

## Lifestyle | Gossip



## Naughty Boy wants to pen song for Spice Girls

**N**aughty Boy has been penning a song for the Spice Girls on his bucket list. The 33-year-old producer has worked with the likes of Sam Smith, Emeli Sande and Beyonce, but he's set his sights on working with the 90s girl group - comprised of Emma Bunton, Geri Horner, Mel B, Victoria Beckham and Melanie C - who recently reunited. The music-maker - whose real name is Shahid Khan - told Metro.co.uk: "There's one more I'm waiting for, the Spice Girls. I've asked the question. So we'll see." The 'Runnin' hitmaker has been busy with former Girls Aloud star Cheryl Tweedy on a track for her new record, which will be her first since the arrival of her little boy Bear - whom

she has with boyfriend Liam Payne - in March. As for the 'Viva Forever' hitmakers, they've signed contracts for a number of reunion shows. The quintet recently confirmed they were back together to work on unspecified projects, and though Victoria insisted they are not going out on tour, it has now been revealed they have agreed legal documents to perform live again. According to TMZ, Mel B signed the contract on February 9, and other members have too, and the documents give specific details for UK and US concerts, including the number and location of shows, and compensation details. Sources told the website the 'Stop' hitmakers will perform a "limited number" of shows but are set to make a huge amount of money

from a new range of merchandise. Victoria, 43, played down the rumors surrounding the Spice Girls' recent get-together at her fashion show in New York, when she said: "I'm not going on tour. The girls aren't going on tour. It was so great to see the girls... There's something so strong in the message of what the Spice Girls stood for. What is that in the future? What does that look like? We were just bouncing ideas around. Brainstorming. But this [fashion] is what I do."

## Liam Gallagher: Rita Ora is not good enough to work with me

**L**iam Gallagher thinks Rita Ora is "amazing" - but not good enough to work with him. The former Oasis frontman was commenting on the 'Body On Me' singer performing at the BRIT Awards on Wednesday and while he was full of praise for the busty blonde beauty, he doesn't think she has what it takes to collaborate with him. The 45-year-old rocker told The Sun newspaper: "They've [BRITs] got Rita Ora, haven't they? I love her. She's amazing. "But I wouldn't like to work with her. She's not that good." The 'Wall of Glass' hitmaker - who released his debut solo LP 'As You Were' last year - says the same goes for any modern pop stars as he doesn't want to make music with "the trendy lot". He said: "Current artists have to be really good for me to be interested. On the last album I worked with a few people but none of the trendy lot." It comes after Liam accused organizers of the BRITs of being "too scared" to let him to perform at the ceremony. The 'Songbird' songwriter revealed he'd been offered the opportunity to host the annual bash in London, but his real ambition is to perform for his fans. Liam wrote on Twitter: "So the Brit awards have ballooned it again as you were LG x "All I wanted to do was play LIVE but there too scared too cosy the cheeky \*\*\*\*\* asked me if I wanted to host it are they having a laugh LG x (sic)" The rock 'n' roll star has



been nominated for Best Male Solo Artist, where he will go up against Ed Sheeran, Stormzy, Loyle Carner and Rag'n'Bone Man for the coveted crown. However, the controversial singer has not been afforded the opportunity to perform at the event, with that honour instead being handed to Rita, Foo Fighters, Ed Sheeran, Dua Lipa, Sam Smith, Stormzy, Rag N' Bone Man and Jorja Smith.

## ANNE-MARIE: ED SHEERAN MAKES EVERYBODY'S DAY BETTER

**A**nne-Marie says Ed Sheeran brings positive vibes to the studio no matter what. The 26-year-old pop star toured with the 'Shape of You' hitmaker last year, and they've even collaborated on a song together, and the 'Alarm' hitmaker says she loves being around the 26-year-old flame-haired singer because he's always happy. The 'Heavy' singer exclusively told BANG Showbiz: "Him just as a person brings everyone a bit better in their day. He's just very inspiring. "I knew he was a great songwriter and performer, but when you actually spend time with him in the studio, it's a bit like, wow, you are actually brilliant and great to be around." Anne-Marie recently admitted Ed loves to dress up in her clothes when they are on the road together. After learning firsthand that the 'Castle on the Hill' hitmaker enjoys nabbing her outfits and putting them on himself, she'll be keeping a tighter grasp on her wardrobe when she joins him on tour again this summer. She said: "He always dresses up in my clothes - it's a running joke. He always takes the mick out of what I'm wearing and puts it on." However, the blonde beauty does admit that Ed's cheeky sense of humor helped to reduce her nerves before she faced the 80,000 people waiting in the audience each night. She added: "It's quite daunting when you think of the numbers. But Ed's so chill, he's everywhere before and after the gig. He's not like wrapped away somewhere not conversing with people. I see him before gigs, we have a chat and we hang out afterwards." Meanwhile, Anne-Marie will be able to bond with Ed's fiancée Cherry Seaborn during her upcoming shows with the 'Perfect' singer, as she's set to



join the touring party on the weekends. Ed said recently: "It's actually really easy for Cherry to come. She works and can't give up her job. But it's gonna be easy because it's weekends and two months of it is in Europe so she can just pop out."

