

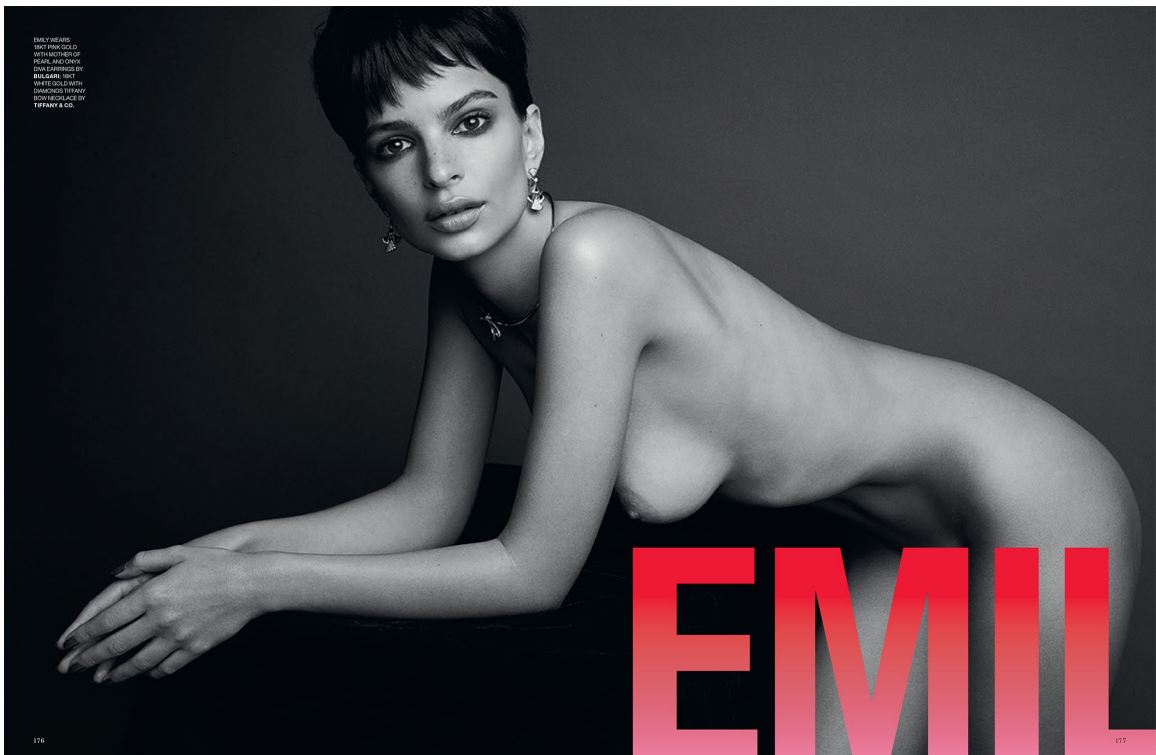
EMILY RATAJKOWSKI

Love Fall Winter 2017

Patrick Demarchelier

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# EMILY RATAJKOWSKI

HEIGHT 5'7 HAIR *BROWN* EYES *BROWN* BUST 32 1/2 WAIST 24 HIPS 34 SHOE 8 1/2



EMILY WEARS: 1947  
 PINK GOLD SET  
 DIAMONDS, PEARLS AND  
 ONLY DAVID LAURENZO  
 BY BURBERRY

178



EMILY WEARS: BLACK  
 COUSINE LEATHER  
 JACKET, METTE  
 NET TOP AND BLACK  
 BELT. SHOES BY  
 JONNY WATKINS  
 PINK GOLD SET  
 DIAMONDS, PEARLS AND  
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179

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*Feminist model and actor* **EMILY RATAJKOWSKI** *on corporate wealth, class divisions and the spotlight on sexism in *Big Little Lies**

Writer PAUL FLYNN

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**She is dashing to the airport to head home to LA, but there is always time for a short conversation with Emily Ratajkowski about the state of American politics. Emily is not the defeatist sort when it comes to trouble at the political mill. She doesn't go in much for victimhood. But she does love a chat about how and why things happen at state level. Presuming Donald is still POTUS by the time you read this, here are some sensible musings on why that happened from the model and actor's unique point of view.**

**Was Hillary Clinton's defeat a sad day for feminism?**

'Hillary's defeat was absolutely a sad day for feminism, though I didn't support Hillary in the election. I was a Bernie person. As much as I didn't want Trump to win, I wasn't totally surprised that he won because he was up next to her. I feel like definitely sexism had a lot to do with it but I think there were a lot of other elements as well. There continue to be sad days for feminism. Yesterday's health care bill that went through? Horrible for women. So I was surprised by Trump but not because of the reasons most people were.'

