



THE HEADLINERS

A FEW OF OUR FAVORITE ARTISTS AND MUSICIANS OPEN UP ON MUSIC, STYLE AND INSPIRATION.



Juliana Huxtable found her artistic voice in New York City. She's all over the downtown scene, and she's known for her visual exhibitions at institutions such as the Whitney Museum, the MoMA and Art Basel Miami.

"MUSIC TRIGGERS THE
SYNESTHETIC CAPABILITIES
EMBEDDED IN A SOUL. I CAN
HEAR, SEE, SMELL, FEEL,
CLIMAX THROUGH SONIC
VEHICLES-COLORS, CUTS,
PATTERNS, TEXTURES AS
SENSORY REPLIES IN KIND."



GABRIELLE LEDET Painter / Filmmaker / Visual Visionary

Basquiat, New Orleans and youth inspire Gabrielle Ledet's art, which takes life through canvas, film, her painted car and even her clothes.

"I WEAR WHAT I WANT, WHEN I **WANT, HOW I WANT.** MY CLOTHES ARE MY CANVAS."



NEVER WASH THEM." -XAN, DRUMMER

the festival circuit.

"MY

Since forming in 2014, this four-piece

Brooklyn-based band has opened up

for notables like The Strokes and The Pixies and become regular fixtures on

PERFECT UNTIL I'VE

WORN THEM FOR AT

LEAST TWO YEARS AND

JEANS AREN'T

Max wears our Sunset One-Pocket Shirt and 501® Taper Fit Jeans.

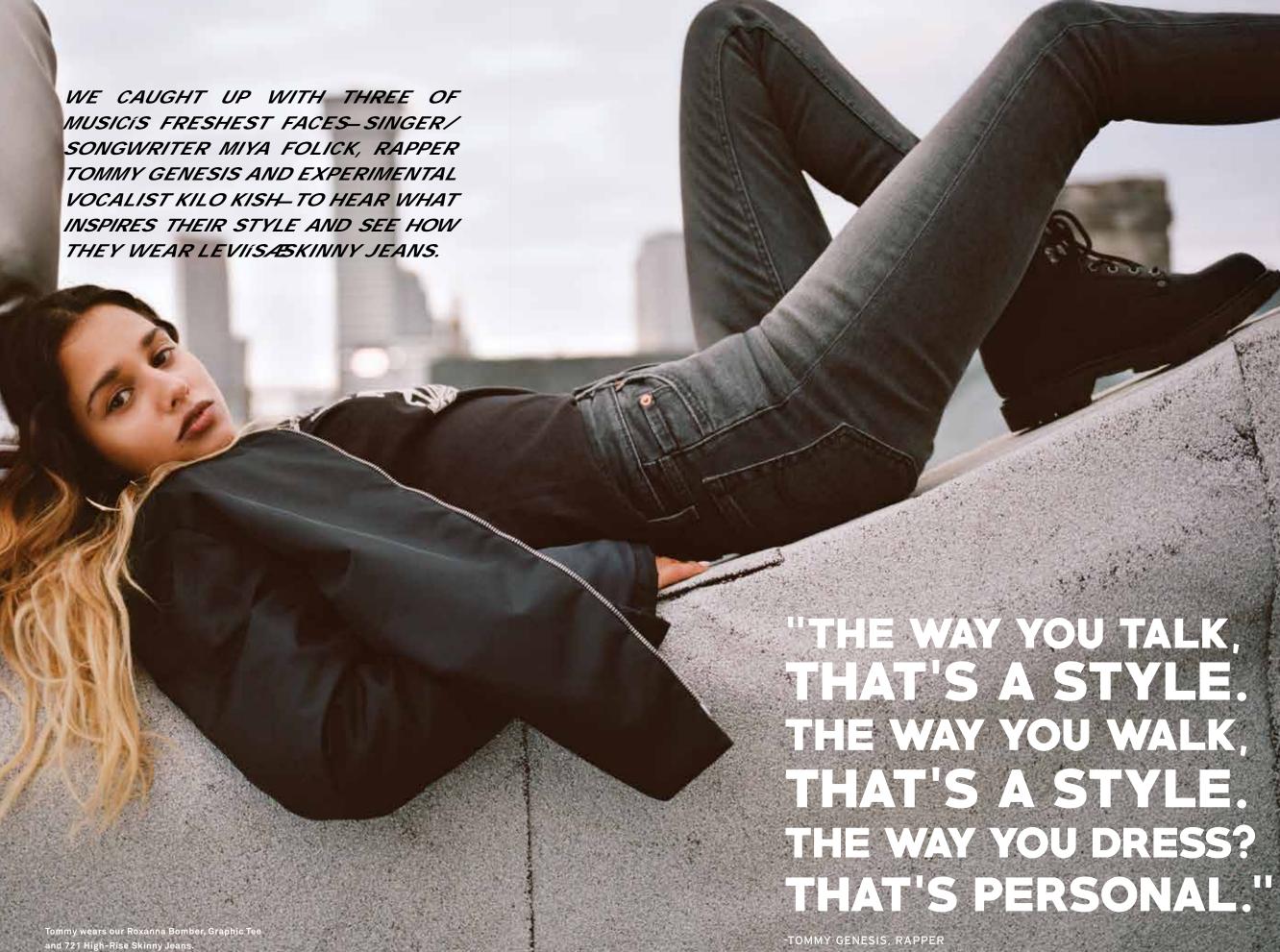
John wears a Classic Pocket Tee and 512™ Slim Taper Fit Jeans.

