



MIGUEL ÁNGEL MUÑOZ

Versatile

A few months ago he presented *Tensión sexual no resuelta*, he appears in the recently released *Lope*, and in December we will see him in *No controles*, the new comedy by Borja Cobeaga. Three very different roles: the last thing this actor wants is to be typecast.

PHOTOS, José Martínez
INTERVIEW, María José Fernández
STYLIST Laura Gariño

SHIRT DSQUARED2
PANTS DIESEL
WRISTBANDS UNO DE 59
BOOTS DIESEL



tiring. I don't fake it when I do an interview, but I can't relax completely."

A LONG DISTANCE RACE

His career up to the present is like that of a long-distance runner, although with intense sprinting. One of his projects catapulted him to the greatest fame, making it impossible for him to step out into the street without legions of fans pursuing him trying to touch him, look at him, take a photo or steal a kiss. **"I'm not going to lie to you, when these things happen and success comes, I enjoy it a lot, I love it."**

This came with the series *Un paso adelante*. His enormous drawing power caused the birth of MAM (the initials that created his stage name) but "Miguel" as his friends call him, wants to leave that period behind at all costs in pursuit of recognition as an actor. **"I have always been very responsible in my professional life, and in spite of everything that has happened to me, I have not lost my head. The success of the series, singing at the time for 14,000 persons every week..."**

Fortunately, seeing the blows that other actors have inflicted on themselves has helped me keep focused." For

It is the same to him to put on the skin of Tomas de Perenot, the captain of the Armada in the middle of the 16th century (*Lope*), of the sweaty and muscular friend of Ben Hur (in the mini-series *Ben Hur*). Or an upper-class kid with a yacht (*La piel azul*), or Adam in an *auto sacramental*... or he becomes El Nardo, an aggressive, old-fashioned working-class youth with doubts about his sexual orientation (*Tensión sexual no resuelta*). It is clear that Miguel Ángel Muñoz likes versatility. At first glance he is a 27-year-old guy who is talkative but reserved. Nothing to do with the role of Rober that he played in the series *Un paso adelante*, which launched his success, and made him a teen idol to the rhythm of the music of UPA Dance, a group that spun-off from the series.

"I think that people think that I am a tough guy, and I'm not. In fact, one of my more or less hidden attractions is tenderness," he confesses. He has 16 years of experience in the acting world, and he appears calm when confronted with the media. **"In reality, I am a little bit shy. It seems that this line of work makes you always assume a pose, and this is psychologically**

time, determination and patience that make things change. When people like your work, they take risks with you, but only well-established actors such as Javier Bardem achieve this. Nobody would have believed, because of his appearance, that he could do *Mar adentro*, but with his talent he can do anything."

Perhaps for this reason he prefers not to take off his shirt for the photo session. He doesn't want to appear as a teen idol, or exploit his sexy side, these were his representative's instructions. **"That phase came to an end,"** he decrees. **"I don't like to go to the gym. I am like this for genetic reasons, and I don't want to sound conceited, but that is the truth. I eat whatever I feel like, and I try to escape from superficiality: I like to worry more about how I am inside and not outside,"** he asserts, unembarrassed while changing his clothing. He is not ashamed to take off his clothes, although he only does so if the script requires it, because for this photo session...nothing. **"I like to get unbuttoned in front of a good director and his camera. I mean in the emotional sense, of course,"** he tells us while laughing. **"because in the other sense I don't think it is very important."**

Taking advantage of seeing him without his shirt on, we ask him if he wears tattoos on any part of his body that is not exposed. **"I was never one for tattoos. Although for some time I have been considering getting one, but I never find a place for it and I don't know what to tattoo."** He reconsiders immediately. **"The truth is that when I feel like getting one, I think of how inconvenient that is for my profession. Sometimes, I have been with a fellow actor with a tattoo and I think: 'Oh brother, another half hour in make-up...'"** We are also intrigued by the question of whether he has any vice that he can confess related with fashion. **"I went through a phase, when we put together UPA Dance, when we would put on costumes to go on set, and, sometimes, I would wear the costume on the street...But I stopped doing it...I do not regret it, because sometimes you have to make a fool of yourself and put on things that you see later in the photos and are astounded."**

CHRISTMAS GIFTS

He is still enjoying the success of *Lope*, but he knows that Christmas will bring him a gift in the form of a movie. December 22 is the debut of *No controles*, the new movie by Borja Cobeaga, the director of *Pagafantes*. **"It was wonderful to work with a team including Alexandra Jiménez, Julián López, Unaz Ugalde, Marián Hernández, Secun de la Rosa..."**, he says with great enthusiasm. **"I play the part of Ernesto, a salesman who is part of a love triangle and winds up getting into a lot of trouble. It is a romantic comedy with a bittersweet ending."**

His future projects are an absolute secret, **"because in this profession you never know what will happen tomorrow...What I would love to do is science fiction. And on stage, something to put your heart into that tears you up inside."** More proof that he is passionate about his work.

★ *LOPE CAN BE SEEN THROUGHOUT SPAIN. NO CONTROLES DEBUTS THIS COMING 22ND OF DECEMBER.*

