

THE BEST DRESSED LIMENINAMERICA*

For the second year in a row, we embarked on a search for the best-dressed real man in America. We held competitions from Boston to San Francisco. Ten cities. Twenty-three hundred contestants who registered on esquire.com. We've narrowed it down to these five guys. They make their clothes work for them. They possess a style all their own. They look better in a suit than we do.

*The winner will be chosen by Esquire's editors and named live on NBC's Today show in September. To weigh in, visit esquire.com.

PHOTOGRAPHS BY KAI REGAN



>>>RANDY CANDLER, 49, CLOTHING SALESMAN, SAN FRANCISCO

HOW HE WON

Randy showed up at our San Francisco competition looking confident and sophisticated in tailoring that was old school but far from stodgy. Building on the solid foundation of a tweed sport coat, he added color and personality with a brown cashmere vest and a bold orange tie.

WHY HIS CLOTHES FIT

Randy's sense of style is inextricably linked to his livelihood: He works for a high-end men's store. There's a fine line to walk, however. "If I get too dressed up, maybe I don't sell as well," he admits. "Nobody wants to dress better than the boss, and for me, the boss is the customer."

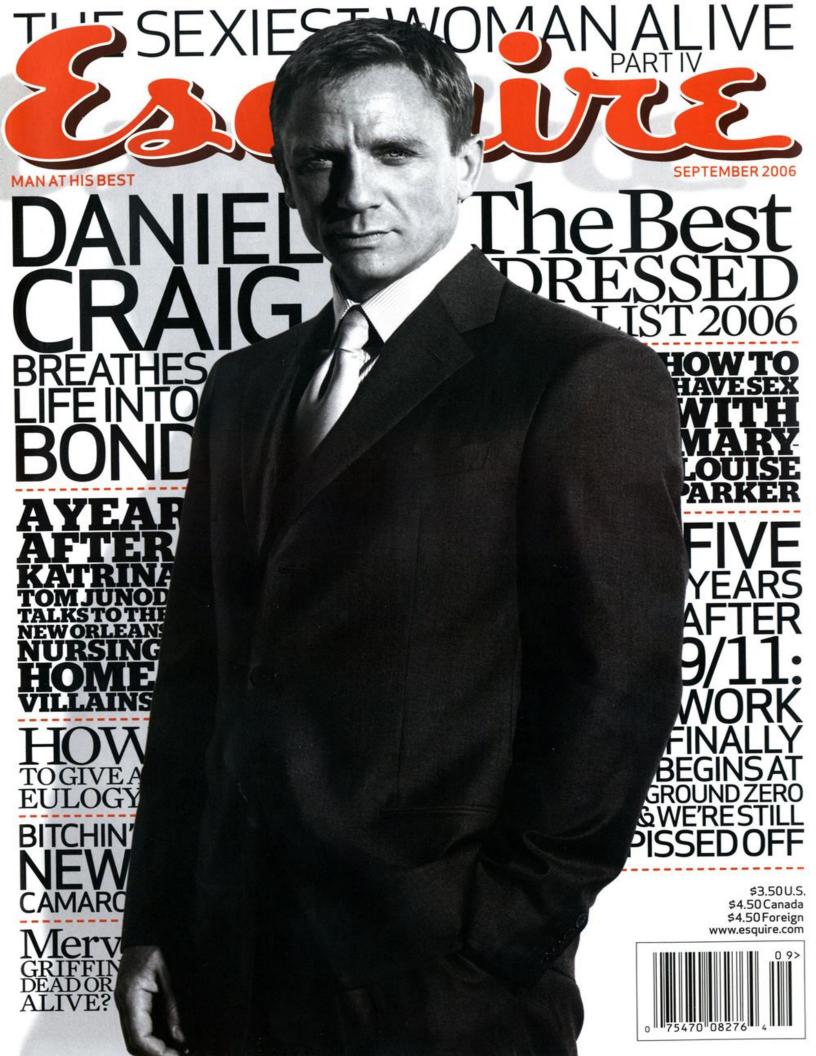
FIRST ACT AS BEST-DRESSED MAN: CONCEDE THE TITLE

"Willie Brown, ex-mayor of San Francisco: He is the best-dressed man in San Francisco, not I. He just didn't show up. That man is passionate about clothing."

A WORD OF ADVICE FOR HIS FELLOW REAL MEN

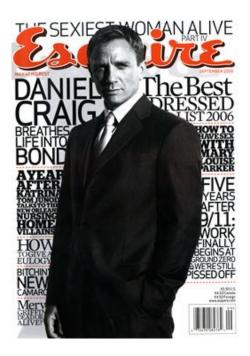
"Italians have an innate sense of style. If you've got an Italian friend and he says you've got to do something about your shoes or that your shirt is horrible, listen to him."





ESQUIRE

SEPTEMBER 2006



Reprinted from the Esquire Archive https://classic.esquire.com/issue/20060901/print