

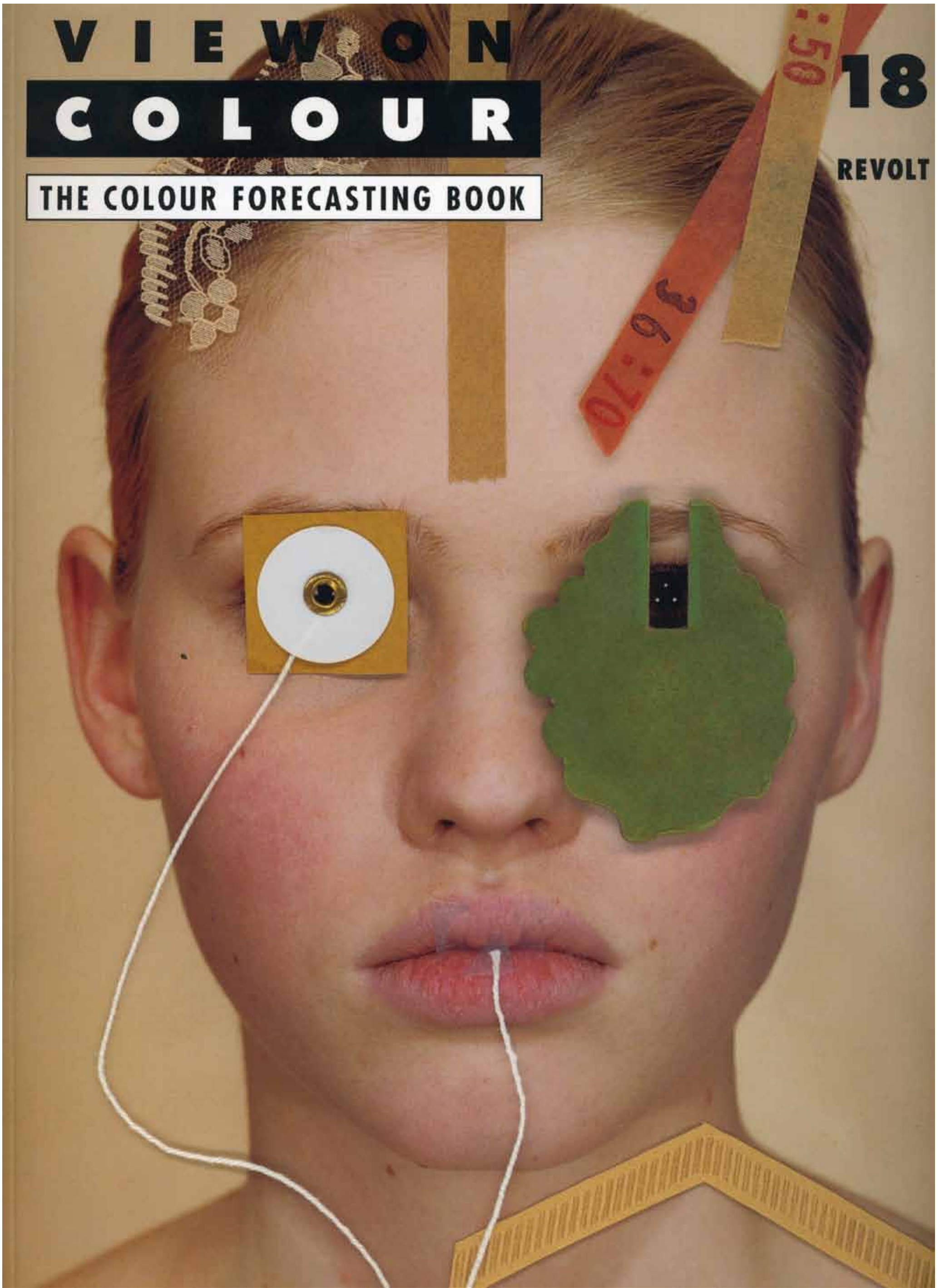
V I E W O N

C O L O U R

THE COLOUR FORECASTING BOOK

18

REVOLT



blending in



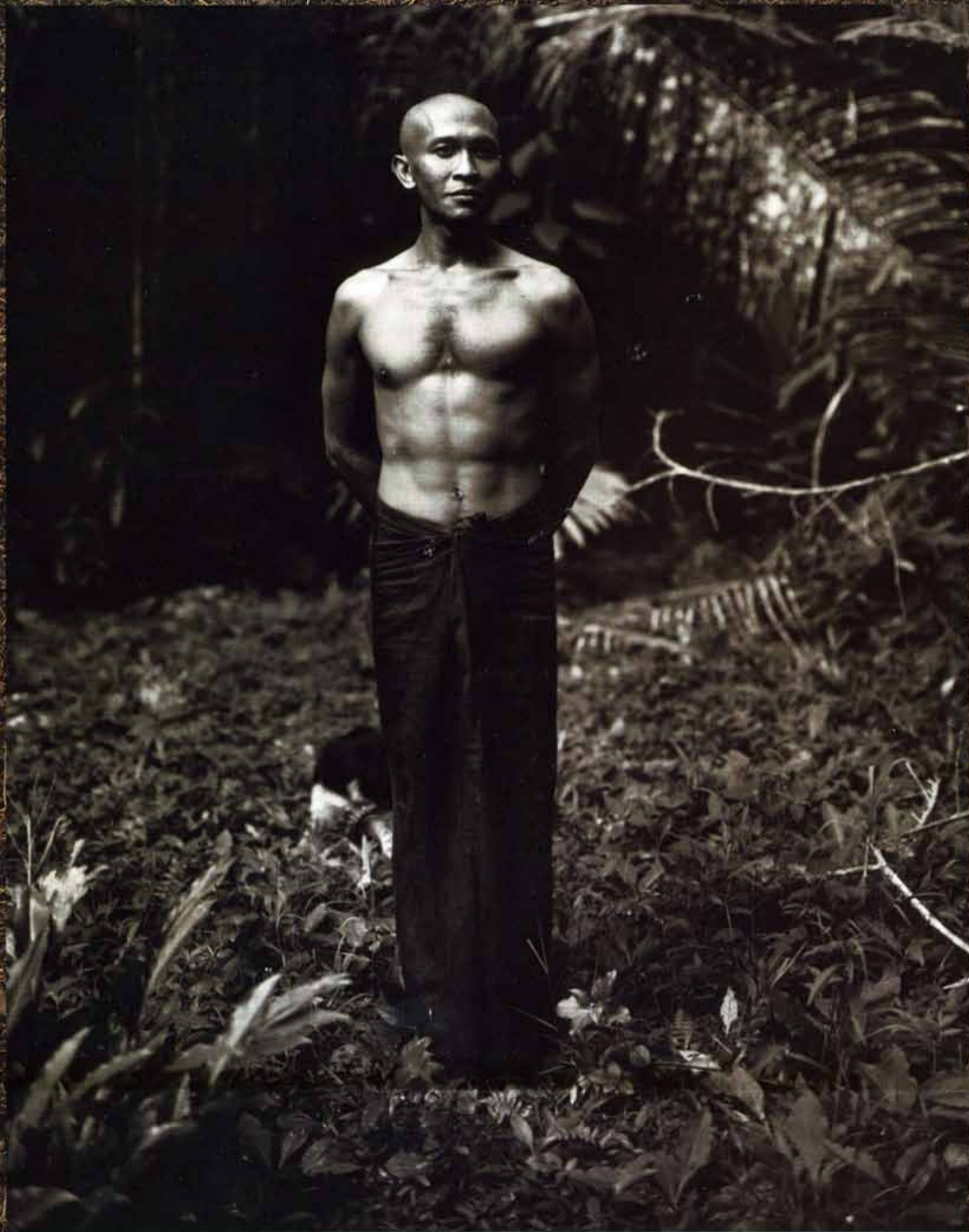
The portraits of Diana Lui demonstrate the human ability to express oneself and shine at the same time one blends in and participates with the ambient space. She explains 'Everything that surrounds us, our environment, natural or built; how we clothe ourselves; how we create our living space; how we define ourselves through what we do; how we express ourselves through our bodies, through sound, through objects we design...all these highly inventive, varied ways of bringing shape, colour and form to define our existence fascinate me. I call these photographs my 'anthropological portraits'.'

In the same way, View on Colour proposes a season of prints that take their inspiration from the physical characteristics of the surrounding milieu. Whether rough or smooth, thick or fine, these fabrics and prints demonstrate an uncanny ability to accompany us in our summer moods. Stripes, dots and checks seem almost natural in motif, while other patterns can be block printed, painted, batik or wax prints. All-over organic geometrics, wallpaper-type motifs, and an abundance of leaves and flowers create an atmosphere that is lush and alive, and even more abstract patterns continue the vegetal feel. Fabrics are silks and raw silks in a variety of hands and cottons extending from voiles and finely calendared qualities to sturdy textures. Colours range from subtle, weathered shades to deep yet vibrant foliage tones, from calm blues and earth pigments to bright, fresh and optimistic hues.