Xan wears a Graphic Tee and 512™ Slim Taper Fit Jeans.

Pete wears a Trucker Jacket, Mighty Tee and 502™ Regular Taper Fit Jeans.

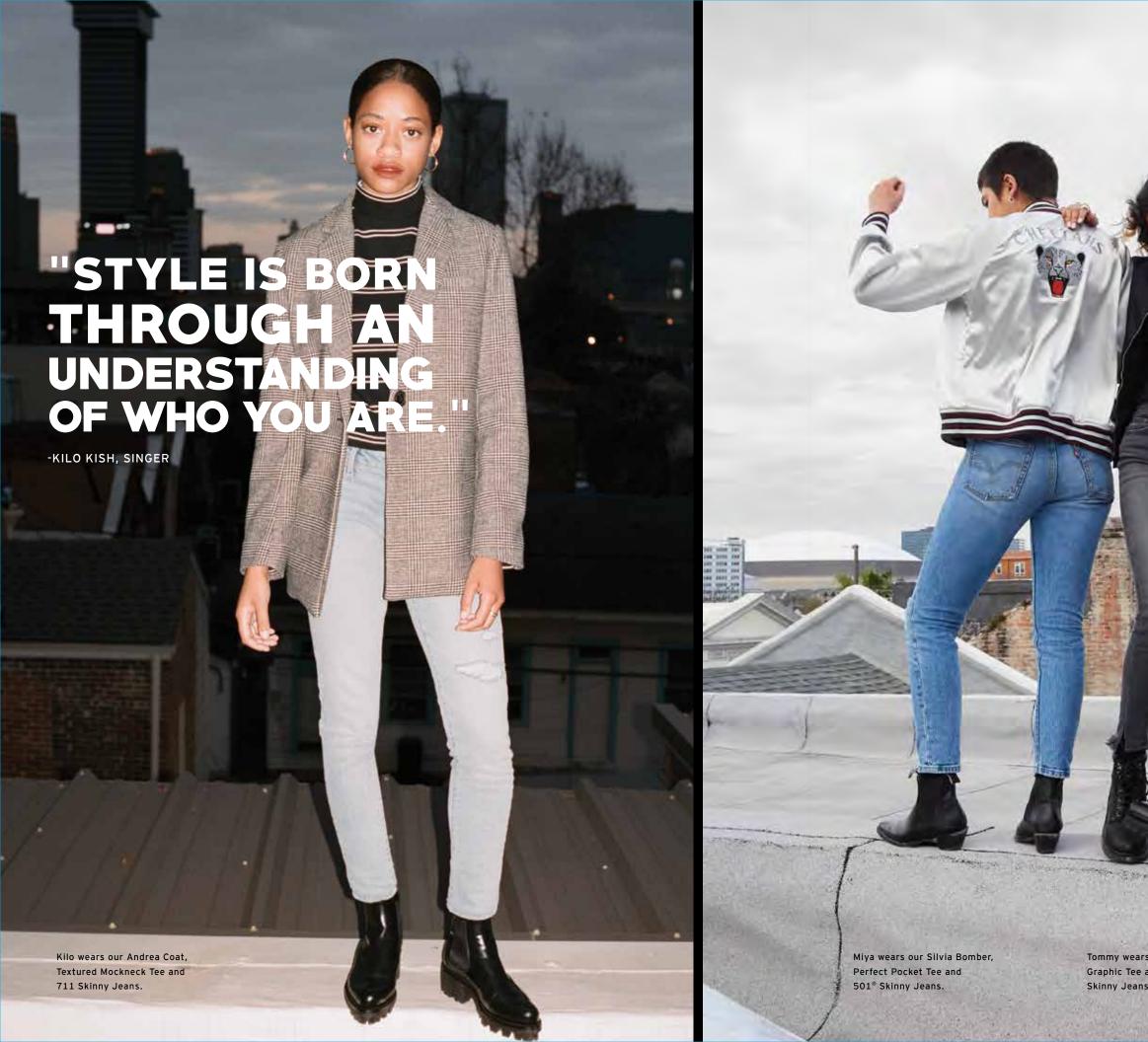
Gabrielle wears a customized Trucker Jacket, Graphic Tee and 501® Taper Fit.





