

# The perfect TEN

Meet the Latin stars who are set to shine on the small screen this season

By ELIA ESPARZA  
Starscopes:  
SALLY BROMPTON

## America Ferrera

**Hot Factor:** Gutsy confidence.

**Sign:** Aries

**Starscope:** Jupiter transits Ferrera's Sagittarius moon over the new-year period, and both are good for artistic success.

"Ugly Betty" is a worldwide hit and soon everyone in this country will rethink what "ugly" really is.

The buzz around ABC's new series and its star, America Ferrera, is thunderous.

It takes genuine *cojones* to live and work in Hollywood and accept the role of an unattractive woman, but it's no biggie for Ferrera.

"I know who I am on the outside and as an actor," she affirms.

"Ugly Betty" premieres Sept. 28 at 8 p.m.

## Sara Ramirez

**Hot Factor:** Raw talent.

**Sign:** Virgo

**Starscope:** Saturn's transit of her Virgo sun suggests she has found the role that will make her a star of the small screen.

"Grey's Anatomy" elevated a few notches when Mexican American Sara Ramirez was cast as "Dr. Callie Torres," a newcomer not so welcomed by the intern divas.

Off the set, Ramirez assures that the bitchiness was only pretend play.

"The girl power vibe is extremely positive," declares the talented actress and singer.

"Grey's Anatomy" premieres Sept. 21 on ABC.

## Natalie Martinez

**Hot Factor:** The camera adores her sensual beauty

**Sign:** Cancer

**Starscope:** Natalie's Sun-Venus union in Cancer

denotes a sensual nature, but a proud Mercury in Leo mind won't let her be typecast as just a sex symbol.

This month, Martinez made her acting debut in "Fashion House," My Network TV's bold and racy English-language soap.

She co-stars with icons Bo Derek and Morgan Fairchild.

"Their guidance really helps people like me who are working on their first television show ever," Martinez says.

"Fashion House" premieres Sept. 5.

## Gina Torres

**Hot Factor:** Acting chops.

**Sign:** Aries

**Starscope:** Major aspects to the moon's nodes in Gina's horoscope, the first one this month, the second in March 2007, suggest this is make-or-break time in her career.

Torres is no TV rookie. She has worked plenty but





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her role as Cheryl Carrera, an FBI boss in Fox's new series "Standoff," has this Cuban-American rejoicing like never before.

"Joyous," Torres says. "There is nothing better than getting some good stuff done and then laughing the rest of the time."

This is a great time in Torres' life both professionally and personally. This month she and her hubby, veteran actor Laurence Fishburne, celebrate their fourth wedding anniversary.

"Standoff" Fox 9 p.m. Mondays

### Alexis Cruz

**Hot factor:** Hunky nerd  
**Sign:** Libra

**Starscope:** Cruz is hot and destined to get even hotter as the solar eclipse on Sept. 22 ignites his unyielding Venus in Virgo. This could be the role that catapults him into the big time.

Alexis Cruz thinks Hollywood might finally be getting it right when it comes to realistically portraying Latinos. Cruz plays prosecutor Martin Alencade on the upcoming CBS drama "Shark" and said audiences should not be surprised to see an intelligent Latino.

"This isn't revolutionary. These guys exist," Cruz says referring to his character, an ADA described as "an intellectual from South Central L.A." "I'm more excited about this than anything else in a long time."

"Shark" premieres Sept. 22. — Dan Gialele



ALEXIS CRUZ

### Dayanara Torres

**Hot Factor:** Simply gorgeous, but can she act?

**Sign:** Scorpio

**Starscope:** Triple Scorpio Dayanara has passion in abundance, plus a natural acting ability that comes from a Neptune-north node union. Expect her TV debut to be stunning.

She had a very public divorce from Marc Anthony (he married Jennifer Lopez four days after the quickie) but former Miss Universe, Dayanara Torres is determined to put that past her.

The Puerto Rican native is hoping that being cast in "Watch Over Me," on My Network TV is the ticket. Torres portrays Julia, a woman caught in a love triangle between her fiancé and the man he hires to protect her.

Hmm, they say art imitates life...

"Watch Over Me" premieres in December on MyNetworkTV.

### Jay Hernandez

**Hot factor:** Good looks, on-screen charisma

**Sign:** Pisces

**With surprises planet Uranus strong in his chart he can expect good fortune very soon. However, as his Saturn return draws close he must start choosing his roles with an eye to the future.**

Jay Hernandez's late manager, Howard Tyler, had always said "no TV." But all this changed when Executive Producer JJ Abrams ("Lost") offered Hernandez the lead

in his new ABC series "Six Degrees."

"I had some reservations initially," Hernandez admits. "But after reading the pilot, I felt it could be a really great project to be a part of."

In the new show, Hernandez plays an attorney in love with a woman (Erika Christensen, "Flightplan") with a dangerous past.

"Six Degrees" premieres September 21 at 10 p.m.

### Franky G

**Hot Factor:** Eye candy  
**Sign:** Scorpio

**Starscope:** A Venus-Mars conjunction in sporty Sagittarius denotes Franky's love of all things physical but his beefy good looks could get him typecast.

Dealing with the cancellation of his last series "Jonny Zero," was hard but Franky G understands it's just an occupational hazard like in any other job.

"But not knowing if I'd ever get another opportunity was tough."

Not to worry. TV heavy John Wells didn't hesitate to cast him in his new series "Smith" with Ray Liotta.

Franky says he's not worried about going up against NBC's Special Victims Unit. "All we can do is the best we can," he says.

"Smith" premieres Sept. 20, 10 p.m.

### Alana de la Garza

**Hot Factor:** She can't miss on a proven TV hit

**Sign:** Gemini

**Starscope:** Alana is going



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through a Plutonian phase at the moment, heralding exciting changes both in her career and in her private life.

This Texas beauty has gained entrée into the elite who are changing the face of TV.

"It's a game," she whispers letting us in on her secret. "You have to learn to play it on their terms."

On "Law and Order" De La Garza is ADA "Coozie Rubirosa," and she couldn't be happier.

"This is a gift. If you're going to play a lawyer on TV, well working for acting great Sam Waterston is the top!"

"Law and Order" NBC, airs Fridays at 10 p.m.

### Ramon Rodriguez

**Hot Factor:** Gorgeous Renaissance man

**Sign:** Libra

**Starscope:** Saturn's transit of the moon's nodes in November and December suggests he will discover his true vocation and go on to become a big star in some serious roles.

This fall, Rodriguez will play a high level Mexican Mafioso named Damien Ortiz in "Daybreak."

"This premise and storyline has never been done on TV before," he says. "I was immediately attracted the multidimensional character," says the actor.

Rodriguez can also be seen on the most critically acclaimed show on cable, "The Wire."

"Day Break" premieres Nov. 15 on ABC at 9 p.m.



AMERICA FERRERA



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