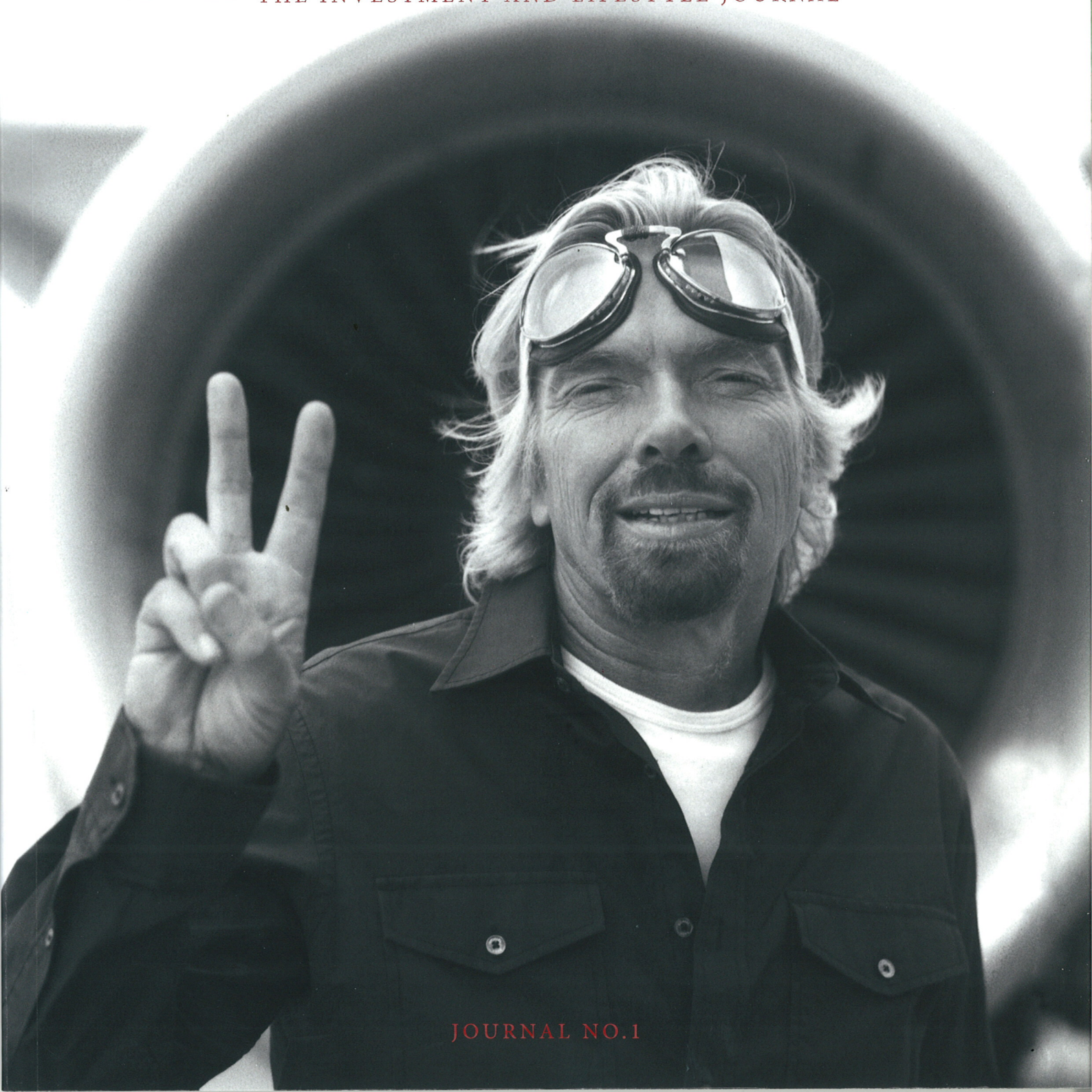


CACHE

— THE INVESTMENT AND LIFESTYLE JOURNAL —



JOURNAL NO.1

I'VE STARTED, SO YOU'LL FINISH

SINGAPORE-BASED NEW YORK DESIGNER ALAN BARR FINISHES THE SENTENCES THAT WE START

My childhood heroes were...

My mother and father, who both worked incessantly to provide for us. It wasn't always easy but they made it happen at any cost.

My first job was...

At my father's company construction sites, starting at the bottom and doing the most menial of tasks. This is where I gained my appreciation for architecture and design, and more importantly I learned how buildings are actually put together.

I'm not very good at...

Saying no. I'm an ambitious overachiever and love to say yes to any challenge.

I get up...

Pretty much whenever I want. I don't often sleep in though; there are too many things to do to waste the day.

The last thing I wrote on social media was...

Definitely food related. Every meal is a journey for me and I have developed an addiction to documenting those that stand out as unique, inventive or are just plain delicious.

The way to get the best out of staff is...

To trust, empower and respect them and eliminate hierarchy. The best idea wins in our studio, regardless of whether it comes from a creative director or a summer intern: it's about the idea and what's best for the client and project.

My first business venture was...

Custom-designed T-shirts when I entered university. I made a killing selling T-shirts to classmates.

My first love was...

Freedom. I've always blazed my own path.

My biggest failure was...

Letting the global financial crisis mess me up before I left New York and came to Asia. That was a bitter pill to swallow with no remedy that could completely correct the mess, but I learned a lot from that, and am happily a very different person now.

The most famous person I've ever met is...

Seriously, who cares? I am not star struck at all and couldn't care less about fame, celebrity, or any of the vanity that comes with it.

Working in Asia is different to America because...

You need a lot more patience to survive on the battlefield in Asia. In America you can be direct and straight to the point, but in Asia people like to dance around the subject and get to it slowly.

I hate it when...

I am asked to talk about hatred. It's such a strong emotion and most people head down that road too easily – if all that effort was channelled into doing something positive instead, then the world would be a very different place. ■



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