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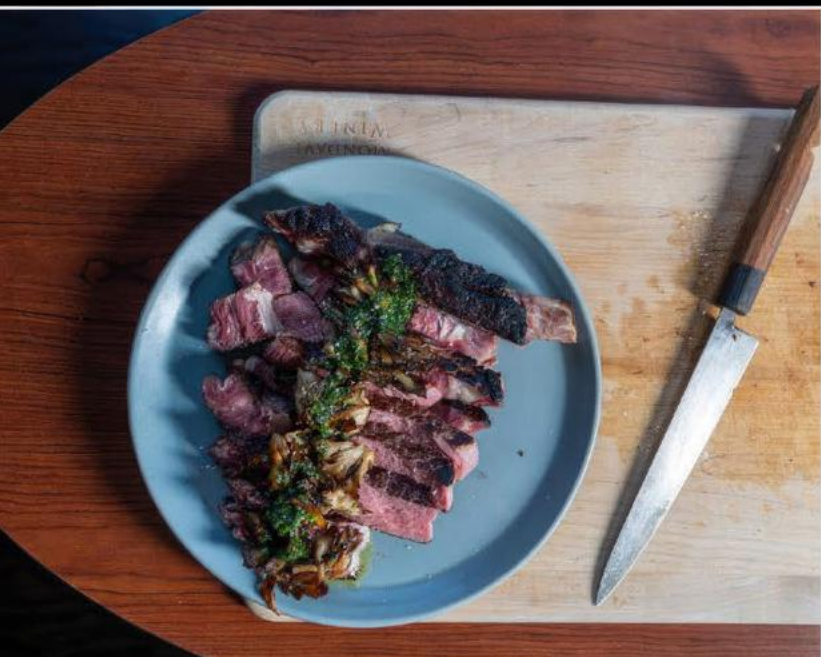
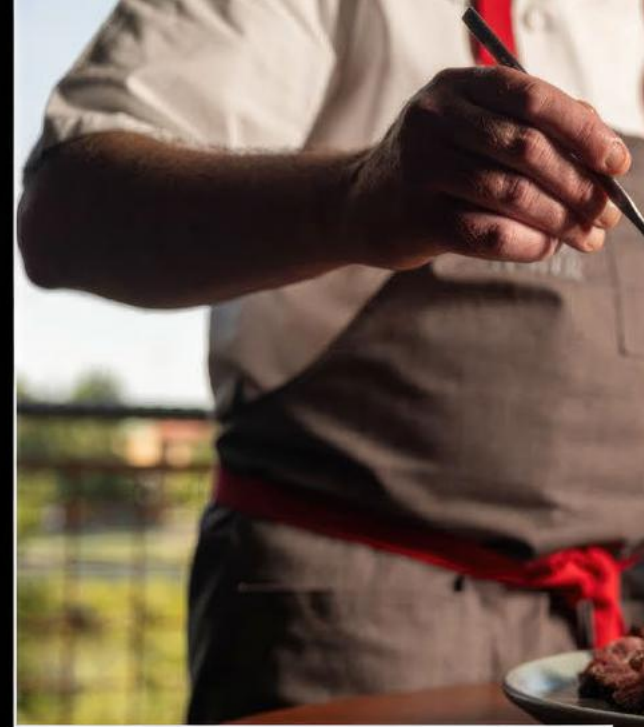


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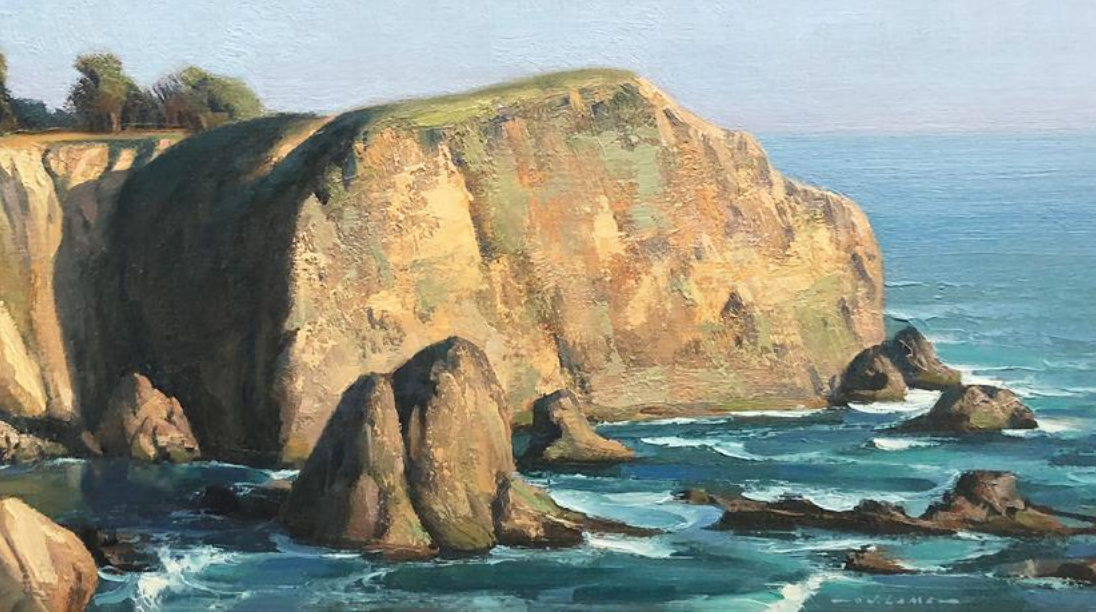