Setting the tone and defining the moods for summer, these fabrics serve as lively companions to our life stories.

photography **Diana Lui** fabric research **Ethel Gutmann** fabric photography **Lon van Keulen**

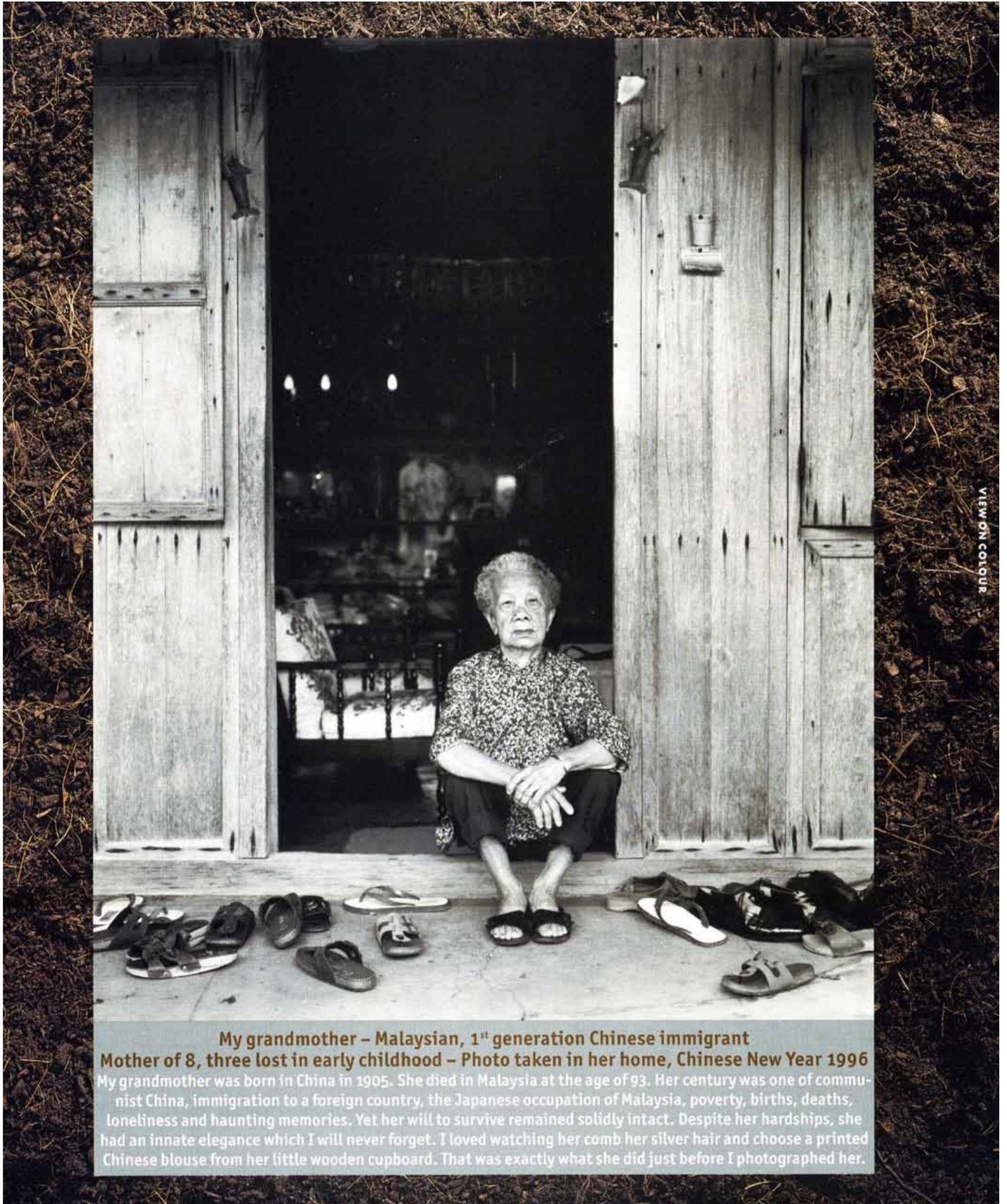
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Ramli – Malaysian of Malay origin

