

65°



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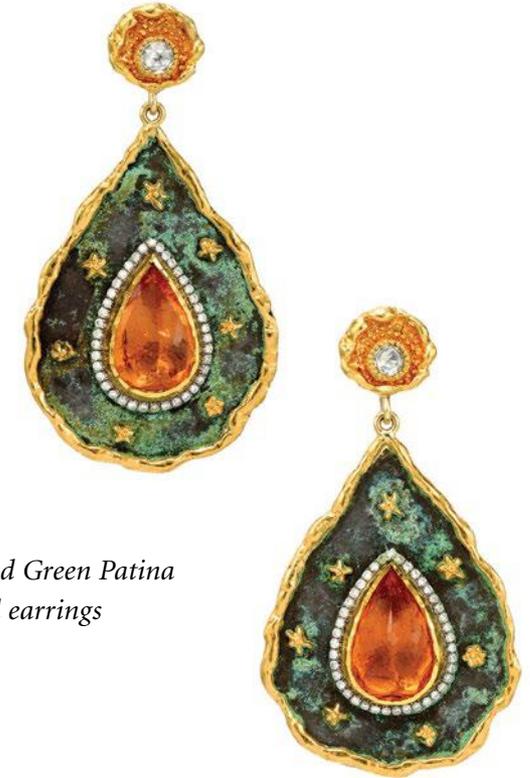
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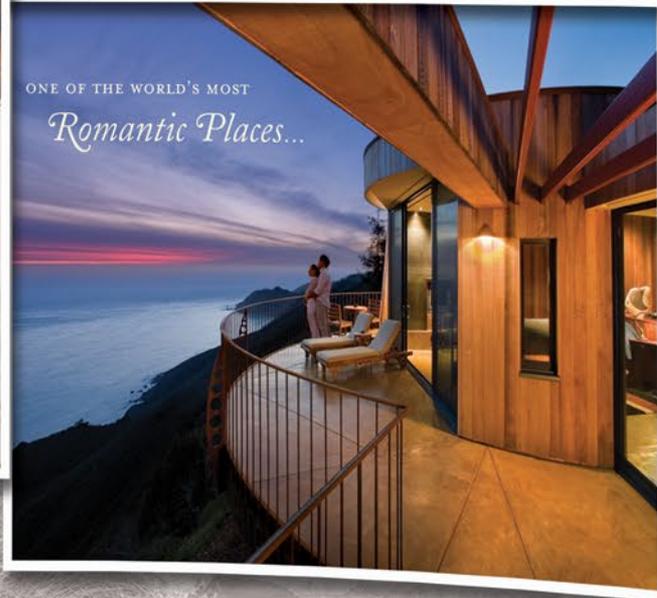




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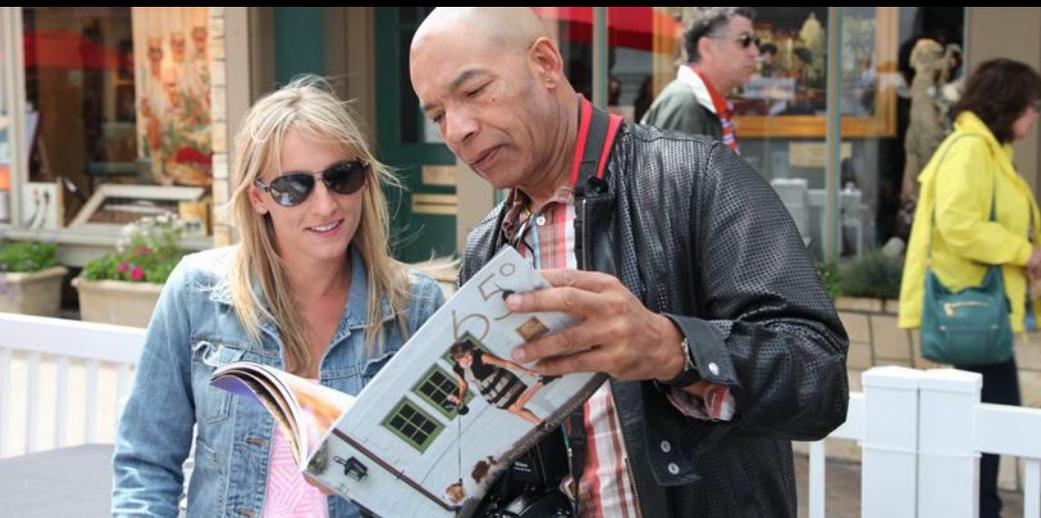




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# 65° DEPARTMENTS

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CELEBRATION

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THE BLESSED AND BEST

By Tammy Neal



THIS IS THE MONTEREY PENINSULA

## COVER

Juan Manuel Fangio in the Maserati 450S which the Argentine & Frenchman Jean Behra drove to overall victory at the 1957 12-Hour Florida International Grand Prix of Endurance for the Amoco Trophy at the 8.369km Sebring circuit.

"El Chueco" original painting by Thierry Thompson © Copyright 2014 Thierry Thompson (all rights reserved)

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Richard MacDonald and his wife Julia at a private dinner with Prince Charles at Buckingham Palace in London, England.

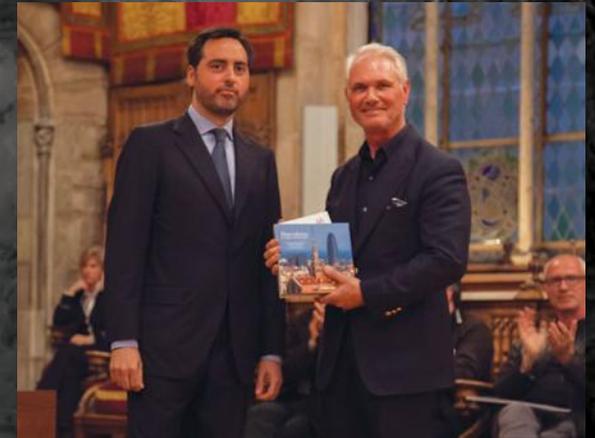
Richard MacDonald clowning around with performers of long-time partner Cirque du Soleil's 'O' in Las Vegas, Nevada.



Richard MacDonald launched a master class at Laguna College of Art and Design, where he chairs the Sculpture Department, emphasizing the human form in live sculpting.



Richard MacDonald with recipients of The Richard and Julia MacDonald Scholarship at London's Royal Ballet School.



Richard MacDonald being honored by the Deputy Mayor of Barcelona on behalf of the city's recognition of his longstanding contributions to dance and culture.



Upon receiving an Honorary Doctorate from Shanghai Institute of Visual Art, Richard MacDonald is made Honorary Professor at Fudan University.



Richard MacDonal Studio in Monterey unveiled a new state-of-the-art foundry in the summer of 2013, allowing the entire creation process, including bronze casting, to take place on-site.

The European Museum of Modern Art, in Barcelona, Spain, featured a solo exhibition of the works of Richard MacDonal, seen here with his family in spring of 2014.



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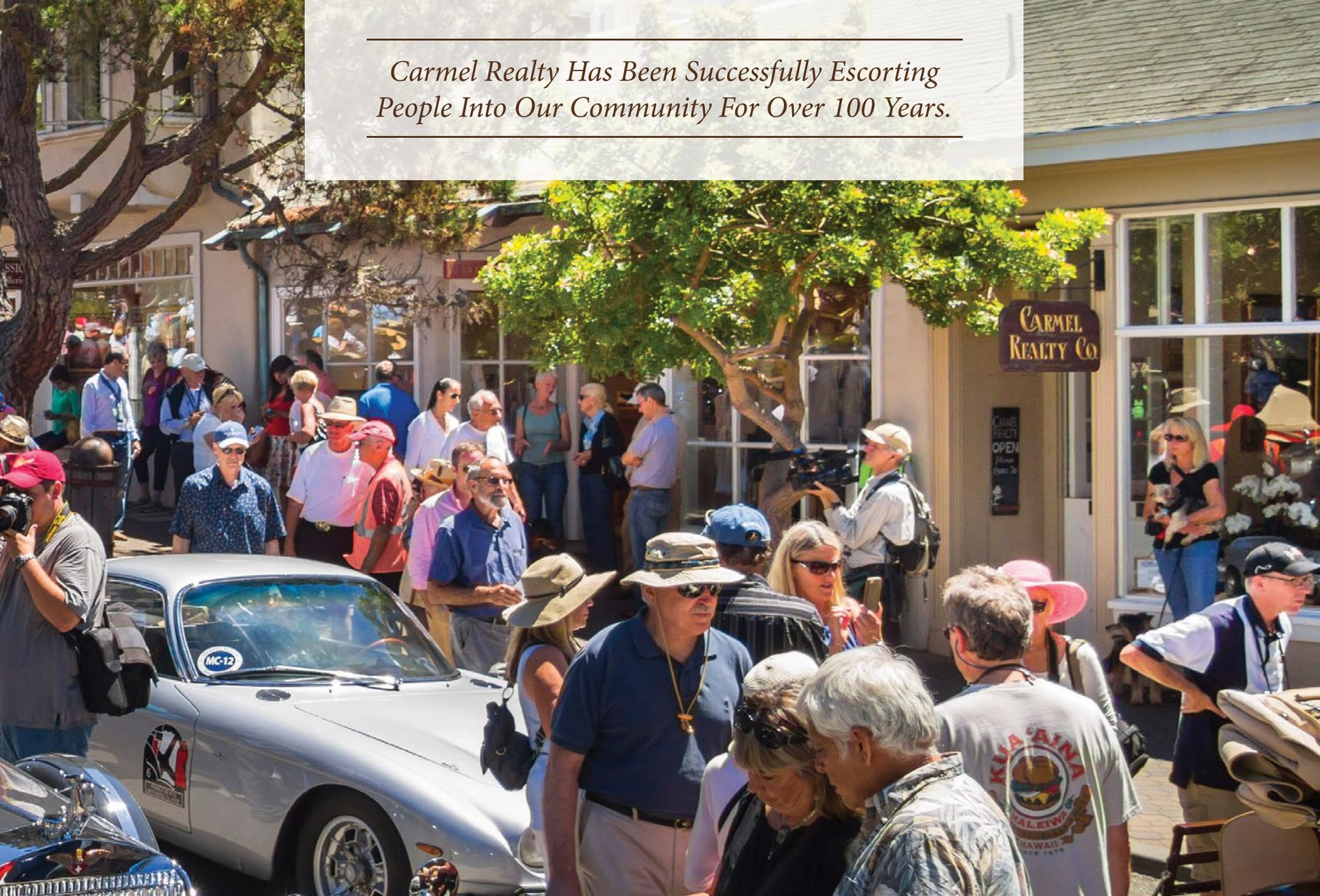
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# ALEXANDER-SMITH

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# ALEXANDER-SMITH BY PARAISO: TWO WINE BRANDS STANDING SHOULDER TO SHOULDER