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PUBLISHER'S NOTE

By Rich Medel

As the pulse of spring begins to stir within us, we're thrilled to showcase the diverse tapestry of experiences awaiting you.

Springtime invites us to savor life's simple pleasures, and Pelio Estate's Carmel Valley Village tasting room sets the stage for delightful wine experiences infused with a touch of whimsy.

Meanwhile, nestled in the enchanting embrace of Carmel Valley, Stonepine Estate beckons with its timeless allure. Here, amid cottages that seamlessly blend history with contemporary comforts, guests are invited to indulge in moments of play, relaxation, and unwinding.

For those seeking a journey into the wild, Vision Quest Ranch in Salinas offers captivating educational experiences alongside the chance to immerse oneself in the beauty of biodiversity. Safari-style lodgings provide a unique haven for adventurers.

On the air, the dynamic Bettina McBee, writer and DJ of Santa Cruz Voice, enriches our community by introducing us to the visionaries shaping the essence of the Monterey Bay.

Within the pages of our publication, prepare to be captivated by the awe-inspiring photography of Yvonne Wright and the vibrant artwork of Elise Remender, offering glimpses of both nature's grandeur and the promise of summer's embrace. And the canvas of Napa Valley comes alive through the masterful strokes of artists, including Jim Lamb, whose landscape paintings transport us to realms of timeless beauty and serenity.

Folktale Group stands as a beacon of cultural heritage on the Monterey Peninsula, with Folktale Winery, 7D, The Annex, and their array of events and charitable endeavors enriching our community.

In the world of wine, the Court of Master Sommeliers embarks on a journey towards inclusivity, seeking to make their prestigious program accessible to all who share a passion for oenology. Furthermore, at Charter Oak Restaurant, simplicity is celebrated as Chef Christopher Kostow's farm-to-table vision unfolds, evoking beauty and flavor in every dish.

And in the vineyard-draped hills of Napa Valley, Pym Rae Vineyards stands as a testament to organic and biodynamic winemaking, channeling the spirit of French craftsmanship into every bottle.

Join us as we embark on a journey of discovery, celebrating the artistry, innovation, and passion that define the soul of our region.



57°

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Photo courtesy of Dalla Valle Vineyards

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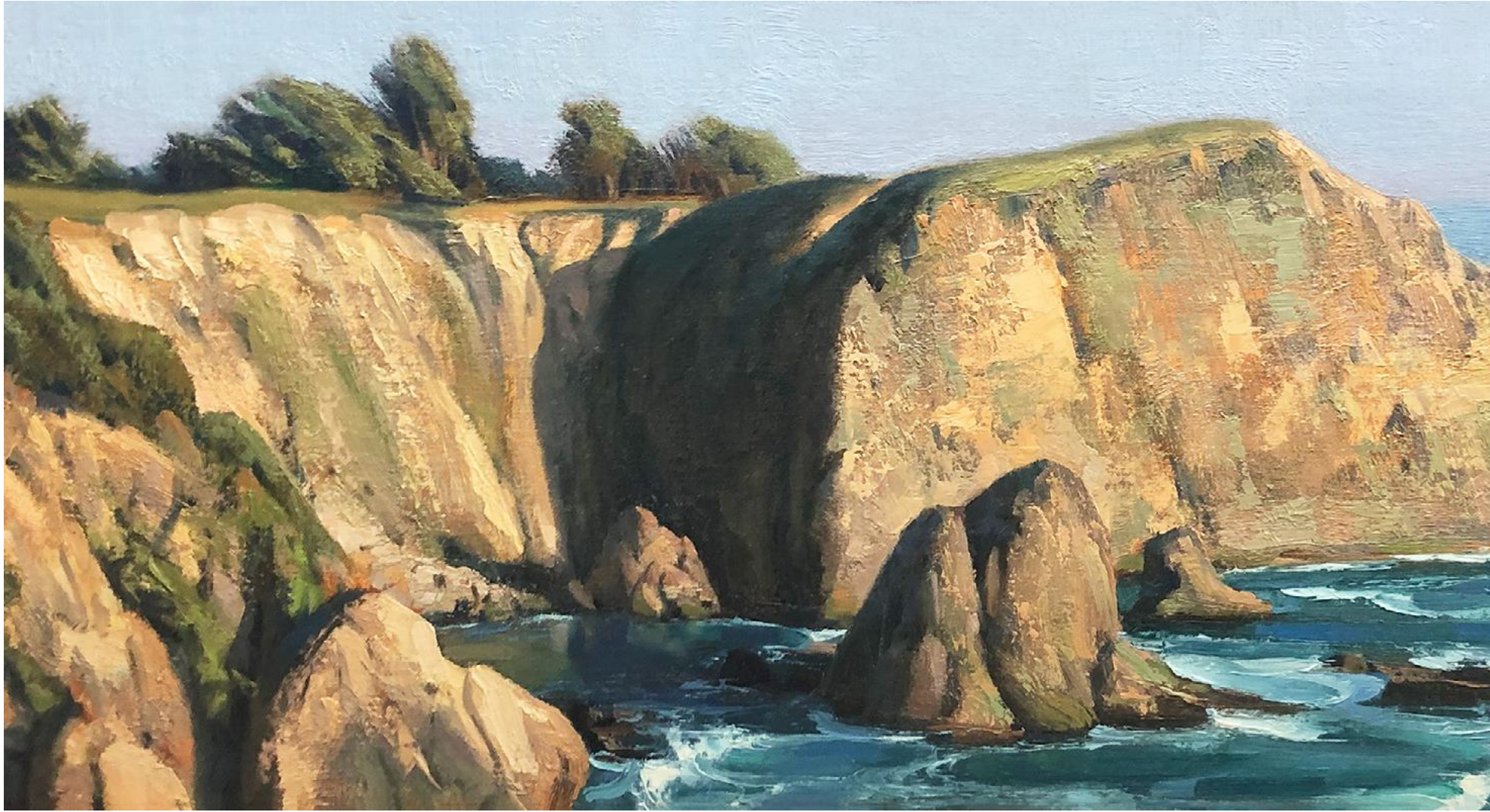
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Rendering the Immensity of Nature

