

HOT SEX SKILLS!!!

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When the Guy
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Doesn't Take
Your **#MeToo**
Story Seriously

THE future OF SEX IS female



A handful of tech-savvy women are revolutionizing pleasure. See what they have in store for you.

BY FAYE BRENNAN
PHOTOGRAPHED BY ALLIE HOLLOWAY

SEX

I'm sitting in the brightly lit offices of global sex-toy brand Fun Factory on what I hear is a rare sunny day in Bremen, Germany.

Alina Eynck, 23, the company's newest (and youngest) designer, is graciously walking me through the process of how she designed Mr. Boss (\$95, funfactory.com)—a vibrator that's curved specifically to stimulate a woman's G-spot. I nod in approval as she describes how she got the size, shape, and flexibility just right.

Then Eynck's boss, Simone Kalz, 44, shows me her latest creation: The Volta (\$140, funfactory.com), a clitoral stimulator that flutters faster than my eyes can follow. I'd just toured the company's actual factory, where I witnessed about a hundred employees and a dozen machines bringing Mr. Boss and The Volta to life, and it's clear that these two humble women should have way bigger egos. They don't seem to get how major they are or that they're pioneers in a female-led pleasure quest revolutionizing sex as we know it.

"The sex brands most people are aware of were created by men," says certified sex educator Alicia Sinclair. (Case in point: Fun Factory

was founded in 1996 by two guys making dildos out of Play-Doh in their kitchens.) "Men aren't using these products themselves, so I don't think there's been a lot of thought on how the toys interact with women's bodies or what makes us feel sexy." That's why many vibes focus on two things—penetration or shaking hard (aka what a man assumes feels amazing to a woman)—and why a lot of them are ergonomically hard to hold or made of toxic or sketchy materials.

Coming in (super) hot: a new squad of female designers, like Eynck and Kalz, who are using modern technology to reinvent adult playthings to cater to women's comfort, complex arousal processes, and erogenous hot spots. Since 2015, more than 100 women from all over the world have joined Women of Sex Tech, a community for sex-toy company founders, executives, and other girl bosses. And major manufacturers have started to hire a lot more women (at press time, 62 percent of Fun Factory employees were female).

As a result, the \$15 billion adult-toy biz is quickly morphing from a male-dominated empire to an even more valuable vulva-pleasing, women-for-women industry. "The demand for better products, accurate content, and education has created a huge change," explains Meika Hollender, cofounder and co-CEO of the sexual-wellness brand Sustain Natural and author of the new book *Get on Top*. "By pulling back the curtains and having open, honest, and real conversations about sex, the taboos and stigmas are lifting on sex technology."

"Women are now creating toys that are really thoughtful and based on their own experiences," adds Sinclair. And those toys are being marketed in sex-positive, inclusive, and empowering ways.

Personally, as an editor who's covered sex for seven years, I couldn't be more excited for this feminist revolution...and you should be too. Read on to learn how five notable fempreneurs in the adult market are about to deliver you a way more pleasurable future.

HOW YOU CAN HELP SHAPE THE FUTURE

Your voice as a consumer of arousing accessories is a powerful force...and one that sex-toy designers are eager to hear. Whenever you purchase a new plaything for yourself, make sure to post a review online, or if you're shopping at a brick-and-mortar store like Babeland, give the sales clerk direct feedback about your experience. Your suggestion may lead to the next orgasmic invention.