By Andrea Stuart | Photography by Manny Espinoza

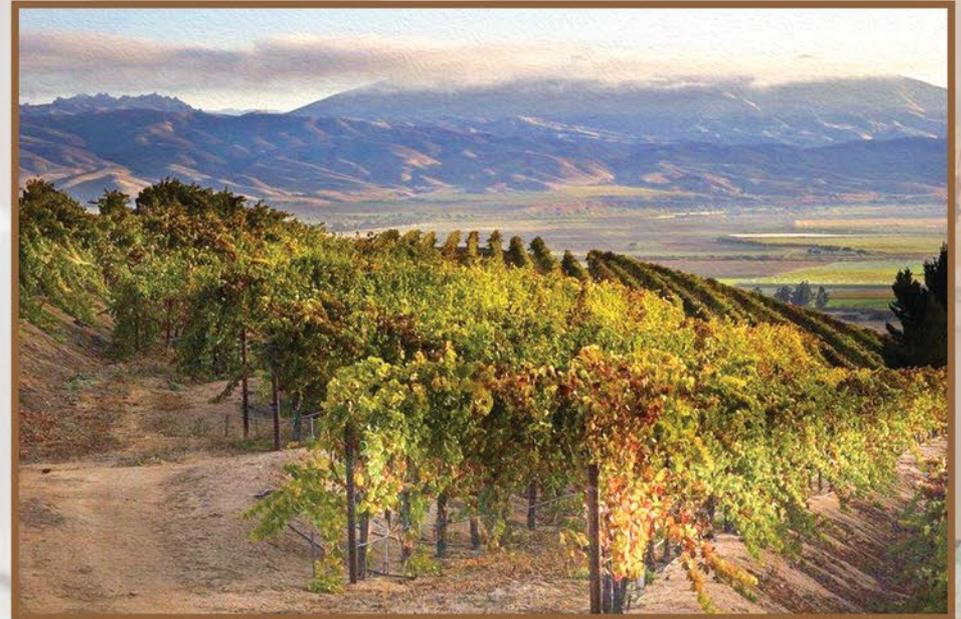
In a beautiful setting on the southern end of the Santa Lucia Highlands AVA in Monterey County, sits the Paraiso Vineyards. This 400-acre estate was originated by wine grape pioneers of the region, Rich and Claudia Smith. They began planting this property in 1973 and the Smith family's experience over the years has earned them a best-quality reputation, translating into high demand for their wine grapes. Their wines are handcrafted by family members, made exclusively from sustainably certified fruit grown on their estate vineyard in a unique well-regarded appellation.

The Smith family spent the better part of last year reflecting on the past and dreaming about what their future holds. That's when they came up with Alexander-Smith by Paraiso. One company, two wine brands standing shoulder to shoulder, each representing their heritage and future, providing best quality small lots to the local community.

Reminiscent of a classic French country-style boutique, their tasting room in downtown Carmel offers samples of the Paraiso wines, as well as the full line under their new Alexander-Smith label. Pinot Noir is their specialty, with Chardonnay, Riesling and Syrah also in the mix. The long-standing Paraiso tasting room in Soledad remains open as well. Both boast a convivial attitude that compliments the unique wines. "We believe that our different approach to hospitality allows us to stand apart from others," says Jennifer Murphy Smith. "We are grateful for our customers; our aim is make each one feel special and well taken care of."

Paraiso is located in downtown Carmel and on their estate vineyard in Soledad.

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Photo by Manny Espinoza

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## THE WINDING ROAD TO CONTENTMENT

By Kimberly Horg | Photography by Meli Czerwiak

A fifth-grade teacher noticed one of her students struggling with reading, falling farther behind his other classmates. Unbeknownst to Ted Balestreri II, who was blindly managing his dyslexia by memorizing stories, the dots suddenly became connected as he entered into a new school.

The young boy attended the first class ever taught at Chartwell School in Seaside, one of eight students in the school designed for children with dyslexia. Veered away from traditional teaching models, he thrived pushing himself along the way to learn differently.

PERSONA



TEDDY



Seeing the world as a variant was an advantage that Balestreri considers one of his biggest assets. Although getting from point A to point B without following a straight line was more of a challenge, it is something he has always embraced.

"It is one of the best things to happen to me," says Balestreri. "I learned at an early age that there are a million different ways to solve a problem if you think outside the box."

Decades ago, the school was nothing more than an old building with great teachers, but now it serves many throughout the community with learning disabilities. One person under a shade tree who changes the world is how Balestreri defines a good teacher.

The Monterey native later went on to attend a boarding school in Santa Barbara. Frequent visits by his dad, Ted Balestreri, Sr., to see his son's games and track meets, made a lasting impression for years to come. The busy owner of Cannery Row taught his sons the importance of family. Teaching by example, he now works alongside his dad and his brother, Vincent, in asset management for local hotels.

Heavily involved in community outreach, he believes it is important to be a strong part of the community and give back. As the immediate past chair for the state's California Restaurant Association Educational Foundation, he saw firsthand how young adults benefit from its ProStart and FIT Programs which help high school students enter into culinary programs.

To reach out and touch those most in need is what keeps him going strong. An inner city Los Angeles student attending a rough gated school excelled in ProStart, went to college against all the odds, and now

works in the culinary industry. Trips to schools such as these are his favorite because building confidence, hope, and boosting a child's self esteem, similar to the teachers who stood before him, is intensely gratifying for him.

There is no greater feeling for him than to help school kids who are struggling and teach them life skills. A person can't ask for more in life than to change lives.

President of the Monterey Peninsula Sunrise Rotary Club, he also assists with ventures including Project Helping Hand and WAPI, which provides clean drinking water to third world countries.

Besides his dad, his other hero is Chuck Yeager, the test pilot who broke the sound barrier. With hopes to fly with the greats, he just started taking flying lessons and is in the process of getting his pilot's license.

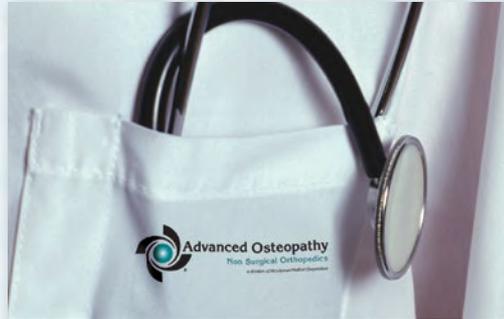
A love for travel stems back to his childhood, favorite memories traveling alongside his dad seeking knowledge and curiosity about the world around him.

"I remember when I was little he took me back to Brooklyn to see his old neighborhood, he made the wrong turn and we heard gun shots," he says. "It was a bonding experience."

Considering himself the luckiest guy in the world to be linked to organizations that directly impact lives, Balestreri would still like to see a shift in which people slow down and dine versus simply eating out.

As technology changes the way individuals interact, Balestreri believes that restaurants play a vital role in allowing people to reconnect for a memorable evening out. To him, restaurants are a place to rediscover humanity.

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# JOLIE

Jolie in downtown Carmel offers a distinctive variety of clothing where customers can literally wear works of art. Owners Fatima Assar and Diana Read have lived around the world where they have gathered inspiration and placed it in the clothes they sell at Jolie. "We wanted to bring fashion from other cultures around the world to our store," says Assar who has lived in places, which include England, Spain and Iran and has visited Germany and Paris. "My eyes want to grab anything that is different."

The clothes at Jolie are high fashion and one of a kind pieces straight from Europe. What can only be described as unique, the pieces are abstract yet versatile. "You can wear the clothes straight from work and with a change of your heels be ready to go out for dinner," says Assar. With artistic prints, essential designs, and lavish material, the clothing at Jolie has something for every woman's taste in fashion.

Assar and Read not only focus on the clothes they're selling but the atmosphere of their shop as well with high ceilings, natural light, and walls filled with art. "Our store has become a reflection of arts and sophistication of Carmel," says Read. Jolie also offers a private shopping experience where customers can enjoy the store all to themselves while indulging in champagne and hors d'oeuvres.

Along with high fashion, Jolie has a variety of accessories including contemporary jewelry, silk scarves, and intricate purses and will also be expanding their collection to include leather, furs, party dresses, and menswear later this year.

Jolie is located on Lincoln Street next to the Cypress Inn. Hours are Monday - Thursday 10 - 5, Friday and Saturday, 10 - 6 and Sunday 11 - 5. Phone number is 831.622.0906.

**Visit Jolie online at [www.jolieofcarmel.com](http://www.jolieofcarmel.com). Locals get to enjoy 10% off their purchases.**



22nd Annual Winemakers' Celebration

# STREET SMART MONTEREY COUNTY WINES

By Andrea Stuart | Photography by Manny Espinoza

Positioned in charming downtown Carmel-by-the-Sea, the 22nd Annual Winemakers' Celebration on May 3, hosted by the Monterey County Vintners & Growers Association (MCVGA), proved more popular than ever, boasting more than 600 attendees who enjoyed more than 100 different Monterey County wines and small bites by local chefs. "Transitioning to 'the streets' allowed the association to garner more exposure for the budding local wine industry," says Scott Caraccioli of Caraccioli Cellars. "We actually cut off sales the night before in order to ensure it was a positive tasting experience for everyone."

Having been receptive to the idea from the very beginning, the City of Carmel played an integral role in bringing the event to fruition. From inception to planning and final approval, the event hit the ground running without missing a step, despite having a shorter planning season than usual. Caraccioli credits much of the event's success to the fact that everyone in town, including local hoteliers and restaurateurs, were eager to participate, providing attendees with promotional packages that included nearby stay options and access to decadent meals within walking distance. "At a wine event like this, if you don't have to worry about where you're going to eat or how you are going to get back to your hotel, it makes the experience more relaxed," he says. "For this reason, the association planned the event on a weekend that didn't compete with other events." The symbiotic relationship between the event planners, the City of Carmel, and local businesses made the event approachable and easy to digest for out-of-towners who got to know a different side of the Monterey County region.

Monterey County is a farmer-driven community that has changed the way many people see and taste California wine. Imbued with humility and passion for agriculture, winemakers and growers in Monterey County are known for their accessibility and unpretentious etiquette. This

personable approach to winemaking appeals to novice and experienced tasters alike because the dialogue neither overwhelms nor underwhelms the consumer. "Monterey County is not intimidating or esoteric," says Caraccioli. "And this is brought to the event, where about 70 percent of the people pouring wine are people directly involved with making it." That means, not only can you taste the wine, but you can have a conversation about the wine. You can learn about the terroir and methods used in order to understand how the wine came to be. "That's the whole fun of winemaking!"

From Hames Valley to Arroyo Seco and Santa Lucia Highlands, Monterey County includes numerous American Viticultural Areas (AVAs) that span about 90 miles. These areas are each known for unique microclimates and attributes that intimately shape the flavors and textures of the grapes they grow (the terroir). Growers understand that in order to maintain specific qualities and longevity, they must demonstrate respect for local agricultural needs. As such, they employ techniques that preserve soil and land integrity for future generations while nurturing the region's grapes, ultimately inspiring award-winning wines.

Attracting people from as far away as Fresno, the Bay Area, and the Sacramento Valley, the 22nd Annual Winemakers' Celebration featured 4,880 more square feet this year. While they liked last year's location at The Barnyard Shopping Village in Carmel, the event's growth required a new venue. This enabled the event to seamlessly work itself into Carmel's village landscape. Caraccioli, who has been involved with the MCVGA for three years, was pleased that the organization was able to reach new people this year. "Hosting the event in Carmel allowed us to centralize it, which made it more accessible to everyone," he concludes.

*For more information about the MCVGA or the Winemakers' Celebration, visit [montereywines.org](http://montereywines.org).*





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In addition to the wide variety of brands we offer, we're also collaborating with American manufacturers to produce our own line of J. Lawrence shirts, trousers and sport coats. We teamed up with Gitman Bros. to make dress shirts with the finest thread, the best cotton shirting and thick buttons with a great collar. For our trousers, we found a Brooklyn manufacturer who's been hand-tailoring trousers since 1925 and worked directly with them to add finely finished details to the interior of the pants. And we've worked directly with our sport coat maker in Rochester, New York to make two distinct silhouettes that are exclusive to our store. But all the best product in the world is meaningless without the expertise of how to put it all together. **And at Khaki's, we specialize in helping you create outfits that feel personal and makes wearing clothing as fun and special as the work that goes into creating them.**



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Chef **Soerke Peters** and GM **Denis Boaro**, co-owners of Basil, are about being a sustainable restaurant. Following the guidelines of the GRA has made Basil the first and only **Certified Green Restaurant in Monterey County**.

