

# GENLUX

MAGAZINE

KRISTIN  
CHENOWETH  
ONE TONY  
ONE EMMY  
IS GRAMMY  
NEXT?  
MUSIC+  
FASHION  
ISSUE!

\$4.95

WINTER 2012

263



*Photography by Martin Rusch  
Styled by Angel Terrazas*

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Hair: Robert Steinke / [CloutierRemix.com](http://CloutierRemix.com)  
Manicure: Elisa Wishan / Exclusive Artists using M·A·C  
Location: The Avenue Penthouses Hollywood,  
[theaveneuehollywood.com](http://theaveneuehollywood.com)  
Art Director: Stephen Kamifuji*

*Robert Rodriguez  
dress, \$795,  
[robertrodriguez-  
collection.com](http://robertrodriguez-collection.com)  
Vahan bracelets,  
[vahanjewelry.com](http://vahanjewelry.com)*

A full-page photograph of Kristin Chenoweth standing on a rooftop at dusk. She is wearing a sleeveless, high-necked, silver, textured dress with a fitted bodice and a flared skirt. Her hair is styled in voluminous, wavy blonde waves. She is looking slightly to her right with a thoughtful expression. The background shows a city skyline under a twilight sky, with a metal railing in the foreground.

# THE VOICE

Last summer, **Kristin Chenoweth**, while filming *The Good Wife*, suffered a near-fatal accident. Still on the road to recovery, the Tony and Emmy award winner shares with our **STEPHEN CHRISTOPHER** about being grateful for life, and how she's not wasting any time getting back on her size-5 feet again.

Poolside at  
The Avenue  
Hollywood, in a  
Valentino jump-  
suit, Valentino,  
Beverly Hills,  
310-247-0103  
DeLatori bracelet,  
delatori.com  
Evelyn H. Jewelry  
ring, evelynh.com



T

o set the mood for her *Genlux* photo shoot, **Kristin Chenoweth** requests opera music—a genre that we’ve never played, nor, to be honest, has it ever really come up. We fumble around on Pandora, finally settling on Maria Callas. A track from *I Puritani* beams out of the Sonos speaker and Kristin’s demeanor morphs into this fabulously relaxed state of deep reflection, like she’s just slipped into a bath of soothing warm water. She closes her eyes, mouthing the words.

Rewind to last July, when, on the set of *The Good Wife*, Kristin suffered a very unfortunate accident. Heavy lighting equipment came crashing down, smacked her in the face and slammed her to the ground. She hit the back of her head on the curb with such force she suffered a skull fracture, cracked some teeth, fractured her jaw, and now has rib, neck and hip issues. She was out cold. Her speech was also affected and it took a few months before she could even get words out. Fortunately, one thing that wasn’t affected was her four-octave-range voice.

“I would rather sing than eat. If I lost my voice...” She pauses, noticeably holding back tears, “The fact that my neck is still a problem, my nose is broken, but my voice is okay. My gift is singing and if I lost it...I’d be really sad—you’d be speaking to a very different girl. I still can’t dance, yet. But I’ll get there.”

Kristin steps out in front of photographer Martin Rusch in a Valentino signature red jumpsuit and looks six feet tall. She is perfectly proportioned—with long legs and a short torso, well, relatively speaking. In photos, you’d never suspect that she stands more than a foot shorter than that. She shares that her diminutive 91-pound physique was her greatest impetus for success. “I think by being petite...no, I’m not petite, I’m little. It’s very easy to get lost in the crowd. It’s forced me to not be afraid of things. I was forced to go out there and be seen and heard and be taken seriously,” she says in a young voice that sounds like she’s about 12 or 13. “I was teased and got made fun of for the way I sounded too, but I’ve never let that hinder me or hold me back either.”

One thing for sure, this dynamo is serious about her craft. A classically trained coloratura soprano, Kristin has quite the esteemed résumé. She is best known on Broadway for her Tony Award-winning role as Sally Brown in *You’re a Good Man, Charlie Brown*. Five years later she was nominated again for her performance in *Wicked*. On television, she’s been nominated for an Emmy four times: twice for *Glee*, and twice for *Pushing Daisies*, for which she won once. Currently, she’s working on a big concert date for PBS’s *Live from Lincoln Center* concert series, airing on February 15. It will feature works by American

composers and will lead to her European concert tour.


When it comes to heroes, Kristin has a few. “My mom. She’s had a great life, but a little bit of a tough one. She’s strong and fought through two bouts with cancer. I certainly do love Barbra Streisand, Dolly Parton, and Julie Andrews—for their talent and for staying true to who they are. Oh, and my dog too! Her name is Madeline Kahn Chenoweth. She just gives me unconditional love—she’s been through a lot with me.”

Her love of animals instigated Maddie’s Corner, a charity that gives to many organizations helping to keep animals from being euthanized. “Right now, we’re focused on animals displaced by Hurricane Sandy. I’m hoping that over the next five years I’ll devote more time to it. I love children and animals.”

For as much as she’s overcome obstacles, doubts, fears, there’s one she’s never tackled. “I’ve been teased my whole life for it, but I’ve never had sushi!” she says with a pinky extended to vow trying it before year’s end.

Kristin, who’s also a bit of a germaphobe (she always carries a container of Purell hand sanitizer), comes off secure and confident in her own skin. “I have my insecurities, but I have self-esteem. It’s something that my parents gave me. I think self-esteem is *the* most precious gift a parent can give their child.”

Back at the shoot, Kristin tries on—and looks elegant in—a Chagoury Couture gown studded in crystals for the cover shot as Callas’s heart-wrenching rendition of Puccini’s *O Mio Babbino Caro* fills the air. Looking about a decade younger than her “certain” age, she looks stunning in the MAC Glamour Daze makeup applied by her longtime makeup artist Jill Cady with a brilliant *Valley of the Dolls* hairstyle by Robert Steinken.

Despite the injury problems that still plague her, she’s thankful for every moment of her life. “Life is a blessing. Not to sound dramatic, but I’m grateful for that. I wouldn’t be very good at an office job, so I’m grateful that I get paid for what I love to do. I’m blessed because even though I don’t have children or a husband, I have a great family. I go home and load the dishwasher just like everybody else.” 



*Kristin relaxes in the glamorous penthouse master suite at The Avenue Hollywood. Max Mara dress, \$995; Max Mara belt, \$122, Max Mara, Beverly Hills, 310-385-9343 Charriol ring, charriolusa.com Giuseppe Zanotti heel, Neiman Marcus, Beverly Hills, 310-550-5900 Supreme Jewelry earrings, supreme-jewelry.net*



Robert Rodriguez  
top, \$395;  
pant, \$365,  
robertrodriguez-  
collection.com  
Old Gringo belt,  
oldgringoboots.com  
Charles Albert ring,  
charlesalbert.com