privilege

MAGAZINE™

Pronunciation: 'priv-lij' Function: noun Etymology: Middle English, from Old French, from Latin privilegium, a right or immunity granted as a peculiar benefit, advantage, or favor.



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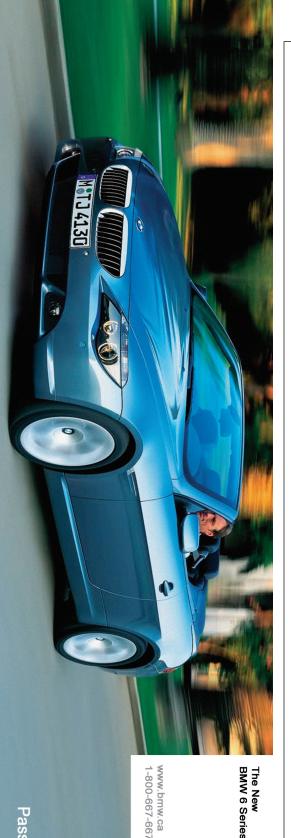




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Luxurious Hospitality Redefined

Luxurious hospitality will be redefined when the city's most elegant and sophisticated hotel opens its doors. The Hazelton will be Toronto's first five-star hotel built on an intimate scale to facilitate exquisit personal service. BY MICHELLE DENNIS

30 From the Moon to Mars

To coincide with the turning point in space exploration, Omega has introduced a special speedmaster "From Moon to Mars" model bearing all the hallmarks from the original "Moon Watch".

32 The OMEGA Speedmaster

Distinct and precise, the long renowned omega speedmaster is a watch with an unparalleled history. Holding prestigious awards and sophisticated techniques, the omega speedmaster's reputation stands strong.

36 Welcome Aboard...

Billed as the longest, tallest, fastest ocean-going passenger liner ever built, the Queen Mary II ought to wow you from first looming glimpse to receeding speck in your rear view mirror. Well, she does. BY G.J. PROSSER

43 Harry Rosen Trend Report Spring 2005

Men may have had an adversion to colour in the past, but spring 2005 is changing that notion with the veritable rainbow of colours to choose from this season. Men of all ages and lifestyles can instantly update their look by incorporating a jolt of colour into their wardrobes this spring.

72 British Conqueror

Aston Martin redefines the word "Exclusive" with the DB9, new from the ground up. Every feature has been tailored to make the world's finest sports GT. The DB9 was conceived and designed from the outset, as both a Coupe and a convertible. A must read for the car enthusiast.



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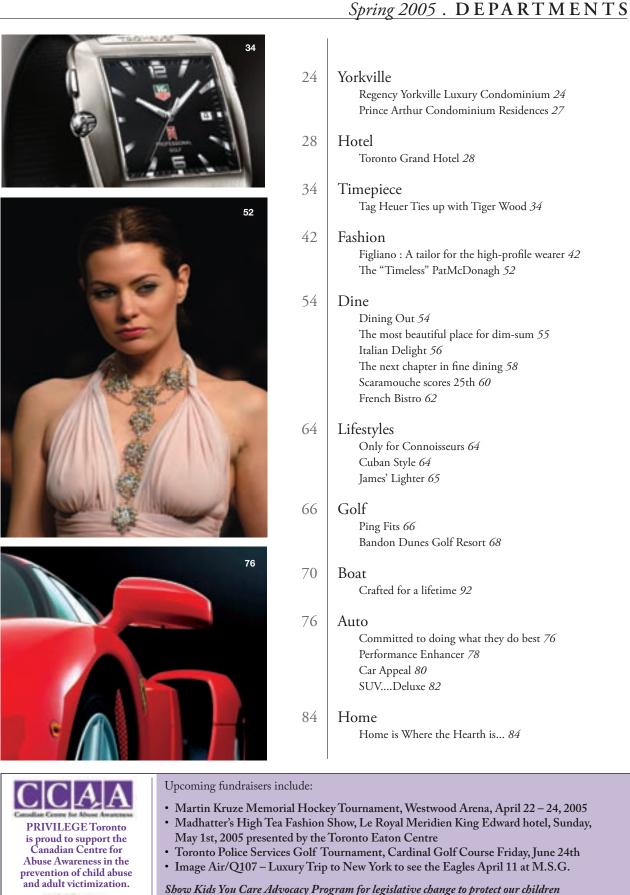
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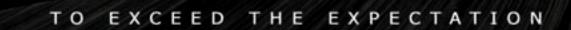
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pring 2005 is here, optimism is in the air, and I am proud to present the inaugural issue of PRIVILEGE Toronto magazine.

Toronto, one of the greatest cities on earth is culturally diverse and is applauded as one of the only places where

people live peacefully and celebrate their ethnic diversities, religions and cultures.

It was March 22, 1972, that day is crystal clear in my mind. That is the day that I, Athanasios Vachliotis a teenaged idealist from Greece, stepped off the airplane in Toronto. On first site, I realized how mediocre an environment I had just chosen to build my future. Toronto could not even provide me with a good crusty loaf of bread. My Greek background and upbringing did provide me with some of the finer things of life! You see, in 1972 Toronto used to shut down at nine in the evening. I found out very quickly that if you really wanted a good loaf of bread you had to travel to cosmopolitan Montreal!

That my friends, was 33 years ago! Today, we no longer have to call Bloor Street, "Canada's Fifth Avenue"; we now call it "Bloor Street" and everyone knows exactly what that means. That is where world renown Holt's is located, that is where Harry Rosen has its flagship store, that is where you will find Chanel, Tiffany's, Birk's, Mont Blanc, Gucci and so on and so on!

Toronto is now one of the most influential cities for communications, entertainment, culture, design, and even has a prominent film industry. Our own film festival attracts many of the most famous celebrities in the world. Some of the rich and famous have chosen to locate one of their residences right here in TO. There is very little that London, Paris, Los Angeles or New York, can claim to fame that Toronto cannot. Well, maybe these cities are older with more historical buildings but one must remember how young Toronto is and how much this city has accomplished in less than a mere century. Can any other city claim this extraordinary success in such a short period of time? I think not!



With a cosmo city comes fame, cultural activities, museums, money, incredible shopping, designer clothing and jewellery, magnificent homes, luxurious condominiums, vachts and fabulous automobiles. With all this comes proof that "Yes" we are a privileged city. These are the words of a

Greek immigrant who came to this part of the world in 1972 as a youngster. Someone who really believes that we are privileged to be part of a city that in my opinion is second to none!

Our goal is to provide our readers with exceptional reading enjoyment and discovery. PRIVILEGE Toronto is for those who can travel whenever and wherever they choose to go and for those with exquisite taste and purchase only the best. You are the individuals that we want to talk to. What better way to communicate? We hope you will sit back, enjoy and read every word.

It is a big responsibility publishing any periodical. WE MUST be true and loyal to our readers and our advertisers. WE MUST reach our readers with the most precise means. That is why we have chosen Canada's foremost newspaper the "Globe and Mail" to deliver our publication. You will find PRIVILEGE Toronto on bookshelves at Indigo and Chapters and most better bookstores as well as elite distribution. Of course you can always subscribe!

In closing, as Publisher of this new publication, I commit to you that everyone here at PRIVILEGE Toronto will carry on his or her responsibility with pathos and accountability that is second to none! I have surrounded myself with an exceptional team, Beth McBlain, our Editor In Chief, joins with years of editorial integrity and experience and Jeremy Crawford is V.P. of Sales and Marketing leading the corporate strategy for PMGI. Our success is directly correlated to your acceptance and this we must earn. The day that we find PRIVILEGE Toronto in your briefcase, on your cocktail table, on your credenza, on your night table, in the seat pocket of your private jet we will now that we too have arrived!









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Adrenalin Shot

First impressions are telling, and lasting. Twist the F430's key, thumb the red steering-wheel- mounted button with your left hand, and its engine doesn't just start — it erupts, Vesuvius-like, to life. Staccato bursts of acoustic energy hammer off pastel-painted stucco buildings and shatter the silence, until the 483-bhp 4.3-liter V-8 quickly settles into a fat, hollow idle. Small animals scurry for cover and you now have the attention of everyone within two Modenese city blocks, without even engaging 1st gear with a flick of the F430's paddle shift. Of course, it only gets better as you climb the rev scale.



Wired?

Oh how Y2K. Instead of straining your neck on ever shrinking cell phones or tangling yourself on pesky earbuds that attach to your mobile, Canadianbased Genum Corporation offers the must-have wireless headset called Z-E-N. Not only does this earpiece contain Bluetooth, the new standard for short-range wireless

communication, it totally filters background noise so you and the person on the other line can have crystal clear conversations in places like airports, busy streets or noisy restaurants. Once you figure out how to place it on your left or right ear, it feels as if you're wearing nothing at all. Z-E-N is also a boon for face-to-face talks in loud environments. Saying "pardon me, say that again please?" is now a thing of the past. *\$200 USD at zen.gennum.com*

FRON

For Pen Lovers

Having the right technology sure makes life easier, especially when we include a PDA or smart phone. But many of us never actually think about jazzing up these gadgets the way we would accessorize a car, boat or even ornament our meal by ordering a rare vintage at dinner. That's why luxury pen crafter Montblanc created the ultimate accessory for fashionable business travelers or upscale CEOs. Available in surgical stainless steel, 18 karat gold or solid platinum, these touch pens are inlet with 41 Wesselton diamonds and carry the signature Montblanc black and white snowflake tip. It's sure to impress any onlooker as you jot in your next appointment with style.

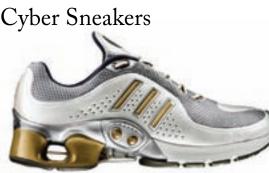
Steel \$2,270; gold \$4,540; platinum \$6,060. Available at the Montblanc Boutique, 151 Bloor St. West, 416-925-4810 or www.montblanc.com.

Reinventing Golf

From humble beginnings to a modern phenomenon, top gear bag designer OGIO still thrives on the substance that spurred its existence...vision. Michael Pratt fostered the prodigy that is OGIO, and with intuition and a little financial reinforcement spawned the young company's venture into gear bag design. With an innovative line of duffles and packs loaded with excess features, OGIO dished out the inner extreme everyone craved. With this driving appetite, OGIO reinvented golf with a fresh contemporary line and a pimped out "golf cart", more widely known as the BRV (battle-ready vehicle).

OGIO spurred new age golf, and recognized the vast potential of their entity. Sharing a synonymous intense direction with action sports, OGIO's eminence emerged from the get-go with the production of the hit motocross film "Global Addiction". With a die-hard crew and collective insight, OGIO gathered top athletes from across the nation from moto, BMX, skate, snow, and surf to produce Team OGIO. Together OGIO designers and athletes unite to create specific action sports packs. This cutting-edge company has single handedly revolutionized bag design and there is more where that came from. Can be found in Toronto

at these locations: 1.Golftown - www.golftown.com 2.DiMarco Golf - www.dimarcogolf.com 3.Nevada Bob's - www.nevadabobs.com 4.ProGolf - www.progolf.com



Adidas on Friday began selling the first model of its socalled intelligent footwear, a white and gold running shoe known simply as the Adidas-1, which is built around an onboard microprocessor. The shoes retail for about \$250.

The Adidas-1 sneakers use a sensor and magnet to feed information to a microprocessor, indicating whether a runner's cushioning level is too soft or too firm. The processor then actuates a motor-driven cable system built into the arch of the shoe that changes the amount of padding applied to a person's foot.

Adidas contends that its Adidas-1 shoes' adaptive design closely mirrors the operation of human reflex nerves, adjusting to respond to changes in weight or pressure. The sneakers require a small replaceable battery, which Adidas says lasts for roughly 100 hours of running, or what it expects to be the normal life for a pair of its shoes.

Xtra Power

New for 2005. The biggest Big Bertha all-titanium driver ever. The big 454cc size means more hallmark Big Bertha performance, more opportunity for distance, forgiveness and fun. The

extra large club head provides more stability - thanks to a higher Moment of Inertia created by maximizing perimeter weighting - for more accuracy off the tee. Plus, an ultrathin, formed face creates a huge sweet spot that delivers increased ball speed. The new Big Bertha Titanium 454 Driver: the tradition continues.

- Big 454cc size for a high Moment of Inertia with more resistance to twisting on off-center hits. Huge effective hitting area on the club face for more forgiveness.
- Patented Callaway Golf technologies include Short Straight Hollow Hosel (S2H2) design that repositions weight from the hosel area to the perimeter. Plus, Thru-Bore technology provides inproved feel and club head control.
- Proven titanium construction for long, forgiving performance that could only come from Callaway Golf.







The G2 Iron Series represents the most forgiving iron PING has ever designed.

The G2 Iron Series (G2, G2 EZ, G2L and G2 HL) will improve your performance by providing options to match your game and personal preferences.

The G2 features several new design advancements, including a center of gravity moved away from the face, and a wider sole for improved launch and more forgiveness. A new sand-blasting process improves ball-to-face contact for added control and consistent performance across the face.

Designed to complement the G2 Iron Series are the G2 HL (high-launch) long and mid irons. With a wider sole and extreme undercut cavity design, the G2 HL irons provide an alternative to traditional long irons and fairway woods, giving golfers the confidence to play long, soft-landing shots from the fairway or rough.

Adding G2 HL irons to your set can be done in several ways, depending on the golfer's confidence with the long and medium irons. Some players may just replace the 2- or 3-iron, others may replace all the irons up to, and including, the 5-iron.

- Traditional combination (3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, PW, SW, LW) For golfers seeking the forgiveness and game improvement from traditional set makeup, this set provides complete performance for all ability levels.
- Standard combination (2HL, 3HL, 4HL, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, PW, SW, LW) The inclusion of three G2 HL irons in place of the traditional 2-4 irons offers an alternative to golfers needing added performance in their long irons.

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PRIVILEGE TORG

Innovative Design

Grohe presents its new line of premium fittings - "F1": A fascination for design and technology

An unusual combination of design and functionality marks the looks of Grohe's new F1 line of fittings, which is positioned as the top product in the company's ARTiculation range of premium products. The new product's look and feel are as innovative as its user interface and the technology it incorporates.

One of the things that make the F1 fittings so special is the fact that they reinterpret the adjustment of the water temperature by means of two separate levers. The two levers for hot and cold water are positioned one above the other and may be operated either separately or with a single movement of the hand to set the desired water temperature. Controlling the flow of water is as straightforward as with a single-lever mixer, thanks to the new "Advanced Cartridge Technology", or "A.C.T." for short. Grohe has developed a new cartridge for F1, which easily and precisely translates the adjustment of the two levers by means of a high-quality toothed gearing.

Having already won the iF Design Award in 2004, the form of the F1 fitting requires little explanation. The main stylistic element is the cone, which makes for a flowing transition from the body to the spout. This basic shape is shared by all F1 fittings for the washbasin, bidet, bathtub and shower. All handles feature precision knurls, which, according to the manufacturer, make not only for a safe grip but also for a particularly pleasant feel.

The form of the F1 fittings was developed by the F.A. Porsche Design Studio. On the one hand, the aim was to create a product whose aura would arouse a fascination for design and technology. On the other hand, Grohe wanted to create a line of fittings that would focus on the purpose of comfortable water delivery but would still combine this functionality with a high degree of sensuality. According to Grohe, the result truly lives up to the "clarity and truth of forms" so often called for by designers.

This is also reflected in the unique, eye-catching surface of the high-end fitting. "ALU-XT", a

new silky-matt finish, has been specifically developed for F1 and defies comparison with conventional chrome or stainless steel fittings. The silky aluminium finish is used only for this exclusive line of fittings. Selected products such as the "Sena" and "Movario" hand showers will also be available with "ALUX-XT" finish to match the F1 fittings for a coordinated look

Available fittings include:

- 1-hole washbasin fitting
- 3-hole washbasin fitting
- 3-hole washbasin fitting, wall installation, cone or lever-style handle
- 1-hole bidet fitting
- 4-hole bath mixer combination, installation on tiled shelves, cone or lever-style handle
- 3-hole bath mixer combination, installation on tiled shelves, cone or lever-style handle
- · Shower thermostat, wall-mounted or concealed installation
- Bathtub thermostat
- 4 and 5-way diverters

Grohe Canada is the 15-year-old subsidiary of GROHE Water Technology AG & Co. KG., Germany. Grohe faucet and shower products are distributed in more than 130 countries and represent nearly 70 years of excellence in European styling, engineering and material quality. Grohe ranks among the top three faucet manufacturers in the world and was the first international faucet manufacturer to be ISO 9001 Quality Assurance Certified.



Luxurious Hospitality Redefined

"Welcome to the Extraordinary"

otel Living is certainly not a new concept. As far back as the 1920's wealthy and famous citizens have resided in hotels, taking pleasure in the benefits. In the present day, some traditional grand hotels in New York such as Manhattan's Carlyle Hotel still offer residential apartments, servicing families such as the Kennedy's. Now, located in one of Canada's premier locations, stands a new name and a first for Toronto: The Hazelton Hotel and Private Residences. Scheduled to open EARLY 2007, is Toronto's first five-star hotel and private residence. Practiced by intimate hotels in Europe, The Hazelton holds to the philosophy that highly refined personal service and undivided individual attention are a priority thus The Hazelton promises to create a location exceeding expectations.