Not only does the restaurant feature a menu full of seasonal, locally-grown produce and farm-to-table meats, it has also incorporated highly efficient appliances, LED lighting, recycling and composting programs, non-toxic cleaning materials, and eco-friendly to-go products. Chef Peters is also the Chairman of the Green & Sustainable Committee of the American Culinary Federation at the Monterey Bay Chapter. His goal is that more restaurant owners will follow suit to become sustainable and eventually Certified Green.

Welcoming staff are always delighted to recommend a perfect wine by several of Monterey County's finest vineyards, or a signature cocktail from their lounge. With a modern and casual ambience, the restaurant has cozy indoor seating along with an outdoor heated patio on the beautiful Paseo San Carlos Courtyard, which is dog-friendly. They also just opened for brunch on Sundays starting at 10 a.m. Whichever you decide, you're going to love their seasonal and innovative cuisine.

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## AFTER THE EASTWOODS & COMPANY

By Kristie Compau with Andrea Stuart

We first met Overtone, a South African a cappella band, in 2009 when the band was discovered by Clint and Dina Eastwood while filming the movie *Invictus*. Overtone quickly became local celebrities while filming E!'s reality show *Mrs. Eastwood & Company* in Carmel. We recently caught up with five of the band members, Shane Smit, Eduard Leonard, Emile Welman, Ernie Bates, and Tino Ponsonby, to learn about their experience with the reality show, what they thought about coming to America, and why Clint took such a liking to their music.

**65°: Describe your experience with the show *Mrs. Eastwood & Company*. How was it different from how you anticipated?**

SS: When we first signed up for the reality show, we expected it to be more about Overtone and our music; however, it ended up being more focused on the Eastwood family. When we started filming, we could sense that this show would either be really good or really bad. We always stood together as a band, but little did we know that this show was going to tear the band apart. (continued)





got to work with some of the biggest music, film, and reality producers in the world. But it spiraled into something else. I think I had two, maybe three lines that got edited into the 10 or 11 episode series, so I was definitely the most unpopular one of the whole show (he laughs).

**65°: How would you describe the experience of coming to America?**

SS: Coming to the states was overwhelming. It's a completely different world but I adapted pretty well and now I'm a little Americanized. I love it!

TP: My experience with coming to America was the best experience I ever had to date. Americans accepted us with open arms, and I didn't expect that. I must say, most of the people I met in the U.S. were really humble.

**65°: What do you think Clint Eastwood liked about the band?**

SS: I feel Clint loved our vocal arrangements and how well we blended. We were also something fresh. Clint and Dina believed in us and did a lot to help us.

EW: There are a few reasons why I think Clint liked us. We had a song on our album, *Frequency*, called "Shosholozza." That was Africa's second national anthem during the '95 rugby world cup and the basis of the movie *Invictus*. He also saw that we were hard working, talented, young guys who were willing to do whatever it takes to reach our goals and dreams.

Overtone's last show in South Africa forever stands out in their minds as the point when everything changed, catapulting them into new endeavors. The show was made into a live DVD, and they were nominated for best music DVD the following year in South Africa.

The Overtone band members have since gone their separate ways but continue to accomplish their dreams of making it big in music. Shane currently resides in Carmel, where he continues to work on his music and is planning on opening a restaurant. Eduard is currently in Greece, where he sings opera with his two brothers in a new group called Prima Voce. Emile is getting ready to perform at this year's BET Awards and is collaborating with names including Nick Cannon, Usher, and David Foster. Ernie's solo album comes out in July, and he's starting his own record label. Tino is working for the South African Broadcasting Commission while planning to build his own production company. Riaan is working in the film industry and living in Los Angeles.

Drama took place within the band, in front of the camera, and the truth came out. It was a challenge, very tense... but also exciting as for Overtone's future, we had no idea what the outcome was going to be on the first season, but the ratings ended up being good and we were asked to do a second season. This was the big moment when we asked, "Are we making a career being reality personalities or will our talent for music come through and the world will know our music." Unfortunately, I think we would have ended up being reality personalities and that was not our goal. Dina decided not to do a second season and that was it for *Mrs. Eastwood & Company*. For Overtone, we decided to take a break and we never got back together.

EW: The reality show was a combination of a lot of different emotions. It was fun, draining, happy, and sad. There are some things that could have been done differently to create more buzz around our music during the show, but at the same time, we needed to keep it entertaining for the audience. Would I do it again? Yes, I think so, but I would want to have the final say on every single thing that goes out to the world.

EL: Something that I also found very interesting was how quickly you adjusted to having a camera crew document your everyday day life and how they soon just become part of the unnoticeable background.

EB: It was cool at first because the whole idea behind the show was to promote our music. Dina always treated the group as her family. We

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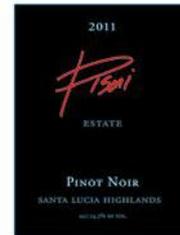
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# MWOY GRAND FINALE

By Andrea Stuart | Photos by Manny Espinoza

The Monterey Man & Woman of the Year campaign recently celebrated their third annual Grand Finale Event. The event was held at The Monterey Plaza Hotel. All six candidates were in attendance, along with the honorary team (Driscoll's), and the Boy & Girl of the Year and their families. In total, there were 240 attendees who celebrated both the cause, to raise funds for blood cancer research, as well as the 2014 candidates. Over \$230,000 was raised (donations are still rolling in), including the contributions from candidates, who raised more than \$20,000 each.

## 2014 Candidates:

**Hakan Erdinc, Winner, Man of The Year**

**Catherine Sampagnaro, Winner, Woman of The Year**

**Trinity Magas, Barnard**

**Willie Beesley**

**Howard Barkley**

**Ben Balester**

## Driscoll's Berries Honorary Team:

**Team Rockin' Berry (in honor of a co-worker who is battling cancer)**

## 2014 Boy & Girl of The Year:

**Ethan Hewitt**

**Olivia Costa**



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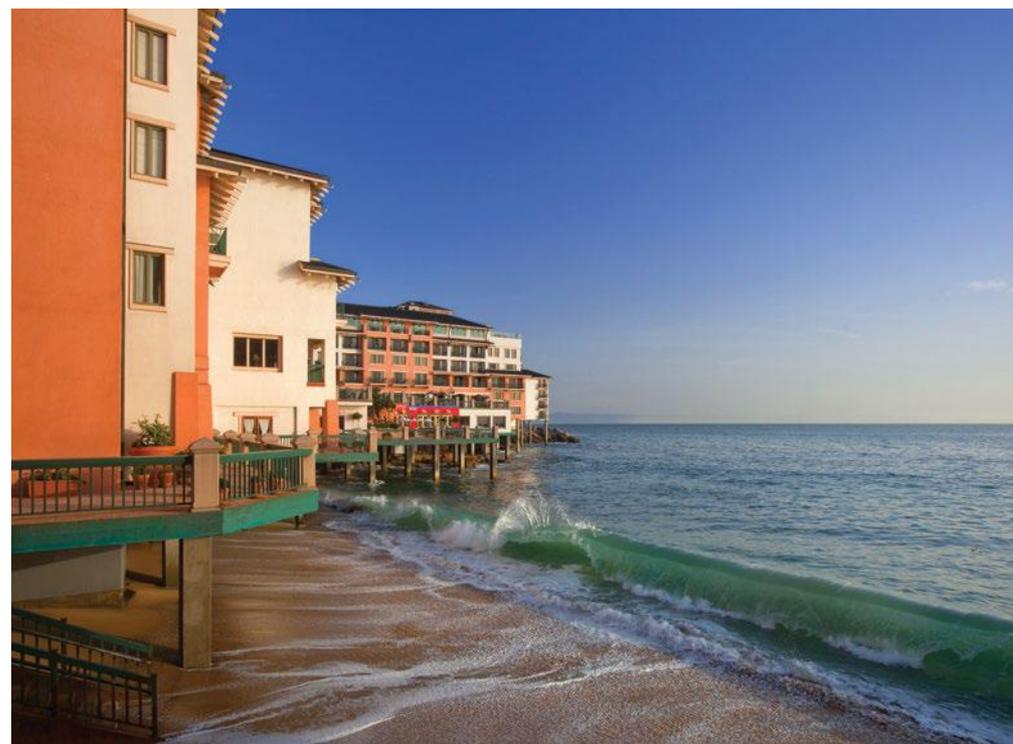


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Love Heals has a long history of tying charity to the sale of each piece. For each design sold, 10 trees are planted in Ethiopia, to date over 1,400,000 trees have been planted. These trees provide a source of income for dozens of farmers and have a very positive effect on the local environment.



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## THE VAGABOND'S HOUSE: A LONG HISTORY OF EXCELLENCE, CHARM, AND DISTINCTION

By Tammy Neal

Nestled in the heart of the charming seaside village Carmel-by-the-Sea sits the most delightful boutique inn on the Monterey Bay Peninsula. The Vagabond's House, an English Tudor brick and half-timber style inn, has a long history of distinction. By the late 1960s, under the discerning direction of Lester and Leonie Erickson, it had become one of only four inns that were accepted into the prestigious *Berkshire Traveller Almanack*. In 1978, Dennis LeVett fell in love with The Vagabond's House and made it his own. Its reputation for excellence, charm, and distinction continues today, under the direction of Denny, his daughter Amanda, and general manager Thomas Rogers, who has further enhanced this lovely inn.

The Vagabond's House courtyard will beckon you inside with its old world charm. Sequestered amidst a landscape of camellias, the inn's English garden plantings and a magical waterfall are a cornerstone of the experience. The courtyard provides an ideal spot to relax with a good book, to daydream, or to enjoy the complimentary wine and cheeses that are served every evening.

The newly remodeled suites reference farmhouse vintage while contrasting modern streamlined comforts for the tech savvy traveler. The décor includes sliding barn doors and art constructed of reclaimed Big

Sur wood, reworked vintage doors for headboards, vintage milk cans as side tables, original fireplaces, hardwood and heated marble bathroom floors, and walls lined by artifacts of vintage book pages and clocks. A luxurious modern porcelain bath tub and large marble shower with Moxie Bluetooth pairing showerhead further enhance the lavatory experience. Smart LED TV with Internet and streaming movies along with USB power outlets complete your electronic essentials.

Gracious hospitality welcomes you to The Vagabond's House. Under manager Thomas' direction, focus is on exceptional customer service. Thomas believes in a service motto that begins with, "You just have to be nice." After that, "the bed and the breakfast must both be of a high standard; this is what our guests expect." To which, the inn's beds are like clouds (pillow top mattresses are topped with 50,000 feathers, high quality down comforters, and cotton linens) and breakfasts include Thomas' house-made jam, local cage-free eggs, and pastries that "come out of the oven at 8:30 a.m."

The Vagabond's House eco-conscious environment will satisfy the green traveler. Everything possible is recycled, biodegradables are composted for the gardens, no single use plastics are utilized, and they are currently transforming all lighting to LED. All rooms were painted with no-VOC paint, floors are hardwood or 100 percent unbleached wool carpet, and cleaning supplies are green approved.

This dog-friendly inn also offers uniquely handcrafted blankets and personalized food mat, unlimited treats, and bowls for your beloved pet.

Recently, The Vagabond's House was used to set the ambience of the movie "*Stefano Formaggio*," which we hope to see in the 2015 Carmel Art and Film Festival.

