

SETH ROGEN



Shirt, £195. Trousers, £195. Both by **SMR Days**, smdays.com. Sunglasses by **Garrett Leight**, £260. At matchsfashion.com. Necklaces, Seth's own.

>> where I realised I just need to be comfortable doing a quarter tab of molly [MDMA] at this party and not drinking and having a much better time. Or eating a tiny bit of shrooms at this thing or having a [weed] lollipop. The next day I don't have a hangover. I'm not throwing up. It's just much better for me... Truly, you would be better off doing a hit of acid than drinking."

I have to ask: does he often do MDMA at his movie premieres then?

"Yes! I've done it in the past, for sure. I mean, I don't do it during press for the first part of the premiere."

Rogen doesn't meditate or anything so Headspace-y ("Though I do," he points out, "find myself staring into space a lot"), but he has recently found a passion for pottery that does the same trick, ever since he and his wife joined a studio a little over two years ago. They've since built a studio in their garage with three pottery wheels – one for each of them and one for a guest, a literal third wheel. His creations

– mostly, in fairness, custom ashtrays – have become an Instagram sensation.

Again, it's something tangible. "I just found it incredibly gratifying to create things that you could touch and interact with."

He's given countless numbers of them away as gifts, while a closet contains "hundreds of things that just suck that I don't want to give as gifts, but I don't want to throw away either".

Just before lockdown, as everyone was panicking toilet rolls, the potters of this world, says Rogen, were doing the same with clay.

"There was [a shortage] at first – but we made an illegal back-door clay purchase. [*Laughs*.]"

During the week he takes delight in tending to the various steps required for things he has already "thrown" (ie, made) – some trimming here, some glazing there – and then at the weekends he and his wife will throw "for hours and hours and hours and hours", sometimes six or seven hours straight, as he smokes weed all the way and his perfect pandemic continues.

"It makes you very present and focused on whatever it is you're doing at any given moment," he says. "It's hard to dwell on other things when you're doing pottery."

At the end of each week in the Seth Rogen household it's time for the Point Grey film club. While the rest of the time Rogen and his wife have been rewatching the *American Office* or watching the *Harry Potter* films ("We'll never see them") or *The Larry Sanders Show* ("My wife had never seen it"), the highlight of each week comes on Friday afternoon, when they will discuss, over Zoom, the film that one of Point Grey's 14 employees had selected as the film to watch that week. It started with a simple discussion but has blossomed into something else entirely, ever since Goldberg selected *Starship Troopers*, a film he's obsessed with, and managed to convince the movie's storyboard artist to join the Zoom discussion too, to answer their questions.

It began when the pandemic did and has seen the likes of James L. Brooks talk about his film *Terms Of Endearment*, Nancy Meyers fielding questions about *The Holiday*, Amy Poehler discuss *Charles*, Charlie Theron logging on to chat about *Monster* and even Keanu Reeves arriving virtually to tell them all they wanted to know about *The Matrix*.

"Honestly," says Rogen, "it's the best part of my week."

Later this month Rogen will have his second birthday of the pandemic, which will see him turn 39. For the first, various friends drove by outside in their cars to honk their horns briefly and give their regards. For Rogen, though, it was as close to a perfect birthday as he could imagine. "I'm OK with that," he says. "Like, so much better than being on a film set and have everyone awkwardly sing happy birthday." He didn't even have to put out his joint.

For the next one, he says, he's not even bothered about the cars. He and Lauren will probably just order some junk food and watch a movie or some TV. "That's all I want to do. I don't have anything else I want to be doing other than sitting on a couch with Lauren eating cheeseburgers."

When I later spoke to Goldberg, asking if this can be true, if Rogen can really be so serenely content, and suggest there must be another side, he told me, no, really, there isn't.

"He just wants to be on the couch, with his wife and his dog and his weed, watching reality television. I guess it's a weird thing for a famous person. But that's his ultimate goal in life. It's the boring answer. But it's true." **GG**

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'I don't have anything I want to do other than sitting on a couch with Lauren eating cheeseburgers'

Jacket by **Bally**, £620. Babycock shirt by **Greg Lauren**, £655. greglauren.com. Vintage jeans, £500. At raggedythreads.com. Sandals by **Birkenstock**, £60. birkenstock.com. Ring by **Lois Zeldin**, £350. loiseldin.com

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On-set producer **Hannah Lantini**
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