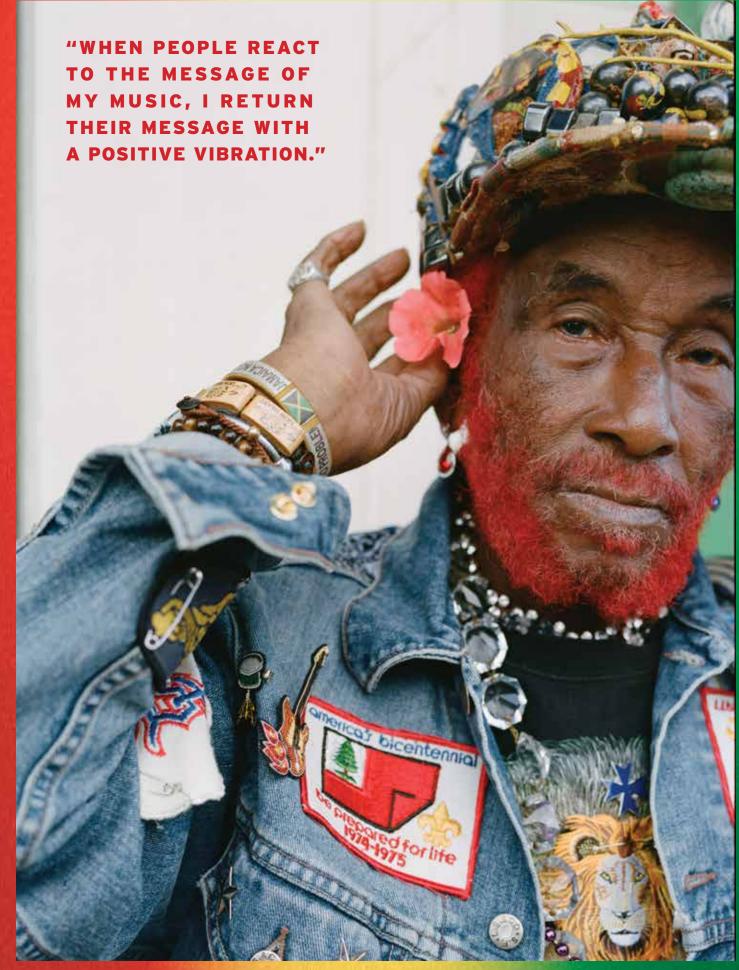














Jamaican producer and pioneer of dub, Lee "Scratch" Perry is a true original, from the music he creates to his singular personal style. Part shaman, part iconoclast, 81-year-old Lee has worked with artists as diverse as Bob Marley and the Wailers, The Clash, Beastie Boys and David Lynch.

