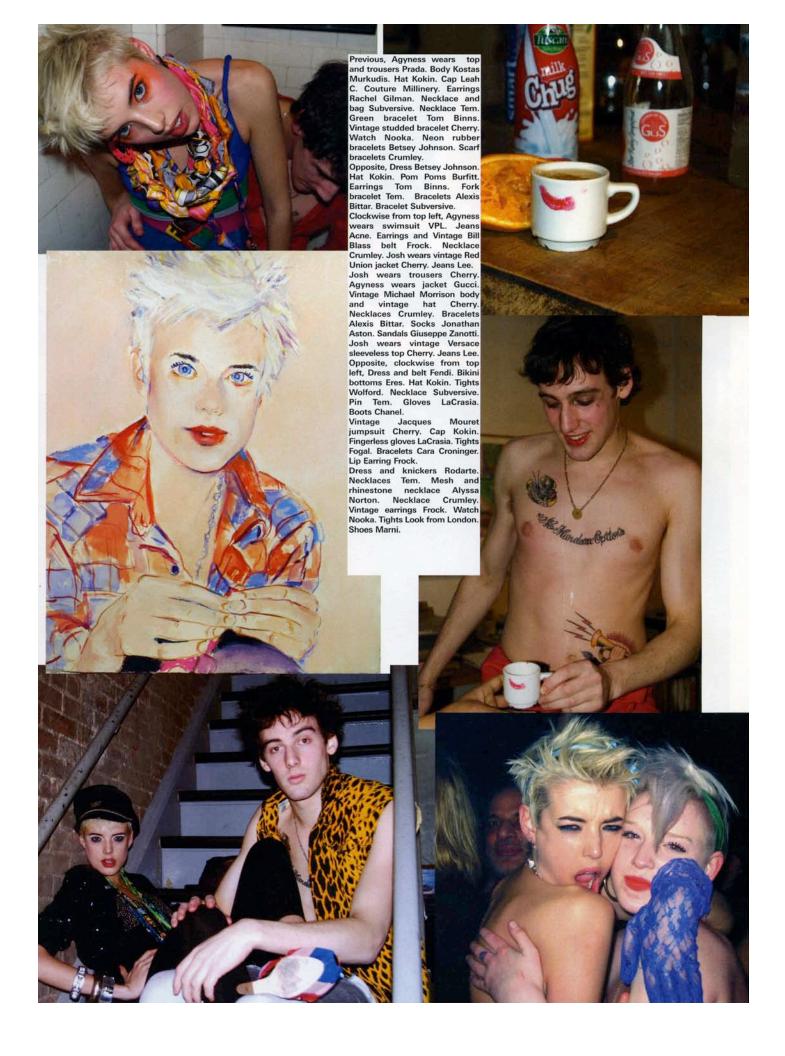
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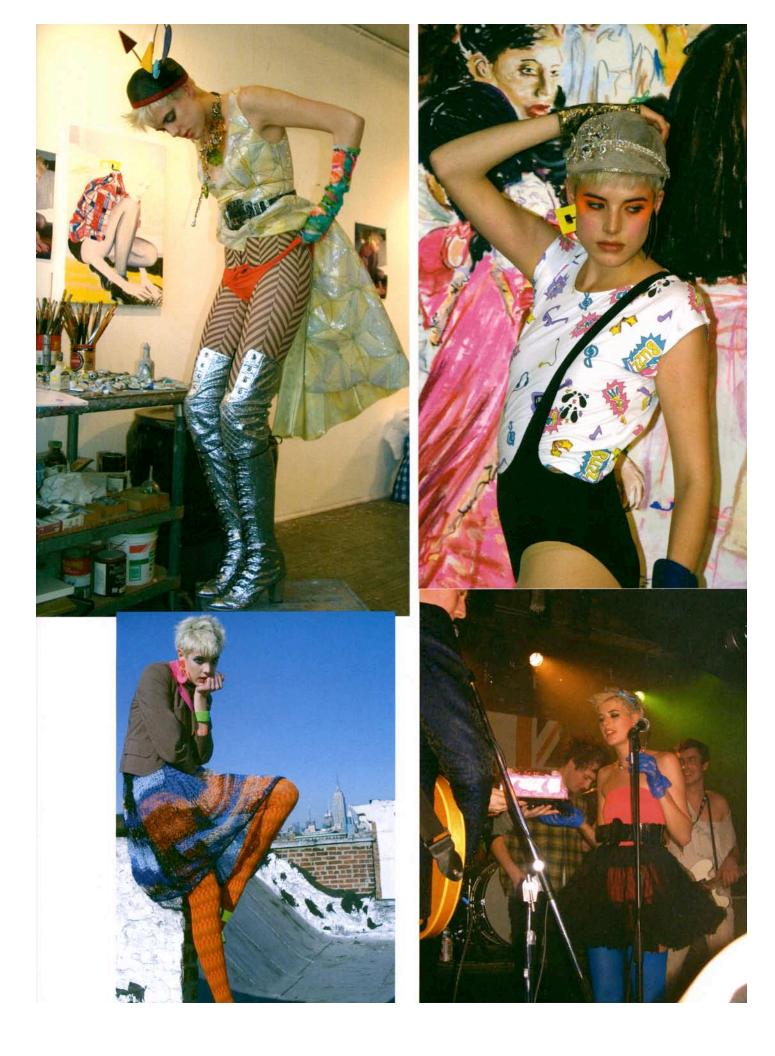














Billy Sullivan's loft is on the fourth floor of a building flanked by Chinese restaurants, jewellers and red neon signed bric-a-brac stores, on the periphery of New York's Lower East side. There's no lift, but when you reach the top, out of breath and legs aching, you enter a studio plastered from floor to ceiling in drawings and photographs. A well known face on the New York party circuit, back in the day Billy rocked such pivotal New York joints as Mudd Club, Studio 54 and Max's Kansas City with his friends and peers, and made history with his prolific art and photographs he's still known for today.

