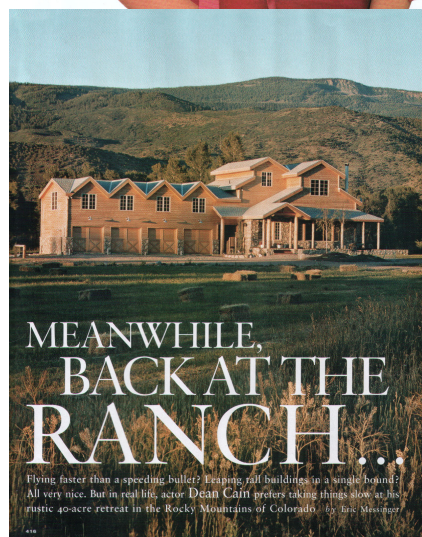
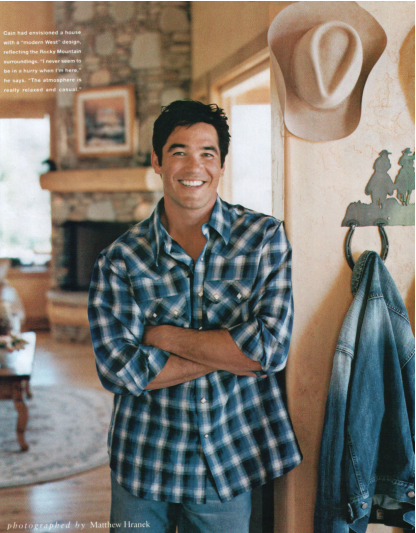


In Style

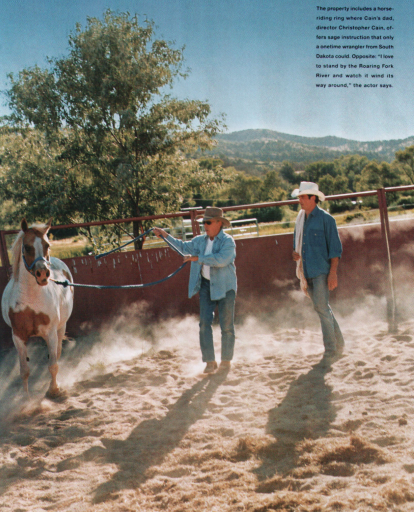
Octobre 2003/ *October 2003*

[Traduction française/ *French translation*](#)
[Transcription anglaise/ *English transcript*](#)





photographed by Matthew Hranek



The property includes a horse-riding ring where Cain's dad, director Christopher Cain, often gave his son instruction that only a western stranger from South Dakota could dispense. "I have to stand by the Rearing Fork. River and water is what is very around," the actor says.



There are horses to ride, a pond to fish in, and a breathtaking panorama of grassy plains and mountainous vistas to explore and admire around Dean Cain's private ranch on the outskirts of Aspen. But on this gorgeous sunny afternoon, the great outdoors has been temporarily passed over for one of Cain's favorite indoor activities.

"It's a little time," the 37-year-old actor explains as he hugs his 7-year-old son, Christopher, who has just mastered from a nap and wants only to nuzzle against his father's obliging body. "This guy here is teaching me patience, understanding, responsibility—things about myself and my ego. I mean, how much ego can you have when you're dealing with a toddler who's having a meltdown because you've asked him to wash his hands?" Cain prides himself on being a superdad—although he's better known, of course, for the more sure-the-dad kinds of dads he once performed as Superdaddy on the nineties TV series *Lois & Clark*.

A few minutes later Cain and his son (who lives part of the time with his mom, model Samantha Thoma) are accompanying the one-repurchased rancher in the family, Cain's father, director Christopher Cain (Young Guns, The Stone Boys), on a short hike to the Rearing Fork River, which runs along the back of the property. Looking over to his seven-built horse and out to the huts of the Rockies, Cain says, "It's my American dream."