Lee's fearlessness and uncompromising approach to making music know no bounds, even if that means burning his whole studio to the ground and starting again—as he famously did to the Black Ark studio in Jamaica in 1979. Musical techniques he first developed decades ago—such as dubbed-out delay, cavernous reverb and sampling—continue to shape today's sounds.

We photographed Lee in the historic Tremé district of New Orleans, the birthplace of jazz. He's wearing a Levi's® Trucker Jacket, customized in a style that takes inspiration from his music.—Sally Sanchez













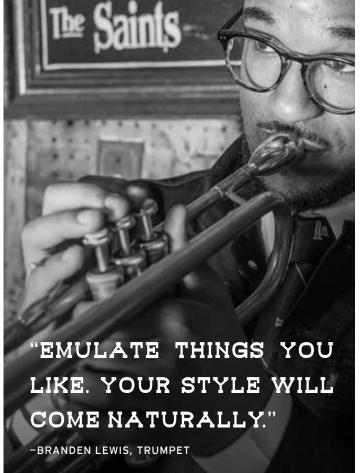




DEEP IN THE FRENCH QUARTER.

past the blinking signs advertising frozen daiquiris and behind an unassuming door facing St. Peter Street sits Preservation Hall, an intimate venue home to some of the biggest names in jazz. Ancient wooden floors support a handful of benches and beams while an upright piano, drum kit and a few chairs wait for members of the Preservation Hall Jazz Band. Back in the day, you waltzed into the Hall with a milk crate and beverage of choice, took a seat at your leisure and listened to the likes of Sweet Emma Barret, Punch Miller or Billie and De De Pierce. Today, if the line down the street is any hint, it's highly recommended that you buy tickets in advance.

The art gallery-turned-music venue has been a hotspot for jazz greats since 1961, when local legends assembled for nightly jam sessions and conversation. These small gatherings blossomed into full shows, and today Preservation Hall is known as a mecca for jazz enthusiasts. The house band which fluctuates in number, plays nightly, tours often and even held court at Coachella this past spring—includes Ben Jaffe, whose parents Allan and Sandra founded Preservation Hall. In addition to playing upright bass and tuba with the band, Ben is also the Hall's creative director and has the charge of protecting its mission: to honor and preserve the ritual of New Orleans jazz. In a rare break with tradition, Preservation Hall allowed us to take a step inside and photograph the band in its home space. -Robin Lenhart