Text Holly Shackleton

BILLY'S PAST has always been integral to his work. In the '60s and early '70s he was at the heart of a city that was beginning to move to a different beat. At his Factory, Andy Warhol and his cohorts were defining the Pop Art movement and blurring the boundaries between art and everyday life, in the fashion industry Norma Kamali was redefining the silhouette with her parachute collection, New York night life was spurning a musical revolution fuelled by a crowd of decadent party-goers, and Billy Sullivan was capturing each exotic personality and fabulous, freespirited moment with first his camera and then his pastels. A lineage that made turning his talents to Agyness come naturally to him. "Agyness is this beautiful, open person, she was born to be this, this is who she is," he enthuses. When Agyness walked unexpectedly into Billy's life one fateful night back in January, fireworks went off in his head, dusty cogs began to turn and New York's glory days leapt up before his eyes. He knew he had to meet her again and soon. "I met her in a restaurant and all I could think was 'I wish I had a camera!" he enthuses. "I couldn't get her out of my head, so I made a date to go to her apartment." Renting a flat in the East Village, Billy describes Aggy's abode as similar to his old tenement. "We used to call them railway rooms," he informs, "one room after the other - one, two, three - it brought me back to my time in the late '60s and early '70s, when people really lived like that." One of the rooms in Aggy's flat was full of clothes, the other room housed the kitchen where Agyness and Josh, (who'd bought some art supplies that day), were putting graffiti on clothes, "it was fun," remembers Billy. Having re-made acquaintances, Billy

invited Agyness round to his studio,

where armed with camera and

legendary New York stylist Lori Goldstein he set about snapping Agyness' playful side. "We modelled the whole Agyness project on the late '70s," Billy informs, flicking through photographs he took of that era, amongst them a brilliantly made-up Grace Jones, the tousled poet René Ricard. Warhol Superstar Jane Forth, fashion designer Kenzo on a beach in pink hot pants, actor/model Cookie Mueller, and Billy's best mate and muse Louie (Agyness' agent at DNA models, New York). "The whole shoot reminded me of the girls we used to hang out with back when I was going out all night, having a good time, and hitting the clubs..." he reveals. A time when hair, make-up and clothes were mismatched, outfits more flamboyant, make-up more colourful, and heels more fabulous than the night before. Billy relished the chance to work with such an open subject matter. "I got to play again, with Aggy it wasn't like a job anymore." Each photo Billy took is a snapshot of a girl, gorgeous, radiant, magnetic, fun, fabulous, and in her prime. "She wants it," he continues, "and it's so wonderful to be there to watch. She's fabulous to paint, she lets you in her life and there are no secrets. Exhibiting since 1974, Billy's pastel coloured drawings have always provided an insider's intimacy to a glamorous world of beautiful debutantes, artists, actors, models, writers, and movie stars affiliated to the New York club scene. "My work is a diary of my life," he explains. "I went out every night for many, many years, it seemed only natural the two would combine." Hanging out at places like the Mudd club, Billy says the real fun was dressing up to go there, something he wanted to re-create in this shoot. "People used to start getting dressed around 8pm ready to go out about 11.30pm, but keep

changing their outfits and changing their make-up so it wasn't ever until 2 o'clock in the morning we finally made it outside!" But there were no last minute outfit changes for Billy, "I pretty much wore jeans and a shirt, I didn't get dressed up that much." A typical Saturday night out outfit would usually consist of something by Kenzo - "I was friendly with him so I used to wear a lot of his clothes" - 501 jeans and a T-shirt from a secondhand store, and with Agyness' agent Louie on the door getting in was never a problem. The duo have known each other since they were 18, introduced by a mutual friend and their shared love of art, music and fashion resulted in a friendship still going strong to this day. "When Soho started happening, Louie became a muse of mine," Billy explains, "when people come into my life I take pictures and eventually make paintings and drawings, so I've made paintings of Louie since forever. Our friendship keeps going on and on." So what makes Billy pick a muse? "Anyone I can have a good time with!" he enthuses. "I never think about looks. That's the thing with Agyness you feel like you're friends, she doesn't make believe she's something she isn't. She's just this really down to earth woman. I'm totally crazy about her!" Keen to make the shoot more about having fun than working, Billy had people dancing to music, playing dress-up and hanging out. "We played The Paddingtons, some disco, Moldy Peaches... and hung out," Billy says. "I got to re-live my life during the day rather than at

night!" After the shoot, the whole

gang relocated to Don Hill's, a live

queue to get into the club, but we

walked straight in. It felt like I was

scheduled. "There was a huge

20-years old again," Billy reminisces. "The Paddingtons

music venue on Canal Street where The Paddingtons had a gig played, and Adam from Moldy Peaches sang Happy Birthday to Agyness, then at the end they started throwing the cake around. It was perfect." Just like those legendary names tearing up New York back in the day, Agyness is inspiring Billy once again to put pastel to paper. "When you get a good muse it jus fires you up and your work just goes off," he explains. With a show coming up in August, exhibiting paintings, photographs and wall pieces, Billy's success is going onwards and upwards with the years. "I'm proud my career keeps going and it keeps getting better and I keep having more fun," he says. "You don't have to feel nostalgic for the '60s and 70s, because you run into Agyness and you're immediately back there!" @