Upon entering, The Hazelton's exquisite surroundings, master finishing's and first class appeal will greet you as you become encircled by marble, limestone, granite and hardwood. The Hazelton experience has only begun. Welcome to Toronto's first Five-star luxury hotel and condominium complex. Boasting the finest location in Canada, The Hazelton Hotel and Residences waits to be discovered in the heart of Yorkville.

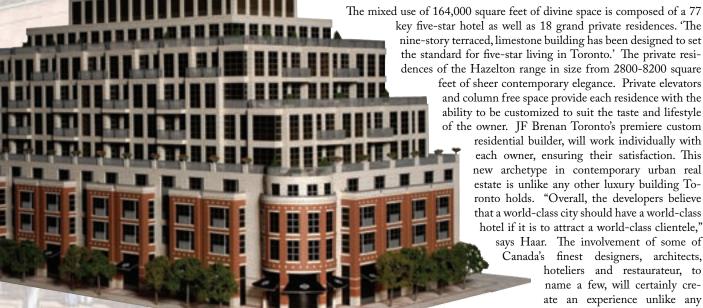
The Hazelton's exterior has been deliberately created with much respect to the historic importance of Yorkville. Selected building materials are supreme and timeless to ensure it will not date. For instance, the limestone façade draws attention to the impression of warmth as well as an inconspicuous elegance that is in keeping with the area. As well, the 9-story composition has been kept in scale with the other structures in the neighborhood.

Generously proportioned and gracefully appointed residences create a 'sought after collection of incomparable condominium residences, where every amenity creates a sumptuous lifestyle.' As Toronto's first Five-star hotel and residence, luxurious indulgence becomes life with concierge service, fully staffed health club and a personal chef.

"Ind



The hotel literally becomes an extension of your home, and so much more. "Owners of the private residences will also have the opportunity to enjoy the finest quality service...and have access to a world class spa featuring a two story infinity indoor lap pool, created of the finest stone," tributes Rachel Haar, Vice President of The Hazelton's Public Relations. Of the innumerable amenities offered, residents will be sure to appreciate the restaurant and bar operated in partnership with award winning restaurateur and master chef Mark McEwan. Room service is offered 24-hours per day from the kitchen of Mark McEwan as well. Beautiful private meeting rooms or entertaining rooms wait to accommodate private functions or intimate gatherings of small numbers up to 120 guests. These facilities feature state of the art audio-visual equipment and allow for full catering service. For further enticement, enjoy a state of the art private screening room and lounge, something that holds exclusivity in Canada. "Designed by Christopher Hansen of Simply Home Entertainment in Beverly Hills California, the screening room will provide sumptuous seating, ideal for film industry use, presentations and private screening parties," explains Haar.



ability to be customized to suit the taste and lifestyle of the owner. JF Brenan Toronto's premiere custom residential builder, will work individually with each owner, ensuring their satisfaction. This new archetype in contemporary urban real estate is unlike any other luxury building Toronto holds. "Overall, the developers believe that a world-class city should have a world-class hotel if it is to attract a world-class clientele,"

says Haar. The involvement of some of Canada's finest designers, architects, hoteliers and restaurateur, to name a few, will certainly create an experience unlike any

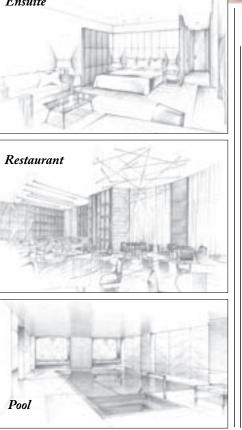
ulge in Luxury"



other. Of those involved in creating such a unique project some include Yabu Pushelburg, the internationally renowned design firm responsible for landmark hotel projects such as Four Seasons Hotels and Resorts, Starwood Hotels and Resorts as well as retail stores for Tiffany and Co. and Bergdorf Goodman. Page and Steele architect planners have been retained for the project and is renowned for their work with The Cheddington, One Post Road and International projects for Four Seasons Hotels and Resorts. Klaus D. Tenter, a veteran hotel manager with over 30 years experience with one of the premiere five-star hotel chains in the world, will oversee the management of the Hazelton Hotel. And of course Mark McEwan culinary master of North 44 and ByMark restaurants in Toronto will oversee the food and beverage service for the hotel and private residences.

Just a few steps away from Bloor Street's finest café's boutique shops, museums and art gallery's, The Hazelton is situated in the most sought after location: The corner of Yorkville and Hazelton. Various premium shopping locations such as Chanel, Gucci, Tiffany's and Escada, Prada, Cartier and Louis Vuitton as well as Canadian retail icons Holt Renfrew, Birks, Harry Rosen's and Roots remain moments from your suite, as well as many others. In addition, The Art Gallery of Ontario, The Four Season Opera House and the newly renovated Roy Thompson Hall are all within ten minutes by house car, as are the Air Canada Centre, Roger's Centre and the Toronto Convention Centre. Other amenities in such close proximity include Toronto's Entertainment

"The only limit to the luxury is the number of residences"



district which is the centre of live theatre in Canada, with the Royal Alexander and Princess of Wales Theatre's as well as numerous stylish restaurants, bars and clubs. "There is no finer location in Toronto for a luxury hotel and private residence than the corner of Hazelton and Yorkville," assures Haar.

"We are developing The Hazelton Hotel with the goal to be the finest luxury hotel in Canada, and believe that until the Hazelton, Toronto has not had a five-star luxury hotel that would compare in quality and service to some of the finest hotels in other major cities around the world," states Haar. Aiming for this elite demographic, hotel rates can be expected from \$395-\$900 per night and \$2000 per night for a suite. "While these may be the highest rates in Canada, we feel that they represent good value and are actually lower than what people are used to paying at other great hotels around the world in cities such as Paris, London and New York." The private residences start at \$2.7 and range up to \$12 million.

'The Hazelton will be Toronto's first five-star hotel built on an intimate scale to facilitate exquisite personal service.' Luxurious hospitality will be redefined when the city's most elegant and sophisticated hotel opens its doors in the fall of 2006. Contemporary design with classic appeal, The Hazelton provides an unparalleled level of service with a unique sense of flair. Haar concludes, "Overall, it should come as no surprise that The Hazelton Hotel will become a member of the prestigious *Leading Hotels of the World*."

Presentation Centre & Construction Office: 5 Hazelton Avenue, 2nd Floor, Toronto, Ontario M5R 2E1 Canada Tel: 416.515.1801 Facsimile: 416.928.0167 Web: www.THEHAZELTON.com "Owners of the private residences will also have the opportunity to enjoy the finest quality service...and have access to a world class spa featuring a two story infinity indoor lap pool, created of the finest stone,"





Grand lobby

Luxury at its Finest

The Regency Yorkville Brings Glamour to Condominium Living

BY DANA SHUR

As if fresh from the pages of the latest five star hotel brochures, the unparalleled class and sophisticated opulence of The Regency Yorkville Luxury Condominium Residences is at long last becoming a reality. Construction is well under way at what is soon to be Toronto's most desired residential address. With irrefutable grandeur and luxurious panache, every design and architectural detail at The Regency Yorkville has been meticulously planned for the most discerning and particular of homeowner.

And who is this undeniably privileged homeowner? Future residents of The Regency Yorkville are accustomed to only the

best; from the milieu in which they live to their jewels to the art that lines their walls. They have dined in the finest of restaurants and vacationed at the most deluxe hotels in the world. Some are leaving their grand homes so that they can enjoy the comforts and conveniences of condominium life while others are simply adding international addresses to their lists of residences. The place they call home must exhibit the quality of life to which they are accustomed. They have finally found a condominium worthy of their lifestyle.

Shellianne Bedder, Director of Marketing and Sales at the Regency Yorkville, deals one on one with purchasers and has



Luxury Kitchen

Spacious bathroom

Bathroom furniture

found an overwhelming anticipation surrounding the project. "Our clients value their privacy." says Bedder, "They find that the standard concerns surrounding condominium life are not an issue here at The Regency. Here they know that they can have it all – the quality and sophistication -without having to sacrifice their anonymity."

Designed by award winning architect Peter Turner of Turner Fleischer Architects Inc, the façade of the building demonstrates the deco-inspired romance and ornately appointed elegance rarely seen in modern day construction. The splendour of the building is perfectly in tune with the exclusivity of this prestigious address. Joining forces with Peter Turner is acclaimed designer Mike Niven of Mike Niven Design Inc. With an unmatched eye for dramatic design style, Niven is bringing to life a building of incomparable grandeur and luxury. From his choices in textiles and exotic materials to his painstaking attention to detail, Mike's vision comes dramatically to life at The Regency Yorkville.

With your first step through the front door of Toronto's chic new address, 68 Yorkville Avenue, you enter into a world like no other. Before you lays the most majestic 2 storey lobby, appointed with the finest quality finishes. Surrounded by rich stones, exotic hardwood, dynamic custom-designed lighting and upholstered walls are a sweeping mirrored staircase leading to a stunning book-lined library lounge.

Among the list of custom amenities included to complement the lifestyle of its residents is the Regency Yorkville's very own Entertainment Lounge and Screening area. Inspired by the great vintage cruise lines of days gone by, the extensive use of backlit translucent stone and high-end fittings gives this space a feeling of unequalled richness. Also available for the use of residents is a fully equipped Fitness Centre, Dining Room and a fully equipped Conference Centre.

En route to one of the Regency Yorkville's grand 56 suites, residents can marvel in the magnificence of the richly appointed elevators, donned with backlit stone and exotic veneer. Not a detail left unaccounted for, every component of the Regency Yorkville experience will be majestic and unimaginable. Upon stepping off the elevators and into the sumptuously appointed hallways, you are faced with a striking, stately entrance feature to each suite complete with recessed lighting and private doorbell.

Of course nothing is more important or impressive than the suites themselves. Enjoying the largest living spaces ever seen in a condominium in this city, residents will maintain the considerable spaciousness to which they have been accustomed in their new home with a view. Residents and guests will need only step inside to be overwhelmed by the magnitude of the design.





Stunning domed ceilings may highlight the magnificent curvewalled foyers into which you enter. Each doorway can be skilfully adorned with impressive architectural archways leading from one glorious room to the next. From the elegant coffered ceilings to the custom trim packages, residences at The Regency Yorkville are true examples of floor-to-ceiling luxury.

In a suite of such sophistication, what more would you expect than the very best? Well, no surprise, the best is what you will find. Bedder stresses the importance of quality in the project; "It was important for us that our homeowners know they are being given the very best available; that not a detail go unaccounted for." Residents are treated to their choice of the finest in custom cabinetry by Bellini; unrivalled in craftsmanship and design from traditional elegance to contemporary flair. Kitchens are flourished with deluxe appliances; from the 36" Sub-Zero refrigerator to the top of the line dishwasher with custom trim kit and matching Bellini cabinet door panels. With extra tall upper cabinets, crown mouldings, pot drawers, open wine rack and granite countertops and backsplashes, even the most accomplished of caterers will be at home in these kitchens.

Residents at The Regency Yorkville will also enjoy immense bathrooms laden with the most current and high-end features. Fixtures throughout, from faucets to the engulfing full size soaker whirlpool tubs, are all by Kohler; world-renowned makers of the finest elements for kitchen and bath. Stunning trims and mouldings, spectacular vanities, custom lighting and vast walk-in showers, many with built in seats, set the tone for the space. Floors tiled with large format marble or limestone give the space a feeling of rich splendour, in keeping with the overall elegance of the building itself.

Beyond the beauty and quality of the fixtures themselves, the design and layout of these residences are unique and perfectly suited for the most discriminating of homeowners. From the grandiose entrances to the brilliantly situated niches and surprisingly private nooks sprinkled throughout the suites, the architects and designers of The Regency Yorkville have worked brilliantly together to plan spaces that are both liveable and breathtakingly beautiful. From the striking architectural focal points in the suite to the spectacular view of downtown Toronto, you won't know where to look first.

Regency Yorkville - Artist vue

The residents of The Regency Yorkville are astute and detailed. They have a variety of individual needs that can and must be met. "Our purchasers know what they want. They have come to us because they know that we will work with them and customize their living space to their particular needs", says Bedder. Homeowners are able to meet with the architects and designer and are guided through the process of customization. They are able to alter the sizes of rooms, create niches in particular areas and make any other design changes they may require. The Regency Yorkville is anything but cookie-cutter design.

With construction underway, the excitement surrounding the project only continues to grow. In an ever evolving city like Toronto, becoming more international and cosmopolitan, The Regency Yorkville Luxury Condominium Residences is filling a void that has been long felt. Toronto is thrilled to welcome The Regency Yorkville and eagerly awaits its arrival.

for private appointments, contact Shellianne Bedder Tel: 416.487.1800 Web: www.regencyyorvillecondos.com



In the Heart of the Action

Prince Arthur condominium residences

I t is hard to imagine a more desirable location than Yorkville – prominently positioned in Toronto's hub. Known for the finest in dining, shopping, art and culture, Yorkville is also home to some of the city's most sought-after condominium residences. High atop this list is the Minto Corporation's Prince Arthur at 38 Avenue Road.

MintoUrban Communities have been successfully developing and building residential real estate since 1955. With a unique grasp on the needs of the upmarket purchaser, Minto brings class and refinement to every project under their direction. True to form, Minto has translated the needs of Toronto's elite into another successful condominium at The Prince Arthur.



An architectural masterpiece : the Prince Arthur's Arch

Nestled among the shops and restaurants, The Prince Arthur keeps its residents in the heart of the action, while still providing them with the quiet luxury and refined living to which they aspire and on what they insist.

Should you somehow not find ways to keep busy shopping or dining, just steps from the front door are unlimited enriching possibilities. With numerous museums with-in blocks, neighbours are never lacking things to do and see. Founded in 1830, Yorkville has always been the heart and soul of Toronto. Offering an array of shopping experiences, Yorkville holds one of a kind destinations such as Pusateri's and Whole Foods Market. Such tourist attractions offer a true 'taste' of luxury. Home to some of the latest and trendiest spots, the streets of Yorkville will always keep you busy.

For those who like to be more unassuming, you need not worry. The Prince Arthur has considered your needs and equipped its halls with endless amenities. With two social rooms, a card room, media room, outdoor terrace and gym, all your needs will be met.

So shine your shoes, get dolled up in your fanciest garb and head to Yorkville for the finest in everything, including condominium accommodations!





A Grand Affair

A touch of luxury in the heart of the city

BY JILL ANDREW

uite still the new luxury experiment at only five years old, The Grand Hotel & Suites Toronto, distinguished by its understated elegance, state-ofthe-art amenities and proven personalized service, has made its incomparable mark with both emerging professionals, seasoned executives and socialites alike.

With clientele comprised mainly from extended stay visitors and corporate clients, the Grand's 8,000 sq. ft. rooftop patio garden, heated rooftop whirlpools and 2-storey indoor pool adorned by Toronto artist Art Egelton's hand painted mural of the Garden of Versailles "Apollo's Chariot Fountain", adds the element of 'fantasy getaway' to every visit. The Grand, centrally positioned in the heart of prime business, theatre and shopping districts is located three blocks away from the cities largest shopping experience— The Eaton Centre.

Upon your decent onto the red velvet covered stairs leading to the hotel's main entrance, you are greeted by polished staff as your visual senses are romanticized by the three-storey neo-classical inspired limestone lobby.

To your right is the hotels' classy Citrus Restaurant (Citrus Lounge and The Terrace). Guests are serenaded by pianists and live strings playing the best in jazz, classical and adult

From private terraces, two-storey lofts, to 24 unique Ambassador suites, Grand outfits each suite with complete entertainment ...

p dia a

exclusive retreat offering luxury accommodations and service surpassing cost,"

contemporary originals and celebrated favourites while their taste buds remain delighted by "the freshest local ingredients and unique regional cuisine discoveries" Grand's master chefs have to offer.

Whether your taste is marked by the Hollywood North designer ambiance of Bloor Street West or the cities miniature Time Square at Yonge & Dundas, The Grand's complimentary shuttle services to financial and shopping districts is sure to please those in search of complete pampering. If you prefer in-house royal treatment, the 24-hour concierge, full-service gym and spa in-room services exclusive to hotel guests is sure to answer your every desire.

Once the old RCMP building, the newly renovated Grand

now exudes opulence throughout each of its 177 European-inspired suites catering to the most nonchalant to discriminating of clientele tastes. From local visitors to celebrities like Shaquille O' Neil who reportedly stays only there when in the city, The Grand remains a fixture as an, "exclusive retreat offering luxury accommodations and service surpassing cost," according to The Grand's General Manager, Terrance Ponniah.

From private terraces, two-storey lofts, to 24 unique Ambassador suites, Grand outfits each suite with complete entertainment systems, office technologies, granite kitchen appliances, cutlery, and personal amenities.

Sleeping becomes a luxury as your dreams are wrapped in duvet bedding, feathered pillows and linen-cotton down-lined sheets. At the centre of 18-foot suite windows, 20-30 foot ceilings, Vincent Van Gogh





and Claude Monet prints complimenting the suite's décor you stand completely overtaken by the panoramic view of the lake and city skyline.

