



Hanging with Cameron Diaz!

Natalie answers a few questions about America's sweetheart



- Cameron Diaz stayed with you for a few weeks when she was just starting out? How did that happen?

Natalie: Yes, she came to New York to try out for a modeling job. I was working as a wardrobe stylist and we had a mutual acquaintance who asked if she could stay with me and I'd keep an eye on her.

- Wow. Fun. What was she like then?

Natalie: Adorable and quirky. A lot like her roles (think 'There's Something About Mary').

- Any fun Cameron facts?

Natalie: She likes peanut butter sandwiches. A lot! She hung out at my mother's one day when I was working and ate five of them. We all went out that night for my father's birthday and she couldn't eat a bite. Too stuffed. She also liked my father very much (and his Frank Sinatra tee-shirt).

- Anything else?

Natalie: Hmmmm, she could be a mechanic. We went out to the Hamptons in an old beat up car that died on the way out there. She jumped out and knew exactly what was wrong and how to fix it.

- You've kept in touch over the years. What do you find most surprising about her?

Natalie: She is very understated and sweet. No idea of her star status at all.

- Good to know. Anything else?

Natalie: When my daughter was born she came with Matt Dillon to visit and meet the baby. It was 11:30 at night and the doorman wouldn't let her in. He had no idea who they were. She's a nut.

Talking art with Sherry Sacks

The South Orange artist gets personal about herself and her art



- Hi Sherry. Where are you from?

I grew up in Monmouth County NJ. When I was 18 I moved to Maryland for college, followed by a year abroad in Germany.

- Three things that would surprise people about you?

I have a Masters in Education

I used to play drums.

I prefer to spend a large amount of time alone.



- How did you get into painting?

I've always made things: from zines to music, so painting was almost a natural. I found it through studying Biology a few years ago. My study habits were visual and hence the paintings emerged.

- Can you describe your style?

Color based interpretations of both biological concepts and the expressions of my inner world. The paintings are moments, described in high movement sculptural ways.



- Favorite museum?

The [MACBA](#) (Barcelona Museum of Contemporary Art). It's an architectural wonder of modern design in my favorite city. Our yearly family vacation is to Barcelona, where we visit family and travel. Traveling is essential to me and my family; it is a great source of inspiration. Before creating this family, I traveled quite a bit solo: Thailand, South of France and Spain.

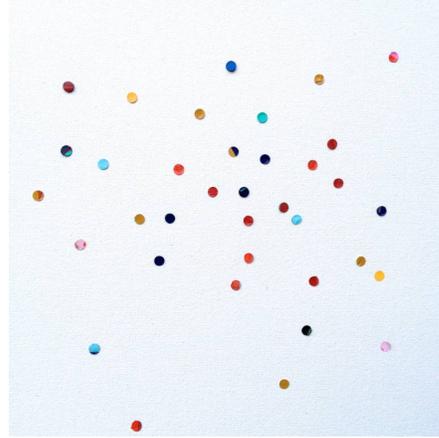
- Do you have a favorite artist?

[Joan Mitchell](#). She was a pioneer in abstract expressionism, and worked with a bold confidence unlike any other female painter.



- Favorite destination?

The most beautiful place I've visited is [Formentera](#), a small mediterranean island off the coast of Spain. It's reachable by ferry and is a magnificent sight of clear water and white sandy beaches.



- What do you enjoy about living in South Orange?

It's diversity, community and inclusiveness makes us very happy!

Favorite go-to restaurant in town?

[Ariyoshi](#) (Japanese).

Check out this great video of Sherry painting while she talks about her work [here](#). Also, stop in and visit her at 315 Scotland Road during this year's [Open Studio Tour](#), on June 5, which I am happy to be sponsoring. Thanks Sherry!!

MayFest this Sunday

150 vendors, music, food and a great time!



[MayFest](#) is this Sunday on Springfield Ave. It's always a great day. I'll be sponsoring the pony rides again this year so stop by my table for an arts & crafts project and take home something to frame your pony pic in!

tART

Eat, see and be merry

tART

A great event, [tART](#) is coming June 4 as artist Tara O'Leary and food blogger Cathy Roma come together for a fusion of food and art. Don't miss it. Promises to be beautiful AND delicious!

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