By Rebekah Moan

What keeps Jim Lamb inspired after many decades as an artist is other people's works and, as he says, "God's creation, wherever he sees it." In 1973, he began working as a freelance illustrator, producing images for the US Postal Service, Smithsonian Institution, National Football League, numerous Hollywood movie studios, NASA's Jet Propulsion Laboratory, publishing houses, and advertising agencies.

In 1991, he started painting landscapes and eventually plein air paintings, for which he's won awards. "When I was first exposed to plein air painting, I thought it was craziness," says Lamb. "Who in their right mind would drag art materials outside and fight bugs and wind and weather . . . I realized that, in the doing of it, the challenge was a lot of what made it attractive."

On location, the eye sees things that the camera misses, which means painting and designing swiftly to capture the moment before the scene changes too much, he says. Lamb looks for large, interesting shapes and a strong, graphic attraction, coupled with the interplay of light and shadow. He uses a camera to save a moment but paints the scene quickly to get the color right and capture its essence—all in a canvas no larger than 12" x 16".

He often asks himself, "How can I render, on this little, tiny rectangular, the immensity of nature?" Yet somehow he manages to do that. Sometimes he uses his smaller plein air works as color studies for larger studio paintings.

Lamb primarily focuses on the California coast because its landscape is unmatched anywhere in the world, and he especially likes painting scenes that stretch from Laguna Beach to Carmel-by-the-Sea, which is where one will find his paintings—in the Dawson Cole Fine Art Gallery.

For more information, visit carmel.dawsoncofineart.com.







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What are the advantages of a 1031 exchange?

Potential to defer capital gains tax: This is the biggest advantage of a 1031 exchange. When properly structured by the 1031 exchange company and your tax advisor you may have the opportunity to defer federal and state capital gains taxes until such time as the business is sold outright.

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Flexibility: May be used for a variety of purposes such as upgrading to a larger or more expensive property or diversifying your portfolio.

To navigate 1031 exchanges effectively, it's crucial to follow specific steps, and I'm here to provide assistance throughout the entire process.

Some possible examples of how California real estate investors can benefit from 1031 exchanges:



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- A commercial property owner can exchange their aging office building for a new industrial warehouse, taking advantage of the growing demand for e-commerce space.



- A real estate developer may exchange a vacant lot for a piece of land with existing zoning approvals, accelerating their development timeline.



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Elevating the Industry through Opportunity and Community

By Atissa Manshouri | Photos Courtesy of Court of Master Sommeliers, Americas

Few job titles conjure as much mystery and respect as that of Master Sommelier. Indeed, only 275 wine professionals worldwide have received the designation since it was established in 1969, and the rigor of the examination process is the stuff of legend in the hospitality industry. But despite the perceived exclusivity of the wine world's highest echelons, more people are pursuing wine education than ever before, thanks in large part to the strategic efforts of organizations such as the Court of Master Sommeliers, Americas (CMS-A), a nonprofit organization that offers education, mentorship, and credentialing programs including the Master Sommelier Diploma Examination.