Special Services:

The newly renovated Business Centre offers all guests access to services for their business needs (high speed internet, fax etc.) plus newly minted Conference rooms can hold from 6-300 guests for corporate and social functions. Rooms come equipped with state-of-the-art projection technologies along with plasma TV screens for added sophistication.

Celebrity? Want additional privacy/security? Enjoy private concierge services, private exits, elevator services, along with

suites fitted with electronic key sensors that record at the main desk each time your suite door is opened.

Special Needs? Grand Hotel provides elegant ramps for guests and also each suite number is coupled with a Braille translation for the visually impaired.

Extra touches:

Long day? Enjoy complimentary in-room movies, local calls and voice mail.

Each suite has a large inroom safe for added security for your personal items and business documents.

Unexpected visitor? No concerns about being a poor host. Each room's furnishing includes a sofa bed.

info@jillandrewmedia.com

The Grand Hotel & Suites Toronto 225 Jarvis Street Toll free: 1.877.32. GRAND (47263) www.grandhoteltoronto.com

... systems, office technologies, granite kitchen appliances, cutlery, and personal amenities.

"From the Moon to Mars"

Commemorating the dawn of a new era in space exploration: the Omega Speedmaster "From the Moon to Mars"

TACHYMÈTRE



Pathfinder Robot - 3D Art

s two Mars rovers grabbed the headlines earlier on in the year with breathtaking images of the red planet, NASA unveiled its new vision of a planned return to the moon and a longterm aim of closer exploration of Mars. The US space agency's announcement coincided with the 35th anniversary of the first lunar landing.

The runaway success of NASA's Spirit and Opportunity Mars Exploration Rovers led to a boost in funding to extend the project, with the plan now being to continue to staff the two projects until the robots cease to function. To a certain extent, the findings from the two rovers mark a turning point in space exploration, with unmistakable signs of past surface water on the planet providing an added incentive in the drive to send human beings to Mars. And whilst there are those who maintain that such a fanciful idea is beyond feasibility, similar views were undoubtedly expressed about landing on the moon in the decades preceding the Apollo programme.

For most of its life, the Omega Speedmaster Professional chronograph has been inextricably linked with spaceflight, the "flight-qualified" credentials it obtained from NASA in 1965 still today serving as a guarantee of its robustness and precision. So successful was the original design and hand-wound chronograph movement (it was the only watch to pass all of NASA's strict tests for use in the Apollo programme), that very little of either has been changed over the past 30 years. The Speedmaster available over the counter today is very similar to the original models, both outwardly and internally.

Thanks to its popularity, the Speedmaster has a very strong following among watch enthusiasts, who in turn create a steady demand for collectors' pieces

Astronaut Ed White in space

and limited editions. To coincide with the turning point in space exploration, Omega has introduced a special Speedmaster "From the Moon to Mars" model bearing all the hallmarks of the original "Moon Watch", with the same robust case, functional bezel with tachymeter scale and sober matt black dial with luminous bâton hands. It also uses the hand-wound calibre 1861 that is legendary among mechanical watch enthusiasts for its precision and reliability, offering a power reserve of 45 hours when fully wound. The transfers of the Earth, the Moon and Mars in the chronograph counters and small seconds counter on the dial clearly indicate the commemorative purpose of this timepiece, as does the inscription "From the Moon to Mars" found on the dial between 5 and 3 o'clock and engraved on the case back. As a further touch of exclusivity, each piece also bears an individual sequential number on the case back.

> One thing that's sure is that when mankind does eventually return to the moon, these special Speedmaster models will still be ticking away, just as the first watch worn on the moon - lost for over 30 years but found again last year - is still going strong. And in the meantime, we will continue to innovate and pioneer in this field, working to ensure that, if any member of the human race sets foot on Mars, he or she will do so wearing an Omega.



The OMEGA Speedmaster

a watch with an unparalleled history

ong before the term "space race" was coined, OMEGA was renowned for its pilot watches: Having supplied the British Flying Corps as early as 1917 and later its successor, the Royal Air Force (as well as the British Army) during World War II, the brand soon became official supplier to numerous other armed forces. In 1942, OMEGA launched its

27 CHRO C12 calibre – the forerunner of the calibres 321 and 861 which would later equip the Speedmaster and the smallest chronograph movement in the world at the time.

The first watch to bear the name Speedmaster was launched in 1957. The original remit was to offer a robust sports chronograph that allowed the time to be read clearly and easily. The robustness was provided by an antishock, anti-magnetic movement and a particularly strong steel case that was water-resistant to 60 metres. Optimal legibility was achieved by placing the tachymetric scale on the bezel rather than the dial and by using the same distinct hour and minute hands that now adorn the new Speedmaster Broad Arrow.

On May 25, 1961, US President John F. Kennedy issued a challenge to the U.S. Congress that was to change the world... and in time make one of OMEGA's timepieces the most famous watch in the world. The gauntlet

laid down by Kennedy required Man to walk on the surface of Earth's natural satellite, the moon. At the height of the Cold War, with important strategic considerations at stake for the two superpowers, this led to an unprecedented race to conquer space.

As Kennedy's challenge came within weeks of the Soviet Union succeeding with the world's first manned spaceflight, it became a matter of pride for the Americans to fulfil their president's dream – and so the "space race" began in earnest. As part of the vast amount of research and development work required on equipment for space exploration, the United States National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) anonymously purchased chronographs from 10 brands in 1962 with a view to testing them for use on manned spaceflight missions. After two years of rigorous testing, four brands did not meet the minimum requirements and were excluded from the tests. NASA then requested 12 models from the six remaining manufacturers for further tests – the most stringent precision and resistance tests conceivable.

> On March 1, 1965, NASA announced its choice of chronograph for homologation. In fact, it was a choice that was easily made, since only one chronograph managed to withstand the extreme conditions imposed by NASA's tests: the OMEGA Speedmaster. Later the same month, the Speedmaster was for the first time worn officially on the Gemini 3 mission (it had already been worn in space by Walter Schirra, who had purchased it himself, on the Sigma 7 mission in 1962). Within months, on June 3 the same year, the Speedmaster became the first watch in the world to be worn outside a spacecraft in outer space, on the wrist of Edward H. White on the Gemini 4 mission. It was on the press photos of this mission that OMEGA recognised its Speedmaster on White's wrist and requested confirmation from NASA, which it duly received one year later in April 1966. Though greeted with considerable jubilation at the brand's headquarters in Bienne, Switzerland, this welcome news led to the most minor of changes to the

watch: the addition of one word on the dial, turning the humble OMEGA Speedmaster into the legendary OMEGA Speedmaster Professional.

The pinnacle of the Speedmaster Professional's history came on July 21, 1969, when Kennedy's ambitious goal was realised as Man took his first steps on the moon. The Speedmaster, an integral part of the Apollo 11 lunar landing mission, not only had to survive temperatures ranging from +100 to -50 degrees Celsius and the lower gravity on the Moon's surface, it also had to ensure failsafe timekeeping throughout the mission, a task that it fulfilled with exemplary precision. The Speedmaster even proved life-saving on the troubled Apollo 13 mission, when it was used

to time to within a fraction of a second the firing of the



Neil Armstrong on the surface of the moon

Buzz Aldrin and his Speedmaster

re-entry rockets whilst the spacecraft was out of communications range on the dark side of the moon. As a result, OMEGA was presented with the "Snoopy" Award – the highest honour awarded by NASA astronauts.

Though little needed, the Speedmaster Professional's reputation received a further boost in 1975 on the occasion of the Apollo-Soyuz rendezvous. This historic docking between a Soviet and American spacecraft at the height of the Cold War revealed that the Soviet cosmonauts were also wearing the Speedmaster. Though the watches had been offered to the cosmonauts by OMEGA, to ensure that they were on time for the rendezvous with their American counterparts, what OMEGA did not discover until 14 years later was that the Russian space agency NPO Energija also subsequently adopted the Speedmaster as standard equipment, covering its requirements totally anonymously by government purchase orders.

With the launch of the first Space Shuttle in 1981 space exploration took on a new dimension, since crews could for the first time depart and land on ground in a reusable spacecraft which was even capable of transporting considerable cargoes such as satellites into space. As part of the preparations for the Space Shuttle program, NASA reviewed its entire range of equipment, effectively starting from nothing and requesting proposals from suppliers, including some thirty chronograph manufacturers. OMEGA naturally submitted its proven Speedmaster, whose extraordinary resistance and reliability was confirmed when NASA again chose this legendary watch. Once more, the merits of OMEGA's manual-winding mechanical watch movement proved unbeatable for use in outer space!

In 1992, OMEGA itself took the initiative and drew up a list of specifications in conjunction with American and European astronauts (including Swiss astronaut Claude Nicollier) and Russian cosmonauts with a view to developing a watch specifically for use in space. Thanks to OMEGA's long-standing links with the Russian space agency, the brand was even privileged to be able to use the MIR space station as a test laboratory in space. The result was the Speedmaster Professional X-33 multifunction quartz watch, presented to the world, from MIR via a live satellite link-up with the Houston Space Center.

With the advent of the third millennium, OMEGA presented a new Speedmaster model that houses a major innovation, even by the Speedmaster's exceptional standards. The watch takes its name from one of the popular design elements of the original Speedmaster of 1957: the triangular "Broad Arrow" hands which allow the hours and minutes to be distinguished at a glance. The innovation behind the Speedmaster "Broad Arrow" is the OMEGA calibre 3303 movement. Developed by OMEGA and produced exclusively for OMEGA by Frédéric Piguet, this columnwheel chronograph movement is totally new and benefits from the very latest in watchmaking technology. In fact, column-wheel chronographs are so sophisticated to produce that only few watchmakers have mastered the techniques required for their production, making the new OMEGA Speedmaster Broad Arrow a chronograph of distinction.





The year 2004 will be remembered as a turning point in space history, the year in which we found strong signs of past surface water on Mars and the year in which plans to return to the Moon were announced. With the launch of a special-edition Speedmaster "From the Moon to Mars", Omega reaffirms its association with the field of space exploration and looks forward to the Speedmaster's possible return to the Moon.

For further information, please contact LORO JEWELLERY www.loro.ca OMEGA is a company of the Swatch Group Canada www.omegawatches.com

Tag Heuer Tees up with Tiger Wood

Tag Heuer introduces the World's first Professional Golf Watch designed by Tiger Woods

A fter more than a year of close collaboration with its global brand ambassador Tiger Woods, TAG Heuer, the LVMH (Moet Hennessy – Louis Vuitton) luxury watch making company, announces the introduction of the world's first professional golf watch, designed and developed to meet the unique ergonomic and subtle aesthetic requirements of top-level golfers. The TAG Heuer Professional Golf Watch will debut in April 2005 in a limited supply of 4,000 timepieces. A portion of the sales will be contributed to the Tiger Woods Foundation, a non-profit organization that helps America's young people to achieve their dreams.

"This is an extraordinary achievement," says Tiger, who extensively tested the TAG Heuer Professional Golf Watch prototypes and then wore the pre-series in the 2004 Boston PGA Tournament. "Now, for the first time, golfers can wear a watch in total comfort, and make a contribution to a great charity that helps youth at the same time. Golf experts have always said that you should take your watch off before you step up to the tee, and TAG Heuer has proven them wrong. It's a great watch and a true pleasure to wear."

"Calling upon Tiger to collaborate on the design of the world's first-ever professional gold watch was an obvious choice," comments Daniel LaLonde, TAG Heuer NA President and CEO. "Not only is he a world-class champion golfer, but since 2003, Tiger has played a key role in the design and development of a number of TAG Heuer timepieces, including the sold-out, Link Limited Edition Tiger Woods watch."

The TAG Heuer Professional Golf Watch is based on a unique design that provides maximum comfort to the wearer. The clasp and folding buckle of a conventional watch are often awkward and can hurt the wrist while intensively playing golf. Also, the standard placement of the crown at 3 o'clock can interfere with the golfer's motion and comfort when the wrist is bent. To overcome these obstacles, TAG Heuer developed a revolutionary patented system that integrates the clasp into the watch head, and also moved the crown across the dial from the 3 o'clock to the 9 o'clock position.

Golfers have very specific reasons for not wearing a watch during play – the added weight on the wrist, the strap being too loose or too tight, not to mention the intense demands the game puts upon the wrist," continues Tiger. "Working systematically through these and other obstacles with TAG Heuer's amazing team of watchmakers, engineers and designers, we were able to address all of these concerns and overcome them."

Another challenge TAG Heuer addressed is that a regular watch often slides on the wrist, snagging on the golfers glove and creating discomfort. If the watch is tight enough so that it won't slide, it, too, becomes uncomfortable, since the wrist's diameter changes during the course of a game – even during the course of a single swing. To combat these problems, TAG Heuer developed an exclusive, ultra-flexible silicon strap with amazing elasticity that eliminates any sliding. The strap also dampens and minimizes shock to the wrist and adapts its length to any change in wrist diameter.

> Since regular watches are often too heavy and impede the golfer's swing and putting precision, the TAG Heuer Professional Golf Watch is made of

"Together with TAG Heuer designers, we have developed the one watch that I can wear on my wrist without adversely affecting my golf swing." – Tiger Woods ultra-light titanium, stainless steel and silicon. The super-slim watch weighs only 55 grams, making it an astonishing 60% lighter than other TAG Heuer steel watches. This extraordinary slimness also makes the TAG Heuer Professional Golf watch one of the most elegant and dressy luxury square-shaped watches on the market. Concludes Tiger, "It's so incredible light, you literally forget it's on your wrist – until you need it."

In addition, because traditional watches are easily damaged by the repetitive and violent shocks generated by golf swings, the TAG Heuer Professional Golf watch is engineered with an anti-shock design and construction that provide an incomparable 5,000 G of shock absorption – 45 times more than the shock received by the watch during a golf swing.



"What Are You Made Of?"

The TAG Heuer Professional Golf

watch, with Tiger Woods' logo on the dial and signature on the case back, features sophisticated quartz movement, a streamlined profile, and hand-applied, luminous indexes and markers. The stainless-steelfoldingbuckleon the blacksilicon extensible strapis incorporated in the case, with safety release pushbuttons at 10 and 2 o'clock.

Like the golf champion who helped create it, the TAG Heuer Professional Golf watch is the pure embodiment of precision-driven performance and contemporary design. With its many firsts, TAG Heuer maintains the unique position of being the only luxury watchmaker to partner with such renowned personalities as tennis champion Maria Sharapova, NASCAR icon Jeff Gordon, and Hollywood superstar Uma Thurman.

Since 1860, TAG Heuer has revolutionized watch making by producing precision timepieces for a number of fast-paced sports, from sailing to skiing to Formula One and Indy Car Racing, where time measurements are made at 1/10,000th of a second. With the TAG Heuer Professional Golf watch and its continuing collaboration with Tiger, the company launches into the world of professional golf to overcome another sporting challenge.

At just 29 years old, Tiger has had an outstanding career,

winning 56 tournaments in eight years on the PGA tour, including eight major championships. The first golfer to hold all four professional major championships at the same time, he is the leader in career victories among active PGA player. Tiger has been a TAG Heuer brand ambassador since January1, 2003. As a brand ambassador, he plays an active role in new product development, advertising, public relations and visual marketing. He was recently portrayed by worldrenowned fashion photographer Patrick Demarchelier in the TAG Heuer "What Are You Made Of?" integrated advertising campaign.

The new TAG Heuer Professional Golf watch is suggested to retail for \$1,500.00 Canadian. A portion of the sales of the TAG Heuer Professional Golf watch will be donated to the Tiger Woods Foundation. The Tiger Woods Foundations has helped millions of American

children through community-based enrichment programs, scholarship, direct grants, junior golf clinics, and the new Tiger Woods Learning Center.

TAG Heuer, the benchmark in prestigious sports watches and chronographs since 1860, currently ranks as the number two luxury watch brand in North America. The Swiss watch-making legend draws from its active participation in the world of sports to create precision timekeeping instruments and sports-inspired watch collections. From the Olympic Games in the 1920s to its new role as official timekeeper and chronograph for the legendary Indy 500 and IRL championship, TAG Heuer has developed a reputation for its unwavering pursuit of innovation, excellence, performance and prestige. This is reflected in its partnerships with Team McLaren Mercedes in Formula 1 racing; golf champion Tiger Woods; Juan-Pablo Montoya and Kimi Raikkonen of Formula 1; NASCAR icon Jeff Gordon; tennis champion Sharapova; and Hollywood superstar Maria Uma Thurman, all of whom embody TAG Heuer's core values of perfection, prestige and precision. TAG Heuer is a fully-owned Company of LVMH (Moet Hennessy- Louis Vuitton), the world leader in Luxury Goods.

Available at LORO JEWELLERY. www.loro.ca

The TAG Heuer Professional Golf watch is the pure embodiment of precision-driven performance and contemporary design.

Welcome Aboard...

BY G.J. PROSSER

She should. Billed as the longest, tallest, fastest ocean-going passenger liner ever built, the Queen Mary 2 ought to wow you from first looming glimpse to receding speck in your rear view mirror. Well, she does.



...Queen Mary II

With her regal red, white and black livery currently plying routes amongst the ubiquitous pastels of the Caribbean, she may not be doing what she's primarily designed for, but no matter. She's a lady that can turn heads whether she's crossing the North Atlantic or tooling around the Tropics.