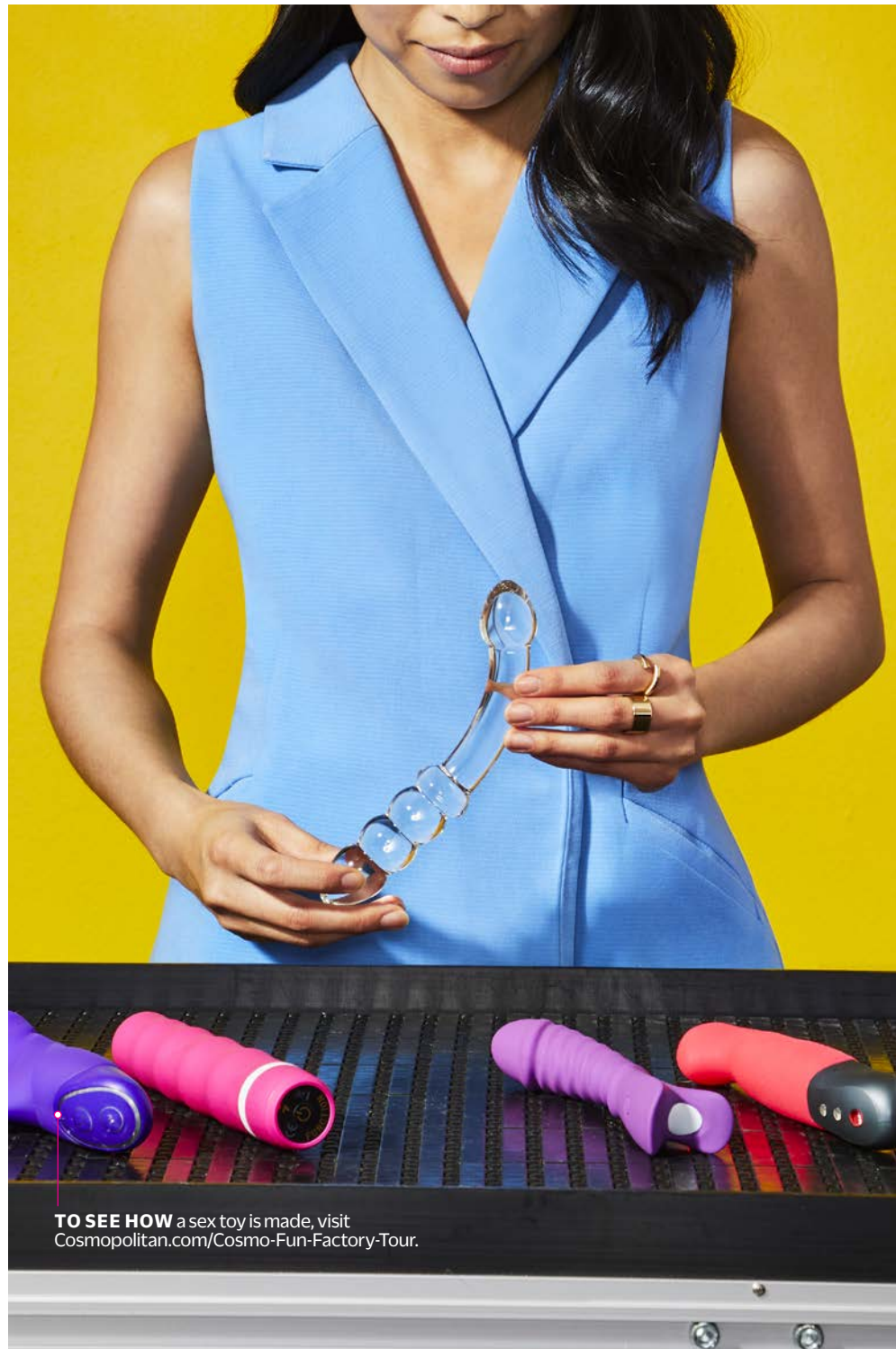


Polly Rodriguez

31, CEO and cofounder of Unbound, a sex-positive company that sells vibes and lubes, offers a quarterly subscription-box service, and publishes content about sexual wellness

Why She Does It “When I was 21 years old, I was diagnosed with colon cancer. Because of the radiation treatment, I was going through early menopause, and a nurse friend suggested buying a vibrator and lubricant for my flagging libido. I went to an adult store, and the experience was so embarrassing, gross, and seedy, it always stuck with me. I started Unbound to be like a Warby Parker for sexually active feminists.”

Her Best Work The Gem (\$29, unboundbabes.com, 1) is an eco-friendly, nonporous, hypoallergenic glass dildo that’s designed for G-spot and anal play.



TO SEE HOW a sex toy is made, visit Cosmopolitan.com/Cosmo-Fun-Factory-Tour.

STYLIST: WENDY SCHELAH/HALLEY RESOURCES; NAILS: MISS POP USING ESSIE; HAIR: ROSIBEL USING R+CO PRODUCTS; FINE AND LIEBERMAN: SETH CAPLAN; CHANG: CATALINA KULCZAR; RODRIGUEZ: SARAH JANE GRADY.



