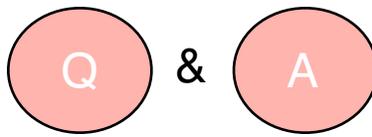


*Oooh-
lala!*
**That's
Tia Tanaka!**





Tia Tanaka

The innocent-looking Franco-Vietnamese starlet, who is spicier than *Pho*, is one of the most popular and successful Asians in Adult as of late.

BY KOBIATA
PHOTOS COURTESY OF TIA TANAKA

How did you come up with your stage name?

I personally don't like the name. It was given to me . . . in the beginning it was hard to figure out a name. Some options were Sasha Lei . . . but hey I might as well keep it since I don't plan on changing it anytime soon.

You have a great face and body. Did you ever consider being a model for import car events?

No, I was not interested in doing import modeling. What makes me different is I actually make more money than they do.

You've mentioned that your family moved around a lot. So, where have you lived?

Well, we lived in New York City for a few year before moving to Long Beach, California where I attended elementary. We've been around the 'valley,' but we finally settled in Los Angeles where I went for high school.

Does it bother you when people cannot tell Asian ethnicities apart?

No it doesn't bother me. People are always getting my ethnicity wrong so I don't mind at all. I can tell between Chinese and Filipino . . . it's the little things that I can differentiate.

So how did you get your 'foot in the door' so to speak?

I always wanted to go into the adult business, but I didn't know how to get my foot in the door. One of my friends, Kitty Jung, asked if I wanted to meet her agent and I decided to take the plunge and see what would happen. He really liked me and he pretty much talked me into it. At that time, he assured me it was a good business.

When did you start? Describe your first scene?

I started around the time of AEE. My first scene was with three guys for Anabolic Video. It was really fun and they made me feel really comfortable. It was not what I expected at all. I expected it to be very scary, but before the scene I was really really nervous.

Who do you like to shoot for?

Hustler, Red Light District, Anabolic, and New Sensations.

The adult industry is competitive, but you have been successful. How did you outshine others in the industry?

Ummm . . . I don't know really plan on being the best, but I can do the best that I can. I don't plan on outshining anyone and I don't think I am the best. Everyone has something to give or provide, which makes us all different.

Sometimes the industry puts pressure on talent to do acts. Is there anything that you wouldn't do?

I don't know, but I don't do anal right now. Other than that, I do everything else.

Have you had any bad experiences with people in adult?

No, I haven't had any bad experiences yet. So far, I've been lucky enough to have all good experiences.

Which companies would like to shoot for that you haven't yet?

Maybe Penthouse. I'd like to shoot with everyone at least once.

Which female talent would you to work with in the future?

Avena Lee . . . I really want to work with her one day.

How was your first AEE? Would you ever attend again?

It was very fun and I don't think I will ever forget it since so many people flattered me. Yes, I would.

Have you been recognized outside of work as being a pornstar?

Yeah, I have . . . it was a scary situation that happened in a restaurant . . . maybe a girl didn't like me and I was at the restaurant . . . and she wanted to fight me. Also, since a lot of guys have seen my scenes, I've have guys mentioning that they whack off to my scenes and asking silly questions like if I get free DVDs.

How long do you plan to stay in adult?

For long as I can . . . I haven't thought about quitting anytime soon.



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Everyone has something to give or provide, which makes us all different.

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How are your college studies going? Have you decided on a major?

I'm going to school majoring in psychology. I am always changing my mind and I still have a long way to go, but I do like studying the brain and its neurotransmitters.

Describe a typical off day?

Well, I am usually at home. I also read and hang out with my family. Lately, I've been reading Robert Kiyosaki's *Rich Dad Poor Dad*.

Do you think that porn is becoming mainstream and what has contributed to the change?

I agree that porno is becoming mainstream, but I really cannot answer what's contributing to it.

If you weren't in adult, what would you likely be doing?

I would probably be in college working on my degree so I could become a social worker or school counselor.

When you are filling out your income tax returns, what do you put for your occupation?

I put that I am a student.

You look like a gadget freak . . . so what's on your iPod?

80's music like Culture Club and Dead or Alive, hip-hop like artists 50 Cent and Tupac, and Techno.

You've mentioned that your ethnicity is French and Vietnamese. Are you true to your roots?

Well, my mother speaks both languages . . . I can only speak Vietnamese. However, my mother wanted me to be more 'American.' My mom's family was very traditional and conservative and my mom just wanted me to do what she wanted to do when she was young.

Favorite Color: Black because it looks good to me.

Favorite Vietnamese Food: Pho, which is noodle soup.

Favorite City: Los Angeles because I was always fascinated with Hollywood ever since I was young.

Favorite Position: Spoon, but if he's too big then normal doggie.

Wildest Place You Had Sex: It was on a playground slide during the night. One of the neighbors found out about it and came out of the house and scolded us to stop what we were doing!

