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JUL 17

Nick & Vanessa and Daily Hot Shots
 Nick Lachey and Vanessa Minnillo show off some prime real estate in New York City. Plus: Penelope Cruz, Kate Holmes and Mary-Kate Olsen



Nick Lachey and Vanessa Minnillo

As the sun set over the Hudson River, Nick Lachey and a Catherine Malandrino-clad Vanessa Minnillo stepped into the sleek, all white foyer of the ATELIER, the latest luxury high rise to join the midtown Manhattan skyline. The dashing duo held hands and mingled with guests as waiters passed flutes of Veuve Clicquot. Just in from L.A., Minnillo shared one of her secrets to leading a bi-coastal life in style. "I am obsessed with my NAP blanket from Brookstone. It's so soft! I take it with me everywhere—the couch, the bed, the plane," she said. "It's true," added Lachey. "I like to call her 'Linus.'"

—With reporting by Bronwyn Barnes and Alysia Poe

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Dara Kushner/NF Golf

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The newest couple on the sex-tape scene, Nick Lachey and Vanessa Minillo attend the Grand Opening of the Atelier in New York.

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August 6th, 2007 / Command PR



Nick & Vanessa **We're Waiting to Marry**

Ever since he and **Vanessa Minnillo** moved in together three months ago, **Nick Lachey** tells *Us*, he has been in nesting mode. "I'm trying to focus on work, spend some time with my family and stay close to home." So is he getting closer to popping the question? "I'm not putting any time constraints on it," says Lachey, 33. "I'm just going to see where life leads us." Good thing his girlfriend, 26, is game. "She's very adventurous," he gushes. "She's down for anything!" Not that she doesn't know how to get what she wants. For the July 16 gala opening of the Atelier (the New York City condo where they have an apartment), "she picked out Nick's outfit," says a pal. "Vanessa was wearing a Catherine Malandrino dress and she wanted them to match."

The pair cozied up at their Atelier building in NYC July 16.



August 6th 2007 / Command PR



Vanessa & Nick Nesting in NYC

Vanessa Minnillo and Nick Lachey showed the world that they aren't camera shy at the July 16 grand opening for NYC's Atelier building. The twosome, who share a spacious \$1.4-million love nest there, were openly affectionate as they admired the lobby's artwork, drank champagne and laughed with friends. "Vanessa was radiant, and she and Nick held hands the entire time," a partygoer tells OK!

Afterward, the couple, who arrived from Los Angeles earlier that afternoon, decided to retire to their state-of-the-art apartment, which boasts oak floors, marble bathrooms, two bedrooms and seven closets. Vanessa, 26, told her pals, "I can't wait to get home and order a pizza!"