The Vagabond's House Bed and Breakfast is located in the midst of Carmel's finest restaurants, unique shops, and well-known art galleries just blocks away from famous Carmel Beach.

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# FROM THE BIG CITY TO BIG SUR

By Tammy Neal

Executive Chef Paul Corsentino discovered his love of cuisine when he was just a young boy preparing meals for his family. "Cooking has been something I've been doing my entire life," says Corsentino. His first job in high school, working as a cook for a local pub in his Illinois hometown, solidified his desire to make cooking his career.

In 2000, Corsentino graduated from the California Culinary Academy in San Francisco and later became the executive chef at The National restaurant in New York City. "It was a good experience," he says, crediting his success to internationally-acclaimed Food Network Chef Geoffrey Zakarian. After honing his skills in other kitchens, he reunited with his mentor at The National in 2011 and co-starred with him on Food Network's *Iron Chef* in 2012. Corsentino has also appeared on *The Today Show* and *The Better Show*, among others.

Desiring a more appropriate lifestyle speed for family, Corsentino and his new bride relocated to Big Sur. Corsentino is now Executive Chef at Ventana Inn & Spa, where he blends sustainable Central Coast ingredients with classic American flavors to create a versatile menu.



**VENTANA**  
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### **Landscape Water Conservation...Nature-ly**

Just like many a home's landscape, my back yard used to be all grass. As we continue to experience drought conditions...water conservation is becoming ever more critically important and prudent. While artificial turf can be an attractive option depending on a homeowner's usage needs, it requires a significant upfront cost for installation that can be amortized over time from water and maintenance savings. As Certified, Green Gardeners ([www.greengardener.org](http://www.greengardener.org)) my preference was to incorporate a more natural option...Xeriscaping...utilizing drought tolerant plants, shrubs and trees, mulch, and decomposed granite pathways.

The result? The creation of multiple areas of outdoor entertaining and enjoyment with natural beauty views of Mother Nature....along with low garden maintenance. My total water bill (household and landscaping) now averages < \$50/mo. and the cost of installation was far less expensive than other landscape options.



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65

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# Corral de Tierra COUNTRY CLUB

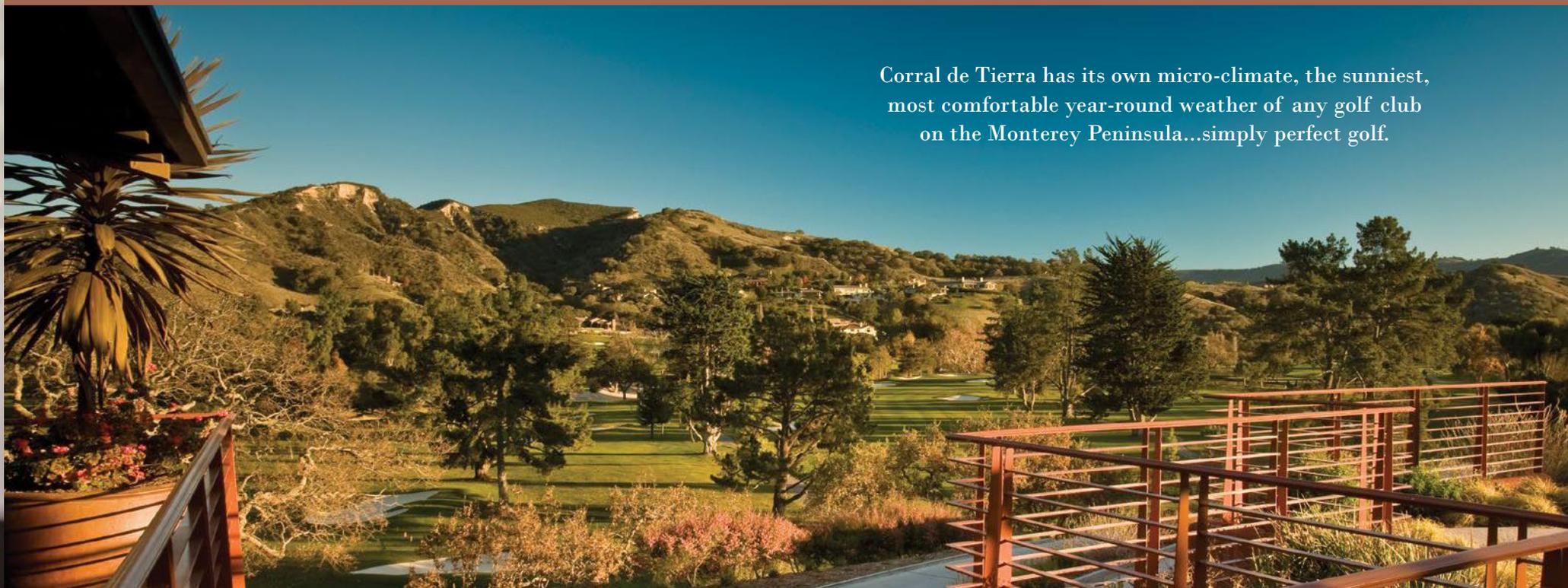
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## Welcome to the Sunshine on the Monterey Peninsula

In an area of the country known for its magnificent golf venues, Corral de Tierra Country Club stands out on that extensive list of prestigious golf courses and private country clubs. It is considered the refuge for the greater Monterey Peninsula residents to enjoy the privileges of a private, member-owned country club. For over 50 years, the tradition of quality golf, dining, tennis, swimming, fitness and social activities has been enjoyed by the club's greatest asset, its members, who enjoy the relaxed atmosphere of the club's casual ambiance that is Corral de Tierra Country Club.

Nestled in the foothills of the Santa Lucia Mountains, Corral de Tierra Country Club has its own micro-climate, the sunniest, most comfortable year-round weather of any golf club on the Monterey Peninsula...simply perfect golf!

Corral de Tierra has its own micro-climate, the sunniest, most comfortable year-round weather of any golf club on the Monterey Peninsula...simply perfect golf.



## Explore the Privileges of Membership

One discovers a serene, secluded world with towering mountain panoramas, lush fairway vistas, and refreshing waterscapes adorning one of Monterey County's premier golf courses. The layout is ideal for walking, or as the club's members comment, "a great walk enhanced". Gentle elevations and tree-lined fairways help make Corral de Tierra Country Club's course a pleasant stroll, allowing players time to focus on the challenging golf and to absorb the surrounding beauty.

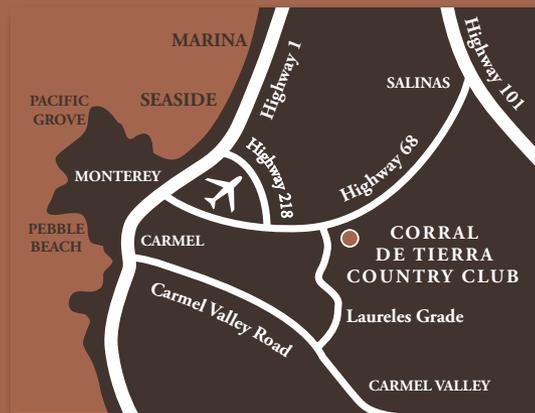
The 18-hole championship golf course is a signature tribute to renowned golf course designer, Bob E. Baldock (Shore Course at Monterey Peninsula Country Club). The par 72 golf course measures just less than 7,000 yards from the back tees with a slope of 134 and a course rating of 72.4. The course attracts the attention of the best players, however, multiple tee boxes on every hole ensure an enjoyable experience for all golfers. The club's limited membership assures that a member has unlimited access to all facilities, making the golf course their backyard to play anytime.



The charm and character of Corral de Tierra Country Club's farmhouse-style designed clubhouse is only outdone by the fingerprint of the club's location with stunning views of the mountains, the sun-splashed hills of John Steinbeck's "Pastures of Heaven," and the club's championship golf course. The main element of the design is an old stone farm building flanked by board and batten building structures that provides the ambiance of a country home, yet emphasizes the sophistication of a country club. Knowing that it is yours, as a member, the feeling is priceless.

Enjoy the difference and privilege of a private club setting but in the casual ambiance of home. The clubhouse provides members with the perfect setting of casual and fine dining, a relaxing drink with friends, dinner with family, or special events and parties.

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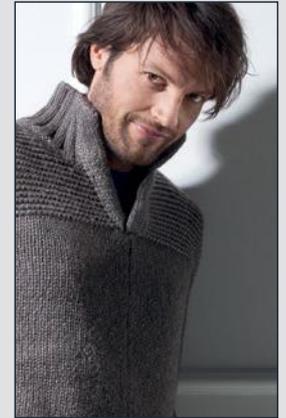
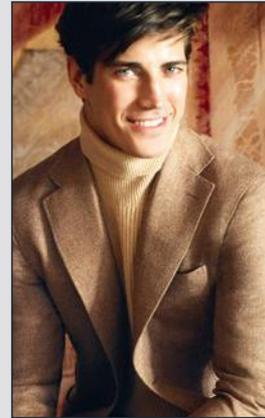
  
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# CHRISTINE

## SEIZE THE DAY

By Peter Hemming | Photo by Ryan Rosene

Christine (Rose) Jensen, born in San Jose and raised in Santa Cruz, feels her life has been blessed. For this self-coined former “jetsetter,” who’s hobnobbed with top executives, life seemed idyllic. Throughout her journey, she has been faced with embracing pain alongside happiness, fueling her passage with an appreciation for the nuances in every moment.



Her father, Chuck, a former Navy aviator, was a senior captain airline pilot for Delta Airlines. “Money was never a problem,” Christine confesses, so her mother, Marty, was able to be a stay-at-home mother. Home was a house on prestigious Pasatiempo Drive along the famous PGA golf course. “I started playing golf at three years old,” she says. She also began early schooling at Holy Cross. After losing her five-year-old sister, Melissa Ann, to a heart defect, Christine became an only child.

Life went on. Her father moved the family to Texas for a few years prior to moving back to Santa Cruz, where Christine reconnected with past friends. At Harbor High, Christine became an excellent student and excelled on the swim team. After receiving a degree in interior design from San Jose State, Christine went to work demonstrating cosmetics throughout the Bay Area. Her beloved father was diagnosed with cancer and succumbed to the disease at 59. “He was a wonderful man and father,” Christine remembers. “In his later years, he bought a boat and would take my mom and me salmon fishing in the bay.”

Later, Christine found herself working at a Japanese owned CD-ROM manufacturer. Offered a job at software publishers

Casady and Greene, the creators of Soundjam MP, (later picked up by Apple and renamed iTunes), Christine worked her way up to Vice President of Sales for International and Domestic. Every year, there were regular trips to New York and Paris. Clients included Steve Jobs, NASA, and Motorola. Later, Christine worked at KSBW-TV as an account executive, helping people with their marketing needs. In June, 2014, she accepted a position with the software publisher Ultriva in Cupertino, where she plays an integral role in facilitating collaborative supply chain solutions for multinational manufacturers.

Although she has made a successful career, family has always come first for Christine. In 1996, she married Dale Jensen—a sales and marketing professional in produce—and gave birth to their son, Ryan, one and a half years later. Now, an academically gifted 16-year-old, Ryan excels in sports, especially baseball, and is considered a division I college prospect by his coaches.

By 2004, Christine and Dale had divorced. The decision to separate was amicable. “We get along very well co-parenting,” says Christine, but she admits the separation was hard on Ryan. Things intensified when, four years ago, Christine’s mother was diagnosed with multiple myeloma, a rare and incurable condition. Doctors have been working to control progression of the disease through arduous medical treatments, and Christine has played a supportive role in her mom’s well-being.

