

Jamie Bochert is a musician, model and muse to countless designers. Fresh from our cover shoot, she took some time out to talk ballet, poetry and how her cat earned the nickname Sid Vicious.

Sid & Jamie

Photography: Jody Rogac
Styling: Heathermary Jackson
Words: Gemma Lacey



The Row jacket, shirt & trousers



Gucci turtleneck & trousers

GL: Let's talk about Sid, your cat, how did you two meet?

JB: I rescued her at a shelter in LA when she was just born and she's 18 now. She's the best cat in the world!

GL: Does she have any quirks?

JB: She meows with no sound, I think she's gone deaf. She's fine though, she doesn't even realise.

GL: We hear your dad nicknamed her Sid Vicious after cat-sitting her once, what's the story there?

JB: Yeah, I would often leave her with them when I was away for fashion week and she would attack their cat, I guess she didn't like it? I've never seen her attack anything, but I guess she does.

GL: She seemed very cooperative on our shoot though...

JB: She was very good, but I bribed her with Dreamies too!

GL: Did you have a favourite outfit from the photoshoot?

JB: The dress Susie Cave made for *The Vampire's Wife*! I just bought two dresses from her, the tailoring and fabric are so well done. I loved it!

GL: Speaking of fashion, we heard that Karl Lagerfeld taught you a magic trick for photos? Can you tell us more about that?

JB: It's called 'The Egyptian Twist'! It's a way of standing that makes your waist look very thin. An old school modelling position. Just something he taught me but it works.

GL: You're great friends with Ann Demeulemeester and

mentioned that she taught you a lot about music and art, what are the most memorable things she's introduced you to?

JB: She introduced me to a lot of art, music and poetry, she's one of my best friends. She also introduced me to Patti Smith, I mean physically – I was aware of her art.

GL: How was that? You're often compared to her, was it intimidating?

JB: It was, but not because people say we look alike. It was intimidating to meet someone I revere. It's always scary to meet someone when you like their work and hope that you like them as a person. I did though, she's incredible!

GL: Do you have favourites by her?

JB: I like that song *Ain't it Strange* and *Ghost Dance*, but everything really.

GL: You and Ann used to write letters to each other a lot, do you still do that?

JB: We talk on the phone more now though. I'm more interested in talking than writing.

GL: It seems from your music and style that many of your influences show an interest in noir. Can you tell us where that came from?

JB: No idea! I really don't know. That's not all I do, I listen to jazz, African music. I don't see myself that way. It's interesting you say that!

GL: You have a long history of dancing – especially ballet. I'd love to talk more about that!

JB: It's the best! Thank God it kept me out of a lot of trouble. My

mother took me to a school and I just fell in love! I was pretty obsessed with it for years, that's all I wanted to do, I didn't care about school or hanging out. It taught me a lot about discipline and it was great for my body too.

GL: Do you still dance today?

JB: I haven't gone in a while but I'd like to!

GL: Do you have a favourite piece or movement?

JB: I wasn't good at tap but I love ballet, pointe and lyrical. I used to love watching PBS, they would always have dance performances, really strange ones. I remember seeing one of incredible ballerinas dancing to Prince and wearing regular clothes.

GL: Has the ballet aesthetic impacted how you dress? In terms of wanting to wear clothes that are light and easy to move in?

JB: I don't know! I mean, maybe, actually I have never thought about that. I guess it did, I wore those clothes every day for years, I'm sure it had an impact.

GL: What clothes are you most comfortable wearing today?

JB: Lately, I've been wearing a black skirt and sweater, I go from T-shirts and jeans to a dress, but it depends on seasons too.

GL: In terms of your work in fashion, are there any shows that stand out for you?

JB: The Moroccan Ann Demeulemeester show we did around 2011, we were walking on sand. I loved it and thought it was beautiful, there was an amazing Moroccan vibe



Givenchy top



The Row jacket, shirt & trousers



This page: Haider Ackermann turtleneck dress
Opposite page: Gucci turtleneck & trousers





and she played Nico. There are so many though, the show Marc Jacobs did at the Ziegfeld theatre. It was a live show and a live band played *Rage Against The Machine*. Chanel also did an amazing show about six or seven years ago in Scotland. It was so beautiful, really incredible. Those are what comes to mind.

GL: You travel a lot – do you have favourite places?

JB: I love Morocco, it's one of my favourite places. I like the food, music, the desert. I love to travel there, take long trips and go to the desert and sleep. I love everything about it, it's beautiful!

GL: In terms of music, when you write, what is your process? Are you someone who looks for inspiration or writes more intuitively?

JB: It's an intuitive process, I set up my pedals and play until I get a sound I like, then I sing and record

the room. Or do the same with the piano.

GL: We read that the first time you played your demos to anyone, it was Kim Gordon and Thurston Moore, how was that?

JB: It was on a couch in a hotel. I had a really bad recording thing, like a ghetto player, and I plugged it into an amp they had there. They sat there and listened, it was awkward but fun – I was super uncomfortable. It's always hard sharing music, but especially in those circumstances.

GL: That was a few years before you released anything. How come it took you a long time to share your music?

JB: It's hard for me! It's been hard getting it to a place where I feel comfortable, but I'm also realising that it's probably never gonna change, so I need to move past it and get on with my life. It's hard, be-

cause I work so much. It's difficult to find a balance. If I have a day off or evening off, I go home and record, but it's hard to really focus and put everything into it when I have to work. I travel a lot too, I need to dedicate more time to it.

GL: Do you have any dream collaborators?

JB: So many! Nick Cave, Warren Ellis, PJ Harvey. Brian Eno – he's amazing. If I could record with him, that would be amazing! It might never happen, but I'd love it.

GL: What else do you listen to?

JB: A lot of jazz, Miles Davis, Alice Coltrane, Sun-ra, John Hassell, I love him, he's incredible!

GL: If you could be doing anything what would it be?

JB: I'd be free to make music and have a garden, and just travel the world – with my cat!



This page: The Vampire's Wife dress
Opposite page: Araks bra, Stella McCartney trousers



Givenchy top & trousers



Araks bra, Stella McCartney trousers



This page: Haider Ackermann turtleneck dress
Opposite page: Gucci jacket & trousers, Dries Van Noten shirt





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