The DEFINITE ARTICLE

We ask a celebrity a set of devilishly probing questions – and only accept THE definitive answer. This week: MasterChef’s Monica Galetti

The prized possession you value above all others... Family photos. I was brought up in Western Samoa and then New Zealand and have very few photos from childhood, so those that remain are precious.

The treasured item you lost and wish you could have again... A white gold pendant in the shape of a chilli, which was a birthday present from a friend in 2003. It broke at work, so I wrapped it in clingfilm and put it in my pocket, but I must have somehow thrown it away.

The figure from history for whom you’d most like to buy a pie and a pint... King George VI. I became the Queen’s Speech. I’d love to meet him at that pivotal time in his life.

The pet hate that makes your hackles rise... Drivers who indicate randomly. You never know what someone who does that will do next.

The film you can watch time and time again... Forrest Gump. I love its humour. When I want someone to work faster in the kitchen, I say, “Run, Forrest, Run!”

The poem that touches your soul... “You’re much nicer in real life!” from To an Unknown Woman by Sarah Teasdale. I think that describes me and what we are all striving to be. I’m always smiling and don’t like being stern and grumpy. I’m always smiling when we make MasterChef, but it gets edited out! People meet me and say, “You’re much nicer in real life!”

The crime you would commit knowing you could get away with it... I’d cook a romantic dinner – prepared by the best chef in South America – at Machu Picchu in Peru. I’d spend the afternoon relaxing in the hot springs in Turkey, then have a glass of Krug champagne with David before ending the day at Riomaggiore in northern Italy. We’d be joined by all my family from New Zealand and then the Italian chef Massimo Bottura would cook us one of his wacky pasta dishes. We’d see out the day gazing at the view while drinking Mearsault.

The happiest moment you will cherish forever... Anais’s birth. She’s brought a sense of balance to my life.

The saddest time that shook your world... Moving from Samoa to New Zealand. I was raised in Samoa by two aunts while my mum worked in Auckland. I joined her when I was seven and I remember arriving there in winter. I was so homesick.

The philosophy that underpins your life... The show must go on.

The order of service at your funeral... I’d want something short and sweet, followed by a party to celebrate my life. I will leave a menu of fantastic food and great wine.

The way you want to be remembered... As a loving wife, mother and friend. And as someone who smiled a lot!

The Plug... Monica will be at the Taste of London festival, Regent’s Park, 16-22 June. www.london.tastefestivals.com. ■

As told to Rob McGibbon

Kevin Costner’s back on the big screen in action thriller 3 Days To Kill – in cinemas Friday. Claire Forlani hits the London stage in The Colby Sisters Of Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania at the Tricycle Theatre. And Lana Del Rey’s album Ultraviolence is out Monday

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NEXT WEEK

Don’t miss our FREE glossy Mary Berry magazine – Cook Now, Eat Later ● John McEnroe on his temper – and Andy Murray’s chances at Wimbledon ● PLUS Britain’s best TV listings

Uncle Remy

Raymond

Chinese

ginger cake.

Above, right: Walnut and ginger cake. Far right: Riomaggiore in Italy

Mona Lisa

Sculpture

painting

Hannah
debut

Queen

London

Beethoven

400th

Youth

Symphony

50

Wimbledon

2014

The

Queen

London

Beethoven

400th

Youth

Symphony

50

Wimbledon

2014

The

Queen