Christine admits it has been a strain juggling her career, raising a teenage son, and coping with her mother’s health. Staying positive, Christine gives her mother the lion’s share of credit. “With neurology, nephrology, and chemo infusions, Mom has done an amazing job with utmost grace and dignity.” Christine admits adversity has made her stronger. She adds, “I pray every day, it helps keep me grounded.”

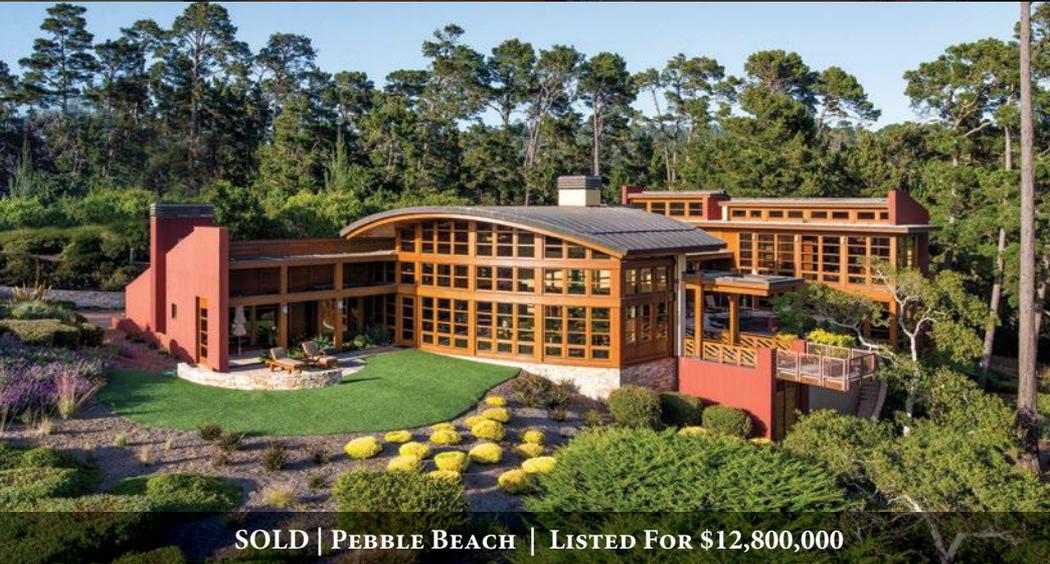
With free time precious, responsibilities come first. However, Christine can be found on Peninsula golf courses such as Cypress Point and Del Monte or walking Bella, her little Papillon, along the shore of Carmel Beach. In the future, Christine wants to travel the world. “I would like to visit Australia and Switzerland.”

Christine is philosophic when considering her life. “I’ve learned to cherish every moment. Every day is a miracle.”

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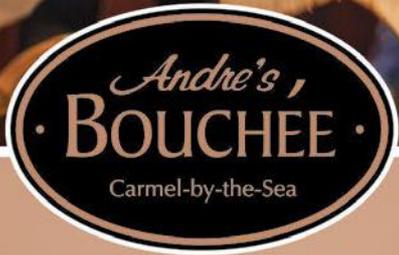
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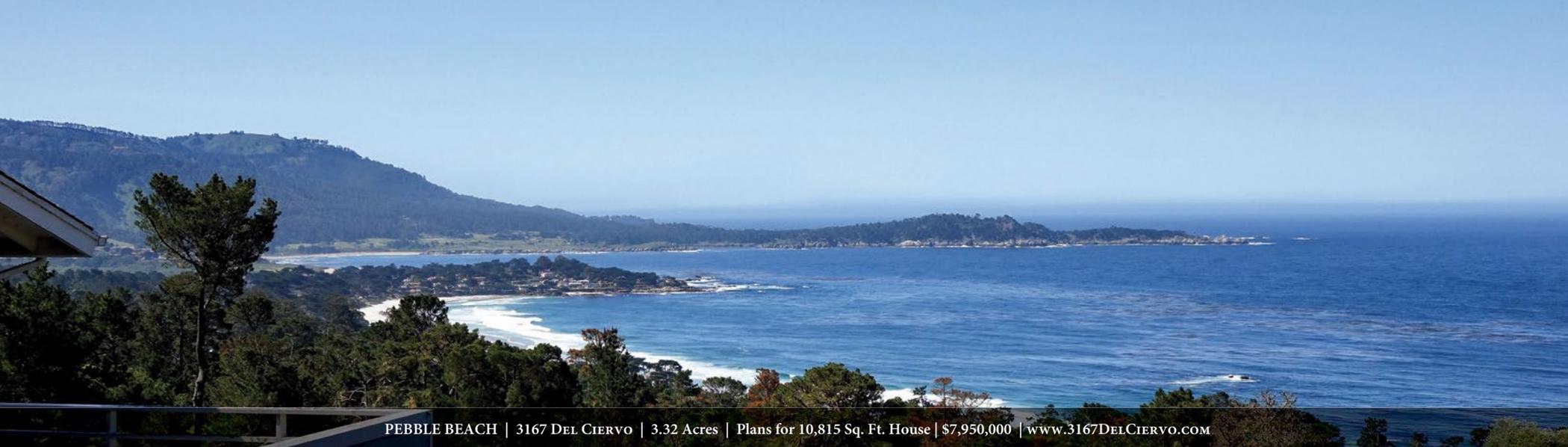


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# THE BLESSED & THE BEST

By Tammy Neal | Photos by Dale Quinio

The Carmel Mission Classic & Blessing of the Automobiles is celebrating its second year, combining a passion for fine automobiles and motorcycles with faith and fare: all brought together by an authentic blessing of classic cars.

This charitable endeavor was originally created by organizers Frank DiPaola, retired LAPD, and Richard Pepe, retired NYPD. Benefitting the Knights of Columbus charities, they hosted a similar show in upstate New York. "It's a tale of two cities, two car shows, and two cops," explains DiPaola. While DiPaola was assisting Pepe in New York, Pepe suffered a heart attack. "[Richard] looked at me and said, 'You and your wife are going to have to do the show,'" explains DiPaola. The show was a success, and the experience inspired both men to stage a similar "blessing of the cars" in the courtyard of the historic Carmel Mission. "It became a success beyond our wildest imagination," adds DiPaola.

The Knights of Columbus is the largest Catholic fraternal organization in the world. They raise money for charities such as the National Council, an organization that provides supplies to disabled children in Mexico. Locally, they fund scholarships of \$6,800 to deserving students of the Junipero Serra School. They also fund I-Help, a Monterey County program that provides safe housing and support for the homeless, and Bitten Falge, which provides food, clothing, and blankets on a monthly basis





to low-income farming families. The rest goes to the Carmel Mission and its restoration foundation. Their charities assist anyone in need, not just members of the church. "They are about God and country, unity, fraternity, charity, and patriotism," says DiPaola.

This year's event will feature Steve McQueen's 1957 Jaguar XKSS (one of only 16 built), and race car legend Danny Sullivan, who won the 1985 Indianapolis 500, will sign autographs. Trophies will be awarded for "Blessed and the Best" and "Best in Show," wherein a kneeling knight trophy from the Knights of Columbus will be issued to the best in the lot. Last year, Monique Gardiner took a Blessed & Best trophy for her 1946 Ford Sportsman Woody.

Vintage cars have never been so revered. Wednesday August 13, 2014. Doors will open at 10 a.m. A spectator entrance fee of \$30 will include a complimentary wine glass, wine tasting by several of Monterey County's finest vineyards, and tours of Carmel Mission and Museums. The "Blessing of the Cars" by Most Reverend Richard Garcia, Bishop of the Diocese of Monterey, will commence at noon. "Carmel Mission feeds the spirit, fine cars feed the passion, fine wine and gourmet food feed the body," says DiPaola.

For more information, visit [carmelmissionclassic.org](http://carmelmissionclassic.org).

# Casa Bella...

Listing Price ~ \$4,775,000

Main House ~ 4 Bedrooms | 3.5 Bathrooms | 4,483 SF | 15,681 Sq Ft Lot

[www.casabellacarmel.com](http://www.casabellacarmel.com)



## Casa Bella

By Andrea Stuart

Built in 1924, Casa Bella was remodeled in 2006, transforming the 1,100-square-foot home into a four-bedroom, three-and-a-half bath, 4,483-square-foot Mediterranean estate. Honoring the distinct characteristics of the home, John McMahan, the contractor for the house, worked diligently to re-purpose existing materials such as the interior stone walls, which were the home's original exterior walls. The home's 200-year-old Italian tile roof was imported directly from Italy and the front porch columns, walkways, and retaining walls have been designed with a gestural nod to the 1920s.

The use of gold accents against natural wood tones throughout inspires warmth and hominess, while walnut flooring adds depth to elegance. Numerous exterior French doors that lead from each lower-level room to the yard merge the inside living quarters of the home with the outdoor scenery. Subtleties such as phantom screens continue this motif, allowing the home's prominent features—solid wood doors, Conrad drapes and shades, and hand painted detailing—to remain undisturbed.

In the kitchen, granite countertops, Wood-mode custom cabinetry, marble floors, and a water purification system beckons the epicure. A breakfast nook with accompanying stone fireplace, welcomes bright mornings, and a Viking range adds a hint of modernity while providing the ability to prepare for larger parties. A custom “hidden” refrigerator continues the old world charm design.

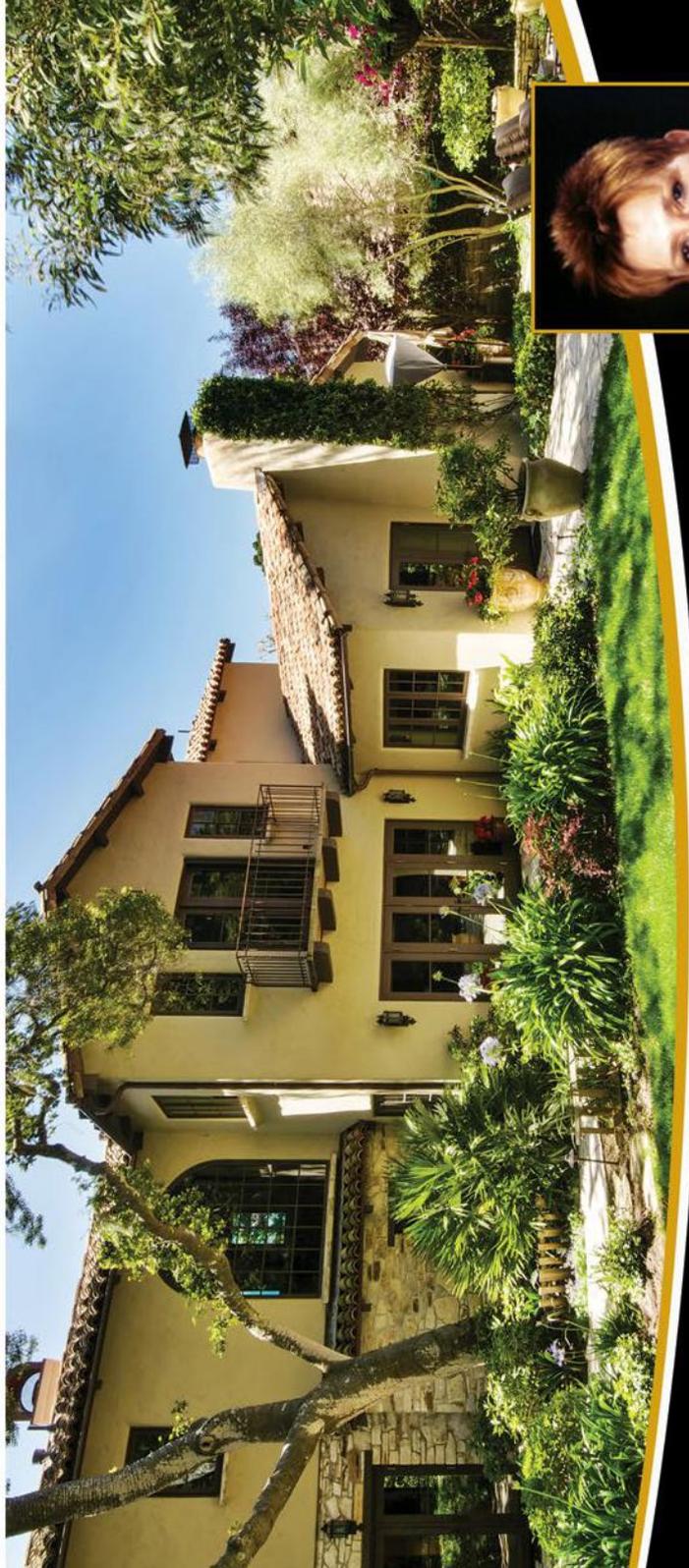
The ample master suite, located on the main floor, allows residents to bask in comfort and sophistication with its stone fireplace and dual French doors exiting to a gorgeous outdoor retreat. The sumptuous master bath has travertine

