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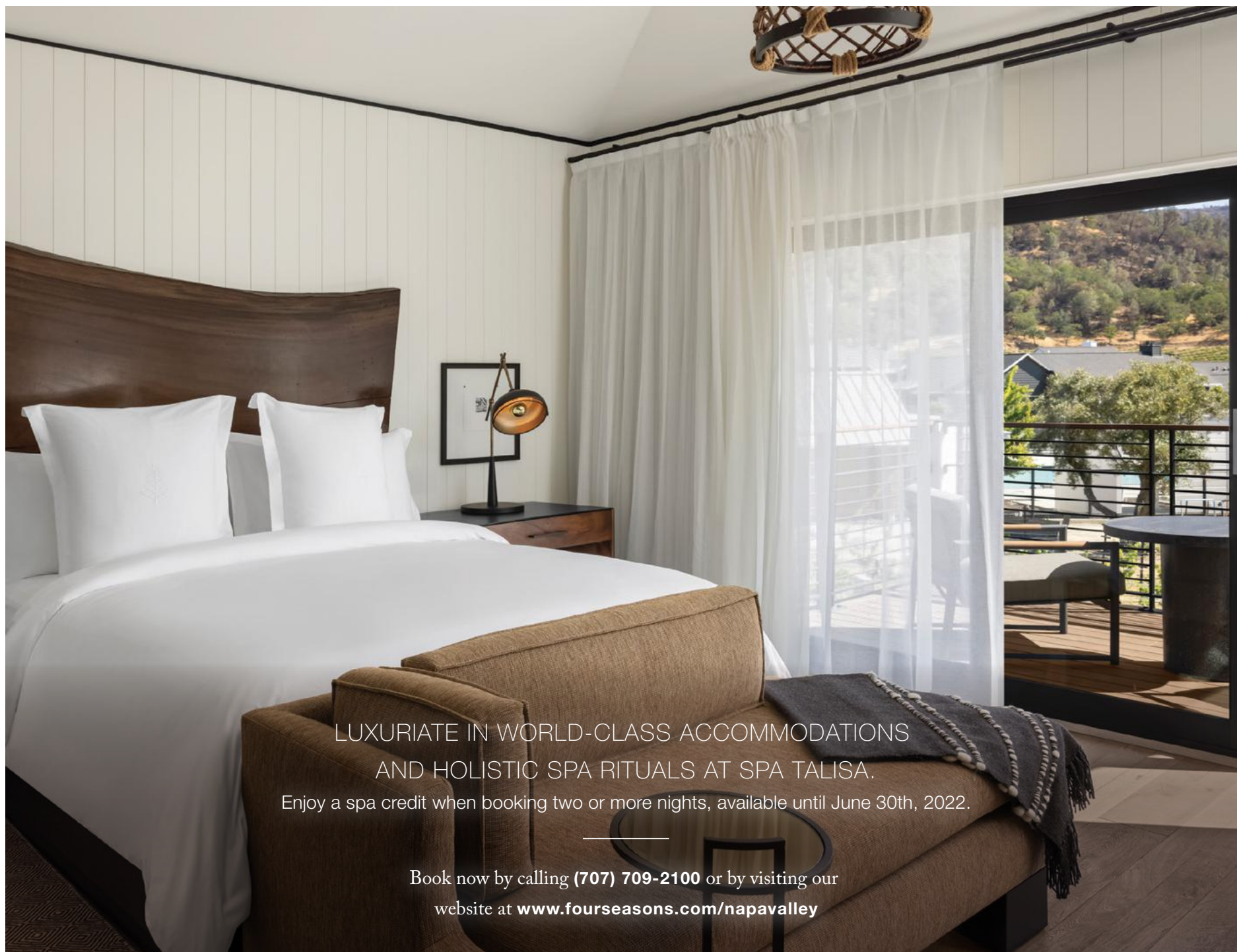




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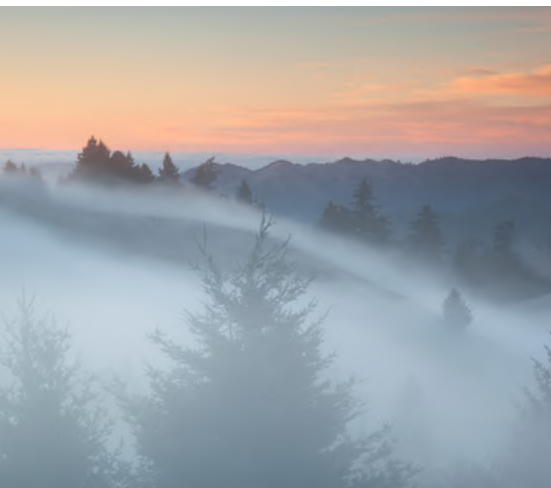
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57° DEPARTMENTS

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Complete Athlete

By Bettina McBee

Giving Back

By Maile Morrish

WINE

The Family Legacy Sparkles On

By Atissa Manshouri

COMMUNITY

Collabria's Compassionate Care

By Jessica Zimmer

STAY

Impeccable Wine in Provence's Paradise

By Nora Heston Tarte

PHOTO

Keeping it Real: Richard Wong

By Jennifer Moulaison

SCENE

San Francisco Opera Guild's An Evening on the Stage

An Elegant Evening in the Court of Honor/Legion of Honor Museum Benefit

PUBLISHER'S NOTE

By Rich Medel

As we enter 2022, we are pleased to offer a collection of stories showcasing creativity as a source for innovation and connection.

Ace de la Vergne moved to the Monterey Peninsula from Louisiana. She shares her haunting vocals and soulful performances in Pebble Beach and Carmel each month. Another local musician, Reija Massey, is a powerhouse whose aerobic vocal performances are full of emotionality, as are her music videos.

We're excited to share a story about Carmel Mission. The revitalized historical landmark is expanding its offerings to include a youth ambassador program. Its other programs provide a lens into the Peninsula's past and unravel the mysteries therein.

In community happenings, Pebble Beach Company Foundation is shifting its focus. After extensive research, the organization is putting emphasis on youth mental health and education.

For those interested in a little getaway, Quail Lodge & Golf Club continues to prove itself as an ideal stay for golfers, outdoor enthusiasts, adventurers, and luxury seekers alike.

On the 57° front, Keena Turner, San Francisco 49ers vice president and senior advisor to the general manager, shares his story of charitable work and community services, which serves as the foundation for his life.



Although it's across the pond, Château de Berne graces our pages because it entranced us with its unparalleled exceptionality. Residing in the Côtes de Provence appellation, France, Château de Berne combines wine and hospitality with a type of elegance only found in France.

In the event you can't make it to France right now, we invite you to read about Schramsberg Vineyards, a Calistoga winery with a storied past and equally vibrant wine.

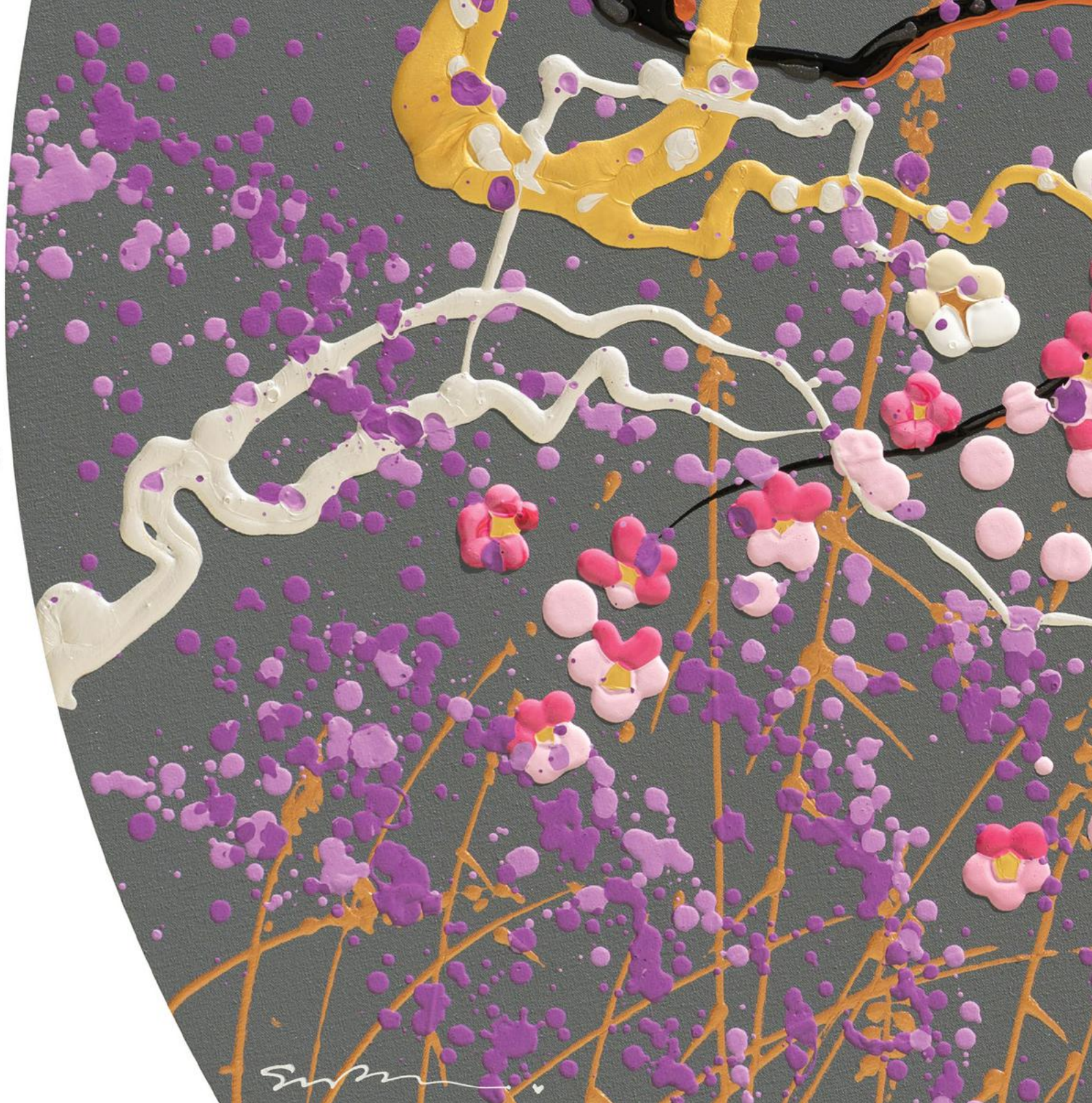
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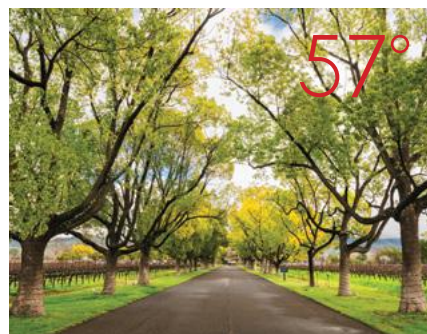




57°

THIS IS THE CITY

PUBLISHER	Rich Medel rich@65mag.com
EDITORIAL DIRECTOR	Andrea Stuart andrea@65mag.com
CONTRIBUTING WRITERS	Sally Baho Caitlin Fillmore Nora Heston Tarte Atissa Manshour Bettina McBee Robert Moskowitz Maile Morrish Jennifer Moulaison Jessica Zimmer
COPY EDITOR	Leah Weiss
ASSOCIATE EDITORS	Michele Callaghan MacDuff Perkins
ART CREATIVE DIRECTOR	Manny Espinoza manny@65mag.com
CONTRIBUTING PHOTOGRAPHERS	Manny Espinoza Carly Jean Sydney Coleman Randy Tunnell
ADVERTISING / MARKETING SALES ACCOUNT EXECUTIVE	Sydney Coleman Jack Pappadeas jack@65mag.com Chad Medel chad@65mag.com Tracy Ricci tracy@65mag.com
MAILING ADDRESS	65° Magazine P.O. Box 2426 Carmel, CA 93921-6325
PHONE	831.917.1673
ONLINE	65mag.com



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Photo by Richard Wong

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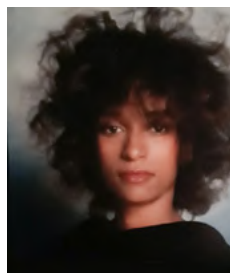
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MCBEE



