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FOBESSED

Joan Collins, 82, actress and writer

Interview by Phil Clarke

She may be an octogenarian but Joan Collins is as timeless as ever. The self-proclaimed 'caviar addict' has toured the world with her one-woman show *One Night with Joan*, and splits her time between London, LA and St Tropez with her husband Percy Gibson.

MUSIC

I love Sérgio Mendes, I listen to him all the time. And I adore Pharrell Williams' 'Happy' – it really does make me happy.

DÉCOR

When I'm on tour I'll take cushions, scarves to cover the lamps with, candles and family photographs to make the place look more like home. Wherever I am, I always try to make it as homely as possible, even if it's just a dressing room. I guess I'm a nester!

TECHNOLOGY

The thumbs-up symbol is my most used emoji, then the heart, and then the smiley face. Often I'll send a text that's just emojis – it's so efficient. But at the same time I miss writing and receiving letters, so I'm always delighted to receive a handwritten thank-you letter.

CLOTHES

The item of clothing I reach for first in the morning is my terrycloth robe, or a cotton robe in the summer, which I only buy from Japanese stores in San Francisco.

FOOD

I'm addicted to caviar on a baked potato with sour cream. I also absolutely love baked beans on toast. If we don't go out, my husband and I will cook it – I do the toast and he does the beans.



BOOKS

I'm reading a wonderful book called *Can I Go Now?* by Brian Kellow about Hollywood's first superagent. I don't understand the title, but it talks all about the 1960s, 1970s and 1980s in Hollywood. I was there then and know all the people – it's just wonderful.

SHOPPING

The last item I bought was a packet of chewing gum at the airport – and a bunch of magazines: *Tatler*, *Harper's Bazaar*, *Vogue*. When it comes to shopping, though, I'm very fussy because I'm a total hoarder. I only buy things I know I want, because I can never bring myself to throw anything away.

FILM

Recently I watched *A Royal Night Out*, about the night the Queen left the Palace to celebrate VE Day with the public. I fell asleep – it was terrible! I've also just binge-watched *The Fabulous Baker Boys*, *The Godfather* and *Tootsie*. I love late 1970s and 1980s movies. And I always watch Robert De Niro films, he's the most amazing transformational actor, absolutely brilliant in everything he's ever done.

FITNESS

I am very into keeping fit, although I hate working out. I try to swim for half an hour a day and I also do a lot of floor work and free weights.

The St Tropez Lonely Hearts Club by Joan Collins is out now (Little, Brown, £16.99)