countertops, separate spa tub and shower, and more than ample closet space. Access to the yard via French doors makes the master suite a blissful haven, all of which is accentuated by a stone fireplace. Featuring its own water purification system, the bedroom also showcases Rohl hardware in the separate spa tub and shower, finishing the look with sleek lines that emanate refinement. Three other bedrooms plus a den with custom built-in bookshelves provide ideal space for the whole family.

In addition, the living room is oversized with soaring hand-painted ceilings, lots of windows, and a huge stone fireplace that all lead to a large formal dining room with hand-painted beams. Casa Bella offers immense storage spaces both in the two-car garage and in the home.

Just moments from the beach, walking paths, and downtown, Casa Bella features its own outdoor sanctuary nestled against ancient oak trees, making it an extension of Carmel in the town's estate area. The landscaping carries Carmel charm from the front of the house and into the backyard, where a large grass area sits adjacent to the patio with a gas fireplace, creating a comfortable area for outdoor entertaining year-round. Of the landscaping features, the 80-year-old large flowering rhododendron that greets guests at the home's entrance could be considered the signature exterior aesthetic feature.

Weaving two centuries together, Casa Bella is a period piece that traverses two eras simultaneously, all in the heart of Carmel.



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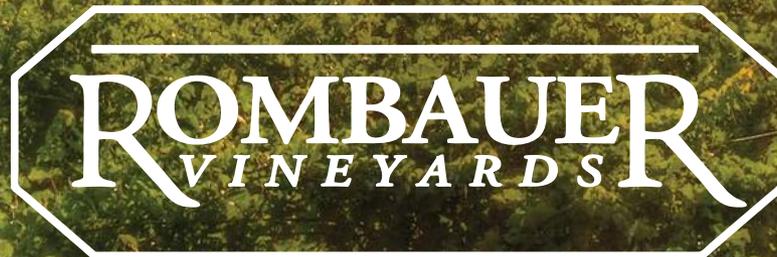


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# 57° DEPARTMENTS

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# 57°

Beyond the Fog: An  
Homage to San Francisco's  
Bygone Era

## PUBLISHER'S NOTE

by Rich Medel



We're barely out of June and we've already whet our whistles at the 22nd Annual Winemakers' Celebration in downtown Carmel-by-the-Sea. From the knowledgeable and friendly vintners who shared their wines to the talented and creative chefs who kept our bellies full of delectable bites, the event is a local favorite. Now, we're looking forward to this year's Pebble Beach Concours d'Elegance. Celebrate excellence in automotives and support charitable organizations such as Animal Friends Rescue Project (AFRP), Boys & Girls Clubs of Monterey County, Community Hospital Foundation, Kinship Center, Natividad Medical Foundation, United Way Monterey County.

But that's not all. *65°* and *57°* introduces you to our newest venture: Montage TV. Debuting in August, Montage is a lifestyle documentary show covering the Central Coast and the San Francisco Bay Area.

Each 30-minute episode is a blend of stories guided by narration and panoramic visuals that explore the regions' evocative beauty. We're working with David Liskin on this to bring more of the Monterey and San Francisco peninsulas to you!

As for this issue, in *65°*, you'll meet Ted (Teddy) Balestreri II as he shares how challenges in childhood inspired a lifetime of altruism and exploration via thinking outside of the box. Then, meet Christine Jensen, whose dedication to family has allowed her to find light in the dark. Just being in her presence makes everything a little sweeter. Plus, read an update about the a cappella band Overtone, what they're up to, and how they describe their reality TV experience. And get ready for the Carmel Mission Classic. Another event this summer that promises tantalizing for the eyes and palate.

In *57°*, Dwayne Jones, Founder of Urban Ed Academy in San Francisco, is a fascinating man who has found a way to connect with underserved communities through civic and domestic experiences. Continuing the message of "giving back," Duncan Matteson turned two near-death experiences into opportunities for helping others. Then, meet Jim Sweeney, a man who went from wanting to be a Priest to putting burlesque on the Bay Area map. And find out how Tsar Nicoulai Cavaiair is putting a twist on tradition. Plus, young, new designer Taylor Catherwood is making her mark in the fashion industry with hand-crafted handbags, dresses, and lingerie.

Alright, we're off. Maybe we'll see you at Concours!



# 57°

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Ronnie

# THE LEGEND OF RONNIE REDDICK

By Rick Baraff | Photography by Rick Baraff

Ronnie Reddick is perhaps the Bay Area's most illustrious yet enigmatic choreographer, dance teacher, and performing artist. Hardly a household name outside the world of dance and fashion, inside it he's known as a true legend, not only for his amazing natural abilities, but for his humility, selflessness, passion, and for doing things his own unique way.





It started not by performing at a tender young age, or with any formal training, or even with a dream. For the self-proclaimed shy kid from the virtually unknown South San Francisco neighborhood of “Little Hollywood” a six by three block spot between Candlestick Cove and Brisbane, where Charlie Chaplin and Mae West supposedly owned homes—it started on a whim to enter a modeling show in high school. Reps from a local agency happened to be there and singled Ronnie out for a scholarship to modeling school. To the boy who really wanted to work with animals, this was the pinnacle of artistic success. Little did he realize that he was only standing on the tip of his own iceberg.

Quickly establishing himself as a modeling and fashion prodigy, he entered the Barbara Davis Modeling School where Ms. Davis herself instilled in him the presence, confidence, and power to overcome his introverted nature and embrace his professional potential. Creativity coursing through his veins, it was a natural transition for Ronnie to blossom into one of the most sought after choreographers of fashion and live music shows. He again thought it couldn’t get much better until a friend (who went on to dance with Madonna and other luminaries) convinced Ronnie to take his extemporaneous “for fun” dancing seriously. After a few half-fulfilled semesters of ballet at City College and a choreography class (which he aced), a local studio asked him to teach. That was great, he thought. He just had no idea what to teach or how to do it.

As any great artist will do, Ronnie fused elements of those he admired—from break dancers to jazz to house party freestyling to Michael Jackson—to become the Bay Area’s first hip hop teacher. There was nothing like it at the time (the late ‘80s) and there was no one else like Ronnie Reddick who could combine dance, fashion, choreography, and modeling. Young dancers started flocking. The legend started to grow.

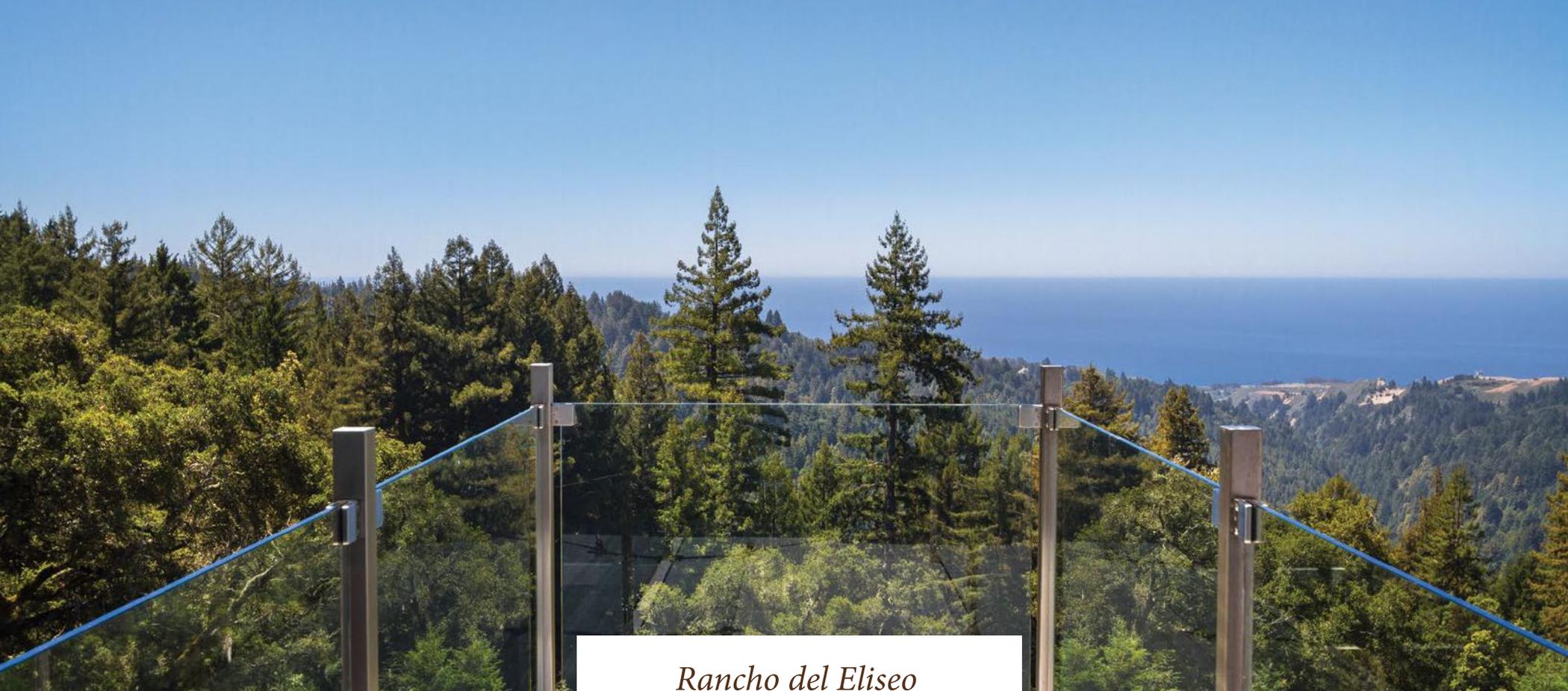
Despite being called constantly to work in L.A. and abroad, where he could hold any number of high profile gigs such as choreographer for *The Voice* (a gig that one of his prized students currently has), Ronnie remains in San Francisco because it’s home and he’s not a fame hound. In fact, he still lives in the house in which he grew up.

Recognizing an opportunity to again do things on his own terms, he started a Bay Area artist’s agency. Today, he’s the hub of local dance and fashion talent. He manages many of the female dance troupes for the area’s pro teams (Raiderettes, Warrior Girls, and more). He’s the resident choreographer at AsiaSF, the city’s famous transgender nightclub. He choreographs (and dances and sings backup) for Bill Hopkins Rock’n Orchestra as well as for Grammy winning artists. And now, L.A. people call him because of his reputation for finding the best Bay Area talent.

