

# STEVEN VAN ZANDT IS MARRIED TO THE MOB

BUT THE ACTOR DOESN'T MIND BEING TYPECAST. PAGE 22



# metro

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## MTA's 2013 highs, lows

**Hop on board.** The Straphangers Campaign released its annual list of the best and worst of the MTA over the past year. **Still recovering.** Superstorm Sandy casts a long shadow over the subway system with ongoing repairs to tracks due to the storm, as well as other flooding-related issues. PAGE 02



Mayor-Elect Bill de Blasio and his family will soon leave their Park Slope home and move to Gracie

Mansion: TESSA WALKER/REXUS; DE BLASIO: GETTY IMAGES



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Don't hate on Peter Jackson

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We'll drink to you, hot stuff

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# Million-dollar dating advice

**TV. "Millionaire Matchmaker"** Patti Stanger takes on love, sex and everything in between.

Say what you want about Patti Stanger, aka Bravo's "Millionaire Matchmaker," but the career dating expert knows a thing or two about the language of love — on at least the language of prepping two strangers for an awkward date and hoping they've followed her advice.

Now in its seventh season, "The Millionaire Matchmaker" features wealthy but hapless men (and sometimes ladies, too) who turn to Stanger's dating club in an effort to find that elusive person — The One. And if that unicorn isn't out there, they at least hope to find someone who can stand their company (and stand to spend their money) long enough to let them in their pants.

We checked in with the matchmaker in advance of the show's new season to get some advice for the perennially single among us in the real world.

**Give us some advice for those going on a first date.**

I think the first things making it fun and flirty. Even if you don't end up with that person, you definitely plan a great date. And if a date isn't good, then think about fixing that person up with someone you know. If you do that, they'll owe you, and will usually set you up with someone they know. It's all part of keeping the train moving out of the station. Six degrees of separation is almost 90 percent of how people meet. And the other thing is getting proactive. Getting online — it's not for the dateless and the desperate!

**Speaking to that, how do you think the dating landscape has changed with online dating?**

We have more opportunity to meet people we've never met before, internationally, not just in the United States. And it's big. But we're disposable at the same time. So, even



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"The Millionaire Matchmaker" airs Thursdays at 9 p.m. on Bravo. BRAVO

**On chemistry**

I think there is something to be said for instant attraction. People say, "Oh, give the guy a chance, he'll grow on you." I don't buy it, personally. There are two types of "growing on." There's the "I'm a friend and you're a friend and I've always wondered what it was like." And if the kiss is good, then it can actually work. Then there's also when the chemistry is off-the-chain, like with my boyfriend. When I smell him I go catnip crazy, and yet, if he didn't have the goods, I wouldn't have ended up with him,

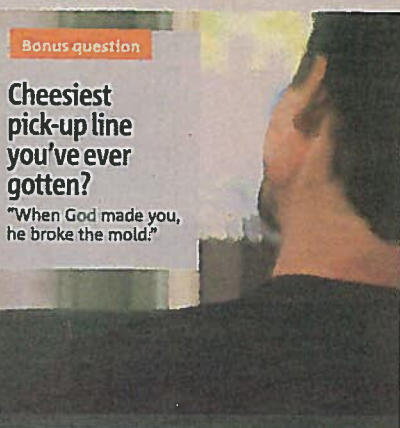
though we're getting more avenues and more people, we're discarding quicker and we're not giving people a chance, because maybe their shoes are wrong or maybe they don't have enough hair on their head.

**So, you wouldn't suggest Googling a future date?**

For a woman, it's proactive to Google a man. Like, to see that there aren't 20 girls on the Internet saying that he stuck them with the bill or that he stranded them in a restaurant. But if you're doing it a) to find out their net worth or b) see what their story is, then you're going to snooze, you lose.

**You have a no sex before**

because I am all sexual. If I don't get enough sex I get crabby. I would rather be with my vibrator. But yes, it can grow. I had friend who went to college with this guy and they lost touch when they graduated and they had this connection but they were always dating other people. Now they're dating for the first time and they're in their 50s! You never know what's going to happen around the corner, you never know what's going to resurface.



Bonus question

**Cheesiest pick-up line you've ever gotten?**

"When God made you, he broke the mold."

**monogamy rule.**

If you want to get married! And have a serious relationship.

**But isn't there the danger that you'll establish this monogamy, sans sex, and then find out the other person sucks in bed?** Well, then you get to move right to someone else.

**Where do oral sex and handjobs fit into the rule?** Oral sex is fine — for the guy to give you. You can't give it to him. I'll give you that one, it's a one-sided deal, baby. No handjobs either. His penis is off limits. He wants to give it to you, fine, but his penis is off limits.

**What's your rule about paying on a first date — should women do it?** No! Women should never offer unless they are in a monogamous, committed relationship. Let him lead financially. This is not you being cheap. You can do other things; you can cook for him, you can take his shirts to the cleaner, make the reservations for a hotel for a vacation. But the minute you start to put the money down, he who spends the most becomes the "man." It's a tough ride for a woman who makes more. He takes it and then he bites the hand that feeds him. Because he's resentful of it.

**Uh, but don't you think that's a bad double standard?** It's a double standard that is never going to change, because men don't see it that way. It's all in the

male brain. If the men were equal opportunity and everything was 50/50, the world would be a better place, but they don't see it that way.

**When you're dating early on, sexting: yes or no?** Sexting is fine when

you're committed, monogamy-wise. Otherwise, it's going to fall into the wrong hands.

**What's the nicest way to blow a guy off?**

My favorite way is to just say, "I just don't feel chemistry — so you're not going to get laid. I know someone for you, and I will send him or her your way." You can even text him, email it, over the phone — don't go overboard.

**You're on a first date and the guy is a raging d—bag. Is it OK to sneak out?**

The best advice I have is to always have at least 100 bucks cash stashed in your purse. If you have to call a taxi service, you have to have emergency money.

**ALEXANDRA CAVALLIO**  
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