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MAGAZINE

EL MUNDO

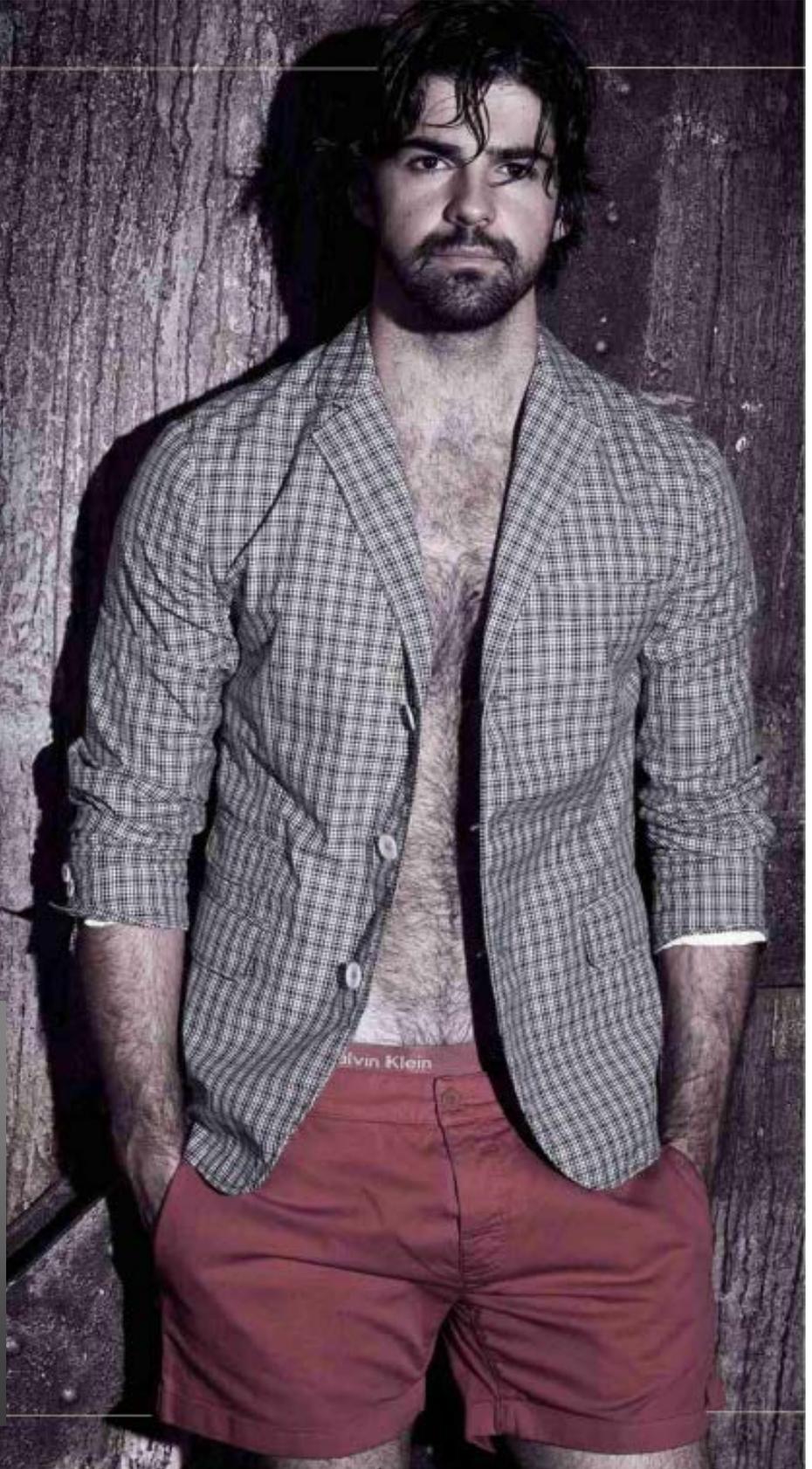
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In style

The man returns...