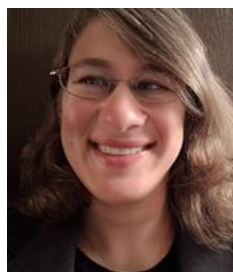
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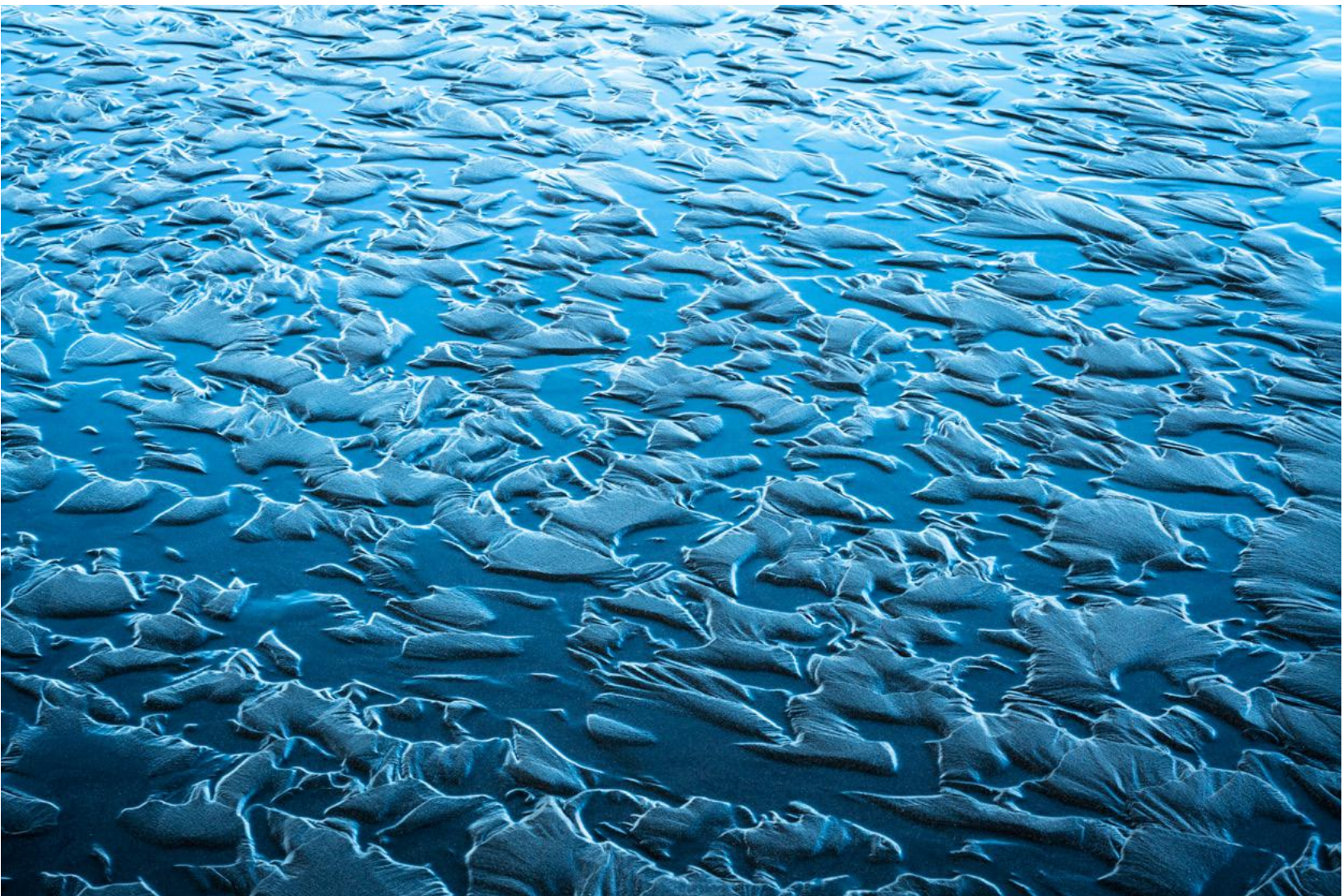
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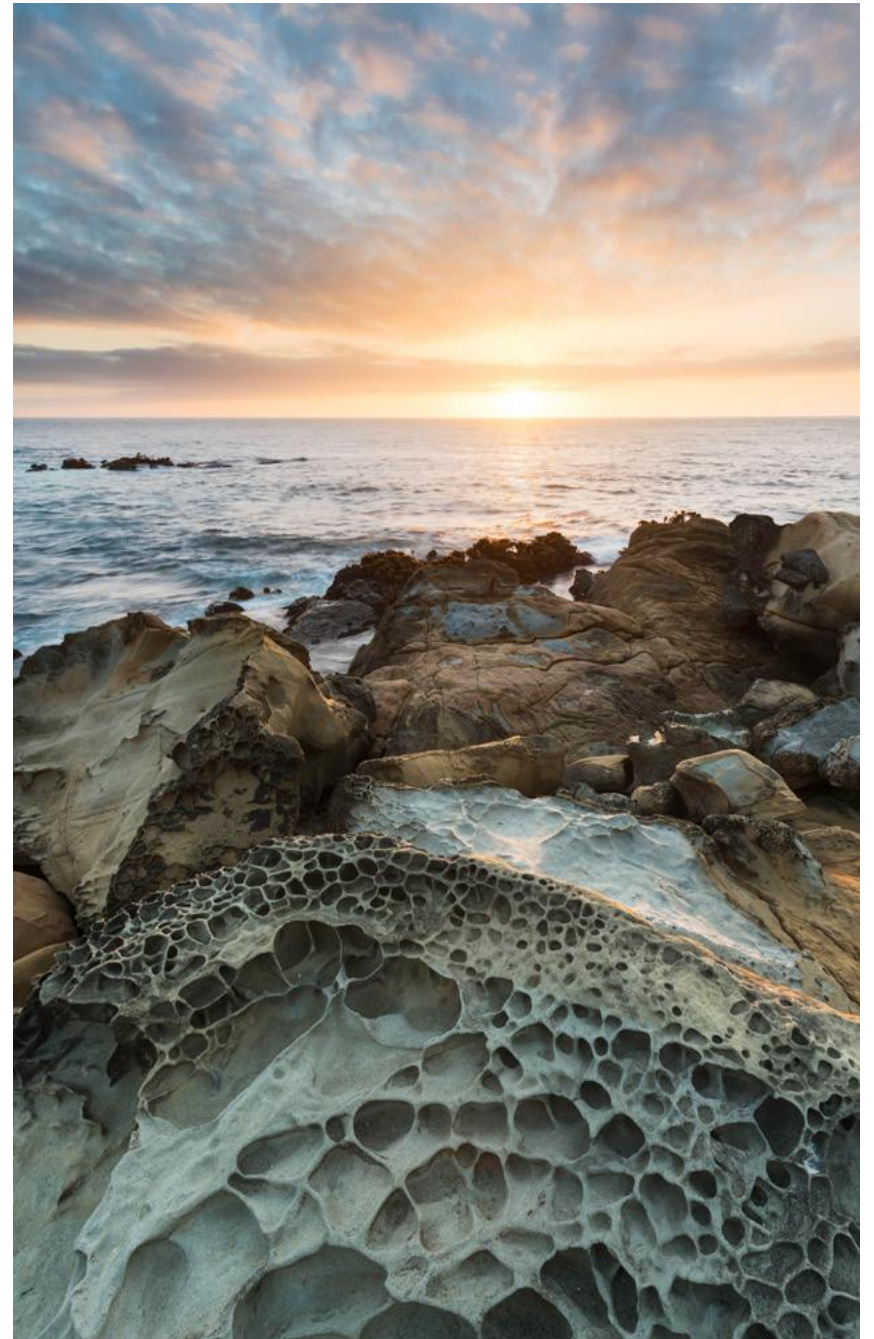
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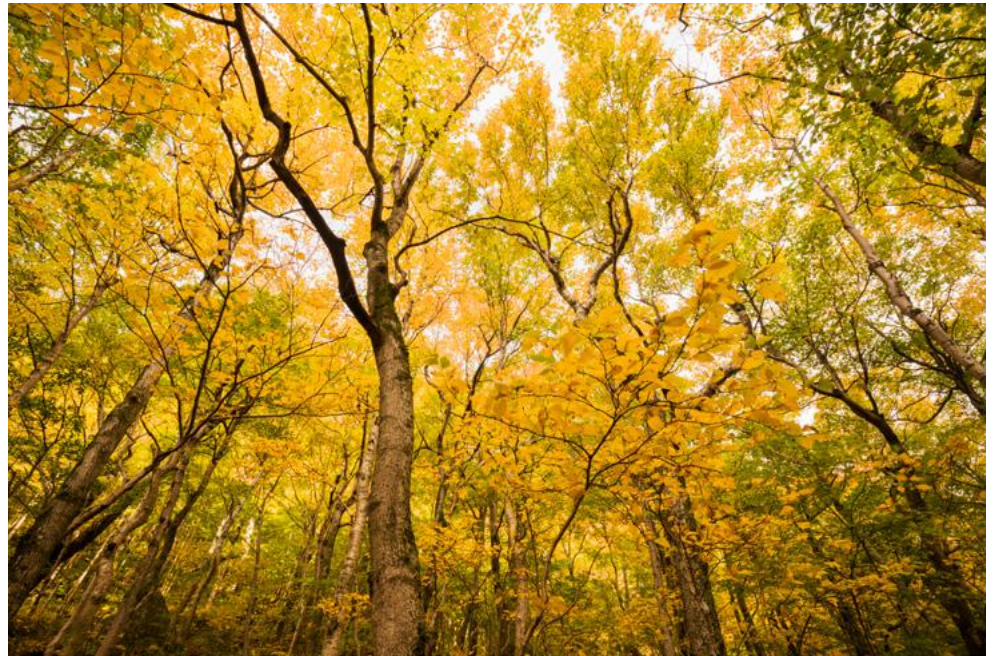
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Keeping It Real

By Jennifer Moulaison | Photos by Richard Wong

For seasoned landscape photographer Richard Wong, photography apparently runs in the family. His self-taught style has helped him curate a striking portfolio of fine art landscape images. Having been influenced by his uncle, a portrait and wedding photographer, and his cousin, a landscape photographer, Wong discovered his own skills and love for working with the camera.

This passion has served as the driving force behind Wong's style for more than 20 years and may even afford his images a kind of purity. "I knew I had absolutely no interest whatsoever in events or studio work and see those more of service-oriented genres," says Wong. "Instead, I pursued landscape photography, as it was the only subject that truly captured my attention." He is also drawn to digital photography and has been using the medium for the entirety of his career. "Digital photography offers a lot more control over the final product than film ever could, in my opinion," he says. "I couldn't even tell you how to correct for color balance or deal with reciprocity failure, nor have [I] any interest in dealing with those technical limitations. Digital allows me to focus entirely on bringing my vision to life."

With a firm dedication to capturing the natural world, Wong considers himself fortunate in many aspects of his work. "I

generally don't have anyone telling me what to create or how to do it, and I'm able to experience some of the most beautiful locations, which in turn inspire what I'm able to create," he explains.

The California native has covered his home state extensively but has also traveled to some extraordinary locations for his work. "My most memorable experience was an Alaska grizzly bear photo tour I did about a decade ago," he says. "Experiencing not only the breathtaking landscape but [also] seeing grizzlies up close was unforgettable." Such events continue to be a source of inspiration for Wong and drive his ambition for future projects. "My dream would be to take an entire year to travel with my family across America, photographing along the way," he says. "I've been to many parts of the country for my work, but to cover it all in one journey would be an unforgettable experience."

As for the future, Wong has discussed with his wife the concept of creating his own art gallery. Until that's feasible, he intends to continue focusing on reaching luxury art buyers with his work and building a presence in his field.

For more information, visit rwongphoto.com.



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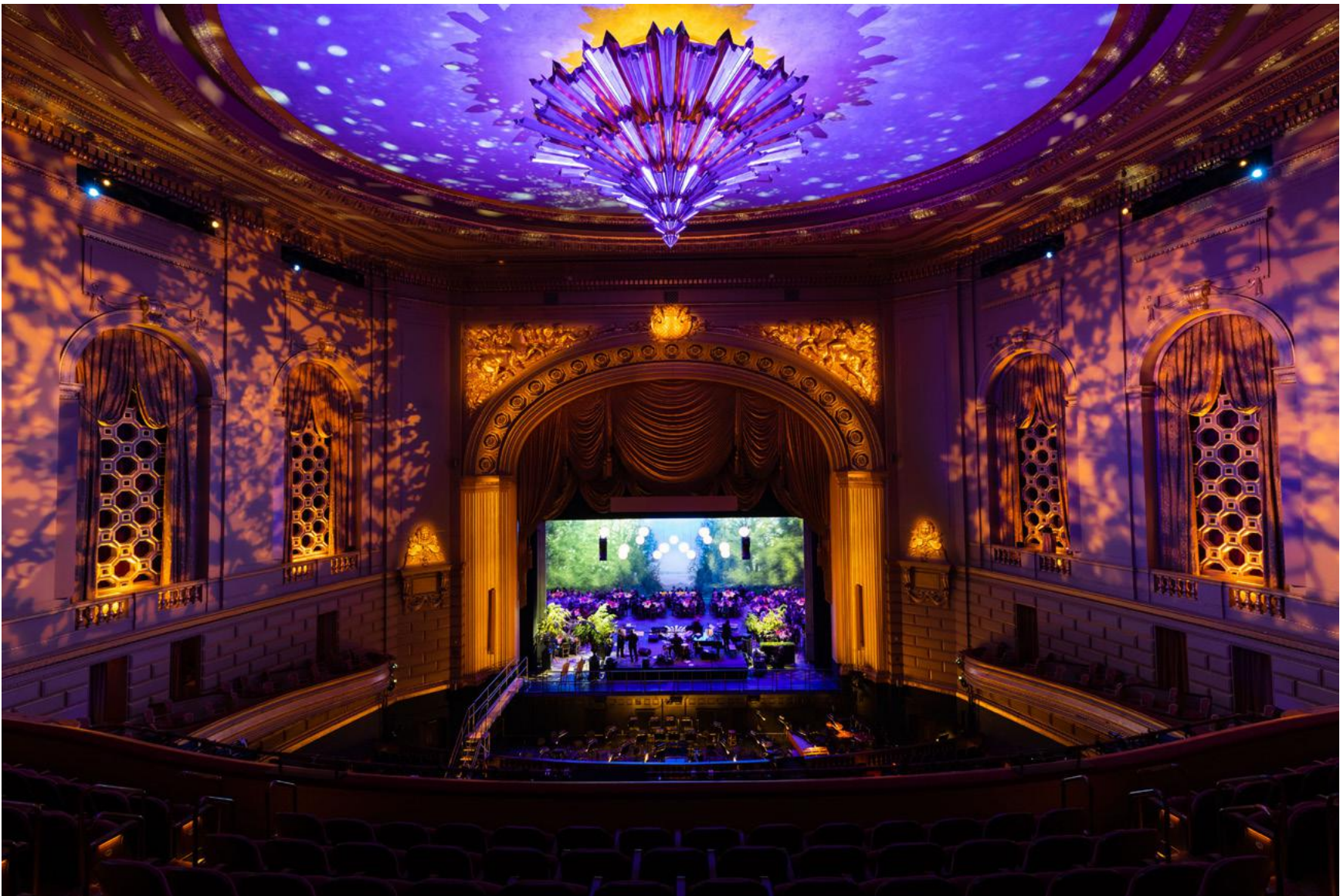
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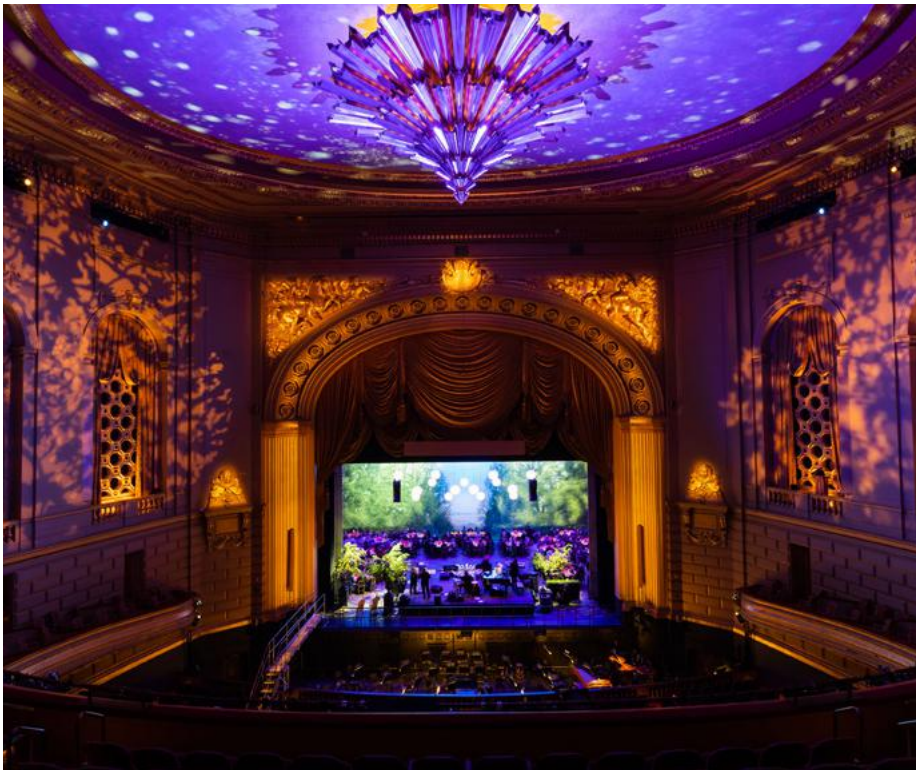
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An Evening on the Stage

