



## Acting Out

WIFE, MOTHER, *TITANIC* SURVIVOR—AT WORK ON HER NEXT PROJECT, **KATE WINSLET** EXPANDS HER CAST OF CHARACTERS

BY MEGAN DEEM. PHOTOGRAPHED BY PETER LINDBERGH

“Forty-two!” exclaims Kate Winslet, standing in the living room of one of the gigantic gold-leaf-embellished suites at the Hôtel Ritz Paris and displaying the sole of her black patent leather Roger Vivier Pilgrim pump. “I wore a 40 at age 12,” she says. For those not familiar with European shoe sizing, a 40 is roughly a 10 here, making a 42...a very generous 11.

Not every celebrity is so quick to cop to her physical quirks. Much of Winslet’s likability, however, derives from her obvious comfort in her own skin. This is, after all, a woman who has admitted she doesn’t dread nudity, saying, “There’s not an awful lot that embarrasses me. I’m the kind of actress that absolutely believes in exposing herself.”

Winslet’s rather graphic sex scene with costar Patrick Wilson in 2006’s *Little*

*Children* added to the buzz around her portrayal of unhappy housewife Sarah Pierce. “There are some characters that, while I’m sad to leave them behind, I’m also really happy to be released from their clutches,” she says. “In particular, I would say the character Sarah. I could not wait to walk away from that one.”

Other roles, however, she wishes she could have continued. “I was very sad to leave Clementine because she

“I am English, so people assume I was classically trained,” **KATE WINSLET** says. “I’m not particularly well-read in Shakespeare; I learned through experience.”



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## ELLE BEAUTY ICON

was so hilarious and so outrageous," Winslet says of her character in *Eternal Sunshine of the Spotless Mind*. "There was a confidence and a nonchalance about her that I really loved."

The chance to inhabit the world of Clementine Kruczynski also introduced Winslet to director Michel Gondry. "I felt so amazed, to be honest, that he even talked to me about playing that part," she says. "It really changed a lot in terms of my career. I'd been doing many classical roles prior to that—*Sense and Sensibility*, *Iris*, *Titanic*—and I've played a number

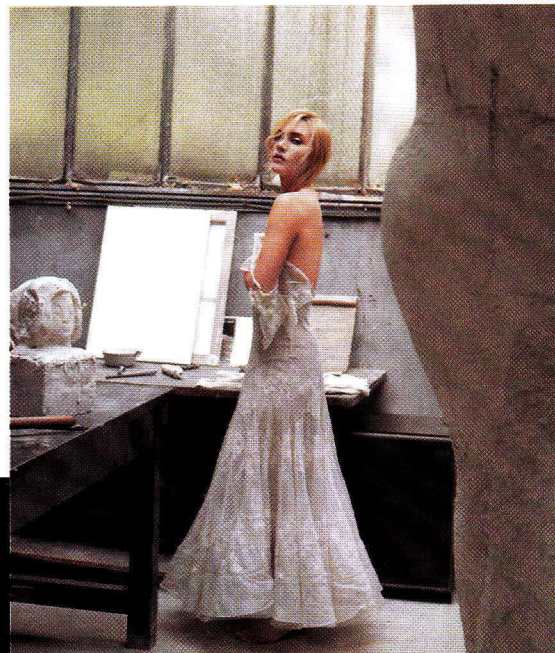
six months with muddy purple eyeliner around the edges of my lips."

Now Winslet's daily regimen includes Amla Purifying Cleanser and Firming Serum from celebrated New York City facialist Tracie Martyn; a blend of two cream concealers ("I have quite a bad broken capillary on my left upper cheek," she says. "I cover it every day"); and DDF Organic Sun Protection SPF 30, which she also slathers on her children, six-year-old Mia and three-year-old Joe.

Recently, she's been able to spend lots of time with her kids, as the whole



Lancôme has updated its perennial favorite, the lilac-and-iris-rich Trésor perfume, with spin-off **TRÉSOR ELIXIR** (above). The reinvention has a deeper, woodier aroma than the original, with added notes of vanilla, violet, and Bulgarian rose. Also new: Winslet (at right) has been appointed the latest Trésor ambassador.



of American roles since."

Not long ago, Winslet accepted a more commercial part. Lancôme signed the five-time Oscar nominee (she is the youngest person to achieve that distinction) to be the new face of its No. 1-selling perfume, Trésor. Winslet follows in the footsteps of Isabella Rossellini and Inés Sastre. "Kate is the incarnation of romance, modernity, and timeless elegance," says Odile Roujol, the president of Lancôme worldwide. "She continues the Trésor story that has been unfolding for more than 15 years."

Winslet's own perfume story wasn't always so charmed. "I had a boyfriend when I was 16 who bought me a fragrance I wasn't crazy about," she says. "It was too overpowering. I think he got the message when he realized the bottle hadn't moved off the bathroom shelf!"

Her teenage years in general didn't yield Winslet's best beauty moments. "I got it into my head that eyeliner worked much better on lips than lipliner," she says. "I'm afraid to say that I went out for

family has relocated to New York City while mom and dad film *Revolutionary Road*. Winslet's husband, Sam Mendes (himself an Academy Award winner for *American Beauty*), is directing her in this adaptation of the 1961 Richard Yates novel about a young American couple who plan to move to Paris to escape their dreary suburban lives.

Mendes isn't the only familiar face at the craft services table—Winslet's on-screen hubby is her "very, very close friend" Leonardo DiCaprio. "To have that experience of being with Leo again, after 10 years, is incredible," she says. "And the whole relationship is just *exactly* the same as it was." (*Titanic* costar Kathy Bates has a role in the new flick as well.)

One thing Winslet and DiCaprio don't do between takes: relive their glory days aboard the ill-fated ocean liner. "Leo and I were saying, 'How many times did you watch *Titanic*?' " she says. "It's impossible to view one of your movies and not be critical. For both of us, it was two, and that's it." ●