


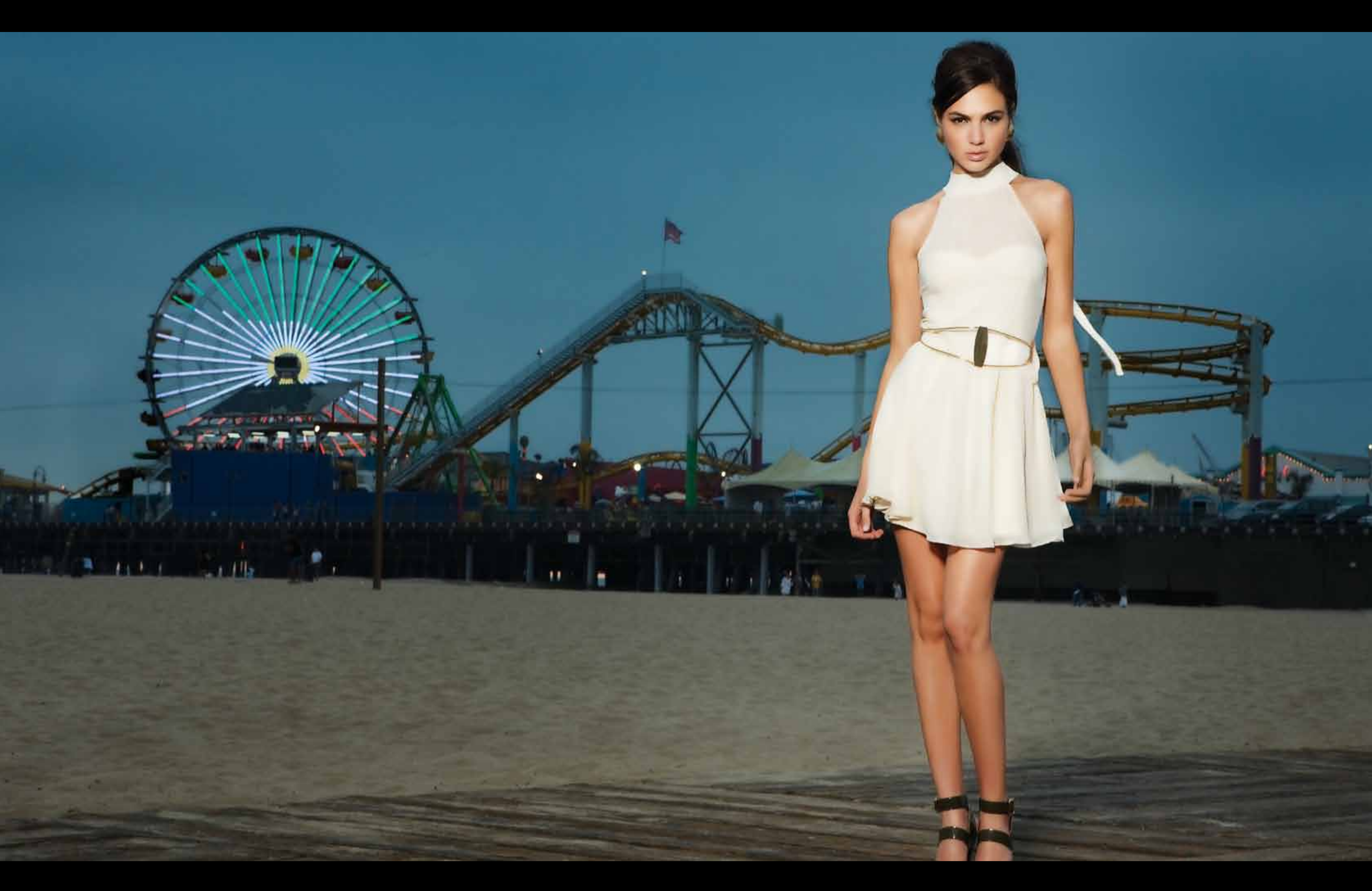
COVERGAL

"We make plans, God laughs." If the Yiddish proverb is true, God must be laughing harder at Gal Gadot than nearly anyone. Almost every major event in the Israeli actress-model's life has happened in a way differently than she had in mind. From a suburban Tel Aviv childhood filled with sports and dancing, she was on her way to IDF (Army) service when, with no pageant experience, she won the Miss Israel contest. After the army, she entered university to study international law, when her modeling agent insisted she audition for a James Bond film. The last-minute incident switched her passion to acting (she barely even cared about movies before) in an instant, which has since brought her noted roles in two Fast & Furious sequels, Entourage, Date Night, Knight & Day, as well as the Israeli series Asfur. Now, after marrying a Dutch hotelier ten years her senior, she's just given birth to her first child. Only God knows what's next for the smart, sexy 26-year-old...but JLiving caught up with our favorite new mom to find out what she's planning, anyway. -ECG 