DAILY NEWS

July 18th, 2007 / Command PR

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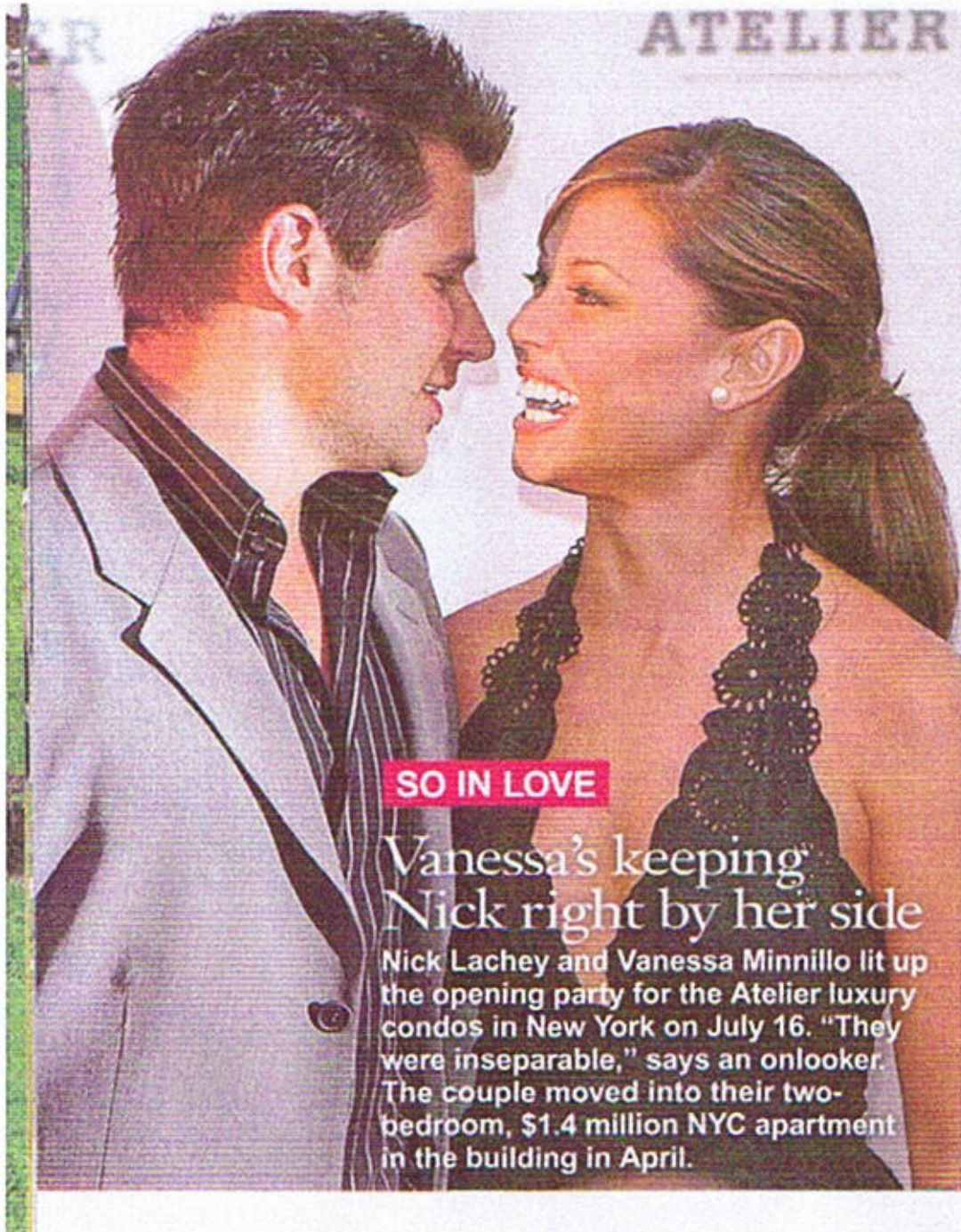
Sex pics? What sex pics?
Nick Lachey and Vanessa Minnillo kept their heads up at the opening of Atelier Condo on W. 42nd St. Photo by Globe

10/1

WEEKLY IN TOUCH

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August 6th, 2007 / Command PR



SO IN LOVE

Vanessa's keeping Nick right by her side

Nick Lachey and Vanessa Minnillo lit up the opening party for the Atelier luxury condos in New York on July 16. "They were inseparable," says an onlooker. The couple moved into their two-bedroom, \$1.4 million NYC apartment in the building in April.

August 6th, 2007 / Command PR



Nick & Vanessa Shop For

ENGAGEMENT RING!

Things have gotten so serious that the hot pair are ready for the next step!

FIRST came the reported \$1 million Manhattan love nest — now Nick Lachey and Vanessa Minnillo are looking at engagement rings!

"They're definitely ring shopping and moving toward the next step," says a friend of the 26-year-old brunette beauty.

"She is ready to get married, and she knows just the kind of engagement ring she wants."

ROMANCING THE STONE

Vanessa, former host of MTV's *TRL*, always wanted a cushion-cut diamond, her pal reveals. But when she and Nick — who divorced Jessica Simpson in June 2006 — went to the Kentucky Derby together in May, Vanessa spied a beautiful ring on the finger of another horse racing fan.

"Vanessa said her eyes lit up when she grabbed the woman's hand to admire it. She said it was an emerald-cut center stone with two emerald-cut smaller stones on each side, fixed on a platinum band," says the friend.

"Vanessa said when Nick came over, he took one look at the ring and asked her, 'Is that a cushion cut?'"

"She quickly educated him that while she had wanted a cushion cut ring from him, this emerald cut was far better — and he was given his buying instructions."

PLAYING HOUSE

After his divorce from his *Newlyweds* costar Jessica, Nick played the field, dating *Logana Beach*'s Kristin Cavallari and Hollywood hottie Kim Kardashian.

But when he met Vanessa in March 2006, the chemistry was obvious! In April, the couple began playing house when they bought a two-bedroom condo in NYC's luxury Atelier building for a reported cool \$1 million.

And Nick, 33, plans on shopping for Vanessa's ring at the best jewelers the Big Apple has to offer.

"They have the world's finest jewelers at their fingertips when it comes to finding the perfect ring," says the friend.

"When they plan a day of ring shopping in New York City, Harry Winston and Tiffany & Co. will likely be two of their stops. Jacob & Co., Cartier and Chopard are popular with the celeb crowd, too." ♦