In the decade since the United States surpassed France as the world's leading consumer of wine per capita, the American hospitality industry has vigorously kept pace with the growing demands of its domestic and international markets. Likewise, American consumers have grown more curious and adventurous in their wine choices. At the nexus of these trends, CMS-A seeks to advance both the beverage and hospitality industries while also opening pathways for the public to engage, with four levels of increasing difficulty, ranging from introductory to the Master Sommelier Diploma Examination. While the number of Master Sommelier titles awarded may be scant, the more than 65,000 individuals who have taken wine courses through CMS-A since its inception indicate just how widespread the thirst for all levels of wine education has become.

However, a deeper dive into those statistics raised questions among the organization's leaders: Why were there only 25 women among the 170 Master Sommeliers that earned their titles through CMS-A from 1987 to 2022? How could the organization evolve to welcome a more diverse group of rising wine professionals? What innovations and resources could be offered to create a more inclusive industry? In its pursuit of answers, the organization undertook a comprehensive strategic planning process, and in November 2023 it introduced its four-year plan. "We're really working

on inviting more people in, removing barriers, and adding support," says Executive Director Julie Cohen Theobald.

Through interviews, surveys, and listening sessions, CMS-A gathered insights into the challenges and opportunities facing its constituents, identifying four areas of focus: industry leadership, professional development, professional community, and operational excellence. The planning process allowed the organization to map out strategies to implement and indicators of success for each goal, with the themes of community and opportunity resonating throughout. According to Theobald, accessible mentorship was the greatest need to emerge from the research and will be addressed by initiatives such as a new office hours program and developing and expanding the annual Women's Sommelier Symposium. Further efforts include recruitment from outreach to traditionally underrepresented sources, including Historically Black Colleges and Universities and the University of Texas Rio Grande Valley. An embrace of technology will include a redesigned website with online community features and a public, searchable directory of wine professionals. Additionally, Theobald points out that artificial intelligence offers tremendous potential to reduce language barriers through its translation applications, allowing CMS-A to reach more non-English speakers.

For Michael Meagher, Master Sommelier and Chair of CMS-A, the meager 3 to 5 percent pass rate of the Master Sommelier Diploma Examination could not deter him on his journey toward certification, which took six attempts. "There's something truly gravitational about it," he says. As the organization advances its vision to create a more welcoming industry, Meagher's advice to anyone considering a first step towards wine education is to keep an open mind. "Ask questions," he says, "be curious. The wine world rewards curiosity."

For more information, visit mestersommeliers.org.



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DALLA VALLE







A Family Legacy Takes Root

By Atissa Manshoury | Photos Courtesy of Dalla Valle Vineyards

With a last name meaning “of the valley” in Italian, was born ready for a life among the Napa vines. The only child of Gustav and Naoko Dalla Valle, Maya Dalla Valle came into the world in 1987, just as her parents were launching their family-run winery on the prized eastern hillsides of Oakville. Today, in the role of winemaker, Dalla Valle produces three Dalla Valle Vineyards wines that are recognized around the world for their character and complexity. These are the Collina Dalla Valle, an approachable red blend, the Dalla Valle cabernet sauvignon; and the namesake Maya, a blend of Maya’s Vineyard cabernet sauvignon and the best selected blocks of cabernet franc.

Though she may have been destined for a life in the valley, Dalla Valle forged her own globetrotting path toward her place in the family business. Eager to experience the world upon graduating from high school, she first earned a degree in international relations from the University of Washington and spent time traveling before earning a master’s degree in viticulture and enology from Cornell University. She followed up with a Master of Business and Science degree in vineyard and winery management from Bordeaux Sciences Agro in France. After working abroad for distinguished wineries, including Bodega Rolland in Argentina, Ornellaia in Italy, and Château Pétrus and Château Latour in France, she finally answered the siren call of home in 2017, joining the family business as estate director, then ascending to the position of winemaker in 2021. “It took me removing myself from Napa to realize what a special place it is,” she says.

“Special” is likewise used by many to describe Dalla Valle wines. Crafted by a long line of illustrious winemakers, including Heidi Barrett, Tony Soter, Mia Klein, and Andy Erickson, the wines have earned multiple 100-point scores and cult status, inspiring countless poetic descriptions of its red volcanic soil and perfectly balanced climate. Since joining the

business, Dalla Valle has continued to cultivate that legacy by honoring the winery’s past while looking toward its future. To that end, she has converted the estate to biodynamic farming and is experimenting with incorporating different vessels, such as amphora, in the aging process.

In the face of a rapidly changing industry landscape, Dalla Valle is leaning into the management practices and approaches she learned about while experiencing the many family-run chateaus surrounding Bordeaux. “The headlines talk about consolidation and acquisitions,” she says, “but there’s not that much out there about how much of Napa Valley is still family owned.” With a growing number of second-generation winemakers such as her now stepping into prominent roles around the Valley, Dalla Valle is grateful to have a community where she can discuss such topics as succession planning, regulatory issues, and farming practices with her peers.

