



The **Girl**  
**CAN GUGU**  
**JOIN GAGA?**

Meet this year's breakout star, Gugu Mbatha-Raw. Or as you're about to know her, simply Gugu

YOU HAVE to achieve a certain level of fame for the media to afford you a single name – Gwyneth, say, or Brad – but Gugu Mbatha-Raw (short for Guguletha, or “our pride” in Zulu) looks set to join the club. “That would be my life’s work complete, right?” she says, with a laugh.

Born to a British mother and a South African father in Oxfordshire, the actress first impressed in the theatre (as Ophelia to Jude Law’s Hamlet) and on TV (JJ Abrams’ *Undercovers*; *Doctor Who*), but now she’s making a splash with two quite contrasting films: in *Belle* she’s a girl inspiring prejudice, then pride, in the 18th century; in *Jupiter Ascending*, a space opera from the Wachowskis, she plays a genetically spliced “half human, half deer” (don’t mention *Narnia*).

Her US profile is snowballing – she’s already lurching at Oprah’s (another of the mono-monikered brigade). “I’d been doing her 21-day meditation course and on the 22nd day she called me!” she says. She’s working with Britney’s (yet another!) songwriter and Gaga’s (now this is getting silly) choreographer in November’s *Blackbird*. “I play a pop star in the Rihanna world,” she explains. But who Gugu *really* wants is to play the ultimate single lady. “I mean, what’s Cleopatra’s last name?” **Matt Glasby**

£6,000,000

**Fragrance bulletin!**

Above: Amount that **Pharrell Williams'** fragrance *Girl* (with Comme des Garçons Parfums) is set to make in its debut year. Brave choice of name for a unisex bottle...



**GQ tablet extra!** Exclusive bonus shots, on iPad, iPhone and Android devices.

Top, £15. Skirt, £14. Both by **Missguided**. [missguided.co.uk](http://missguided.co.uk). Bracelets by **Danielle Stevens**, from £14. [daniellestevens.com](http://daniellestevens.com)

**Photograph** Chris Fortuna  
**Styling** Taylor Jacobson  
**Hair** Creighton Bowman for Exclusive Artists using Rene Furterer  
**Make-up** Elaine Offers for Exclusive Artists using Nar Prop styling Nicholas Faiella/Raindogs  
**Manicure** Michelle Saunders for Celestine Agency