Ronnie’s legend has been solidified because of what’s inside as much as what is outside. Yes, at 51 he can still out-dance people half his age, but after twenty-five years of teaching, he still gets goose bumps showing up for work. He remembers every step along his road to success, much of which is attributed to a holistic approach that includes everything from the five, six, seven, eights, to the business of the industry, to a performer’s real value, and even how to dress for success.

For Ronnie, dance is a family business because of the intimate bonds. He has picked up or dropped off members of his flock from as far away as Monterey and Sacramento more times than he can remember. All his clients and students call him personally.

As with most legendary tales, Ronnie’s has both a lesson and some mystery. The lesson here is obvious: Do what you love and be kind, and good things will come. The mystery herein lies in how his next movement motifs will be developed and what tales he will narrate through his dancers.



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TAYLOR CATHERWOOD

# DREAM COME TRUE

By Tammy Neal | Photography by Michale Dare

Taylor Catherwood has been an aspiring designer since childhood. She started her dress line at the age of 19, later adding handbags and lingerie to reach additional markets. Sketchbook in hand, Taylor chooses fabrics for each of her lines with a discriminating eye.

The lingerie is made by Taylor, the dresses are produced in Vietnam, and her handbags are produced in the United States. For the handbags, Taylor chooses the leather, cuts it, and passes the pieces to her sample maker. Her unique collaboration of textures and colors, including smooth leather and embossed cow hide, gives the illusion of crocodile skin. Taylor describes her line as a classic silhouette with a modern twist. "Chanel is my idol," she says, passionately.

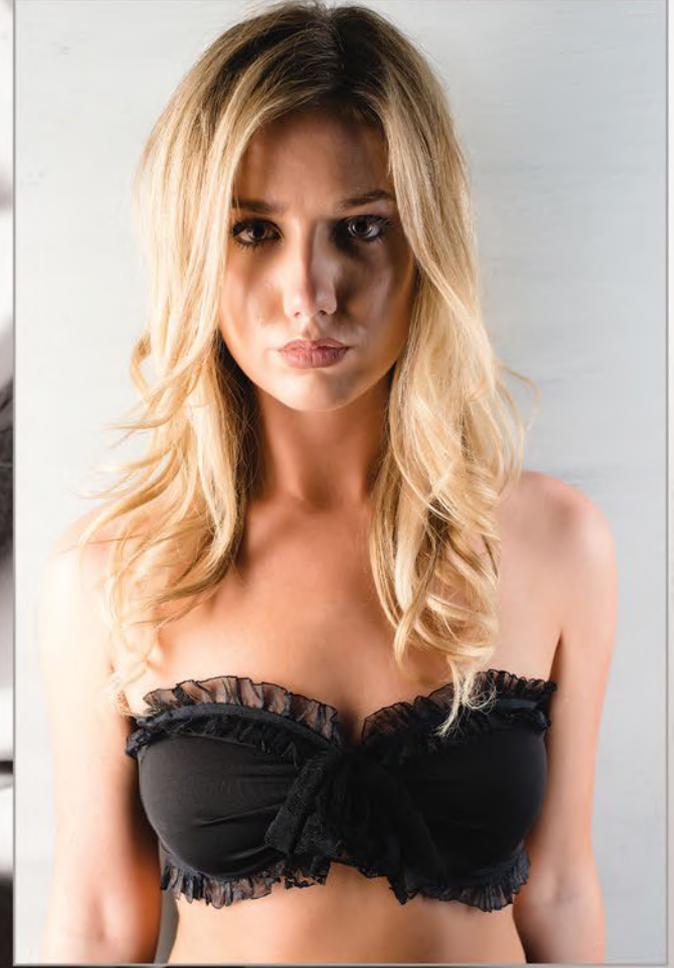
Hailing from New York, her family moved to Carmel when she was just three. Recently, Taylor graduated from San Francisco State, where she received a bachelor's degree in apparel design and merchandising with an emphasis in design. "I want to be involved in every aspect of my business from the occupational side of it, to knowing how it's manufactured, to modeling my designs." She has done two fashion shows and two trunk shows with her dresses, a fashion show with her lingerie, and photo shoots with her handbags. "I want to do it all, and so far it's been working out," she adds.

Taylor's goal is to help financially challenged women start their businesses and attend college. Part of the proceeds from handbag sales will be given to these women.

Where does Taylor see herself in the future? "I want to be a household name as a designer and a philanthropist," she says.

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IN VEGAS. CAN'T WAIT  
TO GO BACK."  
— FOX 5 NEWS







# DUNCAN

PERSONA

## THE NINE LIVES OF DUNCAN MATTESON

By Maggie Grainger | Photography by Lucas Huey

If there's one guy who knows you can't take anything in life for granted, it's iconic real estate businessman Duncan Matteson. The prominent Bay Area figure has looked death in the eye on more than one occasion, the first of which when he was less than a year old.



When his mother took him to the doctor to treat an ear infection, it seemed simple enough; she couldn't imagine the frightening turn it would take. When the doctor went in to correct Matteson's ear, he accidentally punctured a hole so deep in his right jugular vein that Matteson bled for three straight days. "On the third night, they told my parents they could go home and come and get my body in the morning," he remembers. Mysteriously, during the night he stopped bleeding and his parents were shocked to find him alive in the morning.

While his ear remained damaged until his early 20s, it served as a reminder to Matteson that he was meant to live his life to the fullest and help others in the process. It's a motto he's remained loyal to throughout his career, which began when he was pounding the pavement as a stockbroker before making the move to real estate in 1964. He founded Matteson Investment Corporation in 1978, and since then, has never looked back. In fact, he's made it a family affair, hiring his wife, Shirley, in 1980, and his son in the late '80s.

"Imagine all the lemonade she's had to make from the lemons

I've given her over the years," he says from his second home in Pebble Beach, California. An infectious laugh escapes him.

The couple married in Kansas City, Missouri back in 1955, and they have called the Bay Area home for more than 55 years. He says the key to a good marriage and a good working relationship is mutual respect. "It's important to give everyone respect because you don't have to apologize for things, and you get good things done," he explains. "Do we agree on everything? No, but that's healthy. The key to the whole thing is respect."

Matteson stands by the idea that there are a lot of things he can learn from people. "If you're busy dominating and talking, you're not learning," he shares.

This positive attitude has not only helped him close a deal or two, but helped him get through another near-death experience a few years ago when he underwent a complex heart surgery. "We were about two-thirds of the way in when my heart went to zero," he says gravely. "Thank God everyone was there and they got my heart working again." When the doctor told him afterwards what happened, he admits he didn't know what to think. "I just said, 'Oh my God,'" he remembers. "Am I going to have problems?" His pacemaker now doubles as a heartbeat monitor and constant reminder of how precious life really is.

And it seems he practices what he preaches. He sits on several boards throughout the Bay Area for a variety of charities. He's also the co-founder of the Housing Industry Foundation and has raised thousands of dollars for the American Cancer Society and March of Dimes. It's all about the big picture for Matteson.

"I've felt the need to give back for a long time, but I feel even more importantly in these past few years that I'm not just going to schedule my next golf game to make myself happy; I'm out there trying to make others happy. I think that's why God let me live: to help others." A pause catches his words. "If you're not helping others, then you're just wasting space," he chuckles.

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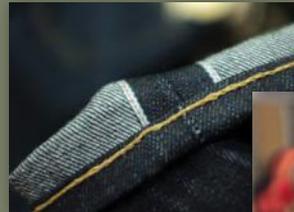


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SCENE

DARVIN ATKESON





# BARRY'S





SCENE



Photography by Drew Altizer

## FROM BOYS TO MEN

By Sam Allen | Photography Hemali Zaveri

The youngest of five siblings, Dwayne Jones learned the value of a good education early on. One of the first examples was set for him when his mother moved the family from San Bernardino to Redlands, California so that he could attend top-performing public schools. What's more, his family carries a storied tradition of public service. His mother fed the homeless, his father became a preacher after his career as a Marine, and his older sisters hold prominent positions in the public sector. It stands to reason that Jones would follow this pattern of humanitarianism.





DWAYNE

PERSONA



Having been a self-described “terror” as a little boy, Jones once jumped off of his roof when he was eight, with predictably painful results. Perhaps this is why he strives to help slightly impulsive boys who, in their enthusiasm to explore the world, sometimes get into trouble. His goal is to help them take their own giant leaps, safely and successfully. “There’s nothing like seeing a reflection of yourself in them when you were that age,” Jones recalls. “It’s like, yeah, that’s exactly who I was.”

Harboring that same impulsiveness as a young boy, Jones yearned to understand the world around him. Football allowed him to manifest his energy in a positive way while forming relationships with male role models. Appropriately, those first chapters in his adult life include a football scholarship and a transitory career in the NFL. Fifteen years of public service in politics and the business world followed, including the formation of his consulting firm, RDJ Enterprises.

Ultimately, Jones’ background and understanding of children inspired a new avenue for public service. In 2010, Jones founded Urban Ed Academy, where he oversees the mentoring of boys of color in the third, fourth, and fifth grade.

The adventure really began in 2009 when Jones’ co-workers and friends began asking him to mentor their sons. He communicated so well with the children that teachers started asking him to take on their students who were having trouble in school. Soon he had “a small

army” of boys under his wing.

Observing a need within his community, Jones made several phone calls and leveraged his personal connections, from fraternity brothers to fellow football players, to bring Urban Ed Academy into being.

These days, Urban Ed Academy assists boys of color in five key focus areas: Academic Enrichment, Character Development, Health and Recreation, Cultural Awareness, and Community Service. The Academy serves as a Saturday school in San Francisco for boys, who, as a population, are diagnosed with ADHD three times more frequently than girls. The program provides the boys with opportunities that they might otherwise not have.

Jones credits NaVorro Bowman, linebacker for the San Francisco 49ers, as one of his greatest supporters. Bowman has volunteered as the Celebrity Sponsor for Urban Ed and underwrites the Summer Smart Saturday program. He also throws sizeable fundraisers for the school each summer, which carries the organization’s funding through the fall. He even organized a Christmas toy giveaway for Urban Ed in 2013 that garnered over 1,000 toys for the school’s 500 students.

Urban Ed Academy is also infused with the spirit of friendship between Jones and California Lieutenant Governor Gavin Newsom. “Gavin is a fantastic supporter of Urban Ed Academy,” says Jones. “He’s amazing with the kids and the program, actually coming to meet with them often and hosting personal fundraisers to support Urban Ed.”

Jones is enthusiastic about his appreciation for his friendship with Newsom, citing his wedding at Newsom’s winery, Cade Estate Winery on Howell Mountain in Napa Valley. Newsom officiated the wedding, which was featured in *Modern Luxury Brides California* magazine. “Dwayne is remarkably gifted and passionate about solving the veritable issues of our time: poverty and social mobility,” says Newsom. “He’s intensely devoted to systemically reforming the educational system. Urban Ed is an example of that. Dwayne is the real deal.”

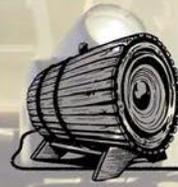
Despite his accomplishments, Jones is surprisingly humble and claims that “None of my professional life was ever intentional.” Perhaps that’s the point. Movers and shakers are often molded by circumstance and intuition.