That spirit of openness and collaboration is inspired, in part, by Robert Mondavi and the energy he brought to Napa Valley as he helped shepherd its wine industry to international prominence. “You can talk to any producer from the ’60s, ’70s, ’80s, even into the early ’90s . . .” she says. “[Bob] was always very generous with his time and his knowledge, and helped people access information.” The other industry legend providing daily inspiration is none other than Dalla Valle’s mother, whose has guided Dalla Valle Vineyards over the last three decades since Gustav Dalla Valle passed away in 1995. In addition to her role as founder, farmer, and proprietor of the family business, Naoko is a tireless supporter of the greater Napa community and was recently elected Chair of the OLE Health Foundation in Napa County.

For more information, visit dallavallevineyards.com

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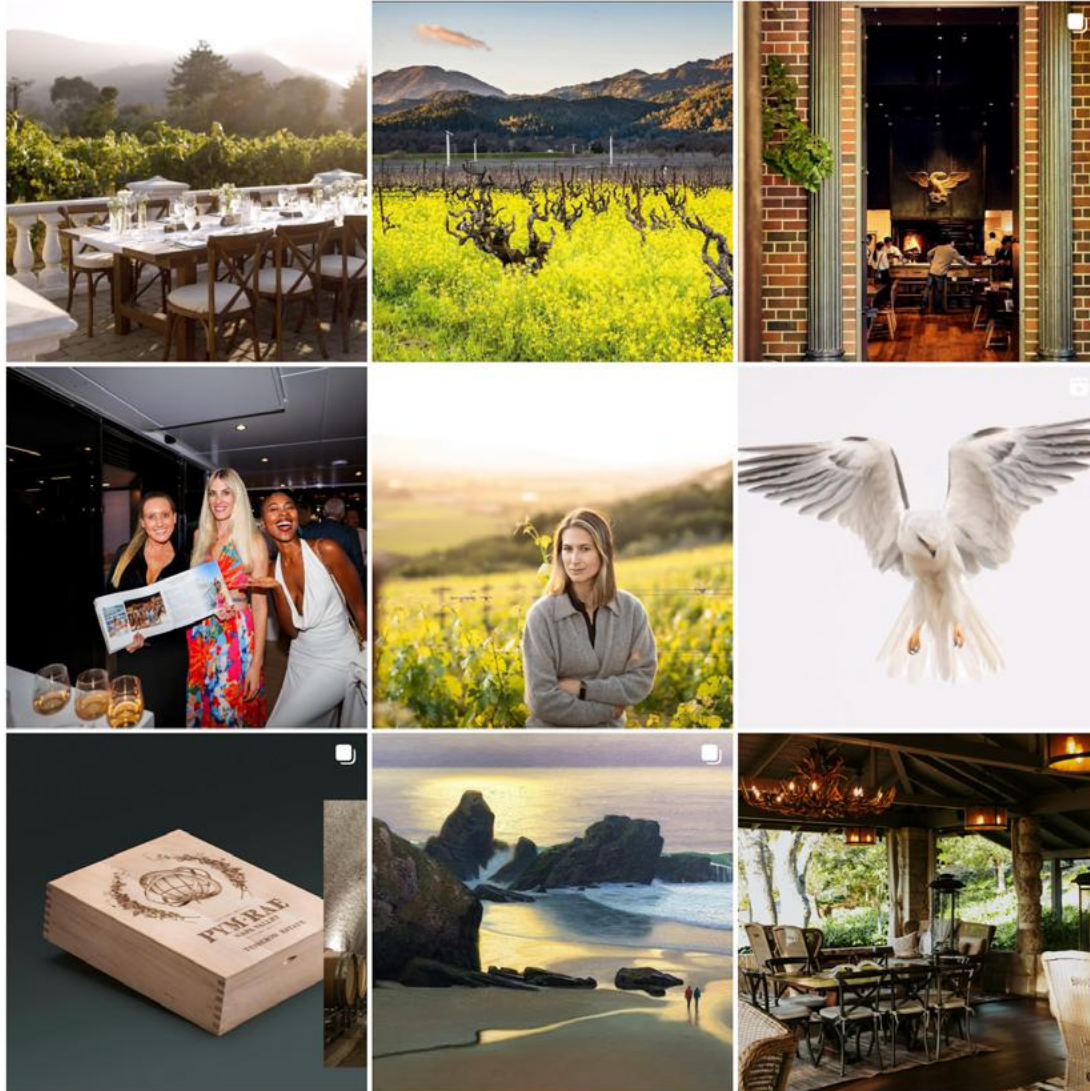
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Simply Delicious

By Rebekah Moan | Photos Courtesy of Charter Oak

The Charter Oak restaurant, located in Napa Valley, is aesthetically and elementally simple in the cooking, plateware, and look and feel of the restaurant, but don't let that fool you. Chef Christopher Kostow, of the Michelin 3-starred The Restaurant at Meadowood, co-owns The Charter Oak along with his wife and business partner, Martina, and they apply the same Michelin-level care and consideration to The Charter Oak, which opened in June 2017.

