# **Claudia Lopez**

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Claudia in 2011

- Born Claudia Susana Lopez Durango August 3, 1974 (age 37) <u>Medellin, Colombia</u>
- Occupation Model, Actress, Film Producer
- Years active 1988–present

Family

Spouse Wilmar Gil

Children Brandon Gil (Feb, 1998) Dielmer Gil (Jan, 2001)

**IMDB** 

IMDB www.imdb.me/claudialopez

Claudia Lopez (born August 3, 1974) is a Colombian American model, actress, and film producer.

As a **model**, Claudia is considered a symbol of Latin beauty. She is looked for by companies interested in promoting products to the Latin market. She has appeared in several fashion catalogues, magazine covers, CD labels, billboards, posters, calendars and TV commercials in marketing campaigns for *Frito-Lay*, *Anheuser-Busch*, *Coors Light*, *Corona*, *Aguardiente Cristal*, *Inca Kola*, *Ron Caldas*, *Turbo Power*, *Rubies Customes*, *Goya*, *Salutti*, *Twix*, *Tequiza*, *Jarritos*, *IBS Int'l Beauty Show*, and (*DEP*) *Thaitrade*, just to name a few.

As an **actress**, Claudia has appeared in several films, including <u>Carlito's Way: Rise to Power</u> (2005), <u>Trust the Man</u> (2005), <u>We Own the Night</u> (2007), <u>Golgonooza</u> (2007) and <u>The Singer</u> (<u>Hector Lavoe</u>) (2008). Her acting career has taken her beyond her Latin roots; in the movie <u>Rupturian</u>, in preparation for production (2012), she has the role of a Russian specialist in bio-warfare.

As a **film producer**, Claudia participated in Noon Day Sun (2011), Genesis 39 (2011), Sam (2011), and as a Production Manager in <u>Secret Guilt</u> (2012).

### Contents



## Early life

Claudia Lopez was born in <u>Medellin</u>, <u>Colombia</u> to Nuria Grijalva and Gustavo Grijalva. Her parents are both of <u>Spanish</u> descent, dedicated to their fashion family business Giane'N Inc. Raised in a middle class, devout Roman catholic family, at the age of 8 Claudia was sent to a nuns' boarding school in <u>La Ceja</u>, <u>Antioquia</u>, for 3 years. It was there where Claudia participated for the first time in school plays. At the age of 14 her family moved to New York, and she attended her first fashion show; from that very moment, becoming a model became her goal.

In 1991, at age 17, she won the princess prize for the *Girl of the Year*, in a contest organized in Queens, NY, and in 1992, the first prize as the *Latin Model of New York*. That same year she participated in the contest for *Miss Hawaiian Tropics* in New York, and was invited to represent her native country Colombia in the international competition in *Las Vegas*. In 1993 she had the opportunity of working on her first national fashion catalogue *Sentimental New York* for the designer *Sam Hourani*, and in 1994-1995 she had her first CD covers for the national and international editions of *Dancing Salsa USA*, volumes 1 and 2. With these covers she became well known as a model.

### Career

In 1997, Claudia studied at the *Fashion Institute of Technology (FIT)*.

In 1998, she participated in a <u>SEARS</u>' fashion show, and created her model and talent agency <u>Karisma New York</u>.

In 2000, she participated in the <u>Univision</u> TV program "<u>A que no te atreves</u>", along with <u>SofiaVergara</u>, <u>Adriana Lavat</u>, <u>Juan Alfonso Bautista</u> and <u>Harry Gaithner</u>, who inspired her to get into acting.

In 2001, she decided to create a second marketing agency. Putting together the names of her two sons Brandon and Dielmer, she created <u>Brandiel Productions</u>, through which through the years she has developed several marketing campaigns for <u>Frito-Lay</u>, <u>Anheuser-Busch</u>, <u>Coors Light</u>, <u>Corona</u>, <u>Aguardiente Cristal</u>, <u>Inca Kola</u>, <u>Ron Caldas</u>, <u>Turbo Power</u>, <u>Rubies Customes</u>, <u>Goya</u>, <u>Salutti</u>, <u>Twix</u>, <u>Tequiza</u>, <u>Jarritos</u>, <u>IBS Int'l Beauty Show</u>, (DEP) Thaitrade, and others.



Claudia in Rupturian as Melina, a Russian specialist in bio-warfare

In 2002, with the support of <u>Anheuser-Busch</u>, she published her first calendar *Claudia Lopez* 2002, and was hired as a model by <u>Turbo Power</u> to participate in hair shows.

In 2003, Anheuser-Busch hired her to work on the marketing campaign *Todos Toman Bud-Light*, which appeared on TV and billboards. That same year she was in the cover of the *Latino New York* magazine, and in the *Stuff Magazine* (sister of *Maxim Magazine*).