Photos by Drew Altizer Photography

The San Francisco Opera Guild's annual gala dinner An Evening on the Stage honored the Littlefield family on November 30. The Littlefield Family has supported San Francisco Opera for multiple generations beginning with the late Jeannik Méquet Littlefield, who's historic \$35 million gift to the Company in 2006 was the largest gift to an American opera company from a single individual at the time.

Mrs. Littlefield's daughter, Denise Littlefield Sobel, is an ardent arts supporter and philanthropic leader. She continues the family's dedication to San Francisco Opera and San Francisco Opera Guild as a major sponsor and contributor. On behalf of the Littlefield family, Sobel accepted San Francisco Opera Guild's 2021 Crescendo Award at the event.

The sold-out event—presented by San Francisco Opera Guild under President Maryam Muduroglu—offered 250 guests the opportunity to dine on the War Memorial Opera House stage, surrounded by sets from the Company's critically acclaimed new production of Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart's *Così fan tutte*. An Evening on the Stage included a cocktail reception at 6 p.m. in the War Memorial Opera House foyer, followed by dinner and live music on the Opera House stage.



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Cancer Sucks Fundraiser

From behind *The Grape Crusher* silhouette on Highway 12 in Napa, California, the sky erupts from the sculpture. Salmon hues sleep on the Napa Valley horizon, giving way to clouds dappled in amethyst and coral. This scene is evocative of the alluring images captured by Napa Valley Photographer Bob McClenahan.

In June 2021, Bob was diagnosed with stage IV diffuse large B-cell non-Hodgkin's lymphoma. Since then, Bob has been unable to pick up the camera. He and his family have been living on savings as he endures surgery, intensive chemotherapy treatments, and prepares for a bone marrow transplant that will require a long hospital stay.

A GoFundMe campaign has been set up on behalf of the McClenahan family since Bob has been out of work. "The GoFundMe donations are going toward daily living expenses," he shares.

The McClenahan family is grateful for the outpouring of support, and Bob is staying positive. "Cancer will change your life. It makes you pause and reflect on what is truly important."

To support Bob McClenahan and his family, visit [bobmcclenahan.com/post/cancer-sucks](https://www.gofundme.com/cancer-sucks).











Complete Athlete

By Bettina McBee | Photos Courtesy of Boys & Girls Clubs of Tracy

Keena Turner, San Francisco 49ers vice president and senior advisor to the general manager, is the definition of 49ers Faithful. The organization is now celebrating its 75th anniversary, and Turner has been a vital part of it for nearly 40 of those years.

"I'm fortunate to have come here as a young player and work under the leadership of [former 49ers CEO] Edward DeBartolo Jr. and to then have the opportunity to work with Jed and the York family," says Turner. Jed York, current CEO of the 49ers, is the nephew of DeBartolo Jr. York is continuing the traditions of both the family and the team. According to Turner, working with the York family over the last 12 years has been a tremendous blessing.

In 1980, then-21-year-old Turner was selected by the 49ers in the second round of the 1980 National Football League (NFL) draft out of Purdue University. Coached by Bill Walsh, Turner excelled as a linebacker and was a dominating presence on the field, playing 11 seasons, 153 games, and catching 11 interceptions. He was known to sack a few quarterbacks, along with recovering eight fumbles and even scoring a touchdown. Turner, along with Joe Montana, Jerry Rice, Ronnie Lott, Dwight Clark, and Eric Wright, made NFL history after winning Super Bowl XVI in 1982 to secure the 49ers' first championship. The team of the 1980s cemented its legacy with three more Super Bowl Championships, including XIX, XXIII, and XXIV.

In 1984, Turner was honored with the team's Len Eshmont Award for his inspirational and courageous performance. His achievements were immortalized in the Purdue Intercollegiate Hall of Fame in 2006 and in the Bay Area Hall of Fame in 2019.

Turner turned to coaching at Stanford University alongside his coach and mentor, Bill Walsh, from 1992 to 1994. A few years later, he was asked to return to the 49ers' franchise. In addition to his knowledge as a player,

Turner's years of experience with the front office, combined with his degree in organizational management from Purdue University, have made him irreplaceable.

His versatility and institutional knowledge have allowed him the opportunity to hold a variety of titles within the organization, including vice president of football affairs, director of alumni coordinators, and player development director.



In addition, his resumé includes sports broadcasting and acting. In 1997, he appeared as Officer Hicks in *The Game*, a film starring Michael Douglas that was shot in San Francisco.

Turner's football history, blended in with the illustrious triumphs of the team, is on display at the 49ers Museum in Santa Clara. The 20,000-square-foot building, presented by Foxconn Industrial Internet, showcases the team's past, present, and future. The museum is an important resource, demonstrating the 49ers celebrated legacy as well as the impact the team has had in the community. Turner's presence adds to that historical perspective.

An icon, husband, father, entrepreneur, and philanthropist with strong connections to the Bay Area, Turner had hosted his annual celebrity golf tournament in Tracy for 26 years, raising funds for the local Boys and Girls Club. The Keena Turner Golf Tournament has contributed millions of dollars to benefit club programs and activities. During the first few waves of the COVID-19 pandemic, the club was able to provide more than 10,000 food boxes to families.

Turner continues to be inspired by the clear focus and great athleticism the new generation of 49ers. "I learn more from them than they learn from me," he says. During this diamond anniversary year, players and fans are ready for football and hoping to see history repeat itself.



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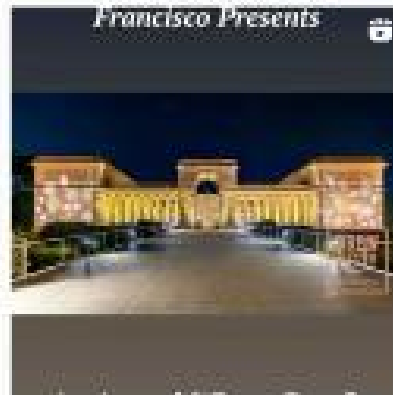
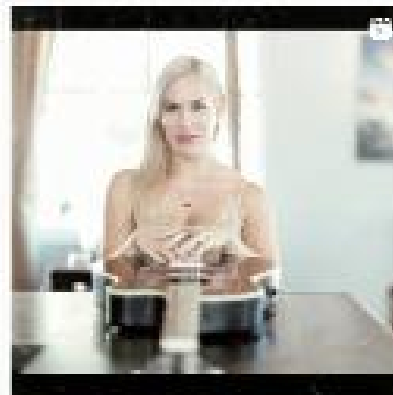
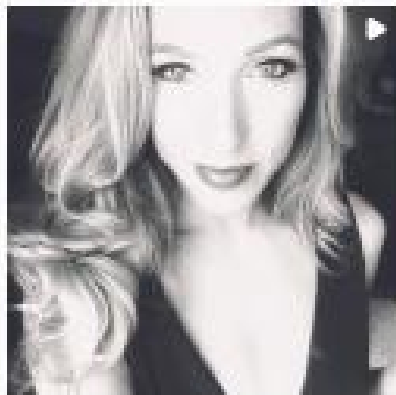
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Impeccable Wine in Provence's Paradise

By Nora Heston Tarte | Photos Courtesy of Château de Berne

Deep in the Provençal countryside in France sits the well-appointed Château de Berne, a beacon of sustainability and a shining example of an expertly blended wine-and-stay experience across the Atlantic Ocean. On property, a 1,700-acre vineyard yields a variety of grapes used by seasoned winemaker Alexis Corneau to turn out a collection of red, white, and—specifically—a grenache-driven rosé. Like Monterey, this coastal region offers diversity in the glass. It differs, however, in soil type and varietals, proffering a heterogeneous tasting experience for those visiting from California.

In the Côtes de Provence appellation where Château de Berne is located, wine and hotels are aplenty. This particular property, however, combines the two exceptionally well, resulting in a long list of awards and other accolades, including for best winery hotel in the world, and designations as the most popular wine destination in Provence. The château's goal is to provide guests with a refined yet welcoming experience that embodies the spirit of Provence without overpowering the natural paradise and its pristine views, all accessible from the Relais & Châteaux band's 27 rooms and suites (each with its own balcony or terrace).

The château's modern amenities—including tennis courts and poolside cabanas—may indicate a cutting-edge elegance, but the property's charms are deeply rooted in its history and stay true to the Romans who first built on its land. For example, the wine bottles are shaped for the square columns indicative of the time period. The buildings that stand today are modern, but vestiges discovered on the property—including an ancient Roman oven—date back to 200 B.C. The restoration was done in a way that captures the essence of its previous buildings.

Those who come to Château de Berne will likely do so for the exceptional terroir and unique accommodations in the sprawling

French countryside, but it's the property's other amenities—from 60 miles of hiking and biking trails to an award-winning spa—and the staff's dedication to sustainable practices that will keep many visitors hooked on the experience. One ideal itinerary includes a morning at a local Provence market and the property's own garden, a cooking lesson held at the year-round cooking school on site, a treatment at the 8,600-square-foot tranquil spa, and a dip in one of three pools before a late afternoon spent tasting wine and touring the vineyard, all wrapped up with a seven-course dinner and wine pairing at the Michelin-Green Star restaurant, Le Jardin de Berne, which is backed by an impeccable culinary team of standouts and stars.

If you can't make the trip to France just yet, then consider being transported to the wine region through a bottle of Château de Berne's wine from the eponymous label. Provence has a robust résumé when it comes to turning out rosés, which is why rosés are Château de Berne's only US export. Dubbed Inspiration, the 2020 release is bold in color, with a deep pink hue. On the nose, clean, floral scents punctuated by fresh berries evoke memories of walking through a lavender field on an early summer morning. On first taste, rich acidity and texture awaken the senses before giving into creamy notes of strawberry and lingering flavors of fresh basil, thyme, and lavender—a product of its Provençal surroundings. On the finish, it's dry. To enjoy it more fully, consider pairing it with roasted lemon chicken dashed with Herbs de Provence, cheese, or grilled lobster.

When you're ready, Château de Berne and its hospitable team will be waiting to greet you at the door, opening your eyes, ears, and taste buds to a world beyond the glass.

To learn more, visit [chateauberne.com](https://www.chateauberne.com).



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Inside a Piece of Napa Valley History

As entwined in the history of the Napa Valley as the abundant vines cultivated here, this stone-and-shingle residence—sitting at the heart of an enchanting half-acre property—represents the opportunity to own a piece of wine country yore. Constructed in the 1890s to house the Esmeralda Winery, which supplied the landmark Palace Hotel, the building was tastefully redesigned in 2007 by the highly acclaimed firm of Fisher Weisman. Charming original details and a timeless ambience were retained—apparent in Venetian plaster walls, rugged stonework, dramatic ceiling treatments, elegant archways, and strikingly detailed doors—while providing a host of desirable modern amenities and conveniences.

The centerpiece of the residence is the great room, which sits beneath a vaulted skylit ceiling and is anchored by a walnut fireplace with inset antique mirrors. Among the other beguiling interior spaces are a library with a stone fireplace and an eye-catching coffered ceiling, a generous formal dining room with another arresting ceiling, and a French country-inspired chef's kitchen with walnut millwork, top-caliber stainless-steel appliances, and a marble-topped island. A gracefully curving stairway rises to the second level

and two bedrooms, a set of custom closets, and a generous bath with handsome walnut cabinets, surfaces of brown marble, and an oversized shower.

French doors throughout open to terraces and the pastoral grounds, which look pulled from the pages of a storybook, with wooden gates, a lilypond at the base of a hand-crafted stone fountain, a stately allée of olive trees, flourishing apricot tea roses lining romantic pathways, and ivy-draped stone walls. Even the estate's Craftsman-style three-car garage, which includes a full upper-level apartment, is perfectly picturesque, swathed in Cécile Brünner roses.

The grounds allow for the most delightful outdoor living and entertaining. Behind the home is a lush garden courtyard, at the center of which is a swimming pool with distinctive deeply hued plaster. Alongside are an outdoor fireplace, an open-air kitchen with a built-in grill, and a bocce court. Accompanying these alfresco diversions is a bright, airy, light-filled pool house with a full bath, kitchen facilities, a fireplace, and—naturally, in nod to the property's history—a wine cellar.



