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Thomas Middleditch

Actor

Thomas Middleditch is an actor and comedian best known for portraying Richard Hendricks on HBO's critically acclaimed series *Silicon Valley*. This is not Middleditch's first foray in the world of office politics; he emerged as a rising star playing Dwight Shrute's brother in the final season of *The Office*. This summer, viewers will see him in *The Bronze* opposite Melissa Rauch and *The Final Girls*, which premiered at SXSW. He has had small roles in *The Wolf of Wall Street* and *The Campaign*, and has made guest appearances on both *Key & Peele* and *The League*. Thomas is a regular performer at the Upright Citizens Brigade Theatre and is a member of The Improvised Shakespeare Company improv group. He currently resides in Los Angeles.

Photograph Koury Angelo



What is your first memory? Being in the first house that we lived in and being on brown carpet and looking at another kid being breast fed. **When was the last time you felt truly embarrassed?** Embarrassment has taken a back seat. When you get into comedy you sort of sacrifice that sensation. I don't know if this is the last time but I've just been talking about this recently so it's been in my brain. I remember in 8th grade I asked a girl out 8 times and she said no every time, and I just took that as, "OK, I'll see you in a couple months." I did not get the hint. **What do you consider your greatest professional accomplishment?** *Silicon Valley*. I think that is a big one. **What is one thing you have always wanted to do but have been putting off?** I always wanted to get my pilot's license, and I even tried to. I bought all the gear, I started taking lessons, but the thing is, I get way too motion sick. I get motion sick on

a swing set. So I couldn't do it but one day I hope to like really take the time to see if I can conquer it because that would be pretty cool. **Which cause or charity do you most identify with?** I currently donate and have even started to work with on a higher level of the Sierra Club. I think the environment is the most important thing. Without it, no other cause matters because there won't be life to worry about it. Also, animal rights and all kinds of stuff but mainly environmental causes and the Sierra Club is the one I work with most. **Favorite... Character from Fiction:** John Irving books and *The World According to Garp*. Also Ash from *Army of Darkness*. **Invention of the past 10 Years:** MSG Crosswind. Because of my motion sickness I fly virtually, like on the computer, and this guy makes them to order so it's one of my favorite knick knack inventions. That and Waze. **Contemporary Artist (in the broadest sense of the word):** Wes Anderson and Elliott Smith. **Curse Word:** Fuck. **Least Favorite... Smell:** Diesel fumes. **Word:** Fag. **Feeling:** Apathy. **Generalization:** All Canadians are nice. I know some pretty rude ones! **What kind of things keep you up at night?** Global warming. I know we're all doomed but you know that's the fun answer! **What do you consider the greatest threat currently facing America?** I would say Citizen's United. That's probably the worst thing because it just enables people with the biggest buck to have the biggest say in government and usually those are people that don't care about anything else other than the greedy side of capitalism. In a way we're doomed and it totally negates the idea of democracy. **How do you define love?** Chemicals and subjective reaction to those chemicals.