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## SUBJECT TERA PATRICK

PHOTOGRAPHED IN *XXX: 30 PORN-STAR PORTRAITS*, BY TIMOTHY GREENFIELD-SANDERS (BULFINCH; \$35)

In his latest book, *XXX: 30 Porn-Star Portraits*, photographer Timothy Greenfield-Sanders becomes the latest serious artist to take smut seriously. David Amsden chatted with one of the book's subjects, Tera Patrick, an articulate nurse turned porn star—and, until recently, a Williamsburg resident—whose oeuvre includes *Aroused* and *Sex Island*.

**Timothy Greenfield-Sanders has photographed many celebrities,**

**including George W. Bush and Hillary Clinton. What did**

**you think when you heard he was doing a book about**

**porn stars? I was thrilled! I hope it will introduce me to**

**a new scope of fans. So it's basically a career move for**

**you? I know what I do, I'm not ashamed of it, and**

**I want to make as much money as possible. Timothy is**

**very famous, and has a lot of fans who may not know**

**my work. They'll see me in the book, and then go out**

**and buy some of my videos. Be honest—is a book like**

**this just a way for the intellectual class to look at naked**

**people? Absolutely! Are you allowed to admit that?**

**Come on, the bottom line is that we're all here because**

**of sex, but a lot of people still need to have a kind of**

**artistic representation in order to accept it. I get it—I**

**have a stepson, and I'd rather he see this book than a**

***Penthouse* spread. What was the main difference being**

**photographed by Timothy, compared with other**

**photographers? He was so excited and passionate! With**

**adult photographers you don't feel the creativity. It's stale, like:**

**"Oh, another shoot for *Penthouse*. Now she's gonna get naked. All**

**the usual poses." On my Website, my husband takes most of the**

**nude photos—it's fun, he always has new ideas. Timothy was sort**

**of like that. Apart**

**from the photos, the**

**book includes essays**

**by people like Gore**

**Vidal, John Malkovich,**

**and Salman Rushdie,**

**who writes that porn**

**"sometimes becomes**

**a kind of standard-**

**bearer for freedom,**

**even for civilization."**

**Do you agree? I do.**

**Which essay did you**

**like best? Honestly,**

**I got the book and**

**read it through, but**

**I don't remember**

**the essays very**

**much. So I don't feel**

**comfortable being**

**quoted on that.**

### BACKSTORY

ie Charlie Chaplin of  
e Munich Dadaists, Karl  
ilentin (1882-1942)

mbodied the grotesque in

cabaret performances

d silent films: first as a

nspeaking musical

own, and later as a verbal

median constantly

imbling over literal

erpretations of popular

oms. He also kept a

markable photo archive of

onstage personae, from

nad scientist to a talking

er mug. Brecht was an

dy fan of Valentin's

ti-authoritarian antics, but

e Nazis, who banned

1936 film about poverty,

**Die Erbschaft**

("The Inheritance"),

were less amused.

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