

# Spotted



**Bollywood actress Aishwarya Rai Bachchan posing for pics with a fan at Dubai International Airport.**

**British singer and songwriter Yusuf Islam aka Cat Stevens in Media City.** **Retired American wrestler Kevin Nash at Gold's Gym in Al Barsha Mall.** **Spanish footballer and Shakira's other half Gerard Pique at Jumeirah Zabeel Saray.**

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# Hot seat

## Pras

Fresh from making his Dubai debut at People by Crystal, the Fugees founder and *Ghetto Superstar*, 40, chats politics, pirates and reunions with *Rob Garratt*



### After Fugees you took a step back, while Wyclef and Lauren Hill took the limelight.

It's not something that I did consciously, it just happened like that. But now things are starting to change, I got a new project coming out [in August] and I think it's going to do very well. I always felt everything was meant to be the way that it happened, and there's a reason that it happened.

### It seems like the 2004 Fugees reunion is one thing that people regret happening.

It didn't happen though. We did some shows – but it really didn't happen. A true reunion is when you do an album, and that's what people really wanted – finish off *The Score*. And that was in the works, it just never transpired.

### So could it ever happen?

The greatest teacher is experience, and from experience I've learned not to ever say never. So I don't know, maybe, maybe not. My daddy used to say 'tomorrow is never promised to you, so what you don't know is bigger than you'. So it may. Who knows?

### Any other message for your fans in Dubai?

I want to thank the fans – I appreciate being out here, in Dubai, I think it's one of the greatest cities in the world. Very crazy, so crazy it's not even real. But still it exists. I've been coming for close to ten years; vacation, friends, just passing through. It's a very interesting city, man. Every time I come I think to myself, most cities around the world could have been like this. This place is the epitome – without all the ostentatious that comes along with it, this should be a blueprint of how every city in the world should be.

### In 2009 you claim you were kidnapped off the coast of Africa while shooting a yet-to-be-released documentary on Somali pirates. What on earth made you want to go out and film there?

I just wanted to go meet some pirates, man, I had no idea how dangerous it really was. Luckily for me I got out of it unharmed, but it was a great experience. I live for experience. It's that moment when you go through a period of stupidity. I mean how stupid was I? But I guess my innocence is what protected me. If I go back and try it again, I'll probably die.

### Before that you've got another documentary coming out this year about the 2011 Haiti election, *Sweet Micky For Prezidan*. What made you want to get into that?

I'm Haitian, and I felt that after the earthquake something had to be done. I went to my

friend [former musician and now president] Michel Martelly and said: 'Man, you should run for president'. We started a campaign, and a couple of weeks before we register we find out [former Fugees bandmate and cousin] Wyclef [Jean] was running.

### 'How stupid was I? If I go back there, I'll probably die'

### A lot of people were surprised you didn't back your cousin at that point. How are you two getting on now?

We're great now – at the time it was war. That's what politics does to you.

### Would you ever go into politics yourself?

No, I'm too progressive. I could not get elected.

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