

June 8, 2009

Hi guys-

Here's the tv eye piece for June 12.
Hope yr ok, talk soon, Perri

Photo Caption: Would you talk for another million?

Caption: Alter Ego
The Talk Show Girls Aren't Talking!
Perri Pagonis
Perripagonis@yahoo.com
June 8, 2009

I would think that if one were the hostess of a TV talk show, then talk would be uppermost in her mind most of the time. Correct me if you think I'm wrong about this matter, but it seems logical to me. Ergo, I find it a bit, dare I say, weird, that a couple of the most hi-viz babes in TV-land snub me like a plague-dog whenever I request an interview with them.

The Alter channel is one of my favorites in town. They mix the real news with goofy lifestyle blah-blah nicely, and one never seems to overshadow the other. Earlier this year I had a great chat with their stunning meteorologist, Maria Siniori, and had a real blast on Akis Pavlopoulos's Sunday broadcast, Party of Your Life. Both of these encounters turned into fine articles, that praised the merits of both TV personalities to the skies. In the last several months, I've written two articles about Stamatina Tsimtsilh the ebullient and energetic hostess of the cooking show In the Kitchen, and other Alter chat-shows. I, lauded her business acumen, style and congenial personality until it looked like a propaganda piece. Will she talk to me personally about her career, interests, background, etc? Nooo she won't. It appears she won't even think about it. Why am I being shunned, Stamatina? I'm a cool guy, I bathe, have a fair command of the language, what's up?

Ditto with their chatty peroxide inquisitor Vasia Loi. The hostess of their weekend show, TV Weekend, dodges my appeals for a chat like a young, nimble Michael Baryshnikov. Now, I'm not a complete idiot, and I understand they probably get piles of communications from obsessed nutbags, drooling TV addicts, isolated twits, gaga mental twist-oids, etc. I understand this thing and appreciate their position. What I don't understand is their self-denial in this matter. I'm sure these girls are not into self-denial, and can mentally picture themselves in Oprah Winfrey-esque, TV paragon positions.

Now I'll tell you a secret. It is every, and I mean every Greek-media's persons dream to get to America, the land of the mega-big bux paychecks, global broadcasting channels, and endorsement contracts so tasty it would make you slap your mama. If they tell you it's not true, they're lying. Look at it this way: Greece is small, America is big. You do the same job in the U.S. and get, literally, hundreds of times the money you get here. What would you rather do? They'd peel a banana with their feet to get there. Truer words have never been written.

Athens News, funky little Athens News, is seen by many in the Greek media as a first teeny-tiny little step to the land of money, money, money. I write a pop music column as well as a TV column each week. All the music people treat me like a visiting dignitary and most of the TV folks, too. I'm a bookish, hip, middle-aged kind of guy so I dig the hell out of it. One day, you will like it too. Take my word on this matter.

So ladies, I appeal to you once again for a chance to touch the hems of your garments and talk about pretty much mindless Greek TV-glurp for 20 minutes or so one day. In a completely social-Darwinist and survivalist sense, you have nothing to lose and everything to gain. I'll even buy the coffee and pastries, as I was raised in the Commonwealth of Virginia, the land of hospitality and true American royalty.