

# CLASSIC BEAUTY

After over two decades as a competitor at the Hampton Classic, this summer, Georgina Bloomberg soars to new heights as both rider and board member.

by SARAH BRAY  
photography by STEPHAN WURTH



GEORGINA BLOOMBERG: STYLING BY KATHERINE LANGRISH; HAIR BY CASHA NGIBLE; MAKEUP BY ANNE MARRAS; ARTIST: MAURICIO VIZCARRA; HANGING: JACQUELINE; HORSE: LINDA; GROOMING: JACQUELINE; PHOTO: JAWAN MCKILLIN PHOTOGRAPHY

From left: Georgina Bloomberg is chic both in the saddle and ringside as she prepares for the Hampton Classic; Crown 5 and Georgina Bloomberg win Royalton Farms Open Jumper at the Hampton Classic in 2016.



**F**or award-winning equestrian, mother and animal activist Georgina Bloomberg, riding is a vocation. "I love being at the barn, but to me, it is very much my job," she readily admits. "When I come into the stable, I want to work hard and get something accomplished. I know what my goal is and what I want to work on, so when I get there, I really focus."

It's this razor-sharp determination that has defined her from an early age. Bloomberg first attended the Hampton Classic Horse Show as a very young spectator, there to watch her older sister, Emma, compete. "I had just gotten my first pony and wasn't old enough to compete yet, but I brought my pony out to the show to ride around and pretend like I was competing," says the equestrian, who started riding lessons at age 4. "I loved it even back then, and knew that I couldn't wait to come back when I was older and actually get to show." More than 30 years later, Bloomberg no longer has to pretend, having made her way from the Pony Hunter Division to the pinnacle of the sport, the Grand Prix.

Today, the 35-year-old mom to 4-year-old Jasper continues to push herself for the sport whether she's on or off her horse. In

2006, she founded The Rider's Closet, a program that collects used equestrian gear and donates it to riders in need, and, most recently, she was named chair of Humane Generation New York, a chapter of the Humane Generation Philanthropy program operated by the Humane Society of the United States. This summer out East, she is taking the reins of additional roles as well. On top of competing in this year's Hampton Classic Horse Show, she also is sitting on the board for the event. "The Hampton Classic is not only a show filled with so much history and tradition, but it's also a show that has learned to grow with the times and evolve as the sport has as well," she says. "For me, being from New York, it also means that I can have family and friends come to watch who may not usually get a chance to see me ride. It makes it so special, and I love having fans in the crowd. We also get to compete in front of a packed tent of VIPs who don't usually attend horse shows. There is no show in the world that gets the star factor of the Hampton Classic or the media attention, so as riders we are very aware that for once we are entertaining the people who usually entertain us! It makes you want to perform even better and makes winning at that show taste even sweeter." ■