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Photos by Drew Altizer Photography







An Elegant Evening in the Court of Honor/Legion of Honor Museum Benefit

An Elegant Evening in the Court of Honor is the Fine Arts Museums of San Francisco's annual black-tie winter gala. After a one-year hiatus due to the pandemic, it welcomed back guests on December 14, 2021.

Patrons kicked off the holiday celebration with cocktails and hors d'oeuvres with the special exhibition on view, *Color into Line: Pastels* from the Renaissance to the Present curated by Furio Rinaldi, the Museums' newly appointed curator of the Achenbach Foundation for Graphics Arts. Afterward, guests transitioned to the beautifully tented Court of Honor where they savored in a delectable 4-course meal from McCalls Catering and Events. Upon the conclusion of dinner, guests enjoyed live entertainment and dancing with New York's very own Bob Hardwick Sound.

The following individuals were instrumental in the organization of the event: Honorary Gala Chair, Diane B. Wilsey; and Gala Chairs, Jack Calhoun, Lorna Meyer Calas, Max Boyer Glynn, Carl Pascarella, Mariana Gantus Wall, and Lisa Zanze.

All proceeds from the evening directly benefit the programming at the de Young and Legion of Honor museums. Plans are already underway for the December 13, 2022, gala.





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The Family Legacy Sparkles On

By Atissa Manshouri | Photos Courtesy of Schramsberg Vineyards

Napa Valley is known as one of the finest wine-producing regions in the world. But back in the mid-1960s, when Jack and Jamie Davies first ventured into the winemaking industry, American winemakers—until then mostly large-scale producers of table wines—had only just begun to imagine the possibility of making world-class vintages. The Davieses, fortunately, were a forward-thinking duo. Jack, a Stanford MBA and former McKinsey Group consultant, and Jamie, a University of California, Berkeley, graduate who had run an art gallery in San Francisco, wanted to start a winery and were also looking to decamp from Los Angeles back to Northern California. With their collective business and marketing experience, they recognized the potential and unique market for a fine sparkling wine made with Napa Valley chardonnay and pinot noir grapes, using the French *Méthode Traditionnelle*.

While searching for a base for this new endeavor, the young couple discovered a 200-acre estate on Calistoga's Diamond Mountain. Owned and operated by the Schram family in the late nineteenth century, the winery held some of the state's oldest hillside caves for wine aging and storage, and at its height in the 1890s, it was producing nearly 30,000 cases of zinfandel, sauvignon vert, burgundy, sauterne, and other styles of wine. In 1889, the Schram family built an ornate Victorian mansion on the property. Though the winery ceased operation in 1912, the estate remained intact and was declared a Historical Monument by the California Historical Society in 1957.

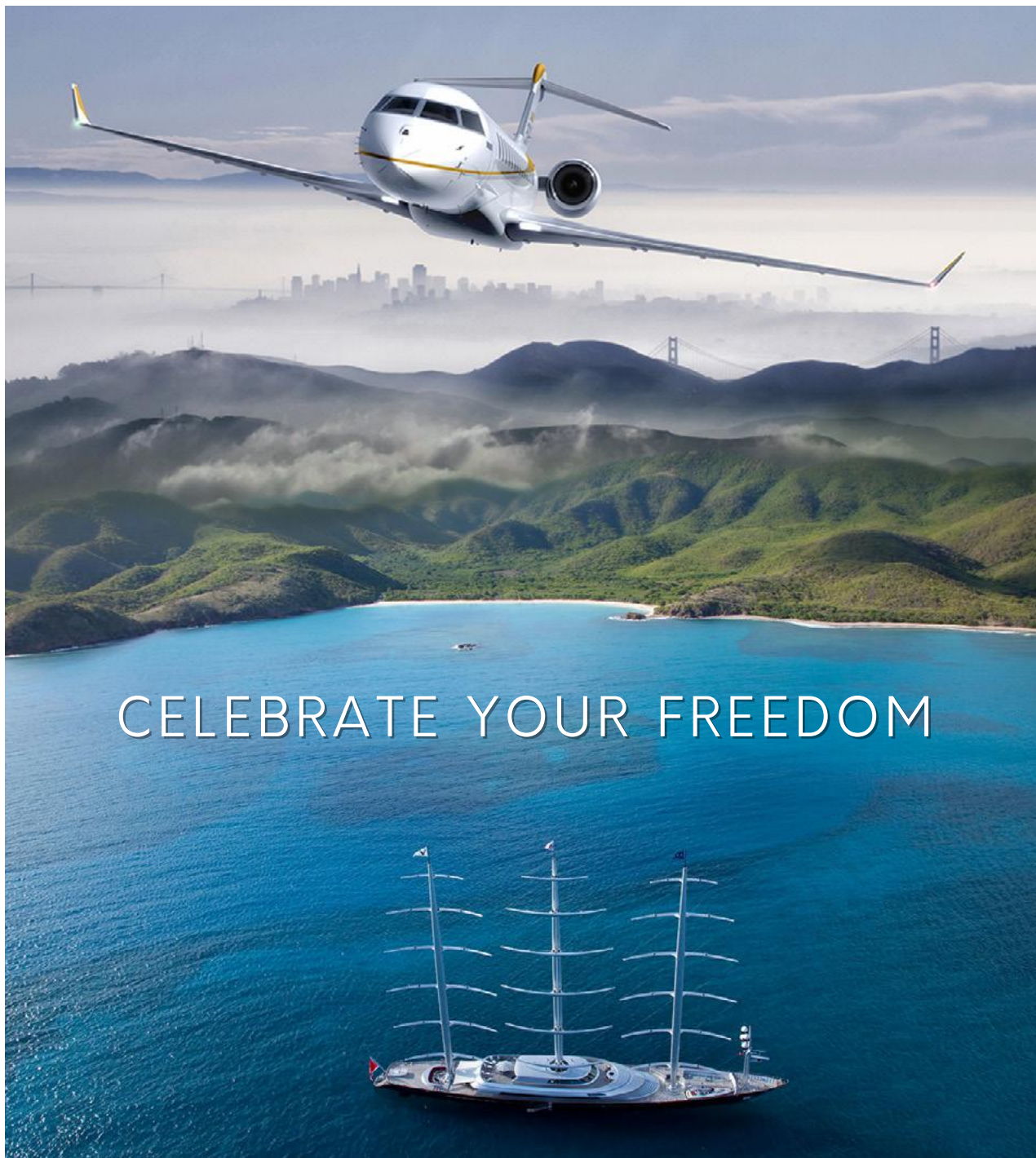
The couple purchased the winery in 1965, retaining the original name, Schramsberg, for their new label and restoring the Victorian mansion to accommodate their growing family. With their grand vision and youthful savvy, they hit the ground running, producing a blanc de blancs in their first year. Two years later, they produced a vintage blanc de noirs using pinot noir grapes, an innovation in American winemaking,

and in 1968, Jack Davies helped spearhead the establishment of the Napa Valley Agricultural Preserve, the first in the United States. In 1972, as President Richard Nixon made his famous "Toast to Peace" to Chinese Premier Zhou Enlai in Beijing, his guests were treated to Schramsberg's 1969 blanc de blancs. The couple's plan, audacious as it may have been, was a fabulous success.

Hugh Davies, Jack and Jamie's youngest son, was born just one month after the family purchased the winery. Immersed in the business from his earliest days, he recalls as a child putting custom labels onto bottles for President Gerald Ford. After many years spent as its winemaker, Hugh Davies today serves as vintner and president of Schramsberg Vineyards. His parents' legacy, and their desire to build a family business, is a point of pride. "They wanted a business, and they wanted to do it together" he says. "They understood not only how to make [fine sparkling wine] but how to market it—they really bit into all of that. And I think they enjoyed the camaraderie of that effort."

In the five decades since the Davies family first planted roots in Napa, the valley and its surroundings have become the epicenter of a booming American wine culture as well as a vibrant tourism industry that attracts visitors from around the world. A true legacy business and family affair, the Schramsberg label remains synonymous with the finest American sparkling wine. In addition to the multiple styles of sparkling, Hugh Davies also produces pinot noir and cabernet sauvignon under the Davies Vineyard label. The tasting rooms at both Schramsberg Vineyards in Calistoga and Davies Vineyards in St. Helena are open to visitors by appointment.

For more information, visit schramsberg.com.



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Stags' Leap Take the Leap Campaign

Stags' Leap Winery's Take the Leap campaign invites wine lovers to venture into unexplored worlds through an interactive, design-forward experience, anchored in augmented reality. Through stunning illustrations, the campaign culminates as a fantastical story told through a never-ending augmented reality experience tied directly to the Stags' Leap label. As the stag leaps into unexplored worlds through AR, the experiential journey changes shape entirely, going from black-and-white to a colorful, whimsical setting. As the prestigious winery looks to speak to consumers in a way that has yet to exist in the luxury category, Stags' Leap Winery has its eyes on the future, elevating the longstanding relationship between art and design to bring the iconic stag logo to life in an immersive and authentic manner, with new worlds on the horizon.





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Collabria's Compassionate Care

By Jessica Zimmer | Photos Courtesy of Collabria Care

For 42 years, Collabria Care has provided warm, thoughtful patient and family-centered services to patients with chronic and terminal illnesses.

Hospice care is for patients with a terminal diagnosis who have been diagnosed as having six months or fewer to live. Providers home in on giving comfort-focused care for patients who no longer seek curative treatment. Palliative care, which Collabria Care has offered for the past six years, is for patients managing chronic illnesses such as heart disease, advanced dementia, and cancer. Providers help patients manage their symptoms with medical, emotional, and spiritual support, explains Lindsey Canavesio, a nurse practitioner for Collabria Care.

Stephanie Mason, a medical social worker for Collabria Care, says that palliative and hospice care are on a spectrum. “[Palliative care] patients often progress and transition to hospice care,” she says. “On the other hand, many patients who begin hospice care improve and are then transitioned down to palliative care.”

Collabria Care's teams are composed of a wide variety of professionals, including a medical director, nurse practitioner, registered nurse, case manager, licensed vocational nurse, social worker, spiritual care provider, and home health aide. The team shares information and helps one another, ensuring that the patient receives care, the family is supported, and the patient's wishes for their end-of-life care are met.

A palliative care team also makes recommendations to the providing physicians for symptom management. Team members further assist patients and families in completing physician orders for life-sustaining treatment forms, advanced healthcare directives, and ongoing goals-of-care conversations.

Hospice patients often worry about experiencing pain and anxiety as well as being a burden to their families. “Many people have things left unsaid and family and friends [to whom] they wish to say goodbye. It can be very difficult for a patient who has been independent to . . . give up control, needing total

care from their family,” says Mason. “As a social worker, I assess these concerns at each contact. I provide the patient with advocacy and a sense of agency, the sense that they have control over their remaining time.”

Collabria's staff help by offering compassionate, individualized care. “It takes a very special person to work in this field,” says Canavesio. “I feel like all our staff at Collabria put the patient and family needs first,” she says. They do what they can to make such a difficult time a more comfortable experience.

Caregivers usually provide care at a patient's home or at their assisted living or nursing facility. Sometimes this means traveling long distances to remote locations, often over winding country roads. Collabria Care reaches out to the Valley's Latinx community by partnering with Ole Health, Napa's nonprofit community health center. “We share a community health care worker between hospice and palliative care who is bilingual and bicultural. We also recruit volunteers from the Latinx community,” says Ashland Evans, director of hospice and palliative services at Collabria Care. “That way, patients and families have members from [their] community to teach and support them,”

Dr. Paul Laband, internal medicine specialist with Collabria Care, says that working for Collabria Care has solidified his belief that the best way to care for someone is through a care-based model. A care-based model involves taking the emotional, physical, spiritual, and social needs and wishes of the patient and family into account. “Everyone who is involved in caring for the patient can have a voice,” he says. “The old way of ‘the doctor is always right’ doesn't work anymore.”

Collabria Care's director of development operations, Erika Tavakoli, says that her advice for families is to sign a patient up for hospice care sooner rather than later. “Signing up for hospice isn't a commitment,” she explains. “You can change your mind and stop receiving hospice at any time. It will not disqualify you from care later.”

To learn more, visit collabriacare.org.









Ocean-Going Opulence

Named for the Norse god of the seas and the wind, the 949-foot M/Y Njord residence-at-sea superyacht involves some of the world's biggest names in shipbuilding and design in a project that combines luxury, innovation, travel, and philanthropy.

Touted as the “world's largest private residence yacht” by Ocean Residences Development (ORD), Njord will be built at Meyer Werft, the 226-year-old German shipyard that has delivered roughly 50 luxury liners to the highest standards.

Every aspect of the yacht will have an expert's touch. ORD's chief designer, Jean-Louis Stutzmann, has teamed up with world-renowned superyacht design company Espen Øino International plus leading naval architectural firm Foreship OY. Some of the biggest interior design names will be shepherded by visionary designer Jean-Michel Gathy of Denniston, responsible for some of the world's most luxurious hotels and resorts (e.g., One&Only, Cheval Blanc, Aman). Along with FM Architettura's Francesca Muzio, who has garnered attention for its stunning work on numerous megayachts by Lürssen, Feadship, and the like, 1508 London, Kelly Hoppen CBE, Linley, Sabrina Monte-Carlo, Studio Becker, and more will be on hand to design the seafaring homes of one's dreams.

Njord will span 13 decks and feature 118 two-to six-bedroom residences, including 14 duplexes and two triplexes with private elevators. Available in 20 different configurations (1,475 to nearly 9,130 square feet), the residences start at \$8 million, with cost of ownership maintenance to be four to five percent of the purchase price.

With a 109.9-foot beam and an 81,000 GT interior, it's community of residents will have access to an impressive range of amenities and facilities: six restaurants, including an Asian specialty, grill room, Michelin-level fare, plus poolside and yacht-club dining; a sundeck, multiple outdoor terraces, a beach club, two outdoor pools, plus an indoor hydro pool; a golf center; an arts studio, a huge library, and a gourmet market. A vast 500-square-foot inflatable marina will offer an array of water toys, including a dive boat, expedition zodiacs, and four “Riva style” limo tenders. There will also be a theater, top deck observatory, and jazz lounge/nightclub.