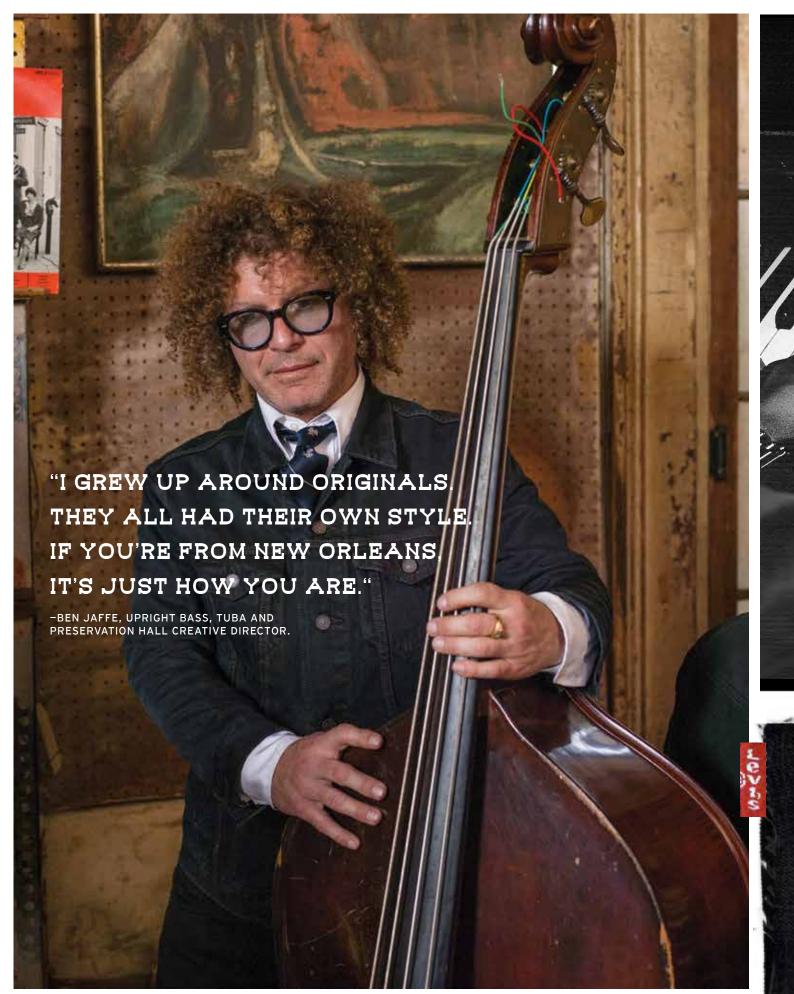








BEN JAFFE



"IF YOU CONCENTRATE ON EXPRESSING WHAT'S IMPORTANT TO YOU, ODDS ARE IT WILL BE IMPORTANT TO SOMEONE ELSE TOO. " -KYLE ROUSSEL, PIANO

WHAT'S YOUR LEVI'S® STORY?

The Man

BEN: "I TRAVEL A LOT AND I'M ALWAYS ON THE LOOKOUT FOR OLD PIECES. ONCE, I FOUND A CLOVER GREEN WESTERN LEVI'S" JACKET FROM THE '70S. IT FITS LIKE A GLOVE. IT'S MY GO-TO!"





THE LEGENDS

WE CATCH UP WITH THE BIG NAMES IN ART AND MUSIC AND HEAR THEIR TAKE ON STYLE.

KIDD JORDAN

Saxophonist / New Orleans Native / Knight

A New Orleans native, Kidd Jordan's been playing the saxophone since he was 11 years old. As a classically trained musician—he can also tap the clarinet, flute and piccolo—Jordan has toured Europe, gained a knighthood and played with music legends like Stevie Wonder and Gladys Knight.

WHAT'S YOUR STYLE OF PLAYING LIKE?

I play improvisational music, the music in the spirit. They call it free music or avant garde. I want my jazz to come off the top of my head. Jazz is in the moment, remember that.

DO YOU HAVE ANY ADVICE FOR ASPIRING MUSICIANS?

Sit down and practice as much as you can. Know your fundamentals. I get up every morning and practice my fundamentals, so when I go on the stage, whatever comes, comes. I don't want that stuff from yesterday.

FOR ANYONE JUST GETTING INTO JAZZ, WHAT ARTISTS OR ALBUMS ARE ESSENTIAL LISTENING?

Charlie Parker on saxophone and Clifford Brown on trumpet, or Dizzy Gillespie, and then work your way to Thelonious Monk and Arnie Coleman and John Coltrane. Try to mix. Get some good rhythm and blues players, listen to some early '60s and '70s jazz, and then listen to some late Coltrane and Coleman and Thelonious Monk. You got the old, the middle, and the new.

-Robin Lenhart



IRMA THOMAS

New Orleans Legend / Soul Singer

With almost 60 years under her belt, soul/blues singer Irma Thomas has warmed the hearts of generations. Although her fan base is usually centered around New Orleans, her hometown, she's been gaining mainstream popularity since being featured on the hit television series "Big Little Lies" and "Black Mirror."

Irma grew up in Louisiana in the '40s and '50s during a period of heavy segregation. She officially became the Soul Queen of New Orleans in 1989 and experienced the heartbreak of Hurricane Katrina in 2005. What does the Louisiana native love most about the Big Easy? The people and rich culture. "Rather than live individually as separate entities, our culture just melts together, and it makes us different," she says.

Irma is drawn to the classic elements of music and believes in the power lyrics have on our hearts and souls. "I'm not a gimmick person," she says. "I like songs that makes sense and tell a good story." —Ashley Mariano

LITTLE FREDDIE KING

Blues Guitarist / Singer / Louisiana Music Hall of Famer

Little Freddie King got his start playing gigs in juke joints when he moved to New Orleans as a teen. Now, he's a member of the New Orleans Jazz & Heritage Festival and a staple around the French Quarter.