## Christopher Nolan won't be directing next James Bond

**C**hristopher Nolan has put to bed rumors he's directing the next James Bond movie. The 'Dunkirk' filmmaker had previously spoken to producers Barbara Broccoli and Michael G Wilson about his love for the spy movies, but insists he won't be helming the next installment starring Daniel Craig as the suave MI6 agent, though he'd love to take on the job one day. Nolan told BBC Radio 4's Desert Island Discs: "I won't be the man (to direct the next Bond). No, categorically. "I think every time they hire a new director I'm rumored to be doing it. "I'd love to make a Bond film at some point and I think those producers - Barbara and Michael [Broccoli and G Wilson] - they do a tremendous job and Sam Mendes has done a terrific job the last couple of films, so they don't particularly need me. "But I've always been inspired by the films and would love to do one someday." In 2015, Craig was asked if he'd be back again after finishing a difficult 'Spectre' shoot, but he replied he would rather "slash his wrists". He also said he doesn't "about who should take over the role, which stars such as Pierce Brosnan and Sean Connery have played in the past. Since the

'Casino Royale' star's comments, a number of actors have been rumored to take over the role of the Secret Service agent including Tom Hiddleston, Aidan Turner, Tom Hardy, Damian Lewis and Idris Elba. Hardy - who starred in Nolan's 'Dunkirk' - previously said he'd love to see the director helm a Bond movie. And he said he "couldn't possibly" comment on the rumors he himself is being lined up to replace Craig, who is set to bow out after the next installment, which is slated for release in November 2019. He said: "Oh, wow, Chris would be amazing! Wow, that would be cool. That would be so cool." Quizzed on whether he'd be up for the iconic part, he replied: "You know, there's a saying amongst us in the fraternity of acting, and in the fellowship of my peer group, that if you talk about it, you're automatically out of the race. So I can't possibly comment on that one! If I mention it, it's gone."



## Martin Freeman's MCU alter-ego back for more?

**M**artin Freeman has teased his Marvel Cinematic Universe character Everett Ross will be back. The 46-year-old actor - who is best known for his role as Bilbo Baggins in 'The Hobbit' franchise - reprised his role as the Deputy Task Force Commander of the Joint Counterterrorism Center for 'Black Panther', but says the MCU has more in store for him. He told Den of Geek: "They introduced me in 'Civil War' and said there would be a couple of other films, one of which was 'Black Panther.'" The British star - who appears alongside Andy Serkis, Chadwick Boseman and Michael B. Jordan in the film - previously admitted his character goes through an "enlightening journey" in 'Black Panther'. He said in November: "I'm the government guy. I'm the CIA guy called Everett Ross, who was a character in the comics as well, who sort of has an uneasy peace with T'Challa, who is the Black Panther. "And my character goes on a strange journey, an enlightening journey to Wakanda, which is the fictional African country. It's really good." The film follows T'Challa (Boseman) who, after the death of his father, the King of Wakanda, returns home to take the isolated, technologically advanced African nation to succeed to the throne and take his rightful place as king. Meanwhile, Freeman recently revealed he was considered for a role in 'Star Wars' by George Lucas. He said: "No, not directly. Indirectly, yeah. I had a chat with the folks a few years ago. "But no, it's been at the right thing. Yeah, there are other British actors that they prefer over me." Although Freeman - who shot to fame as Watson in BBC's 'Sherlock' - wasn't picked for the desired role, he admitted he is still interested in starring in the franchise. He said: "Well of course. Of course, I'd be."

## Andy Serkis loves being in intelligent films

**A**ndy Serkis thinks it's great to be part of "intelligent films". The 52-year-old actor is best known for his motion capture roles, such as Caesar in the 'Planet of the Apes' movies and Supreme Leader Snoke in the 'Star Wars' franchise, and much to his delight, both films have been nominated for awards at this year's BAFTAs and Oscars. Speaking exclusively to BANG Showbiz, Serkis said: "It's great. I'm really excited I mean I just think these films are you know ... they are elevated films, they are intelligent films. "It's great being part of Hollywood films that are intelligently directed and written and have something to say about the human condition and are people's films. "And in terms of the visual effects, I'm really proud of the work that's been done. "And there are great accolades now for the work that they have been grafting on for years and years to bring the technology to the point where they can really honour the actor's performance with such fidelity and I'm very proud to be a part of them." During 'Star Wars: The Last Jedi', Serkis' character was killed by his apprentice Kylo Ren [Adam Driver]. But when asked whether

Snoke will return in 'Episode IX', the actor teased that anything is possible in 'Star Wars'. Asked about the possibility, he said: "Not for me to say. But who knows anything is possible in a 'Star Wars' movie."



## SUSAN SARANDON BLASTS CORPORATE HOLLYWOOD

**S**usan Sarandon blames the "corporate takeover" of Hollywood for its discrimination issues. The 71-year-old actress believes that all of Hollywood's problems can be attributed to it becoming a huge business and thinks it should be run by people who love movies. Speaking at the Tropfest short film festival, where she is head juror, Susan said: "This is why we have so much sexism and racism and ageism in Hollywood. There's a lot of businessmen that are making decisions, not people who necessarily love movies. This is where you get casting by how many followers you have on Instagram." Susan also blasted Hollywood's trend for reboots as a "lack of imagination". And the actress blames "incredibly watered down" movies, on Hollywood executives trying to cater to a mass audience. However, Susan had huge praise for streaming services, including Netflix, saying that they are opening up an avenue for filmmakers to be more creative. According to The Hollywood Reporter, she said: "They don't need to appeal to everybody. So you're seeing braver, sexier, weirder, shocking things ... which is really exciting." Susan also spoke about her Oscar-winning portrayal of the nun Sister

Helen, who comforted a death row inmate, in 1995's 'Dead Man Walking' and said she was worried about the nun's reaction to the movie. She said: "I was so nervous that when she saw it she would be emotionally upset. She watched the first thing, and I asked, 'Are you OK?' And she said, 'Yeah. Doing it myself was much harder, actually.' I thought ... what a jerk I am, of course it's much harder to actually do it." — Bang Showbiz