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After a long absence, the Spanish actor Miguel Ángel Muñoz returns to the world of show business with the debut of a new movie and a two-chapter mini-series: *La piel azul*.

BY IRIA BALLESTA
PHOTOGRAPHS BY JOAN ALSINA
MAKE-UP AND HAIR STYLES BY
MANU MORENO
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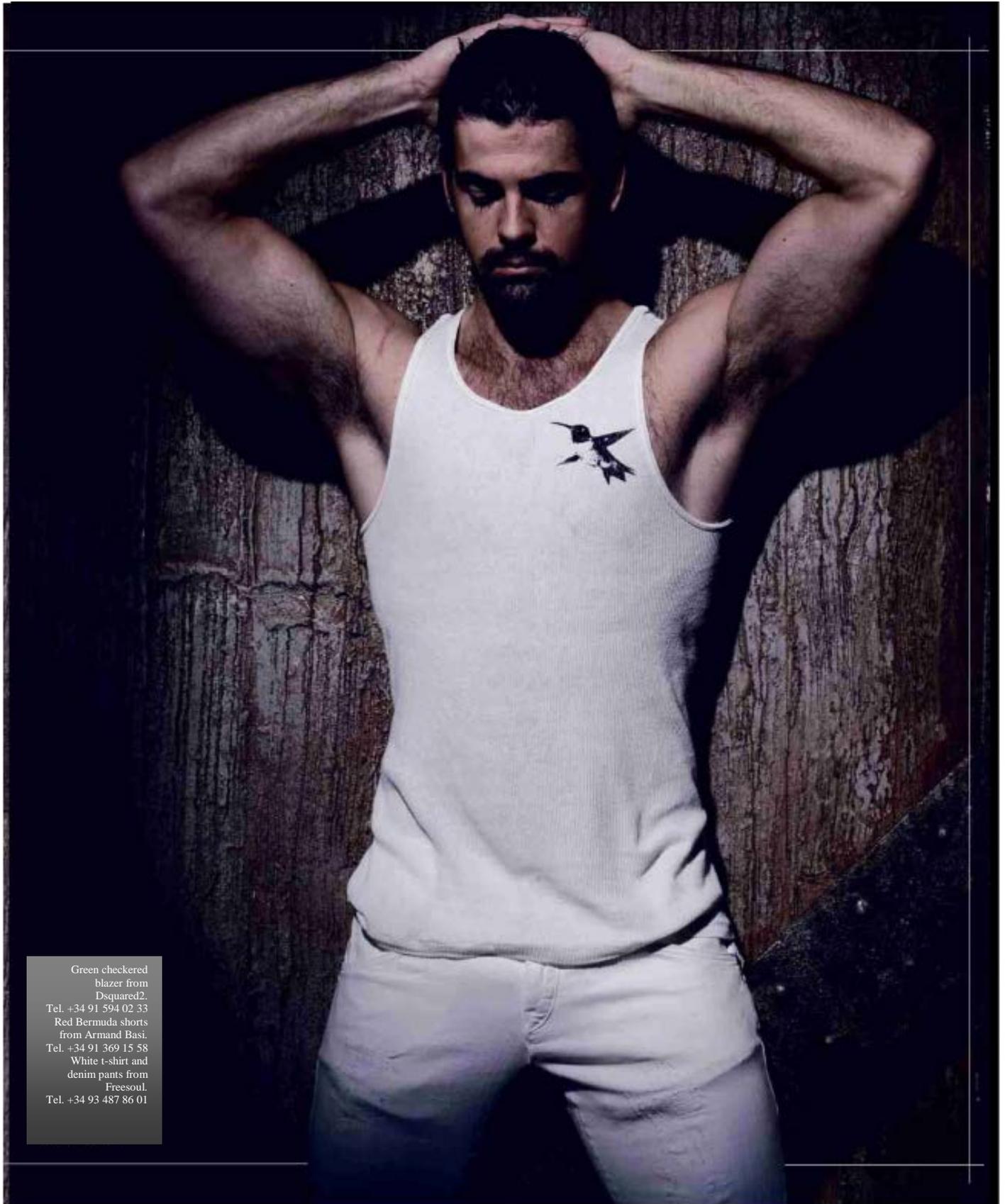


