



# BUCK ANGEL

PORTRAIT AND INTERVIEW BY ADAM DE VILLE

BUCK ANGEL IS AN AMERICAN TRANS MAN, FORMER PORN STAR, ADULT FILM PRODUCER AND LGBT ICON. IN RECENT YEARS HE HAS TRAVELLED THE GLOBE, SPEAKING TO PEOPLE FROM ALL WALKS OF LIFE ON TRANS ISSUES, EDUCATING AN ENTIRE GENERATION ON THE FLUIDITY OF SEXUALITY AND IDENTITY POLITICS IN THE PROCESS.

**For a lot of people, the experience of transitioning between genders (from female to male in your case) is for many an intensely personal and private experience. What inspired you to do something as public as porn?**

That's a great question. What first lead me to porn was that I didn't see any representation of my experience in the industry. Back in the day there were chicks with dicks, trans women and she-males, that's what they'd call them – but there was no one who looked like me. So one day I just remember saying out loud, "I want to show the world what a man with a pussy looks like".

**Did the idea to do it come to you during your transition, or afterward?**

It was a while after, actually. I decided to do porn once I was really comfortable with my body sexually, which took a long time. A man with a vagina was something people had never seen, so the response I got was pretty full on. The hate mail started coming almost right away, and such mean things were being said constantly. I was so freaked out by it; I had no idea people were going to react the way they did. It was horrible and painful at first, but I discovered pretty soon that I had a thick skin. I realise now that if I don't disassociate myself from everyone else's crap, I'm not going to make it through this.

**How did you develop that confidence in your body?**

I started feeling more comfortable with my body when I started to develop more muscle and found partners who respected how I looked. I didn't let people see my vagina at all for many years, until girls started asking me "Can I?". One day I realised that I just couldn't continue being uncomfortable in my body because I would end up hating myself.

**What would have been the point of making such a huge change if that was the outcome? I knew I wasn't going to get a penis, so what would be the point if I couldn't be comfortable just being me? It gets to the point where you realise that it's not other peoples' place to tell you how to be. I'm really lucky to have an understanding of that, because not everybody does.**

**I'm sure a lot of people would be interested to know why you opted not to have bottom surgery.**

When I was younger I wanted to have a penis, because we're told that's what it takes to be a man. But when I did my research into the surgery, I just didn't like what I saw - and it's no disrespect to any trans men who have had the procedure. I'm just stating that it wasn't for me. And when I made that choice, I knew had to start to like my body sexually because I love sex.

**One of the other deciding factors that helped me decide against the surgery was that there was more than a 50% chance I would lose my orgasms. Can you imagine? I'm not a gambler! I can't imagine what life would be like if I couldn't fucking come anymore (laughs). I don't need a penis that bad, and I honestly think it was the best decision I could of made because I wouldn't be sitting here talking to you and I wouldn't have the outlook I do on humanity and what it means to be a person.**

**Do you have any friends that have had the full surgery?**

I do actually. One of them passed away. He committed suicide, partly because he wasn't happy with himself and his surgery. I remember him saying to me, "There weren't role models like you around then". If there was, he may not have felt the pressure to go down that path. It still makes me so sad. I wish he could have been happy about his choice, but he never was.