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GAL GADOT



JLIVING: Gal, you just gave birth to Alma less than two months ago. Mazel Tov, and how are you finding motherhood?

Gal Gadot: Amazingly well. I had a very easy delivery, no anxiety no fear, and I have an amazing husband who helps a lot. Other than the fact that I'm having less sleep, it's an amazing experience, and its making everything more simple. Right now all she does is eat, sleep, and do her thing in her diaper. Both of us are aware we don't want to be too nervous or pushy.

JL: You returned from LA to Israel to have your child. Is that where you plan to raise her?

GG: We are citizens of the world We live where my job takes me. I think its going to be an amazing experience if we can travel with her around the world but I want to raise her as a good Israeli girl in Israel. I was raised in a suburb of Tel Aviv, I had so many hobbies and my parents let me do whatever I wanted to do, and everything was so laid back. I would love my daughter to have the same.

JL: Her name is Alma, is that a family name?

GG: No. Alma, in ancient Hebrew it means world, and in Hungarian it means apple.

JL: Do you miss anything from before having her? It's okay, you're allowed.

GG: I like to do everything at once all the time. I had to slow down when I was pregnant, although for the first month I was traveling all over the world, and the first six months I was shooting in Israel, so I had hardly any time off, and then I was ordered to get into bed. I love to work. I want to go back to dancing...

JL: So, if you were offered Dancing With the Stars?

GG: They offered me that in Israel, but the reason I said no, was that I really wanted to focus on work as an actor. I feel like DWS is more than just a hobby.

JL: In our experience, there are two kinds of models: those who are passionate about fashion, and those who could care less when not at work. Which were you?

GG: I definitely enjoy wearing nice clothes. I love shoes, bags, jewelry. I'm a casual, simple girl, but there are things that I really, really like. I really like Prada, Fendi and AG jeans.

JL: After the IDF, you were modeling and then decided to pursue university. What led you to acting instead?

GG: Never thought I would do acting. On the first day of university, my agent called me and said "Why didn't you go to the audition for the Bond girl role? The casting director flew out to see you, just go out of respect." So I learned one scene just driving over. And I had a call back and a call back, and did another scene with him, that was my first spark with acting. I realized it was more interesting to me than law. I didn't get the Bond movie but the casting agent was the same for Fast & Furious, and he remembered me.

JL: What actors inspire you? What kind of movies do you love?

GG: I never had any posters of actors or actresses [growing up], but I definitely have my taste. I look up to many, many actors. I love Elizabeth Taylor, I love Meryl Streep, Charlize Theron, I really like female actresses that can do sensitive roles and be tough.

JL: What kind of roles are you interested in? Which of the ones you've done is closest to the real Gal?

GG: That's a good question. Most of the roles I do are strong women who can stand up for themselves, My typecast is the young freaky girl—in *Date Night*, it was funny. But I like that I can communicate with my soft side and weak side, and be a badass independent girl.

JL: Is that a fair stereotype of Israeli girls, that they're tough independent chicks?

GG: Probably more than anywhere else, because we have to go to the army, I guess because we have the chutzpah, we have the attitude. We are different in that manner than girls in other places. With Israelis, there's no bullshit.

JL: Remakes are so popular these days. Tell us a remake you'd love to be in

GG: I really like the role in *Chinatown*, Faye Dunaway, she's one of my favorite actresses.

JL: How would you compare Southern California to Israel?

GG: There are tons of Israelis in Los Angeles, it's very similar to Israel, LA feels like a second home. I miss LA, I haven't been there for over 9 months and I cant wait to come back.

JL: So, when do you go back to working, and traveling the world?

GG: We're shooting another Fast at the end of April.. and I have two other options I can't talk about! ♦