Kostow was inspired by his dining experience at La Huella, the fancy resort in José Ignacio, in Uruguay. "They played with grilling, and I was inspired by how nothing is more luxurious than something simple and beautiful," says Kostow.

The nod to simplicity and beauty is also how Kostow settled on the restaurant's name. While the restaurant is indeed located on Charter Oak Avenue, Kostow wanted something substantive and elemental to be associated with his restaurant. He chose the sturdy oak, which is a prominent tree in the Napa Valley

Simplicity and approachability carry over to the food. "I want my food to feel unadorned, simple, and stripped down to its most important feature: how it tastes," says Kostow.

The emphasis on the food is also reflected in the restaurant's 13-year-old farm, where Kostow sources produce for both restaurants. The 3.5-acre parcel is part of the St. Helena Montessori School and grows unique, seasonally appropriate crops using organic, sustainable techniques. Farm Director Zac Yoder experiments with new crops and varieties and growing and cultivation methods and uses all edible portions of a plant through its lifecycle.

"It's not a chef's garden," says Kostow. "It's a farm that's very aligned with a large restaurant. We write the menus with the farm and change the menu

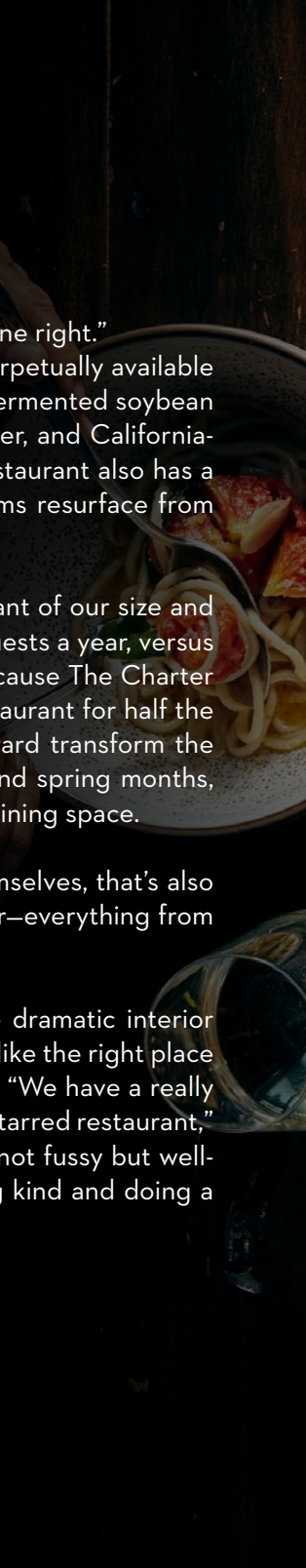
when the crop changes. There's beauty to it when that's done right." Because the menu changes, there are only three dishes perpetually available at The Charter Oak: raw vegetables from the farm with a fermented soybean dip, sourdough bread that comes from a 30-year-old starter, and California-grown komachi rice with cultured butter. That said, the restaurant also has a canon of dishes that Kostow cycles through, so menu items resurface from time to time.

"The menu is always evolving, and that's rare for a restaurant of our size and location," says Kostow. The Charter Oak serves 130,000 guests a year, versus about 13,000 at The Restaurant at Meadowood. This is because The Charter Oak has a large courtyard that doubles the size of the restaurant for half the year. For the past four years, installed yurts in the courtyard transform the space into a cozy, festive retreat throughout the winter and spring months, during which guests can enjoy the ambiance of their own dining space.

For those who want the restaurant or courtyard all to themselves, that's also possible. The Charter Oak hosts hundreds of events a year—everything from rehearsal dinners to corporate events.

One ingredient to The Charter Oak's success is that the dramatic interior evokes a feeling of good fortune—"On a busy night, it feels like the right place to be," says Kostow. Another is the team at the restaurant. "We have a really good team that was born out of the DNA of the 3 Michelin-starred restaurant," he explains. "It informs our hospitality, which means we're not fussy but well-trained and hospitable, first and foremost. We value being kind and doing a good job."

For more information, visit thecharteroak.com.







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Photos by Bob McClenahan









The Art of French Living in California

By Betsy Reynard | Photos Courtesy of Pym-Rae Tesseron Estate

Tucked away down a long, winding road on Mt. Veeder sits Pym-Rae Tesseron Estate, a hidden gem that is the latest addition to the wine and spirits portfolio of the Tesseron family of Bordeaux, France. Known around the world is their Grand Cru Classé winery in Pauillac, Château Pontet-Canet, as well as their Tesseron Cognac. Pym-Rae is the result of a decades-long love affair with California dating back to the start of Alfred Tesseron's career.