High-End Retail



The superlatives that follow this vessel are legion; generating enough electricity from its four 217 ton diesel engines to power a city of 200,000 souls. Four hundred tons of paint and 37.3 miles of air ducting used in her construction, two thousand, five hundred windows upon a passing world. The boggling list goes on and on.

It's the kind of hype that sounds like hubris when set against the awesome power of Mother Nature. For much of her forty plus years of anticipated working life, the QM2 will ply the North Atlantic, tormentor of mariners who dare to overextend themselves. Even in the Caribbean the sea can give the ship an occasional reminder of who is boss, like a lioness wrapping her jaws around the noggin of an unruly cub. But her sprite power and revolutionary stabilizers allow the ship to maintain her composure and the trust of her passengers.

Despite the added cost, the ship's architect, Steven Payne, resolved to build the QM2's superstructure from steel not aluminum. It makes for a ride quality that's akin to a May Bach rather than a mere Mercedes. Amanda Reid, the QM2's cruise hostess revels in this highend ambience. She recalls an earlier assignment aboard a less well constructed vessel and the sleepless hours spent plugging cardboard between creaking panels in her cabin. "Years later I was asked to do another stint aboard that ship and assigned to the same cabin. The pieces of cardboard were still there!" she says.

Architect Payne is a keen student of past design mistakes and triumphs. "I tried very hard to have a ship with classic lines....but still be a state of the art,

modern vessel," he says. The sweeping prow of his QM2 is styled after her elder sister, the Queen Elizabeth 2, an imperious blade that has scythed through well over five million miles of ocean going. QM2's fore-section is based on the S.S. Normandy, an earlier massive creation from the same shipyard as the QM2. The Alsthom Chantiers de L'Atlantique of St. Nazaire, France built the QM2 in a little over two years to exacting quality standards despite the high level of innovation involved.

The outcome is a ship that dominates most harbors she visits and offers a cornucopia of pleasurable pursuits for her 2,632 passengers. For the gourmand there are ten restaurants and a cellar of almost 800 bins (although regular games of ping-pong with our sommelier suggested that the cellar's actual stock is being oversold by the wine list). For the athlete, there are basketball and paddle tennis courts, a 585 meter promenade deck and a gym with over fifty exercise machines. For the aesthete, there's a 20,000 square foot spa and, for the academic, there's a library of 8,000 excellent books and an art collection that's been dubbed the "Louvre of the Sea". Not to mention the largest ballroom and the only planetarium afloat.

All this largesse might sound a tad vulgar if attributed to one of the major, volume-oriented cruise lines. No wonder then that Carnival Corporation has been astutely preserving the rich PR value of the Cunard Line's heritage since purchasing the venerable brand in 1998. Founded in 1839 by Samuel Cunard of Halifax, Nova Scotia, the Cunard line gained pre-eminence in the glorious age of the super liner. An age that had passed by the time Carnival Corporation came onto the scene in 1974. But Carnival's CEO, Mickey Arison and his father were confidant the Cunard brand could be resuscitated and make a positive contribution to Carnival's bottom line. Coincidentally Carnival's share price has risen some 30% since the QM2 was launched.

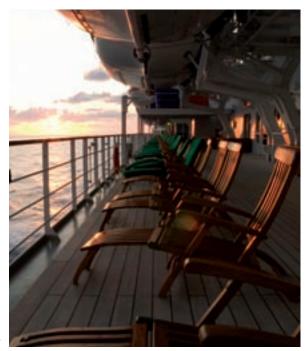
Promenade deck at sunrise

While Carnival earns kudos for canny management of its brand portfolio, Cunard achieved its renown for innovation and safety. Cunard pioneered the use of navigation lights - red for port, green for starboard and white at the top of the mast – that allowed ships to pass safely in the night. It was sixty five years before the line lost a vessel, the Lusitania, and that was credited to a Nazi torpedo not an iceberg or overarching ambition. Meantime the White Star Line that torpedoed its reputation with the Naronic and the Titanic was taken over by the Cunard Steamship Company in 1934.

The Master of the latest vessel to embellish this rich historic tapestry, Commodore John Warwick, is steeped in that heritage. His father was

master of the QE2 and they became the first father and son to command the former Cunard flagship. Commodore Warwick could have leapt straight off a High Liner box with his steady gaze and flowing grey hair and beard. He's every inch a mariner and even keeps a property not a million miles from Bath, where Jane Austen's admirals were wont to reside when on furlough.

For a vessel that maintains a sharp focus on the lucrative North American market, it's ironic to see vestiges of the British class system preserved aboard the QM2. Nowadays though, it simply wouldn't do to refer to the majority of your customers as





"I tried very hard to have a ship with classic lines.... but still be a state of the art, modern vessel"

Steven Payne, Ship Architect

second class. So the haves are segregated from the have-a-lots by dint of the main restaurant to which they are assigned. Queen's Grill diners may well be traveling with their butler and taking advantages of the onboard kennels, whereas patrons of the Britannia Restaurant may be uncouth enough to actually need that retractable clothes line in their stateroom. In truth, there's such an abundance of space on board and the class distinctions are so subtle, that they rarely impinge on anyone's enjoyment.

After a little over a year at sea, the chat rooms and blogs that focus on the world's largest liner have an upbeat atmosphere. And that's no small achievement. Having shelled out anywhere between three and thirty thousand dollars for a trip on the leviathan, some passengers are apt to perceive any slip in service level as a personal sleight, and vent accordingly. But those instances are few and far between, especially now some early wrinkles have been ironed out.

Alliances with quality brands like the luxurious Canyon Ranch Spa and the celebrated American chef, Todd English, further elevate the satisfaction levels. The shopping arcade is like a slice of Rodeo Drive at sea. And the QM2's restaurants play an important part.

Executive Chef Vincent Haselton espouses a straightforward gastronomic philosophy. "Get the freshest, finest ingredients and cook them simply with full respect for their unique flavors," he advises. Chef Haselton is not a fan of some of the excesses of fusion cooking. He should know. After early experience at the Inn-on-the Park in London and the Shangri-La Hotel in Singapore, he worked at the Pan Pacific in Vancouver and with the Sun Organization in South Africa before exposure to the special demands of cruise line cuisine.

Despite being responsible for converting a shopping bill of some one hundred thousand dollars into 13,000 meals every day, this self-assured 42 year old maintains a very even keel. When he fixes his steely blue eyes on you, you can pity any poor commis who jeopardizes that daily production. It's a driven frame of mind echoed by one of Chef Haselton's acolytes, Brett Bonnette, a 22 year old South African native. "Perfection is tolerated, and second best will never do" he says of his own standards, which you sense are representative of the ship's entire kitchen staff.

Having devoured Chef Bonnette's succulent Rib-Eye of Lamb with Crusty Polenta and then inhaled his feathery Iles Flottantes; it wasn't difficult to buy into his brash credo.

Cooking demonstrations are popular complements to the ship's diverse restaurants and Chef Bonnette has taken to these showcases with a passion. In an intimate galley specially built for the purpose, up to two dozen privileged passengers can observe the finer points of food preparation, cooking and assembly and then enjoy the fruits of those labors with wines that have been expertly paired.

If you make a pact with yourself to eschew the forty or more elevators on board and always take the stairs, you can indulge a passion for dessert, angst-free. The QM2's Todd English restaurant has plenty to tempt the palate.

Their Thai Coffee Tiramisu is beautifully presented and flavorful but the dish that triumphs is the Mandarin Orange Crème Brulée. The velvety smooth crème, ice-like crackling and luscious summer berries combine into an irresistible lunchtime indulgence with a glass of champers to round it all out. The Todd English restaurant shares the ship's general wine list which, once you get used to keeping a reserve pick on hand, is a pleasure to delve into, markups rarely being over twice street price. Some bottles, like a Perrier Jouet N.V. Champagne at \$39 a bottle, are a steal.

Whether it's the food, the wine, the ground-breaking engineering, the luxurious ambiance or a combination of all these and more, I'm not sure, but I'm smitten by this grand lady of the sea. And since I'll probably be going to the breaker's yard before she does, I'm determined to be her guest again as soon as able.

An impressive reserve



Chef Haselton



Beautifully presented Tiramisu



PRIVILEGE CLUB INTERNATIONAL



www.PRIVILEGECLUBINTL.com

Suit yourself

Tailor made fashion for the high-profile wearer

ike a New York psychiatrist he remains tight lipped about his celebrity clientele. And like a Los Angeles hairdresser he listens to his customer's needs before unleashing the artistic will of his shears. His name is Ross Figliano and he wants to make your next suit.

If you've heard of him or his business Figliano Custom Tailors, it's no surprise. He, along with his master tailor and father Onofrio, has yet to disappoint any of his high-end ensemble-seekers and his reputation is spreading like wildfire from his Woodbridge shop to south of the border and around the world. If you haven't heard of him, you will. You may have the honour of brushing shoulders with one of his jaw-dropping works of art; drawing you to utter, with absolute abandon the words, "Where did you get that suit?"

"All of our customers are referred to us," says Figliano. "We don't even advertise. Our reputation is spread through word of mouth alone." And their reputation is one that is built on quality handwork and fabric (some exclusive to only a handful of tailors), personalized service and guaranteed satisfaction. The company even observes a strict don't-like-it-don't-pay policy (it's never been used yet).

This boutique-type service suits his growing clientele in the sports industry just fine. These faithful customers, such as Raptors Head Coach Sam Mitchell, demand not only a wardrobe that can withstand the scrutiny of the public eye, but can flatter a wide range of athletic physiques. They also enjoy a limitless number of fittings until the garment is absolutely perfect. Measurements are kept on file so that even Figliano's long distance clientele can have a new selection of custom made apparel delivered on a regular basis.

So what's the secret to Figliano's success? His scrupulous attention to each of his clients' personal needs. When asked about the latest trends in menswear, he believes it's best to favor a man's lifestyle and personality over fairweather fashion. "The problem with other tailors is that they create a style of garment that they like to make," says Figliano with a laugh. "Some want pleats, others don't. Some want comfort while others prefer a suit so fitted you can hardly shake their hands. What it comes down to is listening to them and coming up with a style that both fulfills their wishes and makes them look like a million bucks." —*Catherine Hernandez*

Price range: C\$1500 for a basic suit to C\$40,000 for a cashmere full-length coat

Selection: Swatches with over a thousand different types of fabrics.

Rationalizing the splurge: This is a suit made for your body, your lifestyle, and your personality. Most of the apparel is made by hand. J.P Tilford suit \$1350, dress shirt \$140, Robert Talbot tie \$160

HARRY ROSEN TREND REPORT SPRING 2005

Bold Colours Allow Men to liven up their Summer Style

en may have had an aversion to colour in the past, but Spring 2005 is changing that notion with the veritable rainbow of colours to choose from this season. With bold, bright hues showing up in everything from polo shirts to pocket squares, men of all ages and lifestyles can instantly update their look by incorporating a jolt of colour into their wardrobes this spring.





"This trend in menswear towards bright colour is exciting," says Larry Rosen, CEO of Harry Rosen Inc. "We believe men are used to the tried and true blues and whites, and now they are looking for fresh ways to put some vitality in their wardrobe. Taking a cue from women's wear, they're now ready to try intense hues of orange, pink, green and blue like never before. Colour can be seen just about everywhere in men's clothing - from casual looks to accessories in tailored clothing."

"This trend...

Zegna Sport pants \$235, Harry Rosen Made In Italy jacket \$595, Harry Rosen dress shirt \$175 Keithmoor pants \$225, Lacoste Pique polo \$95, Robert Talbot ribbon belt \$65

... is exciting"

Bright coloured pique polo shirts are also key this season. Whether it's the retro vibe of Fred Perry, the classic Lacoste in one of 15 new colours, or the new slimmer versions by BOSS and Burberry, the polo knit represents an easy way to pick up a pinch of colour and smart style at the same time.





SealKay Independent jeans \$325, long sleeve shirt \$195, Compagnia Delle Pelle zip coat \$795

The New Jacket

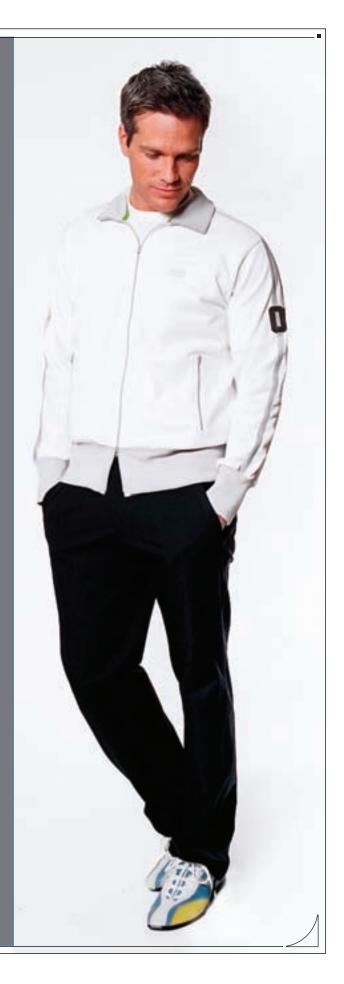
The new interest in colour draws inspiration from the Ivy League, east coast-inspired look of the 80s, but with a modern update. In 2005 the unstructured sports jacket becomes the central item to own. Soft, casual and unlined, this is not a conventional sports jacket, but almost a piece of outerwear that can be layered effortlessly. In a solid colour linen/wool/silk blend or cotton seersucker; and paired with a gingham shirt, flat front pants and a bright ribbon belt, this jacket is the epitome of the new attitude in sportswear dressing this spring.

Brightening Up the Suit

For the businessman who prefers traditional suiting, but still wants to stay current and updated, spring's bold colours offer a straightforward way to inject freshness into their summer wardrobe. While spring suits tend to stick to the staples of light greys and tans, colour can be introduced with well-chosen accessories, allowing the confident man to show off his personal style.

"Show off personal style"

All BOSS Hugo Boss, pants \$245, zip sweater \$245, shoes \$321





Expect the unexpected, as candy-coloured ties from Ermenegildo Zegna, pocket squares, socks and even belts add a dash of colour to otherwise routine looks. Orange polka-dotted pocket squares, apple green striped ties and bright pink bowties are just some of the furnishings that can liven up a simple blue pinstriped suit. Striped shirts in daring colour combinations, such as those from Milanese label Etro that are paired with equally daring ties offer another way to make a statement.

"make a statement"

BOSS Hugo Boss pants \$165, belt \$135, jacket \$698, Versace Classic dress shirt \$325

All BOSS Hugo Boss, pants \$155, jacket \$598, polo shirt \$95

Fresh Ideas

For those who might take a more adventurous and less conventional attitude to dressing - whether for a day at their office or a night at the latest club - the slender, narrow fit is all-important and continues to gain momentum, especially with regards to suits.

With a hint of British influence, slim jacket and pants, featuring higher armholes and narrow thighs, worn with equally slim-cut shirts underneath, are featured prominently for spring. Suits, which are often seen in a trim two-button style such as the Gable Vegas cut from BOSS Hugo Boss, are just as likely to be broken up as worn together. The pairing of a suit jacket with distressed jeans and an open neck dress shirt, matched with a pair of Prada shoes, is an alternative look that easily transitions from day to night.





For weekend casual dressing, athletic-inspired clothing such as the pieces by BOSS Hugo Boss Green and Orange Label, lead the way. The growth of denim's popularity shows no signs of slowing, with labels such as Seven, Dolce and Gabbana and Seal Kay offering the season's coolest jeans. Zipneck tops and a pair of distressed jeans offer the perfect weekend look for the modern man.

"sign that deal"

All Canali, two button suit \$1898, dress shirt \$230, tie \$135 All BOSS Hugo Boss, two button suit \$1198, dress shirt \$185, tie \$110

About Harry Rosen Inc.

Harry Rosen Inc., Canada's leading quality men's wear retailer, is celebrating its 51st year in business in 2005. Founded in 1954 by the man whose name the chain still bears, Harry Rosen Inc. has grown from a single 500-square-foot store in Toronto to become a powerhouse in Canadian retailing with 16 stores across the country, accounting for 35 percent of the Canadian market in high-end men's wear. Harry Rosen stores offer extensive collections of the world's finest men's wear labels including Brioni, Canali, Versace Classic, BOSS Hugo Boss, Armani Collezioni, Ermenegildo Zegna, Prada, Cole Haan, Etro, Salvatore Ferragamo, Dolce and Gabbana, Loro Piana, Kiton, Arnold Brant and J.P. Tilford by Samuelsohn.

