



**T**he first thing you notice about 27-year-old Kelowna-born actress and model Brandy Kopp is her infectious laugh. It's reminiscent of Cameron Diaz's in that - once it starts - it's impossible to hold back. It's purely addictive. Seems Brandy comes by her

positive nature and modesty quite sincerely. Eventually she hopes to have a steady career that affords her the time to work on the bigger things and more meaningful projects in life like her newest passion, a charity called Caleb's Hope whose aim is to empower women and children of more impoverished nations.

*"Since I was a kid I've always wanted to go to Africa. For some reason certain places in the world pull you in and Kenya is that one for me."*

Until then Brandy is devoting her time to various acting roles, most recently starring in the independent film Karma Baby and

the soon-to-be-shot The Riot, a futuristic thriller in which she plays a ballsy heroine who has to defend herself and her loved ones in a newly chaotic world where mobs rule the streets and basically all hell breaks loose. Her character, Victoria, is a role she's looking forward to playing. *"(Victoria's) a kick-ass girl and I*



By Charlie Teljeur

## UMM SPOTLIGHT

PHOTOGRAPHER: KAROLINA TUREK

# BRANDY KOPP

*get to learn how to shoot a gun."*

Although experienced in both sci-fi and more traditional acting roles Brandy admits she has no real work preference. *"Sci-fi does stretch your acting abilities and imagination a little bit more. Being chased by a dragon down some stairs in the*

*middle of space is not the kind of real-life experience you can really draw from."*

Brandy splits her time between Vancouver and Los Angeles and her California time is shared between work, her husband and a houseful of foster kittens. If a multitude

of cats sounds quirky, it's simply because she loves animals and does her best to help the ones she can. Her real quirkiness comes from a later confession that she one day wants to dedicate an entire room in her house to Elvis. *"That's how much of a dork I am,"* she whispers.

When asked what every man should know about a woman, Brandy pauses. *"Understand that we don't need you to be perfect,"* she says, adding a brief moment for dramatic effect.

*"But we need you to think we are."* And once again there's that laugh.