“My best achievement has been to be the best mother I know how, and I raised a wonderful, intelligent, funny and happy son.”

“Our family would travel on a twisty road to escape the heat of Medan in Indonesia, and up to the lake for holidays.  My sisters and I would stand in the back seat screaming as the first glimpse of the lake came into view. We never got out of the water once we were there, it's the most magical place on earth for me.”

“Clothing is like art for me. Sumptuous fabrics, cuts, details, tucks, hardware – I love it all, and I want to wear all the fabulous things.”

“One of my favorite artists is Marnie Weber.  She and I were in Party Boys together and have been friends for almost 40 years. Marnie inspires me with her multidisciplinary practice encompassing performance, video,

film, sculpture, collage and costuming.  Her art is a blend of reality and fantasy.”

“Comme Des Garcons is something I collect. It's so much fun to wear, like a school uniform, which has gone bonkers.  Maybe it's appealing after having spent fourteen years of my youth in boarding school where we were forced to wear the same thing, day in and day out. Comme is like that, but with oh so much flair.”

“Everything I have in my closet today I love.  It was picked carefully -- curated like a small art collection. Like my Comme des Garcons ikat print skirt with laser cut outs, which reminds me of that blue, blue Lake Toba in Indonesia.”

“One of my favorite shoots was for H & M. A swimsuit shoot which whizzed around the world and prompted many articles about age and beauty. Here's why: I totally trusted the photographer. He said no hair, no make up, and he proceeded to shoot the editorial just the way I walked in the door.”

“It seems that the fashion industry has embraced women my age -- we are everywhere. There are agencies now devoted to women my age, look at

Mrs. Robinson and Grey in London. My agency in NYC, Iconic Focus, has a wonderful roster of women my age. We are here, and we are not going away.”

Hello Gillean, here are my questions:

**What is a cherished memory from your childhood in Bali?**

(I grew up in Sumatra, not Bali)  The company for which my Dad worked owned a house in Prapat, on Lake Toba,

a beautiful crater lake.

Our family would travel on a twisty road to escape the heat of Medan in Indonesia, and up to the lake for holidays.  My sisters and I would stand in the back seat screaming as the first glimpse of the lake came into view. We never got out of the water once we were there, it's the most magical place on earth for me.

 Several years ago my younger sister, Fiona, and I traveled this same route.  It was for us the same wonderful

feeling to round that last twisty corner and see our blue lake stretching out for miles and miles way down below.

**If the Gillean from your time in the punk band Party Boys were to meet you now, what would she be most proud of?**

My drummer self would have been surprised to see my life now.  My best achievement has been to be the best mother I know how, and I raised a wonderful, intelligent, funny and happy son, Max.

**After decades of a killer career in styling, how have your sources of inspiration influenced your modeling career?**

Not sure how to answer this.  Let's discuss in email?

My years of styling have been in advertising, not editorial. I would pass incredible clothing in the stores whilst

prepping, only to walk on by to pick out more staid, traditional clothing to fit the look of the advertising projects.

When I first started modeling the jobs I was awarded were more traditional also, banking etc.  Now that I have very long hair, and a few fashion campaigns under my belt, different jobs are being offered to me.   Clothing is like art for me. Sumptuous fabrics, cuts, details, tucks, hardware, love it all, and I want to wear all the fabulous clothing.

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**Tell me about your favorite contemporary artist.**

One of my favorite artists is Marnie Weber.  She and I were in Party Boys together and have been friends

for almost 40 years.  Marnie inspires me with her multidisciplinary practice encompassing performance, video,

**film, sculpture, collage and costuming.  Her art is a blend of reality and fantasy.**

**Tell me about your favorite fashion designer.**

Comme Des Garcons is something I collect. It's so much fun to wear, like a  school uniform

which has gone bonkers.  Maybe it's appealing after 14 years of boarding school in my youth where we

were forced to wear the same thing day in and day out. **Comme is like that, but with oh so much flair.**

**How do you feel shoes inform your overall style?**

Shoes are important to me.  I like to have something unusual to wear, something fun to look at and talk about.

One can be wearing  the plainest clothing but have beautiful shoes and make a great statement.  I don't wear  high heels so my choices are less, so I strive for interesting.  For instance I have a good collection of split toe Margiela ballet flats.

**What is your attitude toward your own wardrobe?**

Everything I have in my closet today I love.  It was picked carefully, curated like a small art collection.

Each piece can work with what is already in there, but there are a few crazy items.  For instance, my bright pink Paul Smith cashmere coat with orange flower lining.  My Comme des Garcons ikat print skirt with laser cut outs

which reminds me of that blue, blue Lake Toba in Indonesia.   I don't buy a lot, I buy on sale, and I have to really love the garment before it comes home with me.  Simple, chic, that's me.

- At what age did you begin modeling, and what prompted it?

I was 51 when a photographer friend convinced me to start modeling.  He shot a portfolio for me, we shipped it around to some casting directors we knew in LA, and they recommended some agencies.  Within a few hours

M Model contacted me and I was in!  My first commercial took place a year later, a national commercial for AARP.

I thought every job would pay like that.  Little did I know!

- What is a favorite shoot you modeled for and where will we see your face in the coming months.

I have two favorite shoots.  One was for H & M, the swimsuit shoot which whizzed around the world and prompted so many articles.  Here's why.  I totally trusted the photographer. He said no hair, make up, and

proceeded to shoot the editorial just the way I walked in the door.  The second shoot was for Nordstrom Beauty

this summer.  I was dressed beautifully, the hair and make up was impeccable, the photographer and crew

fun and very talented.  My clients were so lovely, and all of them made me feel so beautiful and comfortable.

I'm looking forward to seeing the final images later this fall.

- What are you thoughts on aging and the fashion industry?

We age, nothing we can do about it.   I do the best I can with what I have, eat well,

exercise.    It seems that the fashion industry

has embraced women my age, we are everywhere.  There are agencies now devoted to women my age, look at

Mrs. Robinson and Grey in London.  My agency in NYC, Iconic Focus, has a wonderful roster of women my age.

We are here, and we are not going away.   It's been so much fun to start another career, and now I am balancing styling work with modeling work.  What a life!