## A SIP OF BOTTLEROCK

By Andrea Stuart | Photos by Remy

Set against a village backdrop in the heart of Napa, BottleRock Napa Valley has officially reinvented the music festival experience. Featuring over 60 bands, 40 restaurants, and 25 wineries, the festival drew an impressive list of music legends, including The Cure, Heart, and David Pack; aural phenoms such as Matisyahu, Weezer, Eric Church, LL Cool J with DJ Z-Trip, and Blues Traveler; and local talents, including The Silverado Pickups. Ears rang with song for three days, while “festival fare” was forever changed. BottleRock kept attendees nourished with Morimoto Napa, La Condesa, Angele French cuisine, Curry Up Now, and other luxury provisions in addition to hydrating wine habits via local wineries, including Miner, Somm Select, Andretti, Layer Cake, and Rombauer. What more could a bon vivant with a penchant for auditory delicacies and grape libations want?



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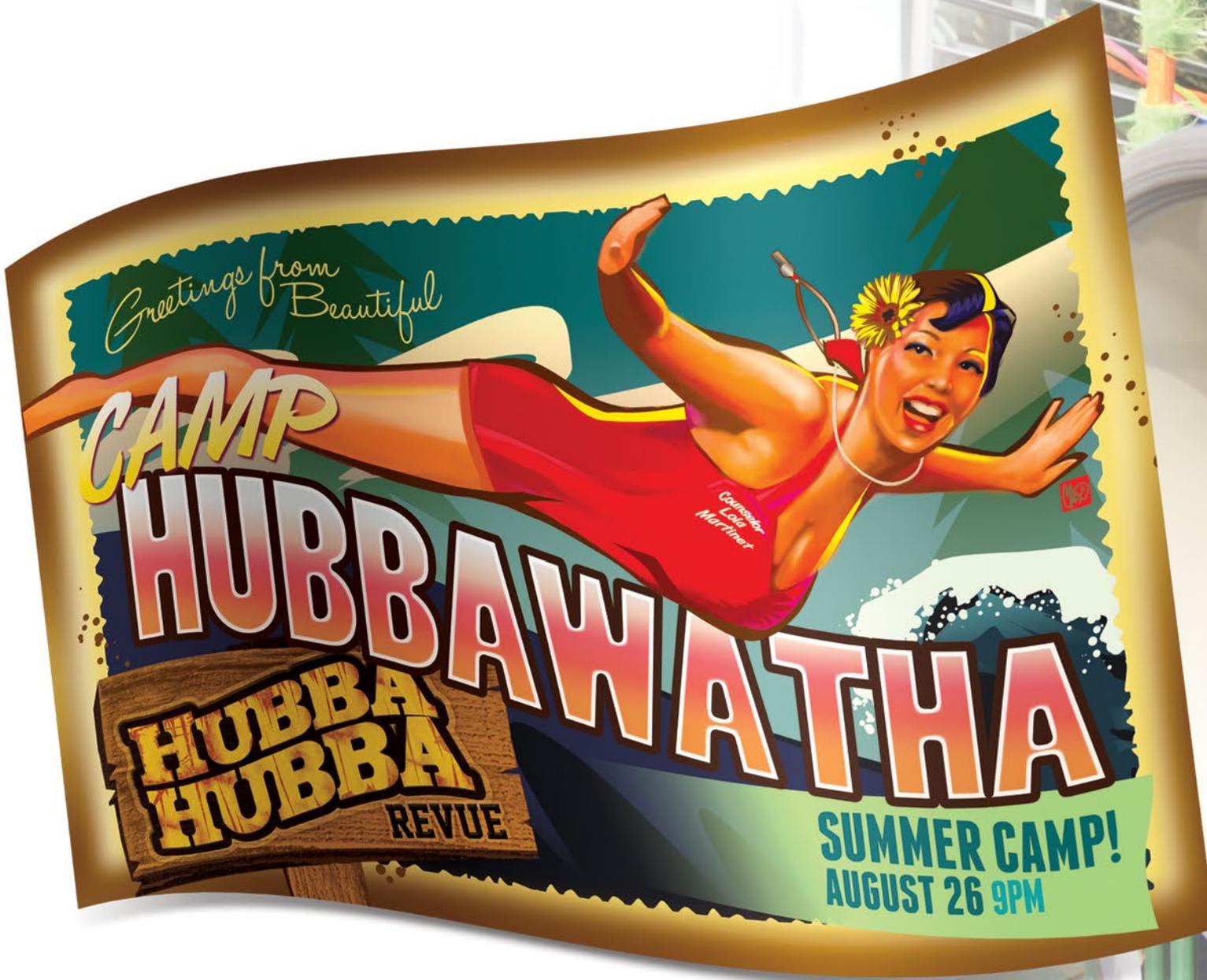
Photography by Tom Kubik





# KAEPERNIC







# JIM

## HUBBA, HUBBA

By Maggie Grainger | Photos by Calibree Photography

The lights dim as the sounds of big band music swell up. A hush falls over the audience as they clutch their drinks in anticipation. For the next few hours they know they will be transported to another world—a circus of glitter, glitz, and more than one or two tassel twirls.

Welcome to the magical world of burlesque.

For Jim Sweeney, 49, it's just another day at the office. As the producer and mastermind behind the popular Hubba Hubba Revue at the DNA Lounge, he's been showcasing some of the world's best burlesque acts in the world since 2006—quite the juxtaposition for a man who, when he was a boy, toyed with the idea of becoming a priest. Suffice it to say he never thought he would one day share the stage with a bevy of beauties every week.



As a kid growing up in San Francisco's Outer Mission neighborhood, Sweeney also never thought his name would one day be synonymous with Bay Area burlesque. However, thanks to his fun-loving parents, a life full of costumes and color seemed inevitable. "My parents are very fun, active, party and costume people," he says with a smile. "Getting dressed up in elaborate costumes and going to events was part of my life from early childhood." He adds that if you want to live in San Francisco, you'd better have a costume trunk.

His first exposure to the allure of dancing dames was actually at Disneyland, where he became mesmerized by the antics onstage at the famed Golden Horseshoe Revue. "In those days, Disneyland's entertainment was a little less sanitized, and although it was still 'family entertainment,' the old Golden Horseshoe was very much burlesque," he says, looking back.

Sweeney always identified with the emcee. "Add to that the corny jokes by the Jungle Cruise guides and I think that's where it all started." He chuckles. During the 1980s and '90s, Sweeney hung out at various nightclubs in The City, and people began to notice

his loud personality. Soon, friends were asking him to host everything from fashion shows to band nights.

So when the neo-burlesque movement started taking off around the country, it was a natural progression for him to get involved with the San Francisco scene. "Back in those days, there were only a handful of people performing, and only a tiny number of shows, scattered here and there," he explains. "It wasn't like it is now—you could seriously meet 90 percent of the entire Bay Area burlesque community in one person's living room."

Sweeney believes San Francisco and burlesque go so well together because of the free-spirit nature of The City. "I want Hubba to be a wild, sensory overload, and when [people] walk away from it, they're smiling and happy and maybe a little stunned." He laughs.

"Everyone, including me, was terrified about San Francisco losing its character to these [Silicon Valley] invaders, but I think maybe we might have failed to account for The City itself in that formula. It's mighty hard to resist joining the "fun freak parade" when the, freak flag, is going back and forth right outside your office window." Sure, being the producer of an ever-evolving show has its high and low points. Sweeney is the first to admit financial stress has threatened to close Hubba's doors on more than one occasion, but he says it's the strong community support that keeps the show going. It's the same tight-knit community that came together when Sweeney lost his good friend and co-founder Sparkly Devil (Sarah Klein), who died in a car crash while on her way home after a Hubba Hubba performance last year.

"Sparkly was here one moment; we were literally all together, on stage with her. And in the next instant she was gone. Not a single person got to say goodbye." However, he says with each low comes a new learning experience. "If I've learned anything, it's: don't waste your skills, your hard work, and your sleepless nights adding your few pennies to some faceless company's accounting ledger," he emphasizes. "Follow your dream! The worst fate imaginable would be to wake up one day and realize you spent your whole, vibrant life doing your part to make Crate & Barrel just a little bit richer."



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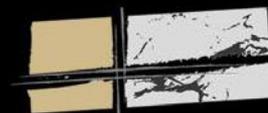
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# TSAR NICOULAI CAVIAR, A TWIST ON TRADITION

By Andrea Stuart

While the history of caviar may be framed in opulence and power—beginning with the Russian Imperial Court—this association alone usurps caviar’s true character and potential.

Tsar Nicoulai Caviar, a San Francisco-based artisanal caviar producer, has set forth to debunk the myth that caviar should be enjoyed in a certain way by certain people. “For over the last thirty years, we’ve cultivated caviar that adheres to our mission of sustainability and integrity of quality while transcending time so the next generation can enjoy it,” says Jeffrey Senna of Tsar Nicoulai Caviar.

Cultivation of caviar is an art form at Tsar Nicoulai Caviar, where ecologically sustainable farms translate to healthy, happy fish. While it’s true that their farming practices of white sturgeon protect the endangered species from being overfished, it also seems that the stress-free, disease-free farm environments in California’s Central Valley and Hagerman, Idaho, provide the fish with a utopian existence that inspires desirable roe.

Avoidance of contaminants such as pesticides, and exclusion of fertilizers, preservatives, antibiotics, growth hormones, biocides, bioengineering, or any method or substance that may alter the ecosystem is crucial. Producing caviar that is free of impurities such as mercury, which can be found in wild caught varieties, motivates the caviar maker to work diligently and maintain “pristine conditions” for the respected fish. And when we say respected, we mean revered.





Tsar Nicoulai's caviar expert, Monica Alvarez, explains that the farm managers operate with a farm-to-table mentality. "It's important to be caring and respectful, to bring that to the table. We take care of the fish from birth to harvest, all by hand, and we only harvest the older fish," she says. "The farmers even sing to the fish." She chuckles. When the fish are harvested—in spring and fall—nothing goes to waste.

Moreover, caviar's nutritional value is recognized by some medical professionals since caviar is abundant in vitamins B12, B6, A, as well as iron, magnesium, selenium, and omega 3 and 6 fatty acids. The staff at Tsar Nicoulai Caviar learned that an oncologist prescribed caviar for a customer's son to provide him with specific nutrients. "It was so exciting that caviar was not just being enjoyed as a luxury but for its nutrition," adds Alvarez.

Caviar is suitable for any occasion, from football parties and barbecues to weeknight dinners. Natural flavor-infused roes make cooking exciting. Grab a Hefeweizen, a mild Belgian, or an easy pilsner and pair with a baked potato topped with sour cream and a dollop of caviar. Or hollow out the potato, fill with scrambled eggs, and top with crème fraîche and caviar. For a mid-week pick-me-up, top filet mignon with wasabi roe or garnish deviled eggs with salmon roe. For a more traditional experience, Tsar Nicoulai's Crown Jewel is best served à la carte with champagne. Caviar is graded on four points: taste, color, texture, and size. Crown Jewel requires optimal ranking on all levels. Harvested infrequently due to its rarity, it's only produced in small batches of up to five pounds, gleaned from top quality sturgeon. Its marbled tone complements the 3.3 mm bead size, which produces a firm texture known for a sumptuous pop, a mild flavor, and a smooth and creamy experience. Consider enjoying this caviar by the spoonful, but avoid metal utensils or dishes, as metal is said to react unfavorably with it.

The versatility and delicacy of our little beaded friends begs no question as to why culinary artisans such as Wolfgang Puck, Thomas Keller, and Rolan Passot have acknowledged caviar, particularly Tsar Nicoulai Caviar, for sophistication.

**To learn more about caviar, visit Tsar Nicoulai Caviar at [tsarnicoulai.com](http://tsarnicoulai.com)**