"MY STYLE IS COUNTRY-STYLE, GUT-BUCKET BLUES. MY INFLUENCE IS MY FATHER WHO PLAYED DOWN-HOME DIRTY BLUES. JEANS ARE A DOWN-HOME FEELING."

Kidd wears a customized Levi's® Trucker Jacket

CHARLIE SEXTON

Guitarist / Singer / Songwriter / Texan

He played with John Lee Hooker and Stevie Ray Vaughan as a kid, toured with the Clash and once opened for Bowie. And those were his early years. These days, the Austin native spends his time touring with Bob Dylan and playing the occasional gig alongside Willie Nelson and Chrissie Hynde.

WHO OR WHAT INFLUENCES YOUR MUSIC?

It could be Ali Farka Touré to Bombino. The Niger River, and that region of the world, is very much like the Mississippi Delta—there's a lot of music and spirit and things that flow off that river. There are a gazillion old blues and country artists, from Doc Watson to Mississippi John Hurt, Skip James. The Sex Pistols changed my life when I heard them the first time

WHAT'S BEEN YOUR MOST MEMORABLE MOMENT IN MUSIC?

That's a tough one. I was pretty lucky. In one week, I did a thing with Keith Richards and Ronnie Wood, and then three days later, I met Bob Dylan in the studio for the first time. That was pretty great. Playing with Chrissie Hynde was a total dream.

WHEN YOU GO ON TOUR, WHAT DO YOU ALWAYS BRING WITH YOU?

I created a rule for myself: no matter where you're going, always take your leather jacket because you never know if you're going have to sleep in the park or something.

-Robin Lenhart

"DO YOUR BEST TO BE SINCERE IN WHAT YOU DO. JUST BELIEVE IN IT AND DO IT."



CATHY COOPER

Los Angeles-Based Artist / Musician

"Bottom line: I'm an artist," declares Cathy Cooper. As a musician, a sculptor and a costume designer, the California native works in a variety of mediums. We discuss her sought-after style, the emotionally impactful sounds of her band, The Great Sadness, and the difficult-yet-rewarding creative process.

ON STYLE

My style is utilitarian with a flair. I like shape, I like color and I like texture. My everyday clothes are pretty much the same thing, but I like workwear that has a little bit of character to it.

ON DESIGN

Because I work in sculpture and build things, I really like the more architectural designers, like Rei Kawakubo, Junya Watanabe and Henrik Vibskov. I like certain people who manipulate form a little bit and manipulate texture. I think it's interesting.

ON MUSIC & POLITICS

The song I really love to play with my band right now is called "Gone" because it's political, and we're looking at some crazy stuff right now in this world. We haven't recorded that one yet but it just takes me to a different place because I'm angry about a lot of things.

ON POLITICS

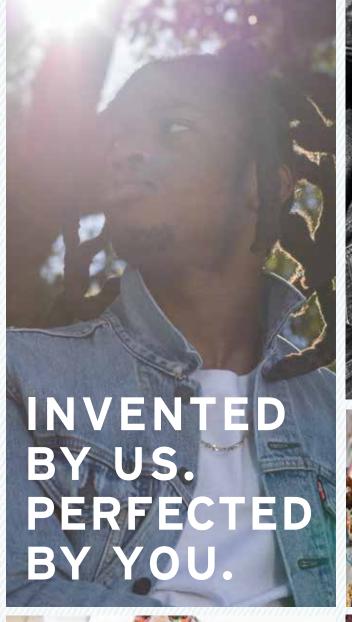
I'm hopeful, but I'm also disappointed in a lot of the decision-making going on in the world. We, as people, need to be served better. We need to open our eyes to the realities of existence. And we need to treat each other better. I truly believe it's the responsibility of every musician and artist to open up that world of understanding and compassion.

ON CREATION

What's compelling about being an artist is that it's ongoing. The work changes as I change. And that's a tough thing for a lot of people who pursue art. It always changes and you gotta be good with that. The work that I make is directly reflective of where I am as a person. And sometimes that's not necessarily the most comfortable thing.