For more information or photographs, please contact: Shauna Cumming Public Relations and Special Events Manager Harry Rosen Inc. 416-935-9226 scumming@harryrosen.com

HARRY ROSEN

TORONTO MONTREAL OTTAWA WINNIPEG EDMONTON CALGARY VANCOUVER



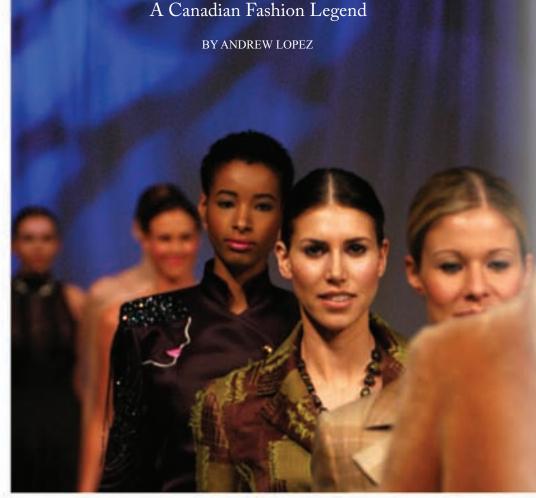
FASHION

G Pat is one of those rare designers who has the ability to achieve the fine edge between Avant-garde and classic. Her fabric colours and texture are fresh, crisp and alive; her style is original and elegant, creating a look that is so classic and timeless, that I kept waiting for Audrey Hepburn to come down the runway in one of Pat's creations. Well done to a real artist." Silvana Briand Partner MIA Fine Foods

L'OREAL Fashion Week in Toronto awarded its only standing ovation for Canadian Fashion Legend Pat McDonagh. Once in a while one has the privilege to see "magic in the making", on St. Patrick's Day all those in attendance were mesmerized by the "timeless" elegance found in Pat McDonagh's Fall 2005 Collection. Irish born Pat McDonagh, educated in London and Paris has been transcending Canadian Fashion for over three decades, helping establish Canada not only as an international fashion destination but more importantly as home to the great talents created by our Canadian diversity.

Her reputation has certainly surpassed our borders, HRH the late Diana Princess of Wales, The Beatles, Ella Fitzgerald, Cher and Miss Universe are global icons that have worn "Pat's creations", they join some of Canada's most talented and successful women including The Honourable Madam Justice Rosalie Silberman Abella who currently sits in the Canadian Supreme Court as well as Veronica Tennant Award winning Prima Ballerina Legend, Director, Producer and 2001 inductee into Canada's Walk of Fame.

Perhaps Pat's greatest gift is her ability to captivate and accentuate the beauty found in the Canadian woman regardless of age. 23 year-old Natalie Glebova the reigning The "Timeless" Pat McDonagh





"Her fabric colours and texture are fresh, crisp and alive; her style is original and elegant, creating a look that is so classic and timeless, that I kept waiting for Audrey Hepburn to come down the runway in one of Pat's creations."







Miss Universe Canada discovered the beauty of Pat's work 3 years ago, she has not only modeled for Pat during the last two years but is very excited about showcasing the wonderful elegance of Pat's Couture at the Miss Universe 2005 Competition to be held in Bangkok, Thailand in May. Robin Kay, President of the Fashion Design Council of Canada (FDCC) concurs with Natalie that "we must do whatever we can to promote Pat's wonderful vision and work". "Impeccable, elegance... Wow !" was Publisher of Privilege Toronto Tom Vachliotis reaction to the Show.

Pat has been honoured with numerous awards including the New York Times award for design excellence and the prestigious American Legend Fur award in Frankfurt. Pat also received the "Judy" award for her contribution in putting Canadian design on an international level and designed an award-winning shoe for the Bata Shoe Museum. She was awarded the lifetime achievement award from the FDCC in



Pat and Jeanne Beker

2003. I'll leave the last word to the great Jeanne Beker, a legend at home and abroad, surely Canada's most influential Fashion Journalist with a global reach thru her award wining show Fashion Television. I asked Miss Beker who's been a big fan of Pat for over 25 years to describe her in one word. Her response: "Timeless, and I don't just mean her clothes or her designs but her as a genuine person."

andrewl@privilegemgi.com





PHOTOS : ARKHAN ZAKHAROV

Toronto's Evolving Dining Scene

What the Publisher of Dining Out Toronto Has to Say About It.



T is an extraordinary time to be living in Toronto! Change abounds everywhere. People are flooding into the city, the suburbs are slowly closing the gap with the denserdeveloped areas, and the city core teams

with countless new

ventures.

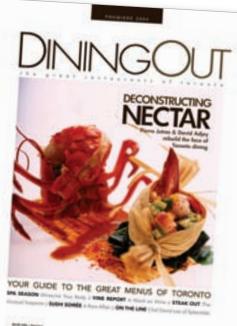
BY JULIA FRISINA

One of the first places you can track these changes is Toronto's ever-evolving Dining sector. The volume, longevity and sophistication of Toronto's restaurants, have recently reached a level deserving of a metropolitan pat on the back. We no longer need to feel like New York, L.A or San Francisco's little sibling. We definitely have our own identity. An identity, I must say, Toronto's restaurateurs have played a big role in creating.

As the Publisher of Dining Out Toronto, I have had the enormous pleasure (and often entertainment) of building relationships with the men and women behind Toronto's most revered kitchens. I have felt their pain, reveled in their rewards, and most importantly, I have had the privilege of their collaboration. Great Chefs, like Susur Lee, David Lee, Mark Thuet, Mark

McEwen, Didier Leroy and many more, inspire my passion for the Culinary Arts, and compel me to bring forth their talent for the city to discover.

We all know Toronto is a world-class city when it comes to restaurants, and if you're still wondering why, just take a look around. Every culture is represented on our streets, bringing with it a unique opportunity for Torontonians to broaden their culinary horizons. Our chefs are spoiled with the abundance and availability of rare and coveted ingredients, making their way to our city via thriving, diverse cultural communities. With such inspiring raw material, creativity is almost impossible to fend off. Along with bastions of authenticity (for which we are also well known), Toronto has a strong tradition of innovation.



From fresh-market, to pan-Asian, to world-fusion to plain unclassifiable, the range of contemporary cuisine in our city can keep your wallet thin and your eyes wide as long as you've got 'la voglia'.

People often ask me for advice on where to eat in the city and my answer is always the same; there are too many great restaurants for me to choose just one. More often than not I overwhelm people with a stream of my many favorites, and unbridled enthusiasm. So to make it

easy on everybody, I suggest you simply browse the pages of Dining Out, and consider choosing a restaurant that doesn't

fit in with your usual suspects. Be adventurous, be spontaneous, and be open-minded. After all, if any city deserves your trust in this department, it's our very own, world-class, gastronomic peacock: T'rranah.

> jfrisina@diningoutonline.com www.diningoutonline.com

mousse and flavored

with cured ham and

almond. Tea is also a

speciality, with many

variations originating

Taiwan, where many

are hand picked and

rolled like the Jasmine

Dragon Ball or the

more exotic Oolong

Monkey Pick.

from

China

and

The most beautiful place for dim sum

Lai Wah Heen offers edible art at the Metropolitan Hotel

By Zack Medicoff

unch. For some it's a quick business meeting. For others, it's a much needed mid-day break or two hour diversion with a four course meal. But for the chefs at Lai Wah Heen, which in Chinese translates to "elegant Chinese meeting place," lunch is a skilled performance with delectable offerings many consider edible art. Perhaps that's why their room is always filled by families, power lunchers, and even on occasion, Hollywood celebrities.



"Elegant Chinese meeting place"

Enter the mind of Master Dim Sum Chef Terrance Chan. His unique preparation method washoned from the age of 12 when he began apprenticing at the famous Lok Yu Teahouse in central Hong Kong, a dim sum destination with a rich history dating back 200 years. But when this master arrived in Toronto in the late 1980's, he forever changed the face of the dim sum.

"In Hong Kong, I only used products which we found nearby. But when I came to Canada I was able to taste and sample ingredients and produce that really invigorated my senses. It was very interesting to apply them to the traditions I've learned throughout my life," he says. "The result is what you taste now at the restaurant."

Chan's playful approach has led him to create items in the form of animals or objects. In the past he's molded pieces in the shape of a crab (with crab meat as filling) and more recently during Chinese New Year, a treasure-box shaped pastry of dried oysters and golden nugget squash topped with oyster sauce.

Permanent dishes include intricate favorites like the Ugly Duckling. A four piece dish including duck shaped dumplings filled with shredded duck & chicken. The Bumble Bee, also a four piece dish, includes a stripped and winged creation which inside holds deep-fried crab claw coated with a layer of calamari In between the traditionally small dim sum courses, it is not uncommon to catch diners gazing around the room, a spacious area of beige and black that is split into two levels by granite slabs. The 12 foot ceilings



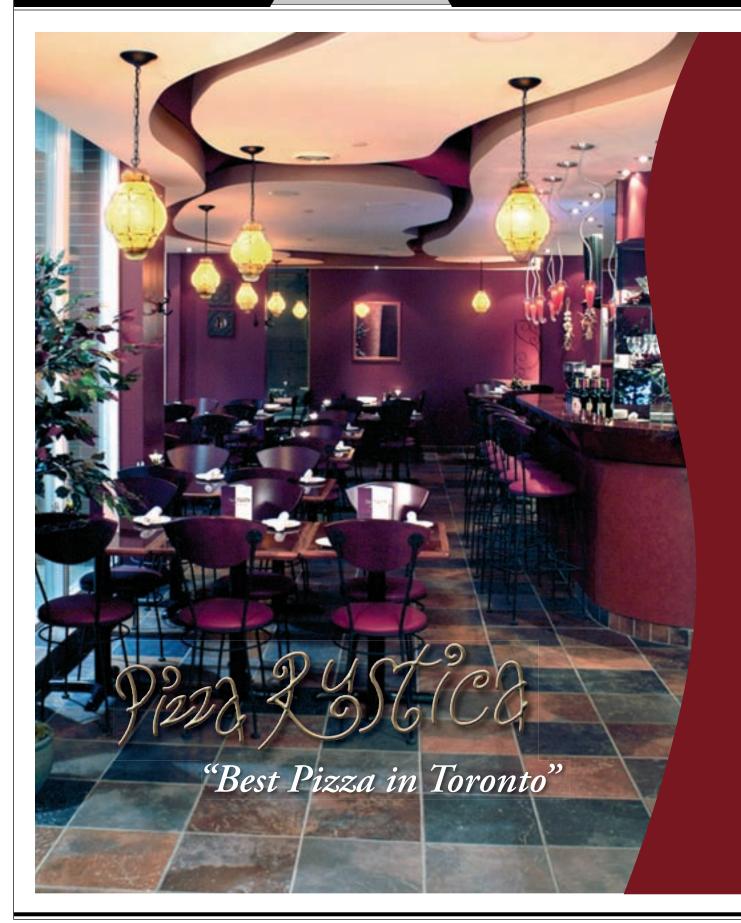
When Food is an Art

and solarium-style glass wall also acts as the perfect nest for the original Chi-nese calligraphy by Southeast Asian ar-tist Cheung Ming. Each word describes the atmosphere of the restaurant, where some mean "pure," "fresh," "leisure," "drunk," or "banquet."

For those seeking a little more seclusion, the maple-paneled VIP room can hold up to 20 and a platformed seating area for 14 called the "chef's table" is used for more leisurely functions. Lai Wah Heen, which accommodates up to 180, sits on the second level of the Metropolitan Hotel and makes for an easy midday shift from the hub bub of Dundas Street below.

zackmed@hotmail.com

Lai Wah Heen Restaurant is located on the second floor of the Metropolitan Hotel Toronto, 108 Chestnut Street. For reservations call 416-977-9899 or visit metropolitan.com.



Italian delight

TORONTO PRIVILEGE TORONTO PRIVILEGO PRIVILON PRIVILEGO PRIVILON PR

Pizza Rustica Adds Flavour to Toronto's Entertainment District

By Saskia Brussaard

Pizza Rustica is an upscale, yet warm and inviting Italian trattoria located in Toronto's lively Entertainment District. Popular with theatre-goers and voted "Best Pizza in Toronto" by Toronto.com in 2004, Pizza Rustica offers an array of thin crust pizzas, gourmet Italian pastas and more, all moderately priced and exceptionally delicious.

Start by indulging in the baked mussels, a tasty appetizer served in a delectable sauce that's perfect for dipping the fresh-baked bread in. For a lighter alternative, the Fragola salad features ripe strawberries served on crisp mixed

greens and topped with candied pecans, soft unripened goat cheese and a creamy poppy seed dressing. If pasta is what you prefer, the Cajun chicken penne sautéed in basil pesto and white wine Alfredo sauce and garnished with chilli peppers, parmesan and asiago cheese is a delightfully rich choice.

Their top-selling signature Pizza Rustica features their own homemade Roma tomato sauce, goat cheese, red peppers, sun-dried tomatoes and, when it comes out of the oven, still piping hot, it's topped with cured prosciutto ham. A small of amount

> offood colouring is added to the pizza dough to distinguish it from local competitors, a quaint tradition also practised by many pizzerias in Italy.

Best friends since they were kids, restaurant owners Sami Mini, Eddie Ortisi and Jason Acosta have turned their dreams of owning an Italian restaurant into a reality. They credit word of mouth with helping to make their restaurant a success. "We want our guests to enjoy superb food in a relaxed environment with their friends, family and co-work-

ers," says co-owner Acosta. "But most importantly, we want you to feel at home when you visit us."

Established just two years ago, this hidden gem has quickly earned the loyalty of local regulars who appreciate quality Italian cuisine and friendly service. Pizza Rustica has even attracted some celebrity patrons such as Canadian singers Nellie Furtado and Brian Adams, and many of the Toronto Raptors and Toronto Blue Jays.

The restaurant offers a fine wine list, by the glass or bottle, to be enjoyed while relaxing indoors or outdoors on the summertime patio. Recently, Pizza Rustica has expanded its services to include special event catering, and if you are living close by or are staying at the Soho Hotel, they offer delivery service.

Pizza Rustica is located at 270 Wellington Street West (on Blue Jays Way). For more information, call 416.260.0200 or visit the website at www.pizzarustica.ca







The next chapter in fine dining

Sequel opens with accolades as uptown's first boutique restaurant

By Zack Medicoff

magine this as your own living room," is how Lisa Rutland and Eric Te boekhorst, co-owners of Sequel Restaurant & Catering introduce themselves and seat us to our table.

The husband and wife duo are the newest restaurant entry in the Lawrence Park district, found on Yonge Street between Lawrence and York Mills Avenue. Many restos may still vie for prime downtown locations, but Sequel, which opened last fall, is part of the growing trend for uptowners seeking an alternative to the Toronto core.

Set in a vintage 1928 two storey building, they created an open concept space of mahogany and chocolate woods with soft, inviting lighting. "We really want to give people the boutique experience by offering intimate service and maintaining a close rapport with our diners. That's really the central element to our philosophy," says Te boekhorst.

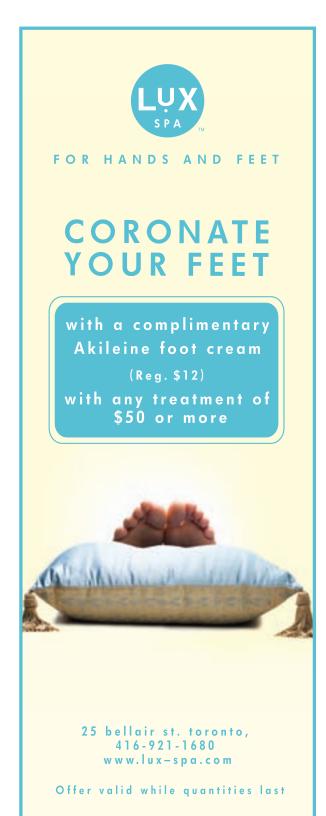
Sequel seats 25 downstairs and 25 upstairs and it's not uncommon for Te boekhorst to sit down and have a chat

with his guests. He'll describe his fare, a contemporary euro cuisine inspired menu with French and Italian flare. He's also more than ecstatic to talk about his Chef du Cuisine, a 26 yearold Hungarian named David Kokai who's worked in Germany, France, Italy and eateries including the Mercer Street Grill and Auberge du Pommier.

"We have fun with our food. That's why we create dishes that are exquisite in taste but have an interesting angle," says Te boekhorst, who also ran Herbs for eight years, another highend destination that's just a stone's throw south. "There's even a Hungarian inspired dish with paprikás. We love those eastern European touches"

Some of their signature offerings which emulate their unique cooking style: an appetizer of Dungeness crab in crisp ravioli served on a bed of watercress, or the rack of lamb "portolaise," a play on the traditional French sauce "bordelaise," made with a Bordeaux wine, which they substitute with port. Even their desserts are playful, with a three sample size crème brulees in lemongrass ginger, grand marnier







saffron and black chocolate. Top off with their ice cream, made in-house and always an eclectic flavour.

"I'm also a wine nut, and since I worked in the wine industry as a sales rep, I'm able to choose really exclusive bottles. Best yet, I taste every single one of them so you know exactly what to expect."



In addition to the restaurant, Te boekhorst's wife operates Sequel Catering. With over two years in operation, she reads off an impressive list of clients ranging from the Australian Consulate-General to pharmaceutical, financial and law firms. Rutland also offers the upper seating area as a private dinning room for corporate or family functions, with cocktail receptions that can hold up to 40 people.

"You always know you're eating restaurant quality food that's prepared by David in our kitchen," she says. "The locale needs a space like Sequel which offers a private space but within an upscale venue and with amazing fare."

zackmed@hotmail.com

Sequel Restaurant & Catering is located at 3362 Yonge Street, just north of Lawrence Avenue. For reservations call 416-480-0996 or visit www.sequel.ca



Toronto landmark Scaramouche celebrates 25 years

Silver Anniversary Menus delighting patrons in July and August

B celebrating its 25th birthday. To celebrate this tremendous milestone, Executive Chef and co-owner Keith Froggett has designed a series of Silver Anniversary tasting menus with accompanying wines that will delight patrons in July and August, 2005. Scaramouche's all-time favourite dish, the mile-high coconut cream pie showered with white chocolate shavings, will be featured on the menus.