Health and wellness on board will be elevated through a partnership with Chenot, a leader in preventive and rejuvenating care for 50 years and whose principles focus on three pillars: detox, energize, and perform. The 10,000-square-foot facility will be separate from Njord's cutting-edge medical center, open 24/7, year-round, with helicopter evacuation available via the yacht's two twin-engine helicopters primarily used by arriving and departing residents and for excursions.

Built to the strictest environmental regulations to minimize its carbon footprint, Njord will be equipped with state-of-the-art dual-fuel engines, batteries for hybrid operation, heat recovery systems, and advanced power management systems. It will circumnavigate the globe sustainably, visiting some of the most remote and culturally unique places on earth.

A professional, onboard oceanographic scientific and research laboratory will share its collected environmental and marine data with international research laboratories. Underwater drones and Njord's two submersibles will use multibeam echo sounders to identify shipwrecks and seabed features to map the ocean floor.

“Our company is proud to embark on building the finest green ship ever built,” says Bernard Meyer, owner of Meyer Werft. “M/Y Njord . . . a ship with a purpose.”

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Giving Back

By Maile Morrish | Photos by Evan Quinn Photography

When Ryder Brooks was younger, his family hosted an annual fundraiser at their San Francisco home. Every Christmas season, his house would fill with classmates, neighbors, and friends, all bringing gifts for the San Francisco Toys for Tots program. And every year, local firefighters would make special appearances to play Santa for the day, picking up the presents and playing with the children. Brooks remembers opening the door to the firefighters one of those years and seeing a firetruck waiting curbside for the pickup.

Today, Brooks looks back fondly on those fundraisers. “I’ve always liked helping people. My family and I have always wanted to do things to give back,” he says. The 16-year-old athlete and scholar at Sacred Heart Cathedral High School continues to infuse that same generosity into his daily life. Since middle school, he has been volunteering at local food banks, and last summer, he decided to get even more involved in his local community.

When the COVID-19 pandemic hit California in March 2020, life changed. Students cleared out of the classroom, myriad workplaces emptied, and what many thought would only be a two-week quarantine began. At Governor Gavin Newsome’s order, the state of California went into “shelter in place” mode. Everyone sheltered, except essential workers and first responders.

As he watched law enforcement officers, firefighters, paramedics, and emergency medical technicians put themselves at risk to keep the San Francisco community safe during the first months of the pandemic, Brooks decided that he wanted to do what he could to help. Inspired by the first responders in his own family, including his grandfather who served for the San Francisco Police Department, Brooks reached out to the National First Responders Fund (NFRF).

A San Francisco-based nonprofit that supports first responder programs, NFRF works to address awareness of and recovery from work-related post-traumatic stress that many first responders cope with every day. When Brooks heard about the program from his father, he knew he wanted to get involved with it.

Throughout the summer of 2020, Brooks worked with NFRF founder Joe Alioto Veronese and other volunteers to spread awareness about the post-traumatic stress that first responders experience and to support Bay Area first responders serving during such an unprecedented and unpredictable time. He helped plan the NFRF’s annual Stair Climb, an event held around 9/11 and during which first responders and volunteers join together to climb the Salesforce Tower stairs to raise money for first responder programs and to remember those who selflessly gave their lives. Brooks worked to spread awareness about the event and to encourage participation and donations.

One of Brooks’ favorite memories working with the NFRF was attending a Give Back Tuesday event at San Francisco’s infamous Super Duper Burgers. He spent the day passing out free burgers, crispy fries, rich, thick milkshakes, and more to first responders. Hanging out with the diners, he felt truly immersed in a community he is both personally connected to and passionate about supporting.

Brooks hopes to continue living a life led by generosity throughout college and beyond. He is eager to pursue a business degree, which he plans to use to further propel his passion for charity. Until then, Brooks will continue to excel both on the Sacred Heart Cathedral football and lacrosse teams and academically in SHC’s De Paul Scholar Program, never shying away from an opportunity to support his community. As he says, “Giving back is in my DNA.”



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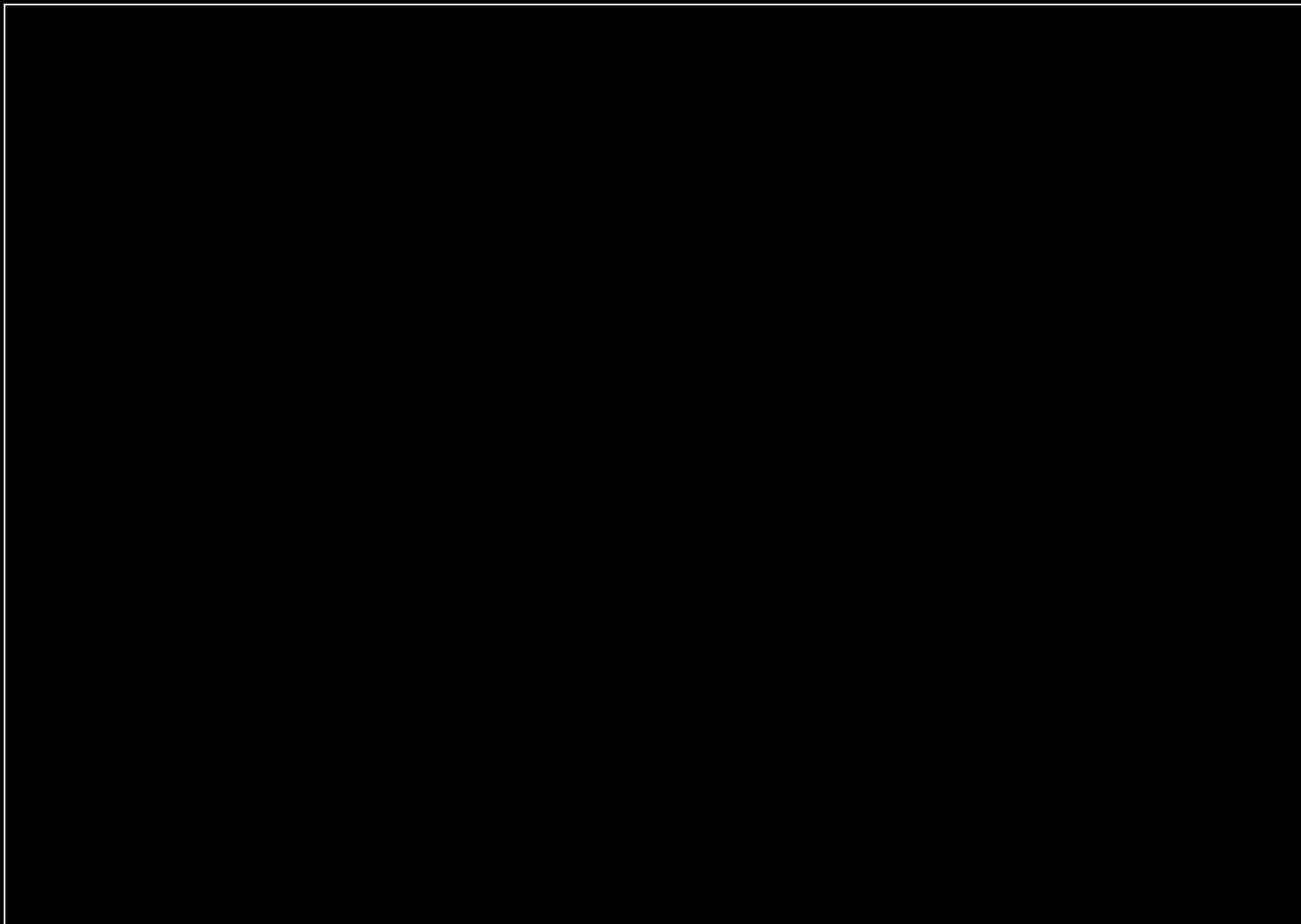




A woman with long, wavy blonde hair is standing barefoot on a forest floor. She is wearing a black, form-fitting, sleeveless dress that reaches her knees. Her arms are raised, and her hands are behind her head, as if she is stretching or posing. She is looking upwards and to the right. The background is a dense forest with many tall, thin trees and some green foliage. The ground is covered in brown leaves and some small plants.

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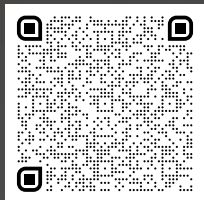
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PHOTO

Capturing Sunsets: Sydney Coleman

By Robert Moskowitz

WINE

Labor of Land and Love

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SCENE

Ryan Sanchez's 8th Annual Holiday Wine Tasting

The 25th Annual Culinary Classique d'Elegance

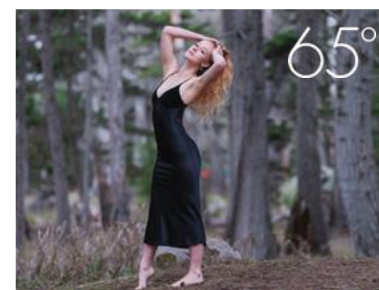


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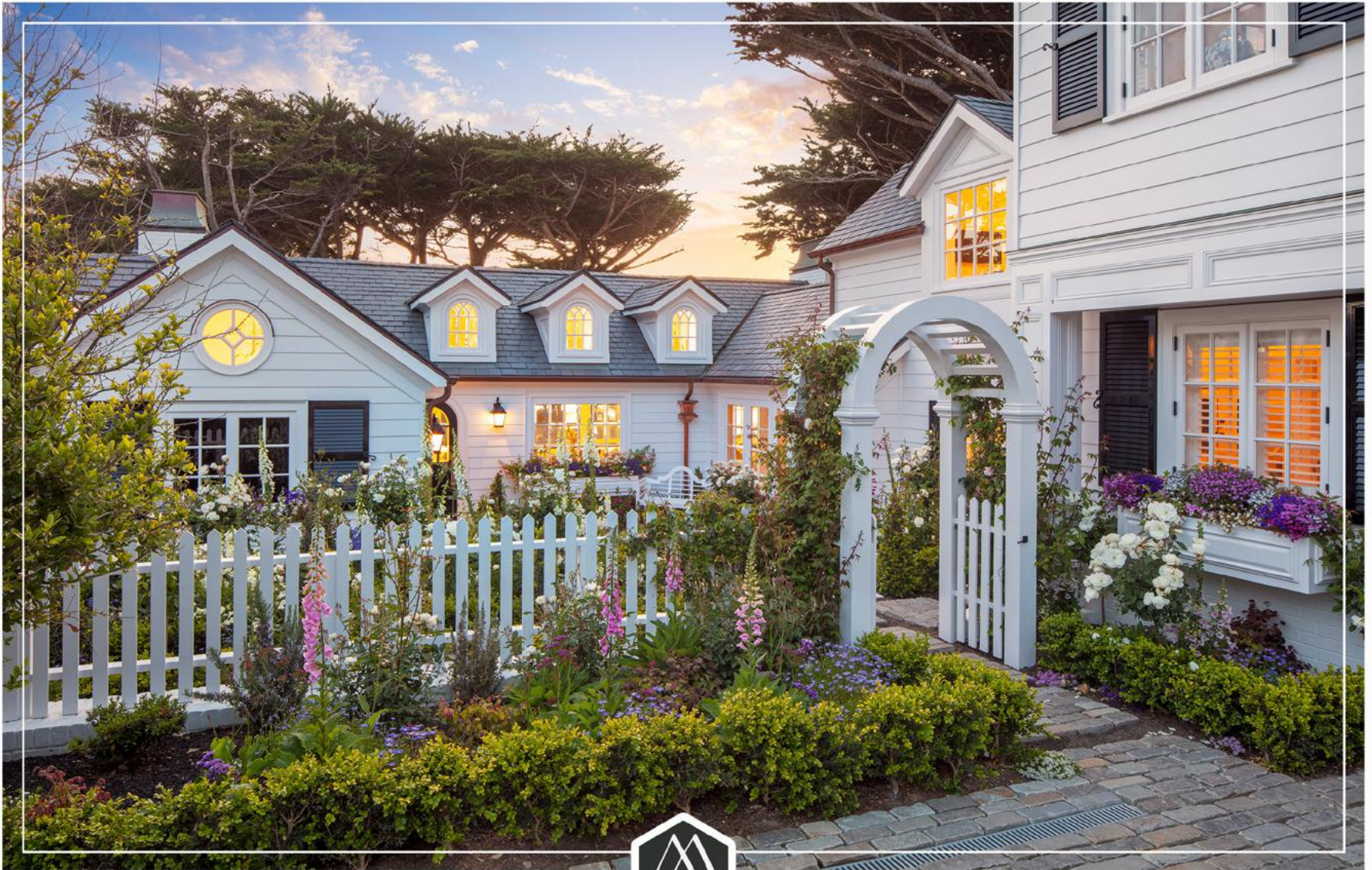


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Capturing Sunsets

By Robert Moskowitz | Photos by Sydney Coleman

In early 2020, a bored Sydney Coleman found herself walking on a local beach, something she had done numerous times before. But this time, the world looked different to her. Her new perspective illuminated the world, and she became inspired by what she saw—the sky, the sunset, how the sunlight highlighted nearby objects, how people reacted to the experience. She snapped a few photos and felt rejuvenated, full of energy, happy.

She also enjoyed how the pictures brought friends and family happiness and positivity, a view of something they might not otherwise have seen. Moreover, she found pleasure in sharing what she was able to experience at the beach near sunset that others didn't or—because they don't live near a beach—couldn't.

That marked the start of a new passion, mission, and career. “I just try to capture what people wouldn't normally see,” she explains. “Most people focus on the sun itself. But they miss out on other beauty: the colors in the sky, the water, the objects lit by the sunset light, and the afterglow that lingers on into the darkness for an hour or more.”

Coleman photographs the inconspicuous, what others are missing, what's off to the side or behind them, what happens after the sun goes down. That's how she came to photograph a tiny

birdhouse hanging from a tree branch, silhouetted by the bright sky, a set of clouds that look like fire in the sky, and a fleet of squid boats reflecting their green work lights.