-Ashley Mariano













































After Hurricane Katrina devastated New Orleans in 2005, three schools, each with a celebrated marching band—all-girls St. Mary's Academy and Xavier Preparatory School, and all-boys St. Augustine High—joined together to create a temporary school where the students could continue their education. The marching bands combined and, under the acronym MAX (for the first letter of each of their school names), played as a single coed band for the first time ever. This re-emergence of a marching band was seen as a sign of normalcy to the community, giving them hope that the healing process had begun.

Now, over a decade later, schools have been rebuilt, students have graduated, and new faces now fill the ranks of the marching bands. To celebrate their story, we brought St. Mary's Academy and St. Augustine High School back together for one more hurrah. To commemorate the occasion, we custom-embroidered a Levi's® Type III Trucker Jacket for each member with their band name and insignia. —Sally Sanchez

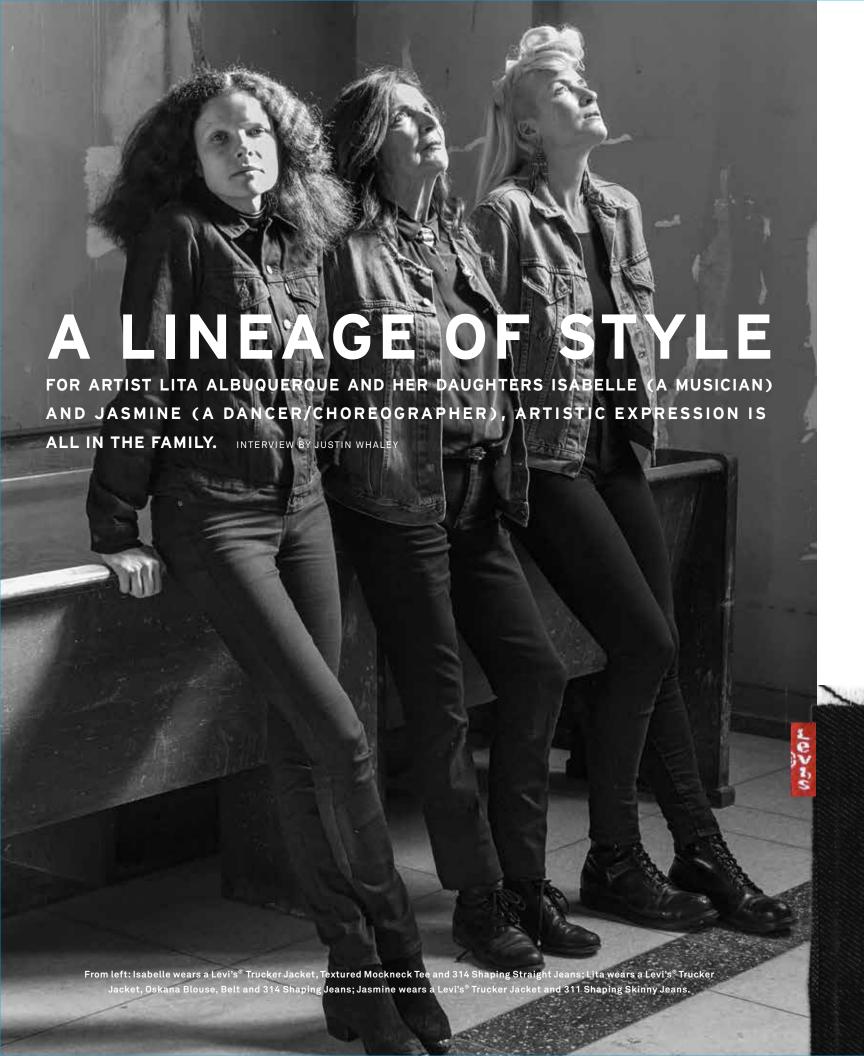
"THROUGHOUT THE HISTORY OF ST. AUGUSTINE AND ST. MARY'S, WE'VE LOOKED AT EACH OTHER AS BROTHER AND SISTER SCHOOLS."