This award-winning restaurant, tucked into the corner of a stately apartment block off Avenue Road, has been earning accolades for its fabulous food, stellar service and glittering skyline view since 1980.

In those days, Toronto food lovers were more likely to head to New York or Montreal for innovative fare. The launch of Scaramouche, with two unknown chefs barely out of their teens – Jamie Kennedy and Michael Stadtlander – electrified the city's fledgling culinary scene and created a destination for food lovers. While countless other restaurants have opened and closed over the years, Scaramouche remains a Toronto landmark and one of Canada's consistently top-rated restaurants. The restaurant has also supported the vibrant culinary scene in Toronto for a quarter century and has trained hundreds of chefs in the making from Ontario's many colleges and culinary schools.

> Keith Froggett, who arrived at Scaramouche in 1983, skillfully transforms quality and seasonal ingredients into sophisticated dishes as fresh and innovative as the day the restaurant opened. His partner, Carl Korte, assures a warm, gracious welcome.

> > This summer, visitors to Scaramouche should expect a number of the Londonborn chef's personal favourites to appear on the five course, pre-fixed menu: roasted quail filled with Quebec foie gras and



wrapped in paper-thin slices of smoked bacon; and grilled calamari salad with mint and celery leaves, red chili and black olives.

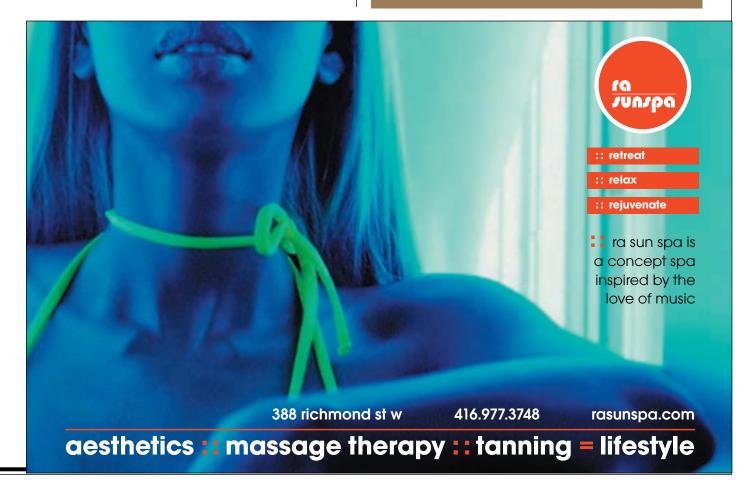
Whether you're planning a romantic dinner for two, a family celebration or an important business meeting, Scaramouche promises a memorable dining experience.

Scaramouche is open for dinner Monday to Saturday and is located at One Benvenuto Place, four blocks south of St. Clair. For reservations, call 416-961-8011. To view the menu and wine list, visit www.scaramoucherestaurant.com





Chef Keith Froggett



L'Escargot Bistro gives a French lesson

Upscale eatery transplants France to uptown Toronto

By Zack Medicoff

Any chef will argue that French classical is the template for fine dining. But these days, many offer their own take on the style, or fuse it with different spices and tastes.

For Max Balin, owner of L'Escargot Bistro, maintaining a pure French menu was the essential offering for those searching the real McCoy.

"I really think people want to try a way of cooking that stays true to its region. In this case, it's France. I felt that establishing myself on Yonge Street near Lawrence Avenue, was the perfect spot to have this type of bistro experience. There is really no place like it this far north of Bloor," he says. This "pure" French philosophy is something this man from Le Mans has honed after being in the restaurant business for 32 years. He worked in Ottawa and Montreal before settling in Toronto, where he helped run destinations like Chez Max and Maison Basque in the downtown core.

His charming eatery opened in late 2002, where he



The French Bistro Atmosphere ...

"Bistro," he says, is traditionally described as fast and simple eating, but his restaurant evokes a sense of relaxation and casual dining with an upscale twist. Balin also points to his expansive vintage collection with a heavy emphasis on French and California wines that include hard-to-find Bordeaux's and Chateauneuf-du-Papes. turned to his Quebec roots in 1998. Soon after moving to Toronto, he sizzled at The Senator and Brasserie Bobino, but was persuaded in late 2004 by Balin to apply his gastronomic skills uptown.

When it comes to the food, Hoek boasts the delicate flavors of their signature snail dishes, but points to the more composed



French quality wines...

created a quaint and inviting dining room of dim lights, red hues on the walls and vintage reproduction lithographs from France, all which were selected by his wife.

He also works closely with Montreal-born Graeme Hoek, a young and spirited chef who studied at the Culinary Institute of Canada in P.E.I. After cooking at well known culinary destinations including La Rua Restaurante in Whistler, B.C., he re-

"people want to try a way of cooking that stays true to its region. In this case, it's France"

creation of the escargots in a phyllo pastry with a julienne of vegetables and garlic sauce. He also favors the duck rillettes served with red onion confit and cornichons, a balanced and delectable specialty where the duck is molded and best enjoyed on toasted bread. Of course there is always the popular steak and frits, a 9 oz Black Angus NY cut which can be also served in peppercorn.

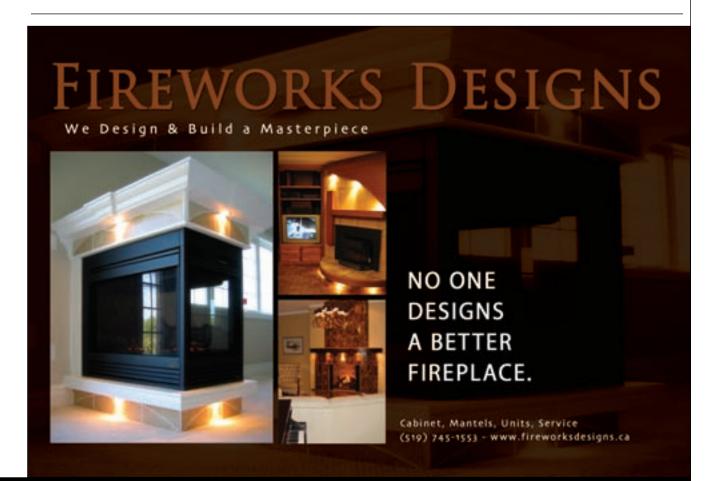
"We aren't super fancy and into crazy garnishes. We're trying to create a true French Bistro and I'm not going off course with our menu," Hoek says. "I know the people who come here are well traveled, or have been to France and eaten at the restaurants there. I'm hoping to rekindle those great memories."

zackmed@hotmail.com

L'Escargot Bistro is located at 3185 Yonge Street, just north of Lawrence Avenue. For reservations call 416 485-8338.



A quaint and inviting dining room of dim lights, red hues on the walls and vintage reproduction lithographs from France



Only for Connoisseurs

Vegas Robaina 5th Anniversary Limited Edition Humidor

veyears after the launch of the Vegas Robaina line of cigars, Habanos

S.A. celebrated this momentous occasion by creating an extremely limited edition humidor to honour not only the cigar and its growing popularity, but also the family behind the Robaina name. The finished product, stately and sophisticated, is a perfect piece to store the Robaina cigars properly and to enjoy a small piece of the rich history that the cigar and the country in general have to offer.

The legend of the Robaina family is one that is deeply rooted in the rich tobacco growing operations of Cuba. Widely considered the greatest tobacco grower in the country, Maruto Robaina passed away in 1950, leaving very large shoes for his son, Don Alejandro to fill. However, Don Alejandro, over the course of a half-century cultivated a product of such high quality that some of the country's most popular exports are wrapped using his farm's product.

Currently, a full 30% of all cigars exported from the infamous Pinar del Rio region of Cuba are produced using wrappers grown on the Robaina plantations. As such, it came as no surprise that one of two new brands launched by Habanos S.A. in the 90's came bearing the Robaina name- a small tribute to the family that has given so much to the cigar industry over the past 160 years.

Of course, competing against manufacturers such as Montecristo and Fidel Castro's once preferred brand Cohiba, the



100 perfect cigars experience...

Vegas Robaina is a relatively unknown, a well kept secret that those in the know cherish for its rich, medium bodied flavors. The Robaina brand comes in five different sizes: Don Alejandro (Double Corona), Famosos (Robusto), Classicos

(Lonsdale), Unicos (Pyramid) and Familiares (Corona), and each of these cigars has a place in the 5th anniversary humidor, arranged neatly inside in a dice formation. With 20 of each size found in the humidor, each as perfect in texture, colour and taste as the next, Habanos S.A. has ensured the proud owner of the humidor 100 perfect cigar experiences, should the decision be made to not simply keep the masterpiece intact.

Handcrafted in Cuba, the humidor itself is a work of art, giving away at once the craftsmanship and quality of the cigars that wait inside. Bearing a beautifully engraved replica of the Robaina symbol, the same that adorns the band of every cigar, the humidor has an understated

beauty, which does not take attention away from the cigars inside. A centrepiece to any collection, its contents can be stored at the perfect humidity level thanks in part to the hygrometer, smartly located on the front of the drawer. Inside the cigars are tucked neatly into compartments created using only the finest Spanish cedar available, and left completely unfinished (to avoid contaminating the taste of its occupants). With each humidor signed and numbered verifying its place in the run of 500, the Vegas Robaina anniversary humidor is an impressive addition to any serious cigar smoker's collection.

Cuban Style

Robaina Special Edition lighter by S.T. Dupont

a good cigar can be ruined all too easily should it not be lit properly. Improper lighting of a cigar affects not only the burn and draw that will be yielded, but also the aroma and taste. On that account, a stunning addition for any cigar aficionado, the S.T. Dupont Habanera collection combines the style, class, and image that the company is known for, with a passion for Cuban cigars and its wide, double flame takes all chance out of achieving a perfectly lit cigar. Beautifully adorned in Chinese lacquer with the Vegas fl Robaina name and emblem, the gold a s coating has been electron magnetical-



ROBAIN

LIFESTYLES

PRIVILEGE TORONTO PRIVILEGE TORONTO PRIVILEGE TORONTO

James' lighter

Special Edition 007 lighter by S.T. Dupont

B ond. James Bond. Three simple words and yet they conjure up images of the suave playboy who over the course of a forty year career as Britain's most trusted spy, became the pinnacle of sophistication, and a sex symbol across the globe. No matter how difficult the situation, Bond reacts with a cool self-confidence that oozes masculinity and has formed an army of copycats. Of course, without the help of M:I:6's trusted technology department, under the watchful eye

of Q, Bond's life would

have been cut

tragically short on countless occasions over the span of the 20 films thus far produced in the series. It is 007's

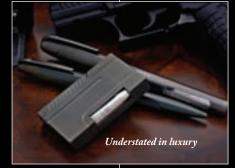
007

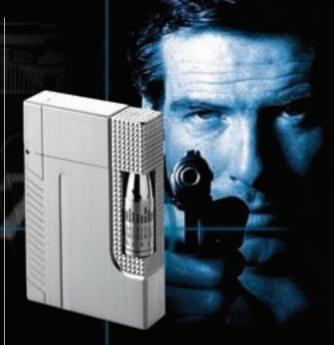
reliance on some of the wildest gadgets imaginable that has all but solidified Bond's place as the greatest spy to ever grace the silver screen. While many companies have tried over the years to create a product which adheres strictly to the bevy of images that Bond's affiliation suggests; stylish, dangerous, sleek and sexy, with mixed results. The new, exclusive, limited edition 007 line by Paris' S.T. Dupont has created a set of lighters so spot-on, even James Bond himself would find them hard to resist.

As if the sleek images of James Bond and the 007 logo weren't enough to ensure high demand for the pieces, S.T. Dupont has made the Bond series a limited edition run, all but guaranteeing that the exquisite pieces of history will be much sought after globally, because Bond's grasp on coolness has reached all four corners of the Globe. Each piece in Dupont's series remains true to the Bond name, with runs being stopped at a mere 5007 pieces worldwide. The signifi-

cance of the run should not be overlooked; 007 is obvious, the five that proceeds the most famous three digits is in tribute to the five actors who have been privileged enough to have played Bond over the years.

The product? Sleek, sexy, exclusive and cool are just a handful of words that can be used to describe the masculine 007 table lighter produced by S.T. Dupont. Understated in luxury, the table lighter is sure to be noticed wherever it is displayed, with its lustrous brushed palladium finish. Similar to other Dupont





created lighters, the Bond table lighter is a single solid piece of brass that has been electron magnetically coated with shimmering platinum, which prevents any flaking from occurring. The exquisite bullet shaped ignition device, replete with time zone function creates a perfect flame with all the lavishness that

one would expect from S.T. Dupont; with the attention to detail that Bond would demand.

Should the job require a deft touch from a more compact, unassuming lighter, Dupont's pocket 007 lighter is so luxurious it would not surprise at all if there was a compartment to store microfilm. Originally a mistake from tightening part of the mechanism a little too much, the high pitched "cling" that all S.T. Dupont lighters make when flipping the

top has now become one of the company's trademarks. With the Bond pocket lighter carrying on this tradition and collectors will be searching for the lighter with the highest pitch.

With both the table lighter and the pocket version being available in either the stunning palladium finish or PVD black, S.T. Dupont has created a masterpiece that combines the strict meticulous manufacturing that the company strives and the luxurious final product for which they are known with the sleek, sophisticated image that James Bond demands.

PING Fits

The Fine Tuned Club

I t doesn't cost any more or take any longer to own custom-fit, custom-built PING Clubs. It does help you play your best-men, women, juniors and seniors.

Custom club fitting was born in the 1960's when Karsten Solheim helped PGA Tour professionals improve their games by adjusting their equipment to fit their swings. The results were amazing. It was then that Karsten started work on his famous PING Color Code System.

Today, over 3600 factory-certified PING fitters work around the United States and nearly 1400 in Canada and Europe, each trained in the most extensive and personal process in the industry to find your precise fitting specifications.

You can start the process on-line with Web-Fit, where you'll get a static fitting (fitting based on your measurements) and learn more about why fitting will help you play your best – at every ability level.

Then choose your local PING Club Fitting Specialist or any one of hundreds of PING Fitting/Demo days throughout the year to have your Web-Fit specifications fine-tuned for optimum results.

Fitting Facts:

IRON

The PING fitting process consists of four steps:

- Static Fitting
- Dynamic Fitting
- Ball Flight Observation
- Monitoring Performance

The first three steps determine the specifications of your set, the fourth is repeated periodically to ensure that the specifications of your set



are matched to your swing as it changes over time.

The static fitting is a fitting based on your measurements that determines a starting PING Color Code, club length, grip size and shaft flex. You can be static fit on-line with Web-Fit.

The next step is the dynamic fitting, which accomodates your posture and swing. Impact tape placed on the sole of the iron reveals the club's position at impact, allowing the fitter to compensate for tendencies that affect the Dynamic lie angle.

The factory-certified PING Club-Fitting Specialist then observes your trajectory and ball flight in order to fine-tune the specifications for your custom-built set of PING golf clubs. Further refinements are made by the fitter in the area of set makeup. Having the right Another benefit of getting fit is that you'll be able to try the full line of PING irons to determine which clubs feel the best for your game - The S59, i3+ or a model from the G2 family.

METAL WOODS

PING metal woods are strategically weighted and custom-fit to help you hit longer, straighter drives. The proper combination of shaft flex, loft and grip size creates a "trickle-down" effect that improves your scoring. By hitting longer, more accurate drives, you're able to hit shorter irons from the fairway. Short shots from the fairway give you a better opportunity to score.

You should start with a static fitting, which is a fitting based on several measurements, to determine a starting point for shaft flex, driver loft and grip color code. You can be static fit online with Web-Fit.

The next step is the dynamic fitting, which refines the specifications to accomodate your posture and swing. Then, a factory-certified PING Club-Fitting Specialist will consider your distance, trajectory and ball direction to fine-tune the specifications to help you achieve maximum distance, accuracy and consistency on all your tee shots.

And, at a PING Fitting or Demo Day you will be able to hit the new G2 Driver and Fairway Woods, plus the TiSI Tec Fairway Woods to determine the right "fit" for your game.

PUTTERS

Just as irons and woods should be custom-fit to your individual stance and swing, so should your putter. A properly fit putter can have a dramatic effect on putting performance when combined with the putter style you prefer at address.

what color code you are likely to need.

You can start the process at Web-Fit. This static fitting will determine your initial PING Color Code and length based on your static measurements. If you already have a preference for putter length, we can tell you

The next step is the dynamic fitting, which fine-tunes the results of your static fitting based on your stance, stroke and other preferences. The factory-certified PING Club-Fitting Specialist, using the PING Putter Fitting System, will observe your stroke and the results of your putts to determine which specifications, putter models and grip styles can help you sink more putts.



Since putter feel and style are so important, PING offers a wide variety of putters from the precision milled titanium JAS to the new G2i Series with a softer insert. There's also the Specify Series - where you create your own putter by choosing the hosel, back and weight that's right for you.

WEDGES

According to some statistics, 60 percent of your score comes from shots taken from 100 yards or less. This is one reason why properly fit PING Wedges are so important to your game.