At least an hour before sunset, she typically heads to one of her favorite beaches. This gives her time to find the best spot that day for photographing. She shoots one set of photographs before sunset, when the light is “glowy” and bright, another to capture the actual sunset, and another afterward, while the colors linger and slowly fade. The process usually takes two hours or more.

She mostly goes alone because others often become impatient. On occasion, she has brought along a more experienced photographer to get feedback.

During a single shoot, she'll take between 90 and 150 pictures, relishing in purposefully and carefully composing each image. She keeps almost all of the pictures because they serve as learning experiences and tests. About five or six of each night's photographs capture enough of what she was seeing and feeling to show publicly.

For more information, view Coleman's work on Instagram: @Sunsetskies_saltyvibes.

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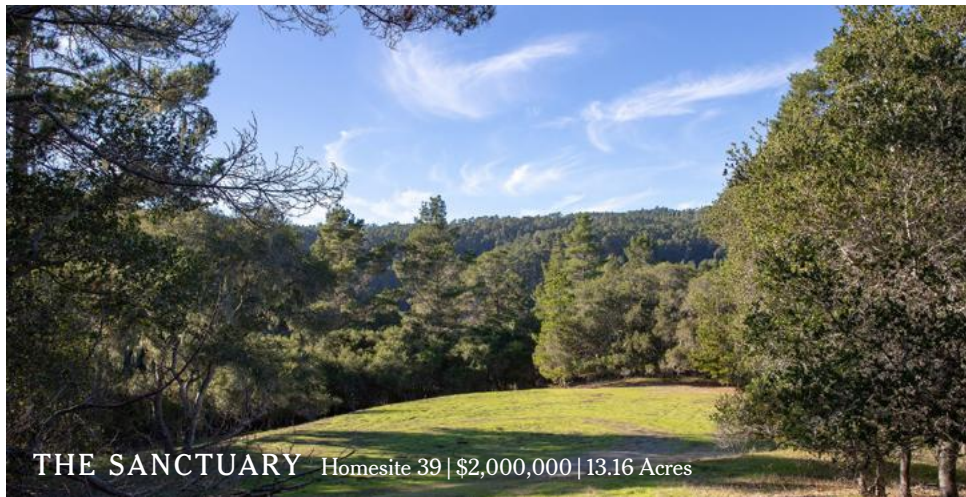
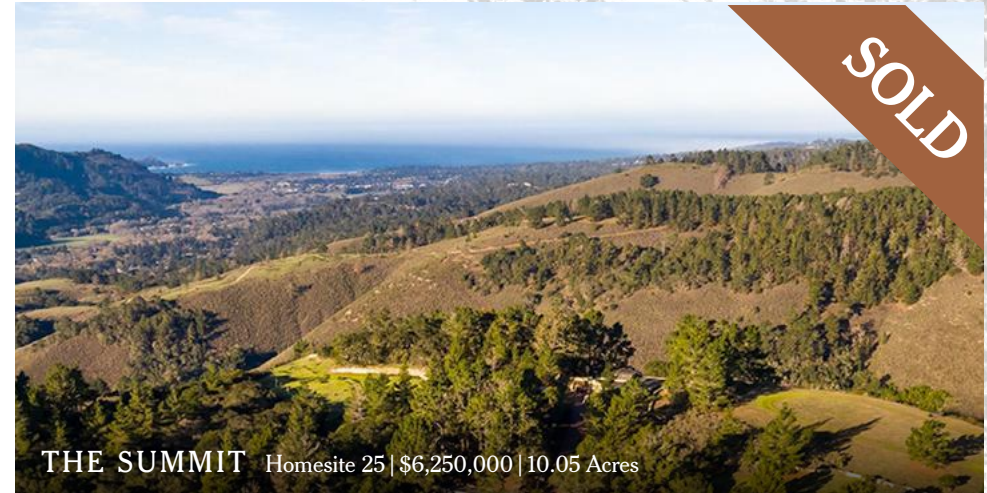


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Pebble Beach's Open Arms

Caitlin Fillmore | Photos Courtesy of Pebble Beach Company Foundation

Pebble Beach is known for world-famous golf courses, top-notch food and wine, and breathtaking scenery. And since 1975, the Pebble Beach Company Foundation (PBCF) has added a philanthropic element to the Peninsula's appeal. "We are a grantor, but could we be more?" muses Susan Merfeld, who has been PBCF president for a decade and previously worked for the Pebble Beach Company for 30 years.

The PBCF hosted listening sessions with nonprofits to better understand the underlying needs that programs applying for funding address. "This was a very good exercise for us, to hear firsthand, instead of speculating," says Merfeld. "We thought we had a pulse on the community, but we saw some facts that were pretty appalling." From that, PBCF identified key community needs it will focus on: youth mental health and wellness, literacy, and youth homelessness. According to Merfeld, 7,000 children are homeless in Monterey County. That number represents almost 10 percent of the area's youth population.

This year, PBCF awarded a three-year grant to provide services for a clinician in the Monterey Unified School District middle schools. The clinician will provide prevention and early intervention services that promote mental wellness. PBCF is also granting a minimum of \$1 million annually to support youth education initiatives throughout Monterey County. It has given \$12 million dollars over its lifetime. "The closure of schools, online learning and isolation has had a tremendous impact on children in our community," says Merfeld. "As we look ahead, a central tenet of our work is that children need a strong foundation. We have formed relationships with 85 to 95 of the best nonprofits out there supporting youth education."

For the Boys and Girls Club of Monterey County, PBCF already represents the "giving beyond dollars" mindset that has become a new focus for the organization. "PBCF encourages charities to collaborate and think outside the box," says Ron Johnson, president and CEO of Boys and Girls Club of Monterey County. "During the [COVID-19] pandemic, many individuals struggled. PBCF recommended that we partner with Harmony at Home,

an organization that provides professional, licensed counseling services for families. If PBCF did not exist, these types of services may not have been as readily available."

The PBCF also supports a robust Scholarship Academy that benefits young learners from preschool to university. The program provides scholarships not only for the children of Pebble Beach Company employees but also for youth throughout Monterey County. This includes, for the employees, 26 undergraduate and two graduate scholarships with up to \$20,000 to support their children's college education. This competitive, merit-based scholarship program awards about 75 percent of its scholarships to first-generation college students.

"It's nice to keep in touch with them," says Merfeld. "I've got a pharmacist out here, a young lady who just got her medical degree and is in pediatrics. To see these graduates . . . They never thought they could go to college. Those are stories I don't know if other foundations can tell."

The PBCF also provides a scholarship to McPherson College in Kansas—the only four-year liberal arts college in the United States that provides an automotive restoration technology program. This special program celebrates the heritage of Pebble Beach and its place as a haven for car enthusiasts. "We need to bring up students that will take care of these old cars," says Merfeld. "[PBCF] is helping to groom future folks that are interested in cars."

While Pebble Beach is known for its exclusive, gated communities, Merfeld says that the PBCF's arms are wide open. "We have a lot of different dimensions to us. We know we're making a difference and helping dreams come true."

For more information, visit pebblebeach.com/pbc-foundation/supported-programs/.

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Reija of Light

By Caitlin Fillmore | Photos by Manny Espinoza

Reija Massey's name was inspired by Freyja, the Norse goddess of love, death, and war. "I love to take on that role," says Massey, a local pianist and vocalist who performs weekly at Edwin's Carmel and other places throughout the Monterey Peninsula.

Every listening experience is unique. Massey cites such inspirations as Ella Fitzgerald and Adele and says she is often compared to Florence and the Machine or Tori Amos. But don't try to categorize her too quickly. She'll seamlessly go from a Patsy Cline cover to Metallica. Her music is more haunting than sentimental. "I try not to write love songs," she explains. "I take all the aspects of my personality and life and combine it into one tangible thing that displays what I do . . . taking your life into your hands and making the most of it in the hardest times."

This mix of influences reflects Massey's unorthodox upbringing. With a father as a pilot, she has lived all over the world, including on the island of Saipan, just north of Guam. Massey's memories of the place are consistent with her vibe, which has an optimistic undercurrent. She recalls learning to swim using an abandoned World War II tank as a landmark. "I remember looking down into the tank, and there were all of these tropical fish swimming around inside," she says. "A lot of my artistic interests come from Saipan. The island has so much energy to it."

Massey decided to forgo the traditional high school and college route to focus on her music, which has a complex, evolving sound. "Just now, I'm taking a new direction with my music," she says, referencing her original songs and self-produced videos, available on YouTube. "I love spooky stuff and gore. I want my original music to carry that same tone

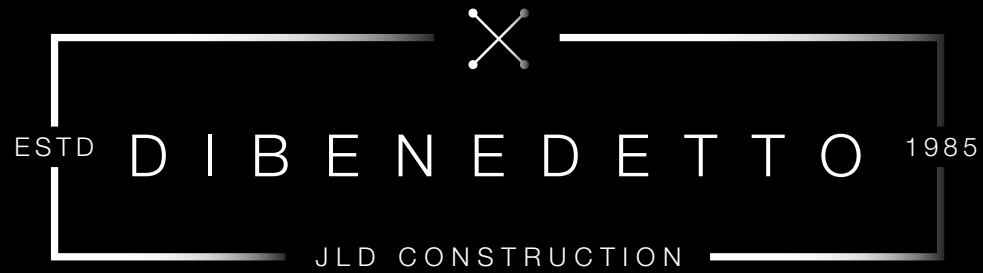
and be just as magical [as my performing covers]." Her latest album, *The Procession*, was released in January 2020.

Members of the Monterey music scene say that Massey has been a performer beyond her years for a long time—she's only recently reached adult age. Musician Dave Carrasco met Massey when she was fifteen years old. "When I heard her sing, I said, 'She's phenomenal. I need to be performing with this person,'" he recalls. "She's a lot more mature than her age. I was just blown away by her voice, and then when I heard how old she was, [I realized], 'Oh my goodness she's pure, raw talent.'"

Since 2019, Carrasco and Massey have performed in Reija and the Ironheads, a local metal band in which Massey is vocalist and Carrasco plays lead guitar and is the band's manager. Carrasco brings in influences that contain the sound of this enigmatic mezzo-soprano, tossing out Gwen Stefani from No Doubt and Freddie Mercury of Queen. "She's a powerhouse singer. She can be soulful, moody, expressive, exciting, and all over the place," says Carrasco. "It's kind of a wild style and everything in her life reflects that."

This teen adult who can sing Mariah Carey covers, writes and produces her own music videos, and has been working successfully as a musician for years considers herself a dreamer at heart and is considering her life's trajectory. She's careful not to discard family traditions of becoming a teacher or pilot someday, "if world domination rock star doesn't work out," she laughs.

For more information, visit reijamassey.com.



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Keeping Momentum

By Jennifer Moulaison | Photo by Sherman Chu

It's been a couple of years since we last caught up with one of the Monterey Peninsula's premier real estate moguls, Kim DiBenedetto. Coming from a small-but-mighty industrious community just outside St. Louis, Missouri, DiBenedetto brought her tenacious attitude to the challenging and often intimidating real estate scene here on the Monterey Peninsula. According to DiBenedetto, one key to her success has been a desire to find opportunities to give back to the community that has embraced her so warmly.

DiBenedetto has been calling the Monterey area her home for nearly three decades—a little over two of these decades have been spent pouring herself into her thriving real estate business. “I can’t believe it’s been this long but I’m so incredibly grateful to be here and doing what I do. I couldn’t imagine doing anything else,” says DiBenedetto. “Looking back, there have been so many ups and downs and those early years stand out to me because of the struggle and challenges I experienced. But it was through those struggles I really found my footing in the industry, and I’m proud of where I am today. So many don’t make it past year four or five in this market, but I’ve had the benefit of so many amazing people who coached me along the way,” she continues.

DiBenedetto still serves on the Board of Directors for the California Association of Realtors and is Federal Political Coordinator for the National Associations for Realtors. Most recently she’s turned her attention to those suffering from ramifications of the Covid-19 pandemic. “I am the chair on the board of directors for Hospice Giving Foundation working to fund the Heal Together Grant, which funds grief surrounding the Covid-19 pandemic. Whether it’s the loss of a loved one, a job, or childcare, it’s so important to lend support to those who need it coming out of such unique and unfortunate circumstances. We’ve already funded \$1.2 million of our goal of \$1.5 million,” explains DiBenedetto.

Moving forward, DiBenedetto is laser-focused on maintaining her pace, cultivating her impressive real estate business, and finding time to help the causes that are most inspiring to her. “When making decisions or advising my clients, I always keep in mind that I plan to be doing this at least another 20 years. It’s a small community and when I see people on the street, I want to hold my head high and know I did right by them. I want to make it a good ride,” concludes DiBenedetto.



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A Mantra for Beauty

By Robert Moskowitz | Photo by Randy Tunnell

Northern California has a new and exclusive location where women can obtain the remarkable Natural Beaded Rows™ (NBR™) hair extensions.

Veronica Dokie—whose Mantra Salon in Carmel between San Carlos and Dolores on Hampton Court has been a local favorite for 15 years—has recently completed an intensive year of specialized training and is now a certified NBR™ hairstylist. This designation makes Dokie one of a small number of stylists between Santa Barbara and San Francisco offering NBR™ extension. “Your hair is so important,” says Dokie. “It frames your face, and you wear it every day. Why shouldn’t you have it longer, fuller, more attractive?”

Women are growing more enthusiastic about hair extensions for many reasons. Some women have thinning hair due to hormonal changes while others were born with thin hair. There are women whose hair won’t grow past their shoulders, and others who want a longer look. A few even regret their most recent haircut.

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For more information, visit mantrasalon.com, email info@mantrasalon.com, or call 831-626-1223.







Marina Vela's Women of Monterey

By Jennifer Moulaison | Photos Courtesy of Women of Monterey

Few among us don't know what it feels like to be a newcomer. For Marina Vela, a Sacramento-area transplant who made her way to the Monterey Peninsula, those feelings were compounded by the recent Covid-19 pandemic—that's when inspiration struck, and Vela decided to help connect women in her community.

