

July 9, 2009

Hey Lydia Warhol-

Thanks for the really nice semi-business meeting last night. Here's the Nafsika text and pix for you to start diddling around with. Really glad you think you'd like to participate in this business adventure with me. The one thing I can tell you for sure is it won't be boring. Off to Kiev tomorrow and call you early next week when I'm back in Athens. Yr pal, Perri Warhol

MTV's NAFSIKA

So cool it hurts

I first saw Nafsika, like everyone else in Greece did, at the mega-sized MTV self-welcoming party at Kallimarmaro stadium in October 2008. She and her pompadour-intensive sidekick Alex were the night's mcs for the REM et al gig which, truth be told, turned out much better than I thought it would. I've never been into alternative rock and bands like Kaiser Chiefs and REM tend to make my skin crawl in reaction to their *smiling-behind-our-own-wonderfulness* bullstuff. Sixteen-year-old Gabriella Cilmi stole the show that day at the massive venue. What does that tell you about life in general in this day and age? However Nafsika, the svelte, well-spoken, video-centric, young Hepburn-esque brunette stayed in my mind much longer than Michael Stipe's good-for-adolescents sophomoric libretto. What I really like about Nafsika is the fact that she doesn't just rip your corneas out with estrogen-intensive posturing and goofball baby-talk. She has a much more glucose-based, smoldering, healing-seductive, long-term telegenic quality that most of the flashy, slash n' burn babes you get on Greek TV programs and advertisements can't even dream about. The guys at MTV made a cunningly-smart choice when she was selected to be their voice and image on the airwaves. She appears to have long-term staying power which comes from maturity, intelligence and a sense of stylistic increment not found often in young people. She blends youth style with urban sophistication into a super-smiley package of nice-girl personal collectivity, which is a real psychological wham-bam uber-vehicle to help sell at the endless products MTV fries our irises with everyday. From chewing gum to phone cards to sweet-smelling feminine hygiene stuff, Nafsika's image is always sauntering around in our collective subconscious, letting us know, in her own sweeter-than-lemon-meringue way, that it's ok to buy things they hype on her channel. So here's the skinny on our thin, pretty friend. She chooses her own outfits, jewelry, cosmetics, the works for the show. The Nafsika you see on the screen is the same girl you get in real life. Of course they have backstage make-up guys who help tease hair, apply powder and help primp her up for broadcast time, but that's the extent of it. Real girl, no waiting. She's a rocker. Desert band Mastodon is one of her faves. She has no talent agent representing her and she's taken no modeling or acting lessons to help her prepare for her present employment position with MTV. And, guys, I hate to break it to you, but she's really smart, too. She's finishing up architecture school this year while, and, at the same time, balancing her career with the TV channel.

She's leaving future career options open. She's a take-it-as-it-comes type, who keeps an open mind for future employment opportunities and work prospects. Her parents, relatives and friends are massively supportive of her work in broadcasting. But, and this is a good thing, they strongly advise her not to get a big head, get carried-away with the attention, or develop one of those oh-so-nasty, *me-me-me* attitudes. I completely agree with them. There's nothing worse than a TV bitch-goddess, except a young one. Time management has been the one problem with Nafsika's schedule this year. She has to blitz back and forth between Patra and Athens each week for school and work purposes and occasionally, as you can imagine, it gets to be a drag. She openly admits that sometimes she doesn't get a lot of sleep. However, she's still a very young woman and appears to be handling the relatively tough sitch with great style and aplomb, which, in the larger sense, is what she's being paid for by MTV the first place.