

## INTERVIEW

# Heather Thomson 'Ramona calls me ghetto'

The newbie Housewife gives us the goss on her castmates



Heather, Carole and Ramona sharpen their claws!

Yummie by Heather Thomson shapewear (yummie.life.com.au) is available at David Jones

**S**he's the first to admit that she likes to talk. A lot. But as anyone who's been watching the ever-smiling Heather Thomson on this season's *The Real Housewives Of New York City* will know, she doesn't like to be told she talks too much. Least of all by Ramona Singer, that's for sure!

Speaking exclusively to NW, Heather gets candid about her frustrations with her co-star and tells us the truth about whether they can ever be civil, let alone friends.

Heather - whose Yummie by Heather Thomson shapewear is worn by famous names such as Tyra Banks and Michelle Obama - also gives us the skinny on the great bodies on the show and spills the juice on the ladies' penchant for pinot grigio. Raise your glasses!

### On being the new girl

**How did you feel being the newbie on RHONYC? Did the rest of the cast welcome you with open arms?** They embraced the change. Well, maybe not embraced - they accepted it.

There were some cast members they were glad to see go. They accepted the change. I was a businesswoman and Ramona was in business and she thought we'd hit it off right away, but I think there was frustration on her side that that didn't happen.

**Are we seeing the real Heather?** To me it's like an exaggerated version of me! Definitely, with all the smiling. I think Aviva [Drescher] and Carole [Radziwill] come through clearer early, but as the season goes on you'll see who I am as a person shine through.

**There's a lot of white wine involved! Are we going to see you get tipsy on the show?**

I like to have a drink, but I control my drinking. There is a fun scene where Carole and I have a good time and get pretty hammered!

**Which of the housewives likes their white wine the most?** Obviously, Ramona! C'mon, she's going to push that [Ramona Pinot Grigio] whenever she has the opportunity.

**Is there anything you'd never do on camera?** I'd never take my clothes off on the show. I'd jump in a pool, but not naked. I would never hit below the belt. Even if other girls play that way, I won't. If they lie about me, I'm not going to lie about them.

### On clashing with Ramona

**You started butting heads with Ramona almost instantly. What's the deal?** We're polar opposites. The common thing we have is we're both strong-willed people. I have manners, while Ramona is completely unfiltered. But sometimes, as much as we butt heads, for entertainment value you've just got to say, "Thank God for Ramona!" She'll always be the shock factor.

**What do you have to say about her criticising you for talking too much?** I think at the beginning I probably did. I was nervous and in a new situation. Ramona and [her husband] Mario were saying I was interrupting people all the time. I think Mario did it for entertainment value. That's troubling. I do have a lot to say, but I also listen.

**What annoys you most about Ramona?** Her manners. The way she barks and points at people. "Move here. Stand there." Sometimes

you have to think before you say something, I don't know that Ramona does that.

**Is there something you like or admire about her?** She can be very funny and be the life of the party, but she says things which are very hurtful. To say "you're full of issues" is just really not a warm, fuzzy thing to say to someone who has just lost a parent. She has a sensitivity chip missing, to paraphrase Jennifer Aniston. That's the part of her which is intolerable.

**Do you think you and Ramona will ever be good friends?** I always believe there is an open door. I love my friends, flaws and all. I would like to find common ground. We don't have to skip down Cherry Lane holding hands together, but it's ridiculous two grown women can't be kind and cordial when they see each other.

**If you and Ramona got into a real kicking, scratching fight, who'd win?**

If I fight I'm not going to scratch - I did work for Diddy, after all!

### On plastic surgery

**What's your feeling towards cosmetic surgery?**

In moderation, using Botox or fillers or any of that sort of thing is OK. I think when people use it too much it is very apparent and they start to lose the beauty of their character. I worry sometimes people overuse fillers in the mad chase for youth. Keep a little bit of yourself in there - try to look 38 if you're 40.

**Have you had any work done?** I have had some fillers put in my jawline. I have an extremely large smile, but I tend to get ventriloquist mouth, so I do it once a year because I want to have the wrinkles.

**You've got a great smile with bright teeth - what's your secret?** One hundred per cent DNA! I've never had a cavity in my life. I just have good genetic teeth.

### On being a yummy mummy

**A lot of the housewives are quite skinny - did you feel pressure to be in shape because you're on TV?**

No, I really didn't. I think some of my castmates are very thin and I don't think I'd look good like that at all. I worked for Jennifer Lopez and Beyonce, who are very curvy girls. Your bosoms and your buttocks can be as big as you want them to be - you cinch in that waist and you're 100 per cent woman.

**You've got your shapewear line, but do you work out as well?** The one trick I haven't figured out is me-time. I follow all my rules. I schedule a run, but life often gets in the way. I'm having a hard time scheduling it in. Weight is 90 per cent what you put in your mouth. For mental health and body health, being active is very important.

**Have you given your Yummie shapewear to any of the housewives?**

They all wear it, even the housewives who don't like me!

**Who needs to add some shape to their body?** The two thinnest on the show are Carole and Aviva - both teeny, teeny girls. Carole is Kate Moss-thin. Aviva is thin, but she does

have big boobs. But I wouldn't change a thing about any of them - they all have great bodies.

**Do you feel younger than the rest?** I think I have a street side that comes across. Some of the women don't have that hip jargon - certainly the Countess [LuAnn de Lesseps] doesn't. I would say to a cab driver, "Dude, you missed the spot." And she's like, "Dude? You called him dude?" Ramona doesn't understand terminology like "bring it". She calls me ghetto and I don't think she really understand what that means!

**The Real Housewives Of New York City 7.30pm Sun Arena**

YOUR BOSOMS AND BUTTOCKS CAN BE AS BIG AS YOU WANT THEM TO BE

## Famous workmates

Heather's worked with some top celebs - here's what she learnt from three of the biggest...



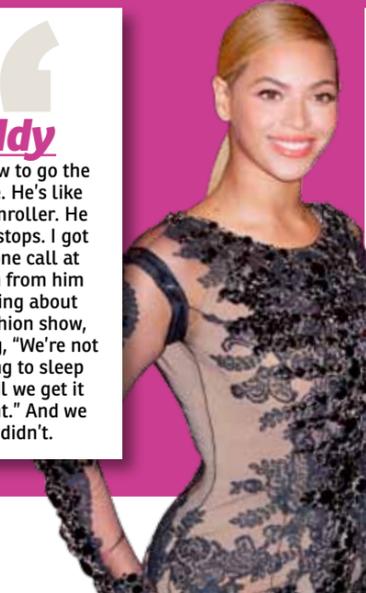
“**J.Lo**

I learnt to focus on the task at hand - on what you're doing, when you're doing it. If you're going to dance and sing, dance and sing, but don't think about the movie you're going to be in when you're trying to dance and sing!



“**Diddy**

I learnt how to go the extra mile. He's like a steamroller. He never stops. I got a phone call at 11pm from him talking about a fashion show, saying, "We're not going to sleep until we get it right." And we didn't.



“**Beyonce**

I learnt humility. She'll walk into a photo shoot five minutes late and apologise to every person there for being late, and then thank them for working with her and shake their hands. She was as humble and as beautiful on the inside as she was on the outside.