100 Most Beautiful Women Increasingly Ruled by Latinas

It's no secret that Latina women continue to dominate Hollywood, often making Maxim's hottest and People's most beautiful lists year after year. Is it the sexy, bronze complexions? Is it the slightest hint of Spanish twang to their movie lines? Or is it simply the natural beauty that stems from a combination of all of the above? Whatever it is, it's working. As more and more leading roles are given to Latina hotties, the influx of latina-influenced pop continues to roar on the airwaves, and media as a whole continues to become more culturally diverse and relatable, it's hard to foresee Hollywood-dominated Latina beauty and success fading.

Consider the Madrid-native and ever-enchanting Penelope Cruz. Penelope, who has played major leading roles throughout her film career, <u>claims</u> her outward beauty stemmed from the confidence she gained watching other women who would visit her mother's hair salon as a youth and attempt to create the image they had of themselves. "Beauty is a very complex thing that can't be put in a cage or defined by rules," she says. "It doesn't have to be within the parameters that society dictates."

Let alone Hollywood, the Puerto Rican Jennifer Lopez is quite possibly on top of "America" as a whole, as she reigned as an *American Idol* judge for two seasons and, once her time had ended, even revisited the stage to deliver a sexy, amped-up performance of one of her latest singles, literally in the face of airwave competitors Mariah Carey and Nikki Minaj. Lopez, who often partners with the equally hot, suave, Latino artist Pitbull in her latest works, is <u>featured</u> as one of People's Most Beautiful People for 2013.

Shakira, who also made People's list for this year, may be getting the boot as one of four hosts for *NBC*'s hit singing competition show, *The Voice*, for next season, but who better than to be replaced by her Latina rival, Christina Aguilera? Both blonde bombshells have spiced up the show with their saucy moves and ridiculous pipes while helping to jumpstart the singing careers of others.

Also on the <u>list</u> is the youngest of the group, Selena Gomez, who, when she's not welcoming you to "come and get it" (only when you're ready), is seemingly moving on from Justin Bieber and right into the spotlight on her own. The former Disney star parallels both a film career, voicing main characters in animated flicks such as <u>Hotel Transylvania</u>, with Top 40 status on the airwaves. Her unique tone, beauty, and global appeal is reminiscent of her namesake, the late Selena Quintanilla-Pérez.

While the work ethic of these ladies shows they aren't going anywhere for quite some time, in the future, rising stars such as *Avatar's* Zoe Saldana and *Glee*'s Naya Rivera are likely to take the torch and will continue to prove that Latina talent is currently-- and will remain-- on top. Whether on your TV set, in your favorite blockbusters, or booming through your headphones, Latina women are on fire with no intent of ever being put out. *Caliente!*