The first step in PING Wedge fitting is a static fitting, which is based on your height, wrist-to-floor and a few other measurements. Your static fitting results will include suggestions for a PING color code, length, shaft flex and grip size. You can be static fit on-line with Web-Fit.

> The next step is the dynamic fitting, where a factorycertified PING Club-Fitting Specialist will observe your swing, ask questions about your game and watch you hit a variety of shots. The fitter will then fine-tune the specifications determined during your static fitting and make a recommendation for the number of wedges you should carry.

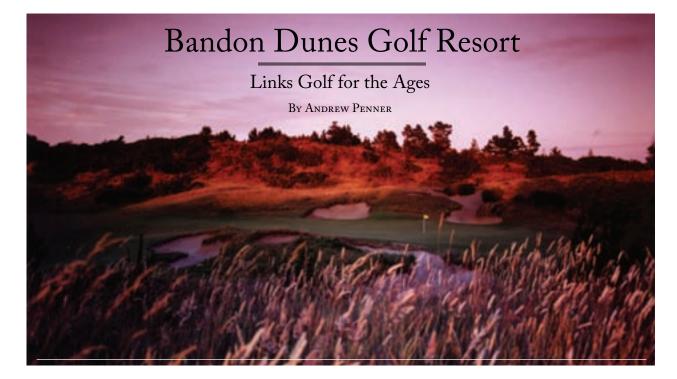
By selecting the proper lofts for your game, or custom lofts if necessary,

the fitter can help you achieve the proper balance in your set. Determining the maximum loft you need, as well as the proper yardage gaps between each club, is an important part of creating the ideal set makeup for your game. Having a properly fit wedge system will greatly improve your opportunities to score around the green and recover from an errant shot.

for more information visit www.pinggolf.com



GOLF



Pressed hard on the rugged shores of the Pacific Ocean in southern Oregon - threaded through gorse and dunes and leaving the purists of the game rejoicing long after their wind-battered scores have been tallied - is a golfing kingdom called Bandon Dunes. With two epic courses (and a third set to open in June) that toss and turn through this enchanting seaside land, Bandon Dunes is a world-wide contender when the best of links golf is considered.

Typically, when pondering the best links golf destinations in the world, the mind drifts to Scotland. St. Andrews, Turnberry, Dornoch, Carnoustie, these are the sacred seaside sites where golf is at its brawny best. Ireland, too, is bursting at the seams with incredible links courses: Ballybunion, Lahinch, Royal Portrush, just a few of that country's best. North America is simply a major underdog when it comes to this, the purest form of the game. But, thanks to owner Mike Keiser's vision and a remarkable lineup of architects, the Oregon coast is now as far as you need to go to get an "old-world," soul-stirring game.

Opened in the spring of 1999, the resort at Bandon Dunes has done things differently from the get go. When compared to its west coast counterparts - Pebble Beach, La Costa, Pelican Hill, and the like, where the Rolls Royce power carts have just as much authority on the streets as the Jags and the Lincolns - Bandon Dunes is a complete throwback. It's a pure and relatively simple golf resort. It's a place where the lovers of the game take refuge and immerse themselves into the heart and soul of the game.

There are no power carts available at Bandon Dunes. Golfers walk. Well, actually, they ramble among massive dunes that have been sculpted by a million storms. They scramble high on bluffs clothed with beach grass and heather. And they wander among scraggly, wind-blasted shore pines that yield to lush and mystical forests thick with beech and fir.

Sole owner, Mike Keiser, who made his fortune in the greeting card business, is the man behind the approach at Bandon. Wanting a golf resort that transcended the typical North American "let's-take-'em-for-all-they're-worth" approach, Keiser has done many things - including foregoing millions in buggy revenue - that are "out of the box." For instance, he didn't, and for the most part still doesn't, advertise in glossy magazines or issue

press releases for a grand opening. And he hired two virtually unknown architects (at the time) to build his first two masterpieces.

David McLay Kidd, a Scotsman with relatively few courses to his credit, routed the original course at Bandon. Tom Doak, a minimalist who searches every inch of property to find the ultimate "natural" route, created the second, Pacific Dunes. Doak's courses are raw, daring, and melt into the site with minimal disturbance. Together, they have created a pair of links that



As you would expect with those lofty positions in the rankings, there is an awesome collection of holes that hug the shore (12, in total). Golfers playing Kidd's course, for example, get

their first blast of sea mist on the fourth. Here the green clutches a rugged patch of land that, from the landing area, appears suspended on the waves. Then - the fifth, a colossal 460-yard par-4 with a split fairway and the foaming sea immediately to the left. The long-iron approach must be threaded to a thin green that's pinched between a ring of dunes. The epitome of "beauty and beast," for sure.

Pacific Dunes is shorter (6,557 yards, par 71) than Bandon Dunes (6,732 yards, par 72) and is quite different in character. Green complexes are smaller with more undulation. An emphasis is placed on creative play around the greens and short iron approaches are hit to tighter areas. And then there are the high bluffs and massive blowout dunes that creep into play throughout the route. In terms of visuals, this one will knock your socks off. It's America's closest counter to Ballybunion, the ancient and awesome Irish links.

And the third course at Bandon, you ask? It's currently being grown in and massaged by masters Bill Coore and Ben Crenshaw, who are probably the most respected architectural duo honing the craft right now. "Bandon Trails" will be the first inland course on the site. It will open June 1st of 2005 and will, undoubtedly, be an incredible journey as well.

While the premise at Bandon Dunes is simple (golf your tail off, then sleep, then do it again), the accommodation and dining is set up to appease fine tastes. The new Chrome Lake Suites are modern and secluded. The Lodge offers 19 rooms and 2 suites, many with wonderful views of the course. Fittingly, the meals at Bandon Dunes are hearty (walking 36 holes with a caddy, which is what most guests do, takes a bit out of you). The Gallery Room, located in the main lodge, has a world-class wine list and specializes in fresh Pacific Northwest cuisine. The



resort also has two lounges and the Scottish-themed McKee's Pub, a great place to unwind, have a pint, a pie, and talk about who's hole-in-one was better.

When asked to defend his choice of architects, Keiser's response is simple and to the point. "I admire most name architects, but they often superimpose their design style on your site. If you have a great site, why diminish it with a pre-formed sculpture?



More than just golf ...

Finding holes as if they were blown in by the wind is a far more poetic use of a

great site." Keiser believed his chosen architects – Kidd, Doak, Coore and Crenshaw - would find the wherewithal to allow the gales from centuries past to really dictate the plans. He was right. To play Bandon Dunes and Pacific Dunes is to sail along with nature, to experience timeless forces, and ultimately, to play our game on one of the greatest canvasses in the world.

andpenner@shaw.ca

Other Courses Nearby

If you can pry yourself away from this golfing wonderland (few people can), then two good courses can be found in nearby Florence. Sandpines and Ocean Dunes, located about two hours north of Bandon on Highway 101, are enjoyable courses to play. Ocean Dunes, a unique but sometimes cramped Bill Robinson design, also offers a links-like experience. Sandpines is a challenging Rees Jones layout that bas a four-star rating from Golf Digest.

Other Attractions

Non-golfers might enjoy the comprehensive trail system at the resort or walks along the beach. Also, there is world-class salmon and steelhead fishing found nearby in the Elk and Sixes Rivers. The small historic town of Bandon also offers some unique gift shops and antique galleries as well as a marina and small ocean port. It's a beautiful little seaside town with plenty to see. BOAT

SPECIAL ADVERTISING SECTION

Crafted to last a lifetime

Smartly designed. Brilliantly engineered.

arver Yachts constructs the most advanced leisure vessels in the industry. Yachts that are intelligently built to enhance your onboard living. To reflect the quality you deserve. And to provide the honest satisfaction you expect from your investment. Carver Yachts. The smart choice for spaciousness, entertaining, and all-out luxury.

Every Carver Yacht is crafted with the confidence that comes from more than 50 years of quality boat-building expertise.





We continue to raise both structural standards and customer expectations through our cutting-edge technology and with generations of handcrafted skills that put our manufacturing in a class by itself.

At Carver, we're never satisfied with building anything less than the finest luxury cruising yachts in the world. Every step of construction is performed in-house with the perfect blend of artisanship and technology. All so we can closely manage and unconditionally guarantee a quality build, one boat at a time.

You can be sure that every Carver Yacht is intelligently crafted to the highest performance and quality standards known to the industry,

without compromise. The result is in-



tegrity that's painstakingly built into every square inch of every model. We call this commitment Carver Intelligence. You'll simply call it the most satisfying boat ownership experience you've ever had.

Our supreme Voyager(r) series offers the ultimate environments for maximizing entertainment and cruising possibilities, no matter what the weather conditions. Voyager combines a passenger-friendly pilothouse with a spacious and social bridge to keep both navigation and celebration under way.

SPECIAL ADVERTISING SECTION

Some people really like their boats. Others enjoy them. Then there are the Carver owners. To own a Carver is to belong to a special group of people. Nowhere will you find a more satisfied bunch. And for good reason.

Our customers often tell us that owning a Carver is a uniquely rewarding experience. That it readily brings together family and friends in gratifying ways and creates one-of-a-kind memories. And that it's one of the most satisfying investments they've ever made.



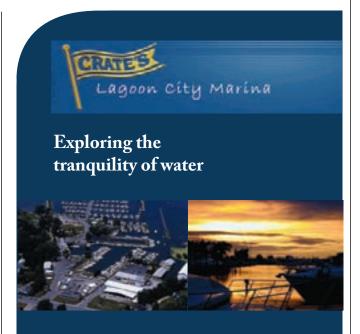
1999 450 Voyager

For the past 20 years my wife and I have been cruising Lake Ontario and the Finger Lakes. Our search for a larger yacht ended when we located our 450 Voyager. This yacht offers us a live-aboard interior with a true cruising hull. The Voyager is easily handled by the two of us thanks to the optional bow thruster and convenient pilothouse. We are very impressed with the performance of the 450 Cummins engines and the boat's ability to handle the unpredictable seas that Lake Ontario can produce. We truly feel that we have acquired a world-class yacht at a very reasonable price. Our last trip to the Annapolis Boat show proved to us that a yacht with similar amenities and engineering would add \$600,000 to our boating budget.

Robert Lama, NY

Carver Yachts are available at Crates Marina. Congratulations to Crates on there 75th Anniversary.





We all know that boating provides us, our families and our friends with special memories that will last a lifetime. And for over 75 years the Crate family and its staff have been helping people like you to realize the dream of purchasing and owning a boat.

Over the years Crates sales department has grown to where we now have one of Canada's largest used boats and brokerage harbors, a large on-land sales compound open 12 months a year and two indoor showrooms. In addition to new boats from Carver and Regal, Crates always has a vast selection of pre-owned and select brokerage boats. Arranging financing, insurance, surveys and even providing driving lessons are all services available to Crates valued customers.

Our sales staff all have uncompromising dedication to provide you with the information and service you need to make you buying decision just one part of an on going enjoyable boating experience.

Come to Crates where you will always receive a warm welcome. Whether buying or selling trust Crate's knowledge and experience to fulfill your boating needs.



To be the best, we sell the best.

British Conqueror

When Aston Martin

redefines the word

'Exclusive"



DB9 is new from the ground up. Every feature has been tailored to make the world's finest sports GT. The starting point was to define the ideal dimensions, proportions and materials for the chassis. Aston Martin did not use an adapted platform from an existing family or luxury salon - the most common starting point for GT cars. This approach can lead to compromise in styling and weight and loss of character.

Aston Martin developed its own incredibly light and strong aerospace-specification bonded aluminium structure. This 'VH' (Vertical/Horizontal) architecture, which is unique to Aston Martin, has given DB9 one of the most structurally efficient body frames in the car industry. Its enormous rigidity aids handling, driver feedback and safety. More than any other single component, the advanced aluminium structure is the reason for DB9's extraordinary nimbleness, responsiveness and overall character.

It takes one push of a button and a mere 17 seconds to raise or lower the roof of the Volante. Hood up or down, the lines of a DB9 Volante remain breathtakingly beautiful.

DB9 was conceived and designed, from the outset, as both a Coupe and a convertible (Volante). This uncompromising approach is typical of the whole DB9 engineering philosophy. That is why DB9 Volante is one of the most structurally rigid and best handling convertibles in the world. It is also one of the fastest and quietest. It looks elegant and perfectly proportioned from every angle – with roof up or down.

As with all Aston Martins, beauty and proportion is of key importance

Great sports cars must handle superbly. They should respond quickly and predictably to driver commands; they should be nimble and agile.

The front-to-rear weight distribution of DB9 is a perfect 50:50 with 85 percent of the car's mass sited between the front and rear axles. The aluminum V12 engine is mounted as far back as possible in a 'front mid-engined' layout. The compact aluminium transaxle housing the gearbox and final drive is positioned at the rear, forward of the rear axle.

A lightweight and rigid carbon fibre propellor shaft, housed in a cast aluminium torque tube, transfers torque from the front-mid engine to the rear-mid transmission. This gives DB9 its superb balance.



A great sports car needs a great engine - it is the heart of any high performance machine. In DB9's case, that great engine is a powerful yet refined all aluminium 6.0-litre V12. It produces 335 kW (450 bhp) and 570 Nm (420 lb ft) of torque. That results in a power to weight ratio of 194 kW/tonne (263 bhp/ tonne) - one of the highest figures in its class.

Performance is enormous, yet usable. Top speed is 300 km/h (186 mph) and acceleration sees 0-100 km/h (62 mph) in 4.9 seconds (add two tenths of a second for the automatic). These figures are impressive and DB9 will respond with real passion.

Two-Way Communication

More than any other quality, DB9 seeks to serve up the richest driving experience in the sports GT class. It serenades the driver with its balance of engine and exhaust notes; it scintillates with its performance and agility; it charms with its

delicious blend of fluent steering and linear controls. And if you wish to relax and just enjoy a leisurely drive, you can indulge yourself with the superb, industry-leading Linn audio system and select the car's full automatic transmission mode.

This match of performance and luxury is the reason why DB9 can be both out-and-out sports car and refined GT. The cabin of DB9 is built around the driver. You sit as low and as close as possible to the car's centre of grav-

ity. Combined with the rigid body structure and all-aluminium, double-wishbone suspension, the result is unfiltered feedback of the car's dynamic behaviour.

An Elegant & Luxurious Cabin Hand-Trimmed in Natural Materia

DB9 is a luxurious sports car. It is supremely comfortable, with a cabin hand-trimmed in beautiful, natural materials - primarily wood and leather. There is the latest in modern technology, yet there are no superfluous controls or displays. There is a minimum of distraction. Even the satellite navigation screen motors is hidden seamlessly away when not in use.

Yet the car has very high equipment levels, as you would expect in a thoroughbred sports car with GT levels of comfort and refinement.

An Exclusive Sports Car Tailored for Individuals

Aston Martins are hand-built cars, made to order. This exclusive, bespoke tailoring philosophy means any combination

of paint and leather trim colour is possible. That is the essence of hand craftsmanship; it's what makes Aston Martin's new Gaydon facility the Savile Row of sports car production.

There is, of course, an extensive palette of standard body colours and interior finishes. These have been specially chosen by Aston Martin's team of designers, who have scoured the world to gain inspiration for colors, materials, surfaces and finishes.

DB9 is the most thoroughly tested and engineered car in Aston Martin's history. It is also one of the most technically sophisticated cars in the world.



The long list of design and engineering innovations includes the Organic Electro Luminescent (OEL) displays in the instrument pack and center console. These provide higher resolution, and improved clarity, compared with conventional electronic displays. Other innovations include LED (Light Emitting Diode) rear lamps that project through a reflector, dispensing rays more evenly than other LED systems. They also react more quickly, giving earlier warning to following drivers when braking.

DB9 offers class-leading safety. Its structure is designed to provide a supremely robust passenger cell that cocoons its occupants who are further protected by extruded aluminium crumple zones front and rear. Dual-stage driver and passenger airbags, seat-mounted side airbags and seat belt pretensioners offer further protection. In the Volante, rear roll-over hoops are automatically deployed, when required, from the rear headrests.

DB9 is the first Aston Martin to be produced at the company's new world headquarters in Gaydon, in historic Warwickshire. Gaydon is a dedicated, high-technology facility where DB9 is hand-built at a series of work stations by technicians and craftsmen. This hand-craftsmanship has nothing to do with nostalgia. Hand-craftsmanship can deliver superior finishes and unique design details. It can also deliver engineering and design solutions for an exclusive sports car that mass production would find impossible.

The 'single cut' headlamp apertures in the front wings remove the need for unsightly cut or join lines and can only be achieved using Aston Martin's hand-build processes. Hand-painting and hand-finishing deliver a better paint fin-

ish than any mechanised process, and each DB9 benefits from 25 man-hours of painting, to ensure a perfect finish. Customer visits are welcome and form an important part of the unique Aston Martin buying experience.