He fulfilled yet another dream this year, landing what may be the most promising role of his career. As Daniel Washington's menacing rival in the non-shutter Out of Time, which opens this month, Cain plays a former professional football player turned shady operator. Although he has been in a variety of movies since *Lois & Clark* ended in 1997—and got excellent reviews in 2000 as a self-involved gay jock in *The Broken Hearts Club*—he hasn't had many roles working with someone like Oscar winner Washington. "Getting the opportunity to be in a film like this is what I've been waiting for," says Cain. "It's like stepping up into the major leagues."

Cain's most high-profile work the past few years has been as the host of TV's *Reality Bites* or *Real* live while *Reality* has been one of TV's top-rated shows—not to mention a cash cow for Cain, who is also one of its producers—it's not the kind of gig that advances an acting career. "I don't think people realize what a fantastic actor Dean is. That's the problem when you play Superman. It's the right 'People's Champion' guy," says Deborah Joy LeVine, a creator of *Lois & Clark*, who worked with Cain again earlier this year when he had a recurring role as a police detective on her Lifetime series *The Division*. "But Dean's got everything. He's got great comic timing. His dramatic in-

stincts are terrific. Plus, he's incredibly handsome—women just go nuts over him."

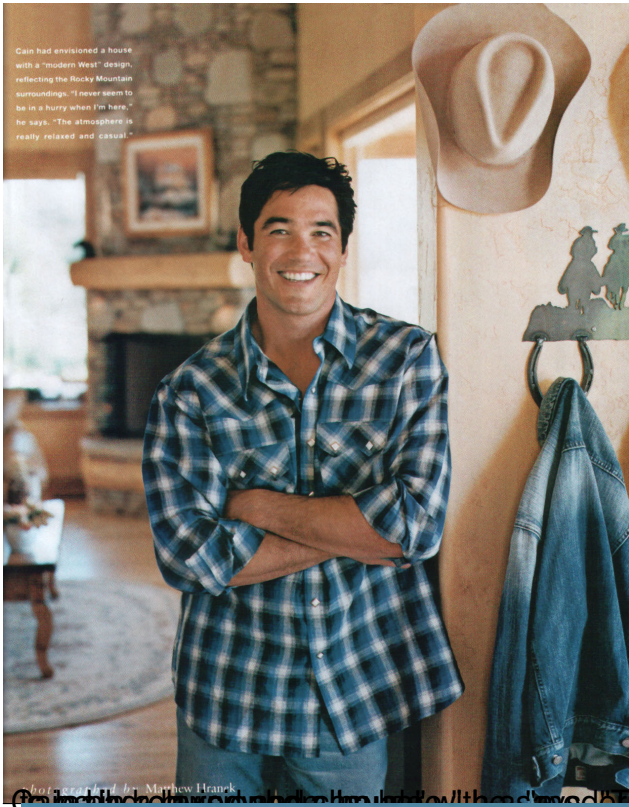
Cain grew up in Malibu with a number of friends who ended up making it big in show business, including Sean Penn, Charlie Sheen and Emilio Estevez. For the beginning of his life wasn't as suspicious. Born to Monte Clement, Sr., he never met his biological father, who separated from his mother, actress Sharon Thomas, while she was pregnant with Cain. His brother, Ryan, was 1 at the time. A few years later Thomas and the boys moved to California, where she met Cain's adoptive father, Christopher, who had grown up on a ranch in South Dakota and had gone west to pursue a singing career. "My dad is a cowboy and is very much a loner. While I was growing up, he was always giving me fatherly advice that I never understood, about taxes and roofs and life—you know, that kind of stuff." Cain says with a laugh. "My mom, she's a mom, she's a mom. She's flashy and full of life. I'm somewhere in between."

It's a measure of how close Cain is to his parents that the ranch in Aspen is essentially a family affair. He jokingly refers to it as "the compound." Cain bought the land six years ago after his parents flew over to, and the house's design has been a collaborative effort among the three of them and Aspen architect Jim

«THE MOUNTAINS, THE RIVER—IT ALL SEEMS SO FAR AWAY FROM EVERYTHING," CAIN SAYS.