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Green checkered
blazer from
Dsquared2.
Tel. +34 91 594 02 33
Red Bermuda shorts
from Armand Basi.
Tel. +34 91 369 15 58
White t-shirt and
denim pants from
Freesoul.
Tel. +34 93 487 86 01



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1. Beige shirt from Dsquared2 Tel. +34 91 594 02 33
 Tuxedo pants from Frankie Morello Tel. +34 91 594 02 33
2. Denim shirt from US Polo ASSU. Tel. +34 91 308 73 73
 Tuxedo pants from Dsquared2 Tel. +34 91594 02 33
3. White shirt for tuxedo from Z de Zenga Tel. +34 93 713 11 11
 Cargo pants from Dsquared2 Tel. +34 91594 02 33
4. Blue striped shirt from Moschino. Tel. +34 91594 02 33
 Blue Bermuda shorts from Dsquared2. Tel. +34 91594 02 33

This Monday, March 15th, the TV movie *La piel azul* (The Blue Skin) debuts on Antena 3. Set on the sea, it presents a story of suspense and survival. "It was filmed between September and October right on the coast of Alicante. The history is very entertaining and full of suspense... My character, Germán, suggest to his friends spending a few days sailing in his father's sailing ship. What begins as a pleasure trip will turn into an authentic nightmare with a completely unexpected outcome..." comments the actor. In addition to this, Miguel Ángel has various debuts and projects in sight. On March 18th, the Spanish movie, *Tensión sexual no resuelta* (Unresolved Sexual Tension), where he shares the credits with the actresses Celia Márquez and Amaia Salamanca. Also about to appear is the Spanish-Mexican co-production *Lope*, which tells the adventures and loves of a young Lope de Vega. Here his fellow actors are Leonor Watling and Pilar López de Ayala. Finally a super-production that cost 22 million dollars: *Ben Hur*, shot completely in English. "In the feature film, I play Antegua, an oarsman who strikes up a friendship with Ben Hur. It will be shown throughout the world. I am very happy and satisfied with all my new projects" he explains.

With only 26 years of age, Miguel Ángel already has an impressive career behind him. At 10 years of age he made his film debut with the actor Paco Rabal in *El palomo cojo*, and he has starred in series with large shares of the youth audience. But what really launched his fame and consecrated him as a teen idol was his character in the series *Un paso adelante*. "The series was a real boom. We had an audience of six million viewers, something that was difficult to imagine in that moment. In addition, the format was broadcast in 63 countries, and this increased his fame," responds the actor.

The series served its stars as a fantastic springboard in their international careers. Within the series, the musical group UPA Dance was also created which garnered various platinum records. Nevertheless, Miguel Ángel is very clear on the fact that his vocation is acting, and music should be left to the professionals: "I consider myself as first and foremost an actor. Of course, I took advantage of the opportunity to sing, but only while the series was on the air, since it was a complement to my character. While the series was being broadcast in France, I cut a record that gave me the opportunity to sing with people like Nelly Furtado..., but my musical talent is limited, and so when the series was over, my musical career was also over."

He has just arrived from Los Angeles, where he already has an agent, and what was intended to be a trip to perfect his English became a great opportunity. "Hollywood is the greatest..., although in Spain we have really good people and great directors. My profession is a long-distance race where in project after project I try to give the best of myself playing the characters and the parts that I get."

His romance with the Spanish actress Mónica Cruz made it to the front pages, although the actor never played the game of the celebrity press. Miguel Ángel is very abrupt. "Sometimes your personal life is very exposed and this can influence your professional career. Directors want professional actors and not media figures. I don't participate in these things, although at times they present it, as if you were part of it." ❀