Body

- Two door coupe or convertible body style with 2+2 seating
- · Extruded aluminium bonded body structure
- Aluminium and composite body panels
- Extruded aluminium door side impact beams
- Xenon gas discharge projector headlights (dipped beam), halogen projector headlights (main beam) with power wash
 LED rear lights

Engine

- All alloy, quad overhead camshaft, 48-valve, 5935cc 60° V12
- Mid-front mounted, rear wheel drive
- Engine management system with Neural Net misfire detection system
- · Fully catalysed stainless steel exhaust system with active by-pass valves
- Compression ratio 10.3:1
- Maximum power 335 kW (450 bhp) at 6000 rpm
- Maximum torque 570 Nm (420 lb ft) at 5000 rpm
- Acceleration (Coupe manual) 0-60 mph in 4.7 seconds 0-100 km/h in 4.9 seconds
- Acceleration (Coupe automatic) 0-60 mph in 4.9 seconds 0-100 km/h in 5.1 seconds
- Maximum speed 186 mph (300 km/h)

Transmission

- Rear mid-mounted 'Touchtronic 2' six-speed gearbox with electronic shift-by-wire control system
- Rear mid-mounted six-speed manual gearbox
- Limited slip differential
- Final drive ratio 3.07:1 (auto) 3.54:1 (manual)

Steering

- · Rack and pinion, Servotronic speed-sensitive power-assisted steering,
- 3.0 turns lock to lock Column tilt and reach adjustment

Suspension

- Front: Independent double aluminium wishbones incorporating
- anti-dive geometry, coil over aluminium monotube dampers and anti-roll bar
- Rear: Independent double aluminium wishbones incorporating longitudinal control arms, coil over aluminium monotube dampers and anti-roll bar.

Committed to doing what they do best...

Autobahn Auto Salon: experts in the art of auto detailing

xceeding the expectations of concourlevel individuals; this is the fulfilled mission statement of Autobahn Auto Salon. Specializing in the meticulous hand cleaning of fine automobiles Autobahn Auto Salon has become widely known as a world-class auto detailing salon for fine cars. Autobahn's attention to detail and scrupulous hand detailing has drawn a large clientele from all around the Greater Toronto Area. Those such as Matt Sundin, Paul Tracy and other high profile citizens fill the niche market that Autobahn, more often than not, accommodates. Conversely, discrimination by vehicle is not established here, promises President Frank Duarte. "We'll push it in if it doesn't have an engine," Duarte affirms.

Established since 1991, Autobahn Auto Salon has been taking care of a wide range of exotic automobiles from Ferrari to Porsche to BMW to Lamborghini. Continued relationships with Mercedes and Porsche "allows no room for mistakes" Duarte informs. These types of relationships are built on "years of trust" he reports with such fervor that you are confident Autobahn will not disappoint.

Frank Duarte, president of Autobahn Auto Salon launched his business eleven years ago in Concord, Ontario. "The first four to five years were very tough," recollects Duarte although you would not imagine so with the success he takes pleasure in today. As time advanced, so has the business, employing personally trained, qualified professionals to form a faultless team, performing the highest level of auto salon detailing services. Today, the autobahn team is acknowledged as experts in the art of automobile detailing.

As well as an extraordinary auto salon, Autobahn prides itself on serving as a research lab responsible for developing and supplying a first class body wax. The name of this product speaks for itself. 'World's Best Wax' is in a league of its own surpassing the luster and sheen achieved by common wax and is a favorite among high end car owners



Exceeding the expectations of concour-level individuals

who take pride in maintaining their paint surface to better than original condition. Graduating scores of assessments before being released to the public, consumers have been very pleased regarding the productto say the least. World's Best Wax preserves itself as an all natural product containing no petroleum or silicone yet maintains the most transparency and depth there is to offer in a body wax. Boasting awards throughout Canada, World's Best Wax lives up to its name: providing the best appearance while providing the most long term benefits for your automobile and the environment.

'While there are numerous competitors, Autobahn Auto Salon remains committed to doing what they do best, restoring vehicles to their original mint showcase condition.'

Autobahn Auto Salon encourages the viewing of their website where patrons have the ability to reserve an appointment for their automobiles on-line. In addition you may enjoy screening the gallery concours delegance.

for more information, visit www.autobahnsalon.com p. 416.739.0001

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Performance Enhancer

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he expert technicians at Cross Avenue Auto are eagerly waiting to demonstrate to you that the anxieties associated with finding a trustworthy and reliable auto repair facility are a thing of the past. Cross Avenue Auto's professional and certified staff are dedicated to making sure that your automotive service and repair experience meets the high standards you and your vehicle deserve. Whether you're looking for style, performance or reliability, the staff at Cross Avenue Auto is equipped with the knowledge, tools, and resources necessary to meet all your expectations.

Cross Avenue Auto features a diverse range of expertise, specializing in European imports, namely Audi, BMW, Jaguar, Porsche, Mercedes, Saab, Volvo and Volkswagen. Cross Avenue Auto is proud to have the capacity to provide exceptional service for all your fine car needs. At Cross Avenue Auto, business operates under the premise that information and understanding are the key to building confidence amongst drivers and vehicle-owners and this in turn promotes safety. So whether you are in the market for some custom stylish wheels or you need some emissions-related repair, the staff at Cross Avenue Auto has the credentials, experience, and diagnostic systems to address any automotive concern you may have.

Cross Avenue Auto is also proud to offer all BMW enthusiasts the opportunity to exceed their wildest dreams via the exceptional Dinan performance system. As an exclusive Dinan dealer, Cross Avenue Auto offers a wide range of factory authorized BMW performance upgrades, engineered specifically for BMWs. Dinan engineered products allows BMW drivers to modify their vehicles with the utmost

Proud to offer all BMW enthusiasts the opportunity to exceed their wildest dreams.

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"Dinan builds cars by examining each area of performance, applying sound engineering principles and executing them with a precision found only at the world's finest tuners. Then as now, I'm in awe." (European Car, March 2002).

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Car Appeal

The All New Mercedes-Benz CLS500 takes the stage.



ercedes-Benz Canada will unveil a totally distinctive model series at the press day preceding the Canadian International Auto Show that

opened to the public February 18-27, 2005, at the Metro Toronto Convention Centre. Never before have two contrasting concepts been brought together so effectively and attractively as in the new CLS-Class. The four-door CLS500 is the first vehicle to combine the emotional design of a coupe with the comfort and functionality of a sedan.

The new model once again underlines the role of Mercedes-Benz as a pioneer and trendsetter in automotive thinking. With its exquisite styling, exclusive appointments and groundbreaking technology, the CLS-Class will appeal most strongly to drivers with a passion for cars and motoring. The CLS500, starting at \$92,600, will be powered by a five-litre V8 engine producing 302 hp and 339 lb-ft of torque accompanied by the new seven-speed automatic transmission.

The overall design is an accurate reflection of the coupe's emotional, experience-oriented character. Based on familiar

Mercedes-Benz stylistic elements, the lines of the CLS-Class bring out the best in normally conflicting characteristics such as dynamics and spaciousness, power and elegance, aesthetics

and functionality.

Powerful, Smooth and Economical: The Engine for the New CLS-Class

Dynamic driving pleasure is just a push of the right foot away when considering the power development

and the exceptional torque characteristics of the CLS500. The CLS500 is a match for full-blooded sports cars such as the Mercedes-Benz SL roadster in terms of power output, while also offering the eight-cylinder comfort of a top-class sedan. The CLS500 accelerates from 0 to 100 km/h in about 6.1 seconds and reaches an electronically limited top speed of 250 km/h.

Other features of the standard equipment package for the CLS500 include AIRMATIC DC air suspension, luxury automatic climate control and 18-inch light-alloy wheels with 245/40 R 18 tires.

The CLS500 accelerates from 0 to 100 km/h in about 6.1 seconds and reaches an electronically limited top speed of 250 km/h.



Elegant, Luxurious and Spacious: The Interior of the CLS-Class

The elegant styling of the CLS-Class extends throughout the interior. Engaging colours create an inviting ambience and top-quality materials ensure an extremely pleasant in-car environment. Soft leather and exquisite wood form the most important design elements of the interior, with the seats, steering wheel and automatic transmission selector lever finished in leather trim as standard.

Handcrafted burl walnut wood lends the interior of the CLS-Class a particularly elegant and sophisticated feel. A large and lavishly sculpted trim element distinguished by satin-painted wood dominates the instrument panel.

The four-door coupe also allows the rear passengers to get in and out of the car in comfort. Luxurious individual seats offer impressive freedom of movement, with a distance of 829 mm between the front and rear seats, while 1,472 mm of elbow room in the front and 1,464 mm in the rear, provide more space than many sedans. The newly developed seats for the driver and front passenger are electrically adjustable and can be ordered optionally with active ventilation or as dynamic multi-contour seats.

The CLS-Class can boast of luxury-sedan levels of trunk space, offering up to 495 litres of capacity for luggage.

Thinking Ahead and Setting the Pace: The CLS-Class Safety Systems

Equipped with state-of-the-art safety technology such as adaptive front airbags, window bags and sidebags, plus belt tensioners and belt force limiters on all seats, the CLS-Class offers impressive yet typical Mercedes levels of occupant safety.

The new CLS-Class also comes standard with electro-hydraulic brakes and the latest generation of the Electronic Stability Program (ESP), yet another demonstration of the technological leadership of Mercedes-Benz in the automotive industry. The new CLS-Class is also available with an optional host of other innovations that make life on the road even safer. The highoutput bi-xenon headlamps with active cornering headlamp system are a good example.

Distronic adaptive cruise control, the voice-operated control system, the control and display system COMAND with its DVD navigation and the keyless-access and drive-authorization system Keyless-Go are further examples of leading Mercedes technology for greater comfort and driving pleasure.



For more information, please visit http://www.mercedes-benz.ca

Sport Utility Vehicle... Deluxe

New-Generation M-Class Sport Utility Premieres at the Canadian International

The next-generation Mercedes-Benz M-Class sport utility vehicle made its Canadian premiere at the Metro Toronto Convention Centre preceding the opening of the Canadian International Auto Show, February 18-27, 2005. The all-new 2006 M-Class is characterized by an aggressive wedge shape complemented by sweeping front fenders, dramatic shoulder lines and a sharply angled windshield. The interior is completely redesigned to provide more comfort and more user-friendly space.

First M-Class Created a Segment

When the Mercedes-Benz M-Class first arrived seven years ago, the new sport utility vehicle started a trend and created a segment that inspired the entire auto industry to shift toward more car-like SUVs. Virtually the only sport utility at the time with four-wheel independent suspension, the original M-Class was one of the first to be designed from the ground up, rather than being based on an existing truck platform. The first-generation M-Class also won an impressive number of auto industry awards, including the Automobile Journalists Association of Canada's 1998 Car of the Year, and the prestigious North American Truck of the Year.

Sales to Begin in Spring 2005

Scheduled to go on sale in Canada this spring, the new SUV is 150 mm longer, 71 mm wider and 6 mm lower on the road

than its predecessor, with a 2915 mm wheelbase that's 93 mm longer as well. Beneath its sleek exterior is an all-new unibody platform as well as a double-wishbone front suspension and a newly-developed four-link rear suspension that deliver impressive on-road driving performance and comfort.

New and useful technology abounds in the 2006 M-Class, including a standard seven-speed automatic transmission, an even more effective permanent four-wheel-drive system and optional features such as height-adjustable air suspension. A revised four-wheel traction control system now incorporates functions such as a downhill driving aid and hill-start assist.

A Choice of Two High-Torque Engines

The second generation M-Class will be available with two powerful engines. The ML350 is powered by an all-new 3.5-litre, four-valve-per-cylinder V6 engine delivering 268horsepower and 258-lb.ft. of torque. Under the hood of the ML500 is a five-litre V8 engine with 302-horsepower and 339-lb.ft. of torque.

A Rich, Sporty Interior With Flexible Cargo Space

Inside, a completely new interior is marked by a sport-oriented instrument panel, a multi-function steering wheel, rich interior materials and significantly improved spaciousness for all five



seating positions. By comparison, there's over 50 mm of additional front leg room, and rearpassenger knee and leg room have also been increased by 35 mm and 33 mm respectively.

Up to 2,050 litres of flexible cargo room provides ample space for anything from luggage and shopping bags to antiques and sports equipment. The easy-to-operate, fold-down rear seat is split 60:40 so that one or two people can ride in the back, even when the vehicle is loaded with long objects such as bicycles or lumber. Two convenient options makes loading and unloading easier – a power liftgate and an optional cargo management system.

Mercedes-Benz Safety is Standard

Continuing the Mercedes-Benz commitment to occupant safety, the 2006 M-Class comes standard with two-stage adaptive air bags for the driver and front passenger, curtain side air bags and adaptive belt tensioners and belt force limiters for all seating positions. A rollover sensor can activate the belt tensioner and curtain air bags if the vehicle senses an imminent rollover.

About the M-Class Plant

The new M-Class sport utility is being built at the Mercedes-Benz production facility in Tuscaloosa, Alabama. During the eight-year life cycle of the firstgeneration vehicle, more than 570,000 M-Class SUVs were produced at the plant. Since 2001, the plant has undergone a \$600 million expansion that will double production capacity to 160,000 vehicles a year, double the workforce to 4,000, and double the size of the plant to about three million square feet. The expanded plant includes two assembly shops, two paint shops and an expanded body shop.

For more information, please visit http://www.mercedes-benz.ca



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HOME

Home is Where the Hearth is

Creative mastermind adds spark to the modern fireplace

'n many of today's homes, the fireplace is L the status symbol that no one knows what to do with. It has become the centerpiece that is no longer the centre of attention, sending all furniture pieces to a disorganized awkward fray about its perimeter; its owners biting their nails and nervously placing gaudy trinkets on the mantle in order to hide their sorry mistake. Many of these owners had envisioned their fireplace as a location where their guests would gather and toast each other in the warm glow of the flames. But when the installation included the headache of dealing with contractors who either had expertise in woodworking a mantle or acquiring a fireplace unit - never both, the result was far from decent.



In fact, all pieces are oneof-a-kind, never to be duplicated. So imaginative are Nicholson's designs that his woodworkers often complain that his handdrawn sketches push the envelope over the edge, with dimensions that must be refined over fifty times.

And his perfectionism is paying off. Anecdotes of clientele exclaiming that their fireplace had made their dreams come true and others labeling Nicholson's work as modern pieces of art are not unusual. One of his clients even makes a trip to his fireplace a mandatory one for his guests.

"Usually when people turn their units on, their guests will look at the flames," says Nicholson. "But I know I've done a good job when people look at the mantle instead."

Enter Richard Nicholson. For over ten years the owner/

designer of Fireworks Designs has been making people's dreams come true through his imaginative, artful fireplace creations. And the word 'dream' is no exaggeration. His latest fireplace is sandwiched between two twelve-foot high granite waterfalls cascading into a state of the art lighting set-up to highlight the masterpiece. The client had originally asked for a fireplace design that could compliment a large fish tank-come-wall. But to Nicholson, no matter how big a fish tank is, it's still...a fish tank. Altering the plans to a granite 'weeping wall' blew his client away. The grand structure adorning the massive thirty feet of wall space would fill the modern Florida-style home with the unexpected. Nicholson went a step further and designed the sleek glass and wood front door to reflect the ambience of the home. The client asked for fire, and that's exactly what he got.

"In the fireplace industry you can never call one person to handle it all. One person can deal with the gas and another deals with the finish," believes Nicholson. "The difference is I'm a stonemason and a woodworker and I do brick work. I do it all." So with all of these expertise in his back pocket he can quite simply make the impossible possible. From glass to stone to wood to tile, anything and everything can be realized — all out of one shop. With a selection of over ninety species of exotic woods to choose from, there's nothing standard about the way Fireworks operates.

Playing with Fire: What it'll take to add Fireworks to Your Home

finished product is assembled in pieces and installed in only four hours to four days. The entire process takes place over the course of approximately four visits about a week apart. Nicholson stresses the importance of not bombarding his clients with decisions for an investment of this nature. The design of the fireplace is built at a steady pace starting with the initial concept and slowly

Nicholson's journey into this specialized niche began sixteen

years ago when he started building custom homes. While other

contractors were content with constructing subsidized housing,

Nicholson became accustomed to working for high-end homes

with a high-end budget. When he moved into renovations, he

enjoyed the feeling of a job well done, but loathed the idea

of being an unwelcome guest in someone's house for two to

three months. His brainchild, Fireworks, came out of this need

for contractors to do their job, do it well and do it out of the

client's way. With all of the construction done in-shop, the

"Designing a kitchen is much easier. You pick the cabinets, the hardware and you're done," believes Nicholson. "With a fireplace you're dealing with curves, angles, glass, lighting and dimensions. Nothing is standard."

moving towards materials and colours.

What is standard though is Firework's dedication to their clientele's satisfaction. "When I come up with an initial idea, I never know if the clients will go for it, since it's usually more than they had imagined," says Nicholson, "But once the ideas are put into action, they're always blown away by the results."

— Catherine Hernandez

How much will it cost?

Mantles can range anywhere from C\$2500 to 25,000. There is no set average since the price will depend heavily on your personal desires and needs.

How long will it take? Up to twelve weeks to delivery.

All this fuss over a fireplace?

It's not just about a fireplace. It's about making you feel at home with your fireplace. This can include lighting, water design and other conceptual enhancements. Nicholson has even reconfigured a home's support posts to accommodate a client's dreams of having their fireplace in the centre of their basement room.

For more information, please visit www.fireworksdesigns.com



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