**Was the election Hillary's to lose?**

'I felt it was surprising because she's so connected and powerful there was no way that she could lose. I felt that at the Democratic primaries. She's a Clinton, she's going to win. I was driving to a Mexican restaurant, leaving a job and I saw that everything in the *New York Times* was for Clinton. Then slowly it started turning. And then when I saw Florida? Oof. I remember Gore and Bush from growing up. By the time I got to the restaurant to meet my friends, we were like, "He's our President?" And it was shocking.'

**How did it make you feel?**

'The next day I had to work at 5am and the whole day I was in a fog. It was surreal. I think

it's mostly just that people are sick of establishment politicians. I think it helps to be a celebrity because he's recognisable, but Bernie Sanders is an unknown man who people cared a lot about. They didn't want Bushes. They didn't want Clintons. They'd had it with that. So I think that gave him so much power in this election. The rich keep getting richer, the poor keep getting poorer and there are a lot of people getting left behind. I think it's happening in Europe as well. That's why Brexit happened. I really wish that the left would respond in a more dramatic way, rather than trying to meet everyone in the middle. I'd like to see them move more to the left just as the right has moved more to the right.'

**Not even more dramatic, more proactive?**

'The Democratic Party has become very obsessed with political correctness and it has been bought and sold. I'm sorry, but it's true. The truth of the matter is that three or four years ago nobody wanted to talk about anything and now everyone's like, let's talk about politics now. And you do think, where were you when it mattered? Now he's fucking President. Right?'

**You were off the bat talking political issues.**

**Your appearance in the *Blurred Lines* video politicised you and you responded to it, hard.**

'Yes. I was saying I was surprised because Hillary is so powerful and I thought it was a corporate tie-up, because everybody had given her so much money she'd have to win, but I thought she was a bad match. She was everything Trump was talking down – the elite class, corporate wealth – it was so easy for him. There were a bunch of things that bothered me about her campaign, like where she spent her money in which states.'

**Has your working so defiantly with your body affected your progress in Hollywood at all?**

'I think a lot of people, when they see a woman's

body they classify her as a certain type. I've had to fight that stereotype. But then I think that I would have had to do that anyway. Certain women, no matter what, they get put into certain boxes more than men. That was my box to deal with. It says so much about how much we don't like women in culture that if they show their bodies, they're vulgar, basically. It's either completely oversexualised or its vulgar and gross. It's so bizarre. I'm actually reading Roxane Gay's *Bad Feminist* at the moment. It's amazing. Her essays are just whatever the fuck she wants to talk about right now. My mom's a writer and I've always been interested in organising. I just love that it's cultural criticism of whatever she feels like and that's a brilliant thing.'

**Have you had eureka moments reading it?**

'Oh yeah. I love the passages on how women are watching themselves through the male gaze and so we are constantly surrounded by mirrors. So even when you're walking down the street you're kind of out of your body.'

**What are you watching?**

'*Big Little Lies*, of course, which I love but I didn't love at first, which is so smart. At the end the reasons I didn't like it were all my preconceptions of these characters and ultimately, of women being turned on their heads. Why are you judging these women for how they're living their lives? They're freaking out? Let them freak out. I was really crying throughout the whole of the last episode because the ever-pending threat, not even of physical violence, really shook me to the core because it's so relatable. It's really shown me the sexism that I have, that's built in to me.'

**Sorry, your eye make-up keeps distracting me. Are you thinking you look a bit Linda Evangelista today?**

'Linda? I love that! I'll take it. I haven't gone to study myself in the mirror. But I'll take that.' ■

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