



top model

AFTER MORE THAN 30 YEARS, BEVERLY JOHNSON CONTINUES TO CHANGE THE FACE OF THE MODELING INDUSTRY

In August 1974, 22-year-old Beverly Johnson stepped onto the cover of *American Vogue* magazine and into the pages of history. She became the first African-American woman to be featured on the cover of the publication and since then, only three others—Oprah Winfrey, Halle Berry and Jennifer Hudson—have followed.

"It's every model's dream to be on the cover of *Vogue*," says the now 55-year-old Johnson, who was also a *Glamour* magazine cover girl in the '70s. "I realized that this was the first time the African-American woman was being accepted into mainstream America for her beauty."

You may also remember Johnson from appearances in movies like *How to Be a Player* and on shows like *Martin*.

The beauty icon is also an author, a mother (to twentysomething model daughter Anansa) and an entrepreneur (she has her own line of hair extensions, wigs and hair care products called the Beverly Johnson Signature Collection).

Her latest endeavor, *She's Got the Look*, a model search for women over 35, will air on TV Land this June. "I was waiting for my purpose and I got it through these women," she says of her return to television. "It's an awesome show and I hope it comes off the way it felt."
—Tiesha Henderson