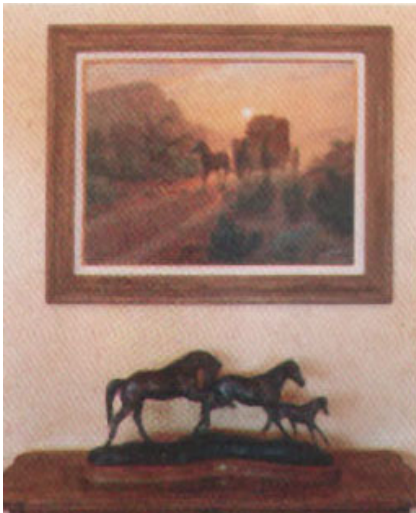
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West's design, reflecting the Rocky Mountains surroundings.



—The home's expensive main room includes a wide-angle picture window.



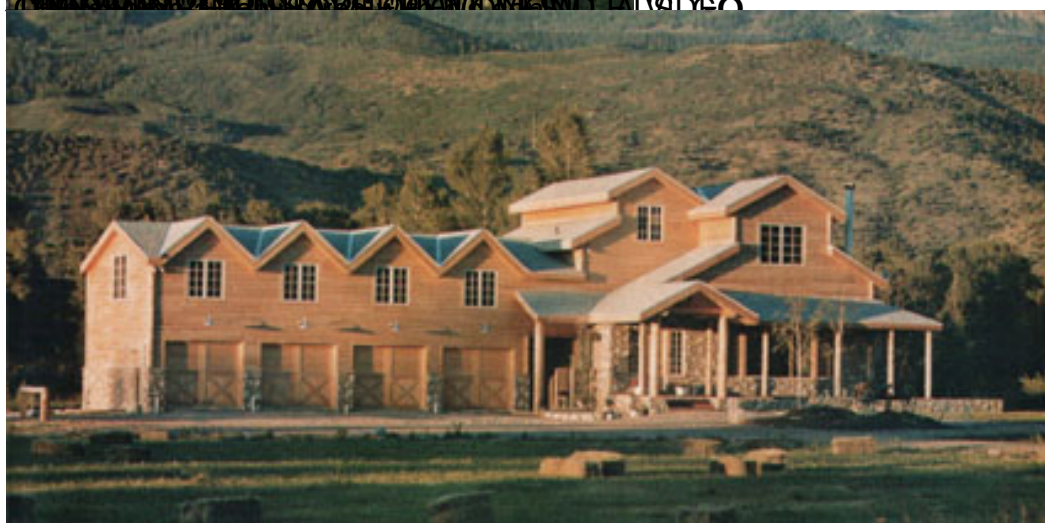
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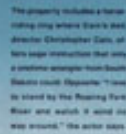
THEY WERE BOTH FISHING FOR THE SAME THING: A BASS.



THE HOUSE WAS BUILT BY A FARMER WHO WANTED TO LIVE IN THE COUNTRY BUT NOT TOO FAR FROM THE CITY.



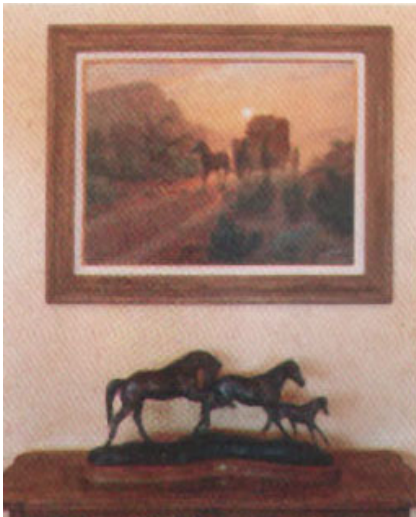
"Sentez-vous être pressé par le temps quand je suis ici,"



_____ Sud.



— Le plan de la grande pièce à angle.



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Christopher, who has autism, is a very intelligent boy who is very curious about the world around him. He is also very sensitive to sensory input. He is a very good observer and he is very good at solving problems. He is a very good friend to his dog, Rex. He is a very good student at school. He is a very good person.