

LOS ANGELES CONFIDENTIAL

FALL FASHION!

*MEET
L.A.'S NEW
INTERNATIONAL
A-LIST*

*JON VOIGHT
ON THE TV
RENAISSANCE*

PLUS
KARL LAGERFELD
AUSTIN STOWELL
ELI BROAD
FRANK GEHRY

GAME OF THRONES'

*Natalie
Dormer
Heroine Chic*



Seeing stars: Austin Stowell, photographed here at the Garland, says he would have played "third rock from the left" for the chance to work in a film directed by Steven Spielberg.

INSIGHT

FOODIE FAVE:

"My number-one spot for dinner is *Dominick's*. They have this beautiful outdoor patio and a fireplace. Their rice balls and homemade pastas are out of this world. It feels like going to your aunt's house. I used to work in restaurants, and that's the atmosphere I'd liked to create. I feel like I'm kin there."

8715 Beverly Blvd., West Hollywood, 310-652-2335; dominicksrestaurant.com

FITNESS FIX:

"I love hiking in Griffith Park. I know those trails like the back of my hand. Runyon

Canyon is great and all, but I'd rather not have to dodge people in high heels."

JUST FOR FUN:

"I'm not really a club kind of a guy. I very much prefer a cold IPA, and I love to play games—darts, pool, shuffleboard—really anything that involves points and me somehow beating you! I go to *Barney's Beanery* in West Hollywood whenever I can. See my buddy Chuck behind the bar for a *Dale's Pale Ale*." 8447 Santa Monica Blvd., West Hollywood, 323-654-2287; barneysbeanery.com

first gig was on ABC Family's *The Secret Life of the American Teenager*, and it's been fast-forward ever since. After such films as *Behind the Candelabra*, *Love and Honor*, *Dolphin Tale 1* and *2*, and last year's super smash *Whiplash*, he landed his current gig as Sean O'Bannon, a "shoot first, ask questions later type of guy," in TNT's 1960s New York City-based cop drama *Public Morals*, directed by and starring Ed Burns and produced by Spielberg. This October he'll play Francis Gary Powers, a Cold War-era U2 pilot shot down and imprisoned by the Soviets for espionage, in Spielberg's *Bridge of Spies*, a movie headlined by Tom Hanks and Alan Alda. (He's also set to appear in two James Franco films—*In Dubious Battle* and *The Long Home*.)

Of course for an up-and-coming actor, booking back-to-back projects with Spielberg is akin to winning the lottery. And it was the director who originally suggested Stowell try out for his movie. When he went to audition for the part of Hanks' legal assistant, Spielberg thought Stowell looked more like a linebacker (he'd been fight training for his cop role) and asked if he'd be interested in portraying the pilot, whom the plot revolves around. "Honestly, I'd be interested in playing third rock from the left in a Spielberg movie," he says.

Though Stowell never got to know Powers, he was able to watch videos of him and meet his son. "He always kept his sense of humor," he says of the pilot. "And considering everything he went through, that was pretty amazing." During the movie's filming, Stowell was racking up the frequent-flyer miles, commuting between Berlin, New York, and LA.

Stowell, who has lived in LA since 2008, got to know the city well by "printing out MapQuest maps" and exploring different neighborhoods during his downtime between auditions. He says he is lucky to have built a strong foundation of friends, which isn't always easy in this town. "You're in the car a lot, where you're alone. At the gym, people have their headphones on," he says. "New York swallows you up, but in LA, it's more like, 'How can I get in?'" **LAC**

Fall's Guy

WHIPLASH SECOND LEAD **AUSTIN STOWELL** GOES FIRST STRING THIS SEASON IN TWO NEW SPIELBERG PROJECTS.

BY LUCY COHEN BLATTER

Austin Stowell, Steven Spielberg's newest leading man, didn't grow up with dreams of Hollywood stardom. But thanks to a sports injury in high school, he traded football for the footlights. Classmates in his hometown of Kensington, Connecticut, were surprised to see how he transformed himself for his first appearance onstage, playing the eccentric Russian ballet instructor in *You Can't Take It With You*. "I worked at the grocery store, was class president—suddenly they see me drinking and smoking as Boris Kolenkhov," the 30-year-old Stowell says. "I really fell in love with performing." After high school he auditioned for the acting program at the University of Connecticut, thinking he'd try it for a year and, if that didn't work out, prep for law school.

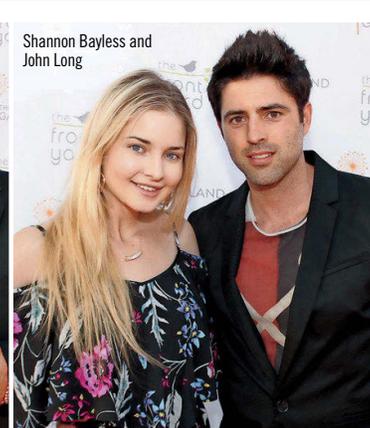
But he never had to take his LSATs, and from the looks of it, never will. Stowell's



DJ Milo Rock



Fernando and Stacey Donayre with Jana and Frank Westerbeke



Shannon Bayless and John Long



Carly and Cole Laddusaw

THE GARLAND GRAND OPENING

LA NOTABLES FLOCKED to North Hollywood to celebrate the grand opening of luxury hotel **The Garland** alongside *Los Angeles Confidential*, which sponsored the evening. Guests enjoyed **Selvarey Rum** beverages as they explored the property's many luxury spaces, including new dining destination The Front Yard, the grand James and Fillmore Suites, a posh garden venue called Beverly Park, and more.



Simon and Iris Nofar



Selvarey rum treated attendees to a tasting station inside the property's courtyard.



Scott Elliot, Rhocelli Pascual, and James Crank



Shauna and Michael Poutre



Edwin and Marcelino Valencap



Michelle Wolff with Oona and Dan Kanner and Linda Fusco



Lauren Carothers and Sira Butler