After being furloughed from her position as an events and marketing manager, Vela developed her own branding and web design agency, Riptide Creative Agency. Although successful, building her business entirely from home left Vela feeling isolated. "I was missing the connection and camaraderie of being around other professionals and like-minded women," says Vela. "I wanted to build a community that was more inclusive of women in various stages of their lives. An umbrella of a community to empower women, connect each other and uplift one another," explains Vela.

Vela started by building a social media presence for Women of Monterey and the first event took place in July of last year. "Just 10 women attended our first mixer but, honestly, I was surprised to have anyone attend," says Vela, laughing. "We arrived as strangers and left as friends and each one is still an integral part of Women of Monterey today," she continues.

Largely through word-of-mouth and social media, Women of Monterey has expanded to host a wide variety of functions, events, and gatherings with the sole focus of bringing together women in the Monterey community. "We wanted to offer everything from formal events to sip and shop gatherings and even monthly coffee dates where you can show up in your sweatshirt and yoga pants," says Vela.



Although it's been less than a year since its inception, the rapid success of Women of Monterey speaks to the necessity of giving women in the area an opportunity to connect. "Our vision for this year is to hopefully launch a membership program, as well as dive deeper into fundraising and opportunities to give back to the community that has allowed us to come in and do what we're doing," says Vela. "As women, we can sometimes spend a lot of energy competing with one another, but there is room at the

top for everyone and we can all get there faster with the support of our community," concludes Vela.

For more information, visit facebook.com/womenofmonterey.



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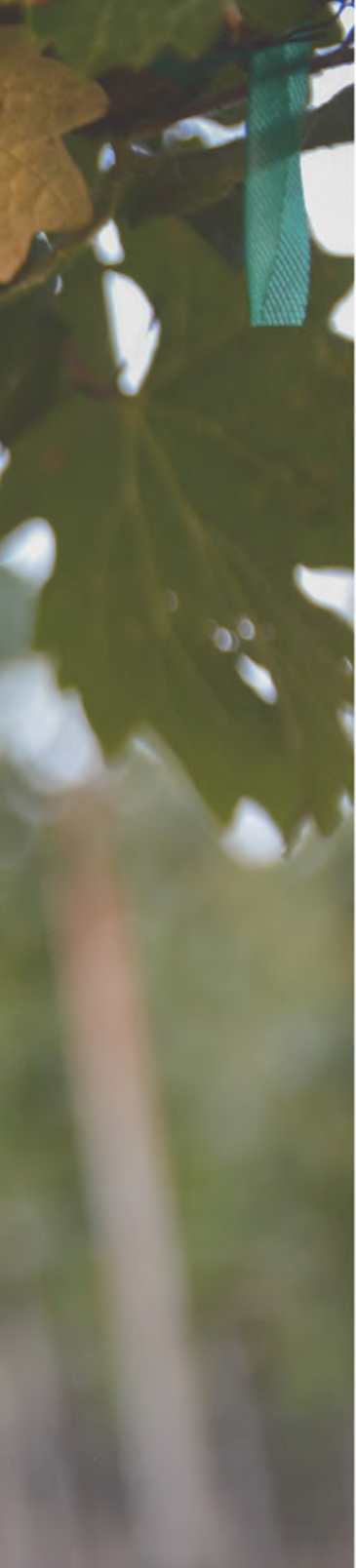


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Hay's Place

By Jennifer Moulaison | Photos Courtesy of Pebble Beach Company

Both golf enthusiasts and diners can savor an extraordinary experience, complete with a stunning backdrop, at Hay's Place in Pebble Beach. The unique restaurant leverages outdoor dining with a menu as memorable as the scenery with captivating views of Carmel Bay, Point Lobos, and the Peter Hay Golf Course.

Set atop Peter Hay Hill, Hay's Place was built as a complement to the recently reimagined golf experience, The Hay. The nine-hole short course and 20,000-square-foot putting green were designed with the help of Tiger Woods and TGR Design. The course and the restaurant are named for Peter Hay, who was a longtime head golf professional at Pebble Beach Golf Links and Del Monte Golf Course. "Mr. Hay was passionate about introducing newcomers to the game of golf," explains Pebble Beach Resorts CEO David Stivers. "In 1957, he created the original Peter Hay Golf Course—one of the first par three courses in the country. Every hole yardage corresponds to an important year in our history. The name of the first hole is Hay and is 57 yards to commemorate the opening of the original Peter Hay Golf Course in 1957."

When it came to designing a spot to dine and relax that would work well with The Hay, the Pebble Beach Company team drove creative decisions for the project while the architectural design

was handled by Hirsch Bedner, who also helped with the recently completed resort-wide renovation. "The goal of the team was to primarily focus on the outdoors and take advantage of its location overlooking Stillwater Cove and [the] golf course," says Stivers. "The final design does a tremendous job of creating a beautiful outdoor space for our guests to relax and savor a meal and the views. The patio has quickly become one of our most popular dining areas, and we see a range of groups enjoying the casual ambiance, from families with children to groups of friends toasting after playing The Hay."

Hay's Place's menu lives up to its jaw-dropping setting. It is the product of a team of talented chefs and inspired by a broad culinary portfolio that reflects the strong influence of Mexican cuisine in Central California. "The Seal the Deal signature margarita is one-of-a-kind," says Stivers. "It features a Big Sur salt rim and grass clippings from the 18th Green of the Pebble Beach Golf Links."

Whether you're celebrating after perfecting your swing or looking to enjoy a spectacular outdoor space nestled next to a fire table with a delicious cocktail in hand, Hay's Place boasts incredible food and a fun, lively environment perfect for making new Pebble Beach memories.

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Everything Is Lovely

By Sally Baho | Photos Courtesy of Augustina's Designer Boutique

Augustina's Designer Boutique is a woman-owned, woman-run boutique with two locations nestled in Carmel-by-the-Sea. The merchandise is curated for a specific clientele—those who can have anything but choose selectively and are intentional about image . . . for example, pairing jeans with a Loro Piana cashmere sweater or a puffy Herno jacket.

Style is key at Augustina's, and everything you'll find at either boutique—on Ocean Avenue and on San Carlos—is a statement piece and intended to be as such. The stores have exclusive agreements with many of the designers carried to be their only vendor on the Monterey Peninsula.

"We buy very differently from specialty stores and department stores," says owner Tracy Delaney Odle. The philosophy behind Augustina's is to carry comfortable couture. She understands that fashion trends in a circle, coming and going, then coming back again. The pieces at Augustina's have a timeless elegance, from Oscar de la Renta dresses to Jimmy Choo pumps. Clothing and accessories marry style with functionality, such as designer masks, wool fedoras and cashmere caps, umbrellas, and handbags for any occasion. The handpicked selection of high-end designers reflects the boutique's uniqueness and is a testament to Odle's intentionality in merchandise sourcing. Everything is soft to the touch, everything is lovely.

Having served Carmel's clients for over thirty years, the boutique's style has developed to one that is elevated and exclusive. Odle travels around the world gauging what's hip and then bringing it back to the Peninsula. "I don't buy because everyone else has it," she explains. She buys things because they are beautiful, unique, and to her clientele's taste.

Augustina's is a look of understated elegance that comes off as casual. Catering to every generation of shopper in Carmel, the clothing, shoes, and accessories span all stages of life and events. These include P448 sparkling Italian sneakers and cropped, slim-leg pants from Altuzarra, the latter whose fashion designer finds inspiration in his French, American, and Chinese background and whose

philosophy is to combine femininity, modernity, and sexiness with each piece.

At Augustina's, you will receive the attention you want when shopping. "I believe in giving the customer an experience from the minute they walk in by offering them a glass of Silver Oak or Silvestri. The whole experience is about the customer," says Odle. Most of the staff at Augustina's have been there for years and understand that fashion is more than the clothes you wear—it is about individuality and accessorizing for your personality.

Similar philosophies are shared by the designers, including Akris, the Swiss fashion house that believes that the purpose of fashion is to make a woman's life less complicated while enhancing her natural beauty and grace.

Odle sources her jewelry with purpose. Bedazzle yourself with Sylva & Cie.'s art deco-inspired, one-of-a-kind jewelry. Accessorize with a Pomellato Nudo ring . . . or three. These stunning Italian gemstone rings are stackable showstoppers. The simple design sets the gem in a solid gold band or "diamond dusted" band.

Whether you're seeking simple, solid colors or printed, pleated skirts, Augustina's has everything you need to express your personality through your wardrobe and to accessorize. To quote Coco Chanel, "Fashion changes, but style endures." Augustina's is the place on the Peninsula to find and express your style in the most elevated and elegant of ways.

***For more information, visit
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Mission to Preserve

By Atissa Manshouri | Photos by Manny Espinoza

One of the most frequently and beautifully depicted architectural sites on the West Coast, the Carmel Mission, recently marked 250 years since its first mass took place on Christmas Eve in 1771. The favorite mission of Father Junípero Serra, San Carlos Borromeo de Carmelo was the administrative headquarters of the California Mission system from 1771 to 1815, and again from 1819 to 1824, and has remained standing—albeit shakily at times—through two and a half centuries of California history. With the love and financial support of its community, the Mission today is as sturdy and active as it's ever been, thanks to the restoration efforts of the Carmel Mission Foundation.

Formed in 2008, the Foundation is a secular organization separate from the Catholic diocese. Its objective is to restore and preserve the historic buildings, grounds, and artifacts throughout the Carmel Mission. The organization recently completed its third major restoration, the \$4 million dollar Downie Museum and Basilica Forecourt restoration project, having previously completed the Basilica and Central Courtyard restorations. “Our community has practiced a legacy of joining together in restoring this national historic landmark as the Monterey Peninsula developed around it,” says Foundation Executive Director Stephanie Zelei. “It is an exciting time, and we want to share this incredible history.”

The Carmel Mission's history stretches back through Spanish, then Mexican, rule of the territory known as Alta California. After Mexico ceded control of the territory to the United States, the Roman Catholic diocese took over the Mission in 1859, but by then the buildings were in ruins. Serendipitously, the completion of the transcontinental railway a decade later brought with it an unprecedented wave of curious travelers eager to discover California's charms. Included were scores of artists and writers who made their way to the Monterey Peninsula and recognized the Mission's aesthetic and historical value. When Robert Louis Stevenson first beheld the Mission, he wrote in his travel memoir, *Across the Plains*, “The church is roofless and ruinous—sea-

breezes and sea-fogs, and the alternation of rain and sunshine, daily widening the breaches and casting the crockets from the wall.” Soon after, he declared in an editorial in the *Monterey Californian*, “I am moved, by sentiment, to pray for restitution or at least repair.”

In the coming decades, as the Peninsula and the village of Carmel-by-the-Sea attracted more artists and bohemians, preservation of the Mission became a long-standing community endeavor, punctuated by notable contributions from individuals including Father Angel Casanova and Harry Downie. Casanova, head of the parish in the late 19th century, first came up with idea of charging a visitor's fee at Mission, a plan made exponentially more successful when the opening of the Del Monte Resort in 1880 brought with it waves of wealthy tourists. Downie, namesake of the recently completed Downie Museum, was a skilled craftsman who fell in love with the site in 1931, and he remained in Carmel for the next 50 years as the Mission's chief restoration expert.

Both an active parish and much-loved historical site, the Mission continues to draw travelers and worshipers from around the world, ranking second only to the Monterey Bay Aquarium in regional popularity. Zelei, a Carmel native and former history and art major who joined the Carmel Mission Foundation in 2018, is working to roll out a youth ambassador program as well as history, art, and educational programs for students and community members. The Mission will resume special events that were put on hold during the initial waves of the COVID-19 pandemic, including a first-ever “Step Back in Time” gala. After years of focusing on fundraising and construction, Zelei says she and her colleagues look forward to spending the next year assessing future restoration needs and sharing the Mission's history with the public.

For more information, visit carmelmissionfoundation.org.



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Lesson in Soul

By Nora Heston Tarte | Photos by Manny Espinoza

Ace de la Vergne, a soulful singer and guitarist who garnered quick recognition after relocating to Carmel-by-the-Sea a few years ago, came to California seeking healing from a past that was riddled with personal and communal trauma. Here, in a place she never imagined staying for long, she has found a home that has somehow grounded her. “You could say I got caught in the vortex, and I’m glad I did,” she shares. “This is a special, magical area of natural beauty and a friendly community.”

De la Vergne turns out tunes inspired by her deep Southern roots and her hometown of New Orleans, where she grew up as a latchkey child. It wasn’t uncommon for de la Vergne, even when she was as young as five years old, to spend her evenings at music clubs and bars in Louisiana and Alabama accompanied by her mother. Her first guitar—a pretty, blue, inexpensive piece that she still plays today—was pulled from the wall of The Florabama, a honky-tonk on the border of Alabama and Florida, when de la Vergne was 10 years old.

In addition to a range of folk, country, and pop songs, de la Vergne belts out classics such as “Summertime” as covered by Louis Armstrong and Ella Fitzgerald, “You Are My Sunshine,” Louisiana’s state song, written by past Governor Jimmy Davis, and “House of the Rising Sun.” But it’s the mood her renditions evoke that offer the listener a soulful, relaxing experience, akin to wandering the French Quarter’s gaslit, cobblestone streets, enveloped by the scent of magnolia. Jeff White, program director at KRML radio, says that she “has a haunting sound that hearkens back to the stone crypts and mausoleums of her New Orleans roots.”

As much as big names such as Fitzgerald, Melody Gardot, and Germaine Bazzle have influenced de la Vergne’s style, so have singers whose names she can’t remember, heard over nearly two decades in various music venues or wafting into the streets of the French Quarter at night. Bazzle, the New Orleans jazz vocalist who taught de la Vergne at the Louis Armstrong Summer Jazz Camp, stands out as a person of influence. Today, her musical tastes and song choices are varied, from Norah Jones to Stevie Nicks and Lana Del Rey to Kurt Cobain.