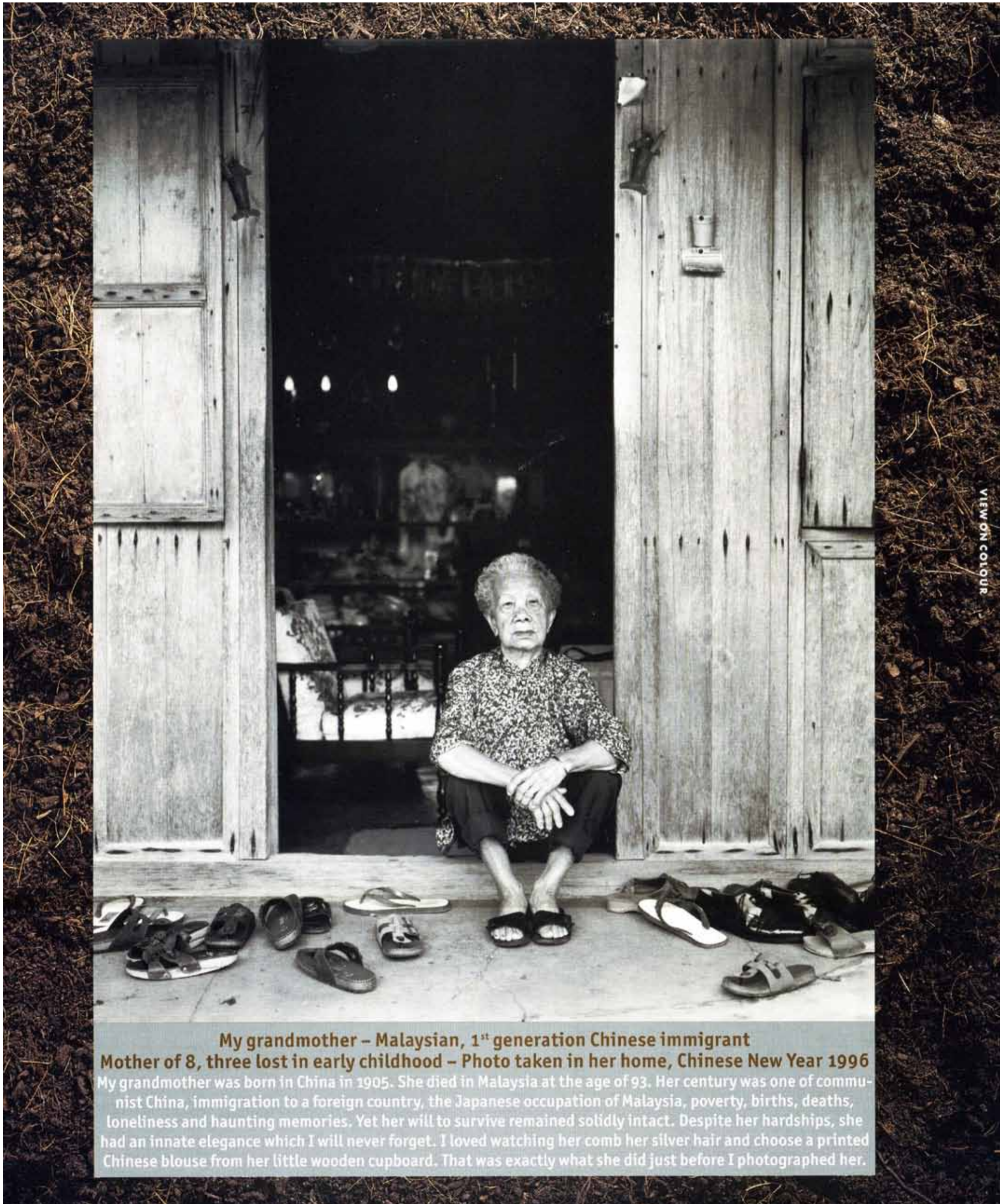
Actor, performer, writer – Photo taken in his rain forest garden, Malaysia

Ramli shaved his head the day I photographed him. As he was doing so, he sang loudly into the rainforest from his balcony, perched high over his wild garden. I admired his symbiosis with nature and his calm and open approach to life.



VIEW ON COLOUR

**My grandmother – Malaysian, 1st generation Chinese immigrant
Mother of 8, three lost in early childhood – Photo taken in her home, Chinese New Year 1996**
My grandmother was born in China in 1905. She died in Malaysia at the age of 93. Her century was one of communist China, immigration to a foreign country, the Japanese occupation of Malaysia, poverty, births, deaths, loneliness and haunting memories. Yet her will to survive remained solidly intact. Despite her hardships, she had an innate elegance which I will never forget. I loved watching her comb her silver hair and choose a printed Chinese blouse from her little wooden cupboard. That was exactly what she did just before I photographed her.



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VIEW ON COLOUR

**Claudia (age 10) and January (age 12) – Malaysians, of Indian, Chinese and Portuguese origin
Photo taken in their garden, Malaysia**

Sisters, one aimed to please, the other to provoke. One stood still, the other fidgeted. One chose a blue cheong-sam, the other a red one. So different from one another, yet sisters.