-RAY JOHNSON, ST. MARY'S BAND DIRECTOR



FOR TIPS ON HOW TO CUSTOMIZE YOUR DENIM JACKET,
GO TO WWW.LEVI.COM







ISABELLE

"When my mom turned 70, she said: 'This is the year of the mini skirt.' I was just like, damn, I can't wait until I'm 70! She's so incredible. We went out and bought 10 pink mini skirts, and she looked insane in them. That's freedom."



JASMINE

"I wore a black tutu and black combat boots to my prom, which lost me my date. But he ended up showing up to prom in a lime green tuxedo, so that was funny. I remember one day I color-coordinated my lunch with my outfit. I wore an orange dress, and I had an orange lunch. I had oranges and carrots, everything was in orange, and my homework was done in orange pen."



LITA

"My mother (their grandmother) was such a unique person. She didn't treat me as a daughter. She treated me as a creative equal. I think I did that with the girls. I realized that they were creative equals when they were infants, which was so amazing to me. It was always this discovery of "who do you think they'll be?" I think it came from my mother, and so it's an incredible lineage. I'd never wear what I wear today if it weren't for them."

WHAT'S YOUR LEVI'S® STORY?

"WHEN I WAS 12, MY DAD GOT ME A PAIR OF 501°S. THEY WERE BRAND NEW AND STIFF. HE PUT ME IN THE BATHTUB WITH THEM ON SO THEY WOULD MELD TO MY BODY. A VALUABLE LESSON IN STYLE!"- ISABELLE

"I MET MY FIRST BOYFRIEND, JOHAN, AT A LEVI'S® JOB WHEN I WAS 15. HE WAS SWEDISH AND LOOKED REALLY HOT IN JEANS." - JASMINE "WHEN I FIRST CAME TO THIS COUNTRY, MY MOTHER BOUGHT ME A PAIR OF LEVI'S®. ALL OF A SUDDEN, I WAS PART OF THE CLAN." - LITA





SOMETHING LIKE WHAT I ALREADY HAVE



GIVE ME SOMETHING NEW! STRAIGHT-UP CLASSIC

MY PERSONAL STYLE IS



ALWAYS
CURRENT
I STAY
UP-TO-DATE
ON TRENDS.

HOW DO YOU SHOP ???

ARE YOU

UP

FOR

ANYTHING



WHAT'S YOUR TAKE ON TRENDS?

MY STYLE'S TOO UNIQUE FOR TRENDS

NOT WHEN IT COMES TO MY CLOTHES

SPONTANEOUS
IS MY MIDDLE NAME

GETTING DRESSED TAKES ME ___

IN AND OUT - OR -ONLINE

SHOPPING IS MY FAVORITE PASTIME

DESCRIBE YOUR
PERFECT
NIGHT OUT

NOT REALLY
MY THING...

DIY?

ALL ABOUT IT

TRYING THE

HOTTEST NEW

RESTAURANT

OR BAR

I'M UP FOR

ANYTHING

WHEREVER THE NIGHT TAKES ME

NO TIME.
I STICK TO
A CONSISTENT
UNIFORM

WAY TOO LONG! I LIKE TO MIX THINGS UP

THE ICON

YOU STICK TO THE CLASSICS, AND YOU ALWAYS LOOK GOOD DOING IT.

WHO YOU'RE CHANNELING: BRUCE SPRINGSTEEN

THE TREND-SETTER

YOUR STYLE'S ON LOCK, AND YOU'RE CONSTANTLY GIVING YOUR FRIENDS STYLE ADVICE.

WHO YOU'RE CHANNELING:
HAIM
JUSTIN TIMBERLAKE

THE REBEL

RIPPED & SLASHED JEANS, CRAZY PATCHES—YOU GO WHERE NO ONE HAS EVER GONE BEFORE.

WHO YOU'RE CHANNELING: DAVID BOWIE SOLANGE

CHECK OUT

LEVI.COM

FOR CUSTOMIZATION TIPS & TRICKS





Max wears our Sunset One-Pocket Shirt and 501° Taper Fit Jeans. John wears a Classic Pocket Tee and 512^{TM} Slim Taper Fit Jeans. Xan wears a Graphic Tee and 512^{TM} Slim Taper Fit Jeans. Pete wears a Trucker Jacket, Mighty Tee and 502^{TM} Regular Taper Fit Jeans.