It began with Tesseron's arrival in Los Angeles when he was in his early twenties. Initially planning a six-month professional experience, he fell in love with the United States and remained for five years. While he returned to France to focus on the family business, his love of the California lifestyle and its wines remained. His desire to understand how cabernet sauvignon expresses itself in different wine regions led him to the Napa Valley and to Pym-Rae.

Purchased in 2016 from the estate of the late actor Robin Williams, Pym-Rae is overseen by Tesseron and his children, Justine and Noé. The vineyard was named by Williams in honor of his children Zachary Pym Williams and Zelda Rae Williams. Divided into an upper and lower vineyard, the two sit at elevations of 1,800 and 1,500 feet, respectfully. The work in the vineyard and cellar is done predominantly by hand; no pumps are used. The vast property totals 650 acres, but only 18.5 acres are under vine. Production is small and focused, and the Tesserons' obsession with quality is unwavering. Cabernet sauvignon, merlot, and cabernet franc were planted on the property some 30 years ago and are used in the final blend. Since the 2019 vintage, Pym-Rae is a certified organic and biodynamic vineyard.

Tesseron has been at the forefront of the biodynamics movement since Pontet-Canet received its biodynamic certification in 2010—the first Bordeaux-classified growth to obtain this achievement. At Pym-Rae, the Tesserons

follow biodynamic practices such as barrel compost prep, using horn manure, and following the biodynamic calendar. They also made significant changes in the vineyard, including dry farming, no vine trimming, and the addition of cows on property.

Focused on creating a great Napa wine that fully expresses the Pontet-Canet philosophy yet remains an expression of Pym-Rae's unique terroir results in a wine that is precise, balanced, and fresh. "From the beginning of this adventure, no concession was made, no thought was given to how easy it would be," says Tesseron. "To force the roots to search deeply for water and nutrients, irrigation was excluded. Thus, the terroir is expressed in the grapes with force and precision." After he first toured the vineyards and continued to the private residence, known as Villa Sorriso (Villa of Smiles), he was quite taken with the globe chandelier illuminating the foyer. "When I saw the great chandelier symbolizing the earth and the cosmos, I knew that Pym-Rae, or rather, we as biodynamic winemakers, would be part of the history of Pym-Rae," says Tesseron. "A sign of destiny from this place, endowed with such great spirituality. It was Pym-Rae that chose us."

Winemaking is overseen by estate manager Jérôme Ledit, who arrived in 2021 with a background in biodynamics. Pontet-Canet's head winemaker, Mathieu Bessonnet, remains in France, while consulting oenologist Michel Rolland engages during his frequent trips to the Valley. Available in select retailers and restaurants in the United States and abroad, Pym-Rae is establishing itself as the fine Napa Valley wine that it is.

Pym-Rae Tesseron Estate—another world, another wine, another ambiance. And yet, with the same community of feeling as Château Pontet-Canet.

For more information visit pym-rae.com.







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Beyond the Vines

By Betsy Reynard

Spring has sprung, and the Napa Valley is alive with the promise of a new vintage and a full calendar for visitors and locals emerging from their winter slumbers.

New on the cocktail scene is The Fink, known as “Napa’s neighborhood bar for the world traveler.” Dreaming of lazy days on the white sands of the Caribbean? Order up a Kingston Negroni from its Caribbean Classics list or consider a Fog Cutter from the LA to the Bay list. Owner Judd Finkelstein created an intimate space in the Mill District section of Napa with live music on tap most nights.

If dinner is on your mind, then visit Scala Osteria around the corner. It is quickly becoming a local favorite. The latest endeavor from the team behind Bistro Don Giovanni, Scala offers traditional southern Italian cuisine in a space inspired by the Mediterranean. Start with the baccalà fritto (salt cod-potato fritters) or insalata di tonno before a main course of whole grilled fish, wood-oven roasted clams, or pasta. Finish with an order of zeppole—donuts with chocolate sauce and crème anglaise.

Up next, in Yountville, is The Kitchen at Priest Ranch, a new space from the owners of Priest Ranch and Somerset Estate. Located beside the Priest Ranch tasting room, The Kitchen serves an extensive breakfast menu, along with salads and smashburgers for lunch. Recipes are also available so you can cook up a favorite dish in your home kitchen.

As the Napa Valley Vine Trail prepares to open the bike path connecting St. Helena and Calistoga, consider pedaling to Clif Family Winery to experience an elevated tasting in the new Enoteca Tasting Salon. If you work up an appetite, then place an order there at the Bruschetteria farm-to-food truck, which serves a rotating menu of seasonal bruschetta, rotisserie chicken, salads, and sides, with many ingredients sourced from the Clif Family Farm on Howell Mountain. Enjoy lunch on the patio with a perfectly paired glass from the tasting room. (Local tip: Enjoy the Street Food menu at the food truck every Wednesday. Extended hours are in place on Wednesdays, allowing patrons to linger longer.)