Alexandra Fine and Janet Lieberman

29 and 32, cofounders of Dame Products, which was born on Kickstarter and makes discreet playthings for couples to use seamlessly during foreplay and intercourse

Why They Do It

JANET: “It made no sense to me that you could spend \$150 on something and have it maybe not work at all. I felt cheated, and I wanted to make a difference.”

ALEX: “For me, the branding in this space wasn’t lining up with my experiences. I don’t want to see a perfect model on the box or something that suggests sex is a naughty, nighttime thing.”

Their Best Work The tiny Eva (\$105, amazon.com, 2) has flexible wings that fit under your labia so you can wear this clitoral vibe hands-free during penetrative sex with a partner.

SEX

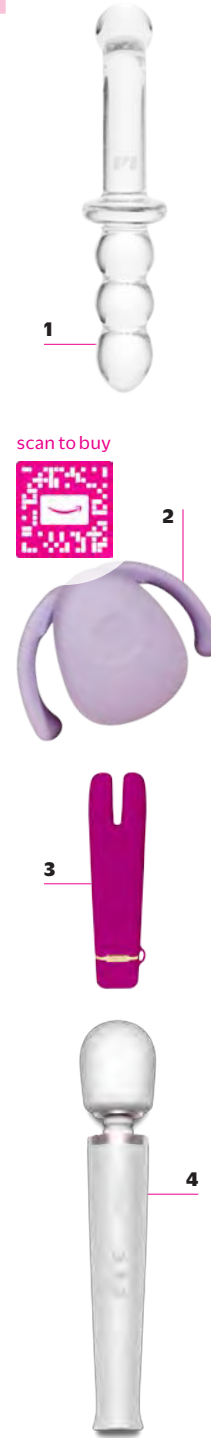


Ti Chang

38, cofounder of and VP of design at Crave, a line of jewelry-inspired buzzers made out of globally sourced metals and body-safe silicones

Why She Does It “I was in a sex shop in Boston buying a toy for myself, and I was baffled. It’s like the products were treating female orgasms almost as a joke or novelty. Like, ‘Oh, put this bunny rabbit or dolphin inside of you...’ Or they were all male-centric and penis-shaped. It’s not always about the D! I decided to make vibrators out of high-quality materials that look good, feel good, and fit into a woman’s life.”

Her Best Work With two bendable tips that conform to the unique contours of your vulva, Crave’s Duet Flex (\$109, lovecrave.com, 3) looks as fancy as a smartphone and was satisfaction-approved by beta testers.



scan to buy



Alicia Sinclair

37, founder of COTR, a parent company to B-Vibe, a line of anal toys for couples; Le Wand, a user-friendly upgrade to the Hitachi Magic Wand; and The Cowgirl, a luxe, rideable sex machine

Why She Does It “I had three ideas: I wanted to start a line of all butt stuff, revolutionize the wand, and take this really classic, iconic sex machine that everyone knows about and make it look sleek, sexy, and hotter to women. To be honest with you, I’m creating products in a way that I wish they would be developed. Like, how is it possible that someone doesn’t make these items look nice?”

Her Best Work Le Wand Pearl White Rechargeable Massager (\$170, lewandmassager.com, 4) has 10 vibration speeds and is cordless. Say buh-bye to wall plugs, wand users. ■

Tech That Makes You Go Oooh

Behold the crazy-cool, fem-friendly advancements coming to bedside drawers worldwide.

TELEDILDONICS

Bluetooth compatibility lets your long-distance lover control your vibrator’s intensity and speed from afar in real time (nice!) via a smartphone app. Try We-Vibe’s Sync (\$199, we-vibe.com).



VIDEO RECORDING

For a never-before-seen view of your O, the internal vibe The Svakom Sex Selfie Stick (\$155, lovehoney.com) uses the small, illuminated video camera on its tip to film the inside action.



SOUND RESPONSE

Newbies like OhMiBod’s Club Vibe 3.OH Hero (\$129, lovelifetoy.com) use built-in microphones to pick up sounds—like your S.O.’s voice or your fave music—and then match their pulses to the beat.



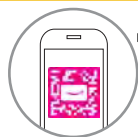
BENDABLE MATERIALS

MysteryVibe’s Crescendo (\$179, amazon.com) is the first completely flexible vibrator that can conform to your every curve.



PRESSURE SENSORS

These toys can sense how hard you’re squeezing them and adjust their intensity accordingly. Try the Ola Touch-Responsive Vibrator (\$149, goodvibes.com).



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