

A Talk Between Angel Dark And Stefan Grosjean On Sexuality And Society

Angel Dark, born 1981, is a nude model and an actress in the adult industry. She has appeared in over 200 movies and received several awards for her performances. Angel is currently living in Prague.

Stefan Grosjean, born 1977, is a multimedia artist and author living in Berne. After his studies of psychology and philosophy, he learned the art of photography as an autodidact.



Let's Talk About Sex

Stefan Grosjean: Angel Dark, you have appeared in over 200 movies for adults, you have worked with the biggest names in the adult industry and you have received several awards for your performances. You truly are one of the top actresses in the business. How is your life as a superstar?

Angel Dark: You know, I don't think of myself as a star. I'm just a girl doing her job.

SG: To watch your DVDs, one has to be at least 18 years old. But to watch a movie like "Lord Of The Rings" you only have to be twelve, although there's a lot of killing going on. Does this mean that watching people having sex is more upsetting and dangerous than watching people getting slaughtered?

AD: Haha, you're hilarious. But I think it is actually a good thing that porn movies are for adults only. But still, even if you are an adult, you don't want everybody to know that you are watching porn, while you have no problem if people see you buying "Lord Of The Rings" at the local DVD-store.

SG: Doesn't it bother you? It is because of this fact that you don't get all the credit you probably deserve! Corinna Rückert, a sex scientist, suggested that people should get past their prejudice and treat actors like you with the same respect they treat other actors.

AD: Thank you for saying that. But there are even some people who don't see our work as a 'job' at all. They think we just screw around. But for me it has been a real job for many years already. But who knows, maybe things are going to change.

SG: Cultural Scientists have often claimed that there are basically only two sexual roles offered to women: the whore and the saint. Also, the two most important women in our religion match exactly to that pattern. You have Maria, the saint who can become mother without having sex and, therefore, without committing a sin. And, on the other side, there is Eve, who represents the evil temptress. "Angel Dark" sounds like a combination of these two; Angel for Maria, Dark for Eva. How do you handle these two roles?

AD: I didn't pick my name because of that. And, just for the record, I also didn't pick my name for the reason you can read on Wikipedia. They say that I had a child that I gave away for adoption and that the adopting parents called me "Angel" because I gave them my child. It's just not true. I've never had a child.

SG: I also read on Wikipedia that you picked your name because you're into gothic.

AD: That isn't true either, although I have nothing against gothic. I've tried to change the article about me on Wikipedia, but they just rechanged it the very next day. It's very annoying but I can't do anything about it.

SG: According to you, is it true that there are basically only two sexual roles offered to women?

AD: Maybe. As a nude model I know that people either want to do something elegant like fashion and glamour or they want to do porn. But between these two poles they make this real huge gap. But I think that's a misconception because these two things are actually the same.

SG: I'm under the impression anyway that "normal" straight men and women are still very much caught up in their gender-roles. Homosexuals, on the other hand, appear to have more freedom, and maybe they enjoy their sexuality even more.

AD: Well, that's just what I always say. Straight people can surely learn a lot from homosexuals.

SG: Adult movies are sometimes criticized for merging sex and violence. Isabelle Azoulay, another sex-scientist, claimed that violence in sexual fantasies is nothing destructive but a metaphor for the intensity of desire. But if you want to put such fantasies on film – doesn't it hurt? Some stuff looks really rough to me.

AD: There are a lot of tricks to make something look rough on the camera while in reality it's not. Most of it is just show. But, on the other hand, there are also some producers who always want to do something more extreme.

SG: Why is that? Are they making more money with the extreme stuff?

AD: There was a time when it used to be like this. But then everybody began to do more extreme stuff and, consequently, it doesn't sell that good anymore. There's too much of it now. The extreme stuff has actually become ordinary. As an actress you've got to have self-respect and you have to know what you are ready to do and where your limits are. I get a lot of offers to do gang-bang-stuff, you know, 15 guys on one girl and the like. I always turn them down.

SG: That reminds me of another thing. As an adult performer you have sex with different persons. How is the situation with genital diseases? In some videos you see people fucking with a condom, but when the guy comes he pulls the thing off and shoots it in her mouth.

AD: You see that's the problem. Ten years ago the people in the industry just didn't know enough about genital diseases. They didn't have a clue. They thought that genital diseases could only be transmitted by genital contact. They believed "it's only down there", which is, of course, ridiculous. Fortunately, there's been improvement in this area. Take the French producer Marc Dorcel for example. He now uses adult videos as a way to promote safe sex. But I'm afraid there are, nowadays, also a lot of young people joining the industry; newcomers who act very irresponsibly towards their health.

SG: Do you also see positive changes in the industry that are taking place now?

AD: Yes, there is now an increasing demand for high-quality movies. Take companies who make productions for cable TV for example. They are very professional about everything and I like working with them. Nowadays, there are movies being produced in a quality that you didn't find before.

SG: My final question is this: I always felt that there are many similarities between a psychotherapist and a sex-worker because both offer a certain aspect of an intimate relationship in exchange for money. Back when I was studying psychotherapy, I always wanted to know what the most important psychological needs of humans are. What is your professional opinion on that subject?

AD: I think it's all about relationships. Listen to how people talk. Relationships seem to be the one thing we humans care most about.