In every performance, de la Vergne is chasing a mystical high, the transcendent moment in which both singer and listener are in sync with the music and with themselves. “It feels like being possessed by sound,” she explains. “The ego finally shuts up, and a deep knowing emerges, with raw uninhibited emotion, with a story.” Her goal always is to communicate with her listeners. “Music creates a shared experience that transcends the individual, bonds us, inspires us in its beauty, and allows for contemplation and catharsis,” she says.

While she has performed at many Central Coast venues, de la Vergne’s music can be experienced by locals two to three times each month at The Terrace Lounge at The Lodge at Pebble Beach Resorts and monthly at Edwin’s Carmel in Carmel-by-the-Sea. Occasionally, she plays original piano pieces by candlelight on an early 1900s piano at Barmel. Her performance schedule is posted across her social media accounts and on her website, along with live music videos, for those who want to tune in from home.

To learn more about Ace, visit acedelavergne.com.



Photos by Manny Espinoza





A Piece of History Revered

By Jennifer Moulaison | Photo by Manny Espinoza

The Cypress Inn is a legendary and beloved boutique hotel in Carmel-by-the-Sea. Co-owned by film star Doris Day until her death in 2019, the historic property is steeped in Day's influence, and its world-renowned hospitality remains a loving representation of all she accomplished in her remarkable life.

Built in 1929, under the supervision of famed contractor Hugh Comstock, the Cypress Inn became a city showpiece. By the 1980s, a local businessman, Dennis (Denny) LeVett, took the reins, with Day as a silent partner. "It was a match made in heaven because of the pair's mutual love of dogs . . . that was an important focus—for the pets of guests to be as welcome here as their owners," explains General Manager Peter Radler. The hotel has since garnered attention as one of the premier destinations welcoming dogs. LeVett and Day didn't merely welcome fur-clad family members to the Cypress Inn; the property frequently hosted fundraisers and raffles and auctioned Day's personal items to support the Doris Day Animal Foundation, which helps to rescue and heal abused and neglected animals. "There are elements of her everywhere here," says Radler. "We honor her with film posters on the walls and little touches that nod to the way she saw hospitality and the kind of welcoming environment she envisioned for guests and their pets."

Radler, who has an impressive career working in hospitality around the world for over 40 years, has been at the helm of the Cypress Inn since 2016, and he couldn't imagine a more ideal opportunity. The German native came to Carmel-by-the-Sea more than two decades ago and found it difficult to leave. "I left four times and came back," he says. "This place has a kind of draw to it that's unlike anywhere else. Being a part of the Cypress Inn is an honor."

The Cypress Inn's quaint surroundings will soon be enhanced with a remodel, scheduled to begin in early 2022. "We're excited to refresh our 44 rooms and bathrooms and bring things up to state-of-the-art standards in a way that is cohesive with such a unique historic building," says Radler. Done in phases, the remodel will allow the property to remain open and should reach completion by late 2022. Until then, the Cypress Inn will maintain its lively atmosphere, including live entertainment four times a week, for the enjoyment of both guests and locals.

For more information, visit cypress-inn.com.





De Tierra



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Labor of Land and Love

By Atissa Manshouri | Photos by Randy Tunnell

The De Tierra Vineyards tasting room occupies a charming corner of Carmel-by-the-Sea, just steps away from the bustle of Ocean Avenue. A jasmine-covered brick exterior beckons guests into the eclectic space, where four-legged friends are just as welcome as their two-legged wine-loving companions. One of downtown Carmel's first and largest tasting rooms, De Tierra is both a local hangout and a favored destination for visitors to the region.

The history behind De Tierra dates back to 1998, when Tom Russell, an early trailblazer in the organic farming movement in the Salinas Valley, decided to apply organic farming principles to grape growing. Along with his Italian partner, he selected a southwest-facing site in the verdant Corral de Tierra Valley, made famous by John Steinbeck's *Pastures of Heaven*. Russell also found the perfect name for the nascent label—De Tierra means of the land in Spanish. Soon enough, what began as a hobby among friends grew into a thriving artisanal operation producing numerous award-winning varietals.

For two decades, De Tierra Vineyards flourished and expanded under the Russell family's leadership, gaining as much notice for sustainable farming practices as for its delicious sangiovese and cabernet franc. The downtown Carmel tasting room opened in 2010, the same year that De Tierra Vineyards was named Winery of the Year at the San Francisco International Wine Competition.

In 2018, several years after Tom Russell died, the family decided it was time to sell the operation. Enter Dan McDonnal and Alix Lynn Bosch, two longtime Monterey County residents and ardent admirers of the label and its tasting room. A county resident for four decades, McDonnal had spent plenty of time around grape growers and had always been interested in wine. Bosch's road to Carmel took a longer path through a 10-year sojourn in France, where

her deep passion for wine coalesced. McDonnal recounts, "Alix was one of the original De Tierra Wine Club members, and I had been friends with Tom Russell since back before he even started the winery. We had a long history of being fans and friends of De Tierra for a decade or two, so when we heard [that] Anna was considering selling the winery, Alix and I just looked at each other and thought, 'We love the wine, we love the tasting room!'" The rest, as they say, is history.



McDonnal and Bosch injected new life into the operation by building community around the tasting room. "When we took over, the mindset was to wind the business down," says McDonnal. "So [Alix and I] had to wind the business back up and to let people know that we weren't going anywhere." They made sure that the tasting room was as accessible as possible, eschewing reservations while emphasizing the family- and dog-friendly environment. Their community involvement is further reflected in their commitment to donate 10% of their proceeds from sales of their Frannin wines to local animal rescue groups.

While the COVID-19 lockdowns in 2020 were challenging, McDonnal says that they emerged from that period as a more efficient operation. In 2021, they increased their wine club membership. The vineyard continues to expand its portfolio of varietals, with a pinot gris set to debut in Spring 2022. "We're really looking forward to getting back to doing events like movie nights and yoga nights," says Bosch. "Our members love events, and we're all itching to get out and see each other." McDonnal is equally appreciative of the friends, neighbors, and visitors who gather at De Tierra. "Some locals call our tasting room their Cheers bar," he says. "We just want to expand on that feel-good feeling."

For more information, visit detierra.com.



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Immersed in Nature

By Jennifer Moulaison | Photos Courtesy of Quail Lodge & Golf Club

Among the rolling tree-lined hills and picturesque wineries, complemented by nearby ocean waters, Quail Lodge & Golf Club rests at the mouth of the Carmel Valley. The nearly 850-acre property is conveniently located, yet secluded and intimate, and has been welcoming guests for nearly six decades. The property's outdoor paradise serves as inspiration for the appealing guest rooms and suites.

"Every guest room and suite offers a private, secluded balcony, patio, or deck that provides stunning views of our gardens, pond, pool, or golf course, providing an ideal location for much needed open-air relaxation," says Director of Sales & Marketing Craig Barkdull. Guests can also experience Quail Lodge's acclaimed Golf Academy, nine-hole grass putting course, sand bocce ball pits, and tennis and pickleball facilities, as well as a year-round heated outdoor swimming pool and dedicated wellness areas for fitness and relaxation massages. Its semi-private Carmel Valley golf club offers a well-appointed clubhouse with member lounges, wellness activities, and exceptional dining, all punctuated with a full calendar of member golf and social events.

"Our 18-hole, tree-lined course layout rests like a jewel in a secluded mountainside setting, with sparkling lakes and the Carmel River meandering alongside parts of the course," says Barkdull. "Our 6,500-yard, par 71 course features some of the Monterey Peninsula's most unique bunker designs, trimmed with fescue lips—short grass areas that surround the greens to provide more shot options—and challenging grass swales that come into play on seven holes." The impressive course is well recognized, having received multiple awards from NBC GolfPass and GreensKeeper.org for playing conditions and layout. For fine-tuning skills, the Golf Academy offers a variety of learning experiences for golfers of all ages and abilities and is led by PGA Director of Instruction Katherine Marren. "[S]tudents love her relaxed manner, clear teaching style, patience, and genuine care for them and their improvement," says Barkdull.

Three on-site dining options fortify both guests and golfers. Covey Grill, located in the Lodge Lobby, features high quality steaks and sustainably sourced seafood, all of which is enhanced by house-made spice rubs and sauces. "The delectable dinner menu and full bar, complemented by its relaxed atmosphere, has positioned Covey Grill as a chosen Carmel Valley locals-favorite restaurant servicing our members, hotel guests, and local community alike," says Barkdull. "[It also] offers comfortable indoor and outdoor dining options with stunning views of our sparkling pond and lush garden landscapes." Edgar's at the Clubhouse offers authentic California cuisine with alternate influences providing modern takes on familiar lunch classics. Breakfast at the Lodge is also not to be missed; located in the lodge lobby for indoor or outdoor dining, the Carmel Valley-style breakfast includes mouth-watering favorites, from pancakes and eggs to lighter fruit, yogurt, and bakery items.

For those seeking some adventure during their stay, Quail Lodge offers the Land Rover Experience Driving School. Customized off-road driving lessons for all skill levels provide quite a ride. In collaboration with Land Rover and guided by a qualified instructor, sessions range from one hour to multiple days, during which guests enjoy touring in a capable Land Rover vehicle down steep descents on a two-track trail, climbing obstacles, and navigating tight, hairpin turns.

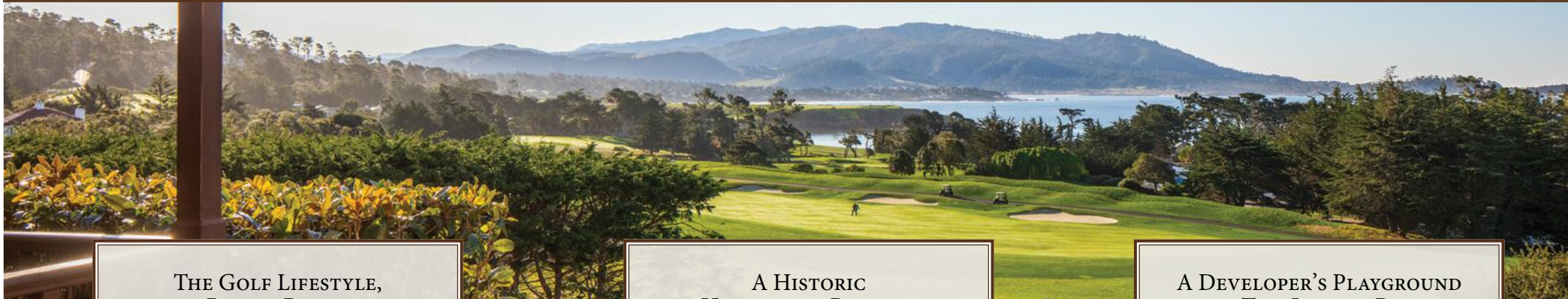
Such unique offerings coupled with the exquisite setting at Quail Lodge will continue to shape the future of this premier Peninsula destination. Says Barkdull, "We look forward to continuing to enhance our guest experiences through unique packages, local partnerships, and exceptional offerings that are sure to create lasting memories."

For more information, visit quailodge.com.

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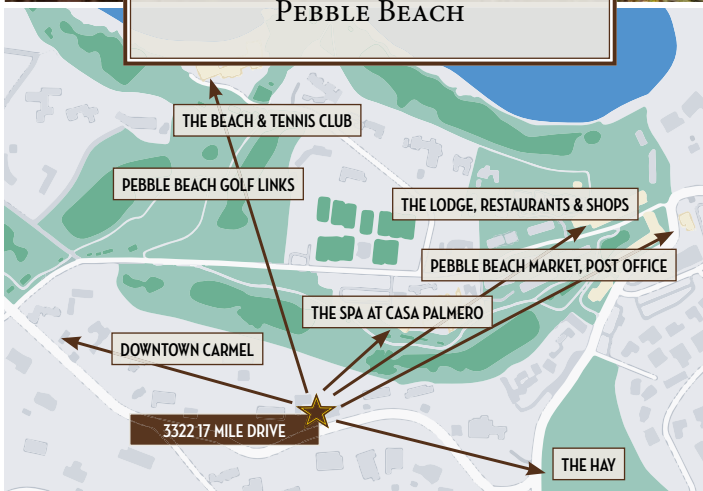
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After growing up and living the vast majority of his life in Alameda and Contra Costa counties, Ed Bass is now living and selling on the Monterey Peninsula. He has been able to utilize the many connections he has developed over almost 25 years of selling in those areas to help clients find properties in the Monterey Peninsula. From real estate agents, title companies, mortgage professionals and friends; helping them and their clients find that little beach getaway, golfers retreat or investment property means the world to Ed. "If you're thinking about purchasing a home on the Monterey Peninsula, please feel free to reach out."

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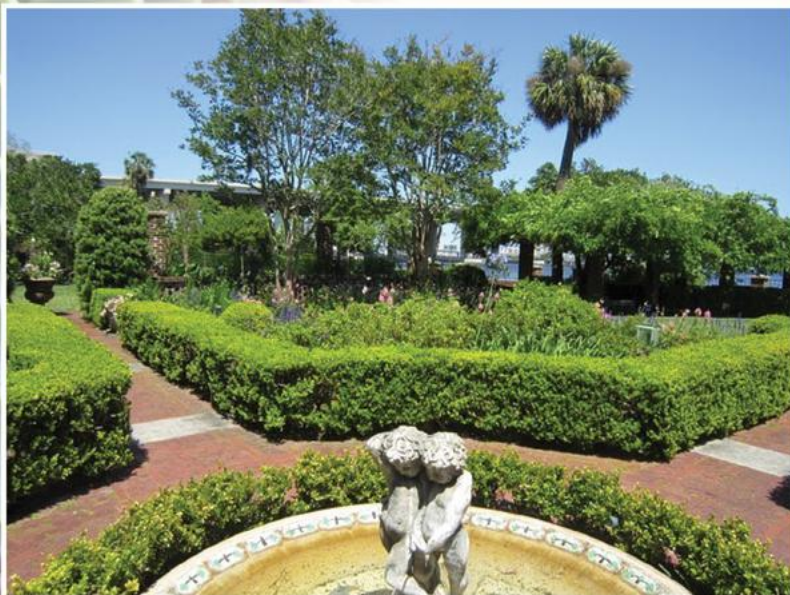


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