In 2004, Bud-Light and Maxim magazine created their campaign *Enfocate con Bud-Light*, where Claudia appeared on TV commercials and billboards; she published her first poster, which was a total success, and decided to dedicate herself to acting.

In 2005, she published her second poster, and under Karisma NY / Brandiel she published posters for Ivon Hernandez and Carolina Aristizabal. Once again, she was hired by Turbo Power (professional hair dryers) as a model for catalogues, boxes, events and promotional conventions in USA and Puerto Rico. That year, she had a medical problem and was operated on emergency. Coming out of convalescence, she replied to an ad looking for extras to appear in the movie *Carlito's Way: Rise to Power* with *Jay Hernandez*. This movie recreated her desire to get into acting. A few days later she was called to appear in the movie *Trust the Man*, where she had the opportunity of working with *Eva Mendes*. That year she decided to become a member of the *Screen Actors Guild (SAG)*, and continued her acting studies at the *Thomas Waites Acting Studio* in New York.

In 2006, she participated in the short film <u>Golgonooza</u>. At the end of the shooting, she was called for an interview with <u>Joaquin Phoenix</u> and <u>James Gray (film director)</u>, who gave her a role in the movie "<u>We Own the Night</u>", where she had the opportunity of working with <u>Robert Duval</u>, <u>Joaquin Phoenix</u>, <u>Mark Wahlberg</u>, and <u>Eva Mendes</u>. That same year she published her third poster, and was hired by <u>Rubies Customes</u>.

2007 was the release of *We Own the Night*; a few days before Claudia was invited to the <u>Jaime</u> <u>Bayly</u> show of <u>Megavision</u>. By the end of this year, Claudia started to orient herself towards film and TV production.

In 2008, she studied Film Production at the <u>Hollywood Film Institute</u>, and started to work as a Producer with Michael Martinez (Director, Producer, Script Writer), partner of <u>Geneal</u> <u>Productions</u> and CEO of Shaiel Films, Victor Gomez (Producer), partner of Geneal Productions and Hernan Herrera (Director, Producer, Script Writer) CEO of <u>Lucerna Studios</u>. With this group, Claudia worked in the production of the film *Noon Day Sun*. That same year, she worked in the film <u>The Singer (Hector Lavoe)</u>, directed by <u>Anthony Felton</u>, in the role of <u>Raquel</u> <u>Pauzner de Torrijos</u>, first lady of Panama in the 70's. In this movie Claudia worked with <u>Patricia</u> <u>Manterola, Raul Carbonel</u> and <u>La India</u>.

In 2009, she published her fourth poster, appears in billboards for Turbo Power, and appeared in the film *Vortex*, directed by *Bernardo Chilindron*.

In 2010, she started working as a producer and actress for the Sci-Fi film <u>Rupturian</u>, currently

(2012) under pre-production activities.

In 2011, she worked as a producer for the event <u>Hollywood en Colombia</u> carried out in <u>Bogota</u>, <u>Colombia</u>, by <u>Dov Simens</u>, under the organization of <u>Geneal Productions</u>, <u>Solorzano</u> <u>Productiones</u> and Sol Azul Productions.

In 2012, Claudia appeared in a <u>digital billboard at Times Square</u>, New York, for the <u>Department</u> <u>of Export Promotion (DEP) Thaitrade.com</u>, and worked as a Production Manager for the feature fm <u>Secret Guilt</u>.

# **Public Image**



Claudia is considered a symbol of refined Latin American beauty; modern, up to date, and highly sophisticated. In her acting career, she has grown outside of her roots into international roles.

### **Personal Life**

#### Religion

Claudia was raised in a devout Roman Catholic family, and now is a Christian.

#### **Relationships and family**

Claudia is in the middle of three sisters, Diana, the older, and Maria, the younger. In February of 1998 she gave birth to her first son, Brandon Gil, and in January 2001, to her second son Dielmer Gil.

### Filmography

Film		
Year	Title	Role
2005	Carlito's Way: Rise to Power	r Claudia
2005	<u>Trust the Man</u>	Claudia
2007	<u>We Own the Night</u>	Claudia
2007	<u>Golgonooza</u>	Claudia
2008	<u>The Singer (Hector Lavoe)</u>	Raquel Pauzner de Torrijos
2009	The Vortex	Medea
TV		
Year	Title	Role
2000	<u>A que no te atreves</u>	Claudia

### **External Links**

www.brandiel.com www.claudialopez.co www.iclaudialopez.com www.imdb.me/claudialopez www.facebook.com/claudialopez320 www.twiter.com/claudialopez320 www.myspace.com/claudialopez320 www.hollywoodencolombia.com