On the arts and culture scene, spring and early summer bring a plethora of options. The always popular BottleRock rocks Napa over Memorial Day weekend, followed by a new music festival, La Onda, which focuses on Latin music. If you lean toward art, culture, and wine on a smaller scale, then CAMi Art + Wine in Calistoga has you covered. Owner and artist Laurie Shelton is the talent behind the “I [heart] Calistoga” sign that has become synonymous with the town. Shelton hosts artist receptions four times a year at her Calistoga gallery, plus biannual art and dinner events. Mark your calendar for early May for the “Is There a Rembrandt in My Glass” art and wine dinner. These intimate evenings are not to be missed.

It’s time to shake off the winter chill, put the woolly frocks away, and head to the Napa Valley for a spring fling!





Fox Trot





Rocket Ships and Superyachts

The My Yacht® Group (MYG) Night Before investor dinner in December welcomed a personally curated gathering of local and visiting (U)HNW guests, heads of family office, and others to a private room at one of South Beach, Miami's top restaurants to learn more about returning partner Radian Aerospace.

The event marked another event in its exclusive Night Before dinner series, plus its twelfth annual charity superyacht reception during the twenty-first iteration of Art Basel Miami Beach.

Fresh from a hugely successful MYG debut in Monaco at the annual yacht show, CEO Richard Humphrey spoke about Radian One, the world's first crewed, single-stage orbit vehicle with runway-like takeoff and landing. The fully reusable, aircraft-like configuration requires far less infrastructure than vertical launch systems and can be flown again within 48 hours.

Radian's system makes spaceflight affordable and routine, expanding access to space and unlocking the next generation of missions beneficial to humanity, such as scientific research, in-space manufacturing, and terrestrial observation. "Spaceflight with the ease of airflight."

The reception was held aboard the stunning M/Y Romeo Foxtrot from Hargrave Superyacht Division. The nearly new, tri-deck superyacht features light-filled interior spaces with floor-to-ceiling windows, clean, modern

styling, and luxurious materials throughout. Features include four spacious king staterooms on the lower deck and a full-beam owner's suite on the main deck, a large chef's kitchen, Jacuzzi® and built-in bar on the sundeck, a large beach club with steam room and plenty of water toys, plus a day head on every level. The yacht's innovative design makes its 116 ft/35 m length and 26 ft/7.9 m beam feel like a much larger vessel, but with a 6.6 ft/2 m draft, it is the perfect vessel for exploring shallow coves in the Bahamas.

MYG continues to raise awareness for chosen charity partner YachtAid Global (YAG) and its incredible relief efforts. YAG provides humanitarian aid, conservation, and disaster response leadership, with work encompassing global programs, logistics management, and consultation for superyacht owners who want to contribute to the world around them.

The evening featured libations from several long-term partners: Whispering Angel, plus custom Enchanted Rock vodka cocktails from Rebecca Creek Distillery. Exquisite food by Chef Segreto plus music by DJ Misha and live sax accompaniment ensured a convivial atmosphere aboard.

A distinguished guestlist included international art collectors, artists, gallerists, superyacht, private jet, and supercar owners, and international and southern Florida (U)HNW guests.

For more information, visit [MyYachtClub.io](https://www.MyYachtClub.io).



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Editor's Spring Sipper

Stags' Leap Winery 2019 Napa Valley Petit Sirah

Appearance: Dark ruby

Aromas: Green bell pepper, tobacco, vanilla, dark fruit, clove

Flavors: This petit sirah begins with notes of current and cranberry. Black pepper and thyme enhance an earthy yet spicy palate further nuanced by nutmeg. The finish is long and complex, accented by a touch of leather. Herbaceous notes complement high tannins and medium-plus acidity. —*Jeremy Stuart, CSW, CWAS*

Editor's Experience

Pairing: Steak Diane cooked in spicy gochujang compound butter and served alongside beet spheres with goat cheese and sautéed garlic green beans. —Tim Keeler & Renée Saia

Find the recipe at [Instagram.com/yogidrea](https://www.instagram.com/yogidrea)













City of Seven Hills

By Santa Bernahl | Photography by Santa Bernahl and Associação de Turismo de Lisboa - Visitors and Convention Bureau

Lisbon, also called the city of seven hills, is a city of music, wine, delicious food, and great people. There, football is a religion, and bars are open long past midnight. One can have a meal outside in early April and hear live Fado music while dining. Offering a perfect blend of history and culture and full of hidden gems, it's a European capital without the tourist crowds of Paris and London.

The city is filled with stunning architecture, from medieval to modern. Highlights include the Moorish São Jorge Castle and the intricate Manueline style of the Jerónimos Monastery.

The airport is less than in 30 minutes away from the city. Visitors can have their choice of great hotels as well as Airbnb offerings that include downtown lofts with breathtaking views of the bay and old-wealth villas with infinity pools for a rate of a of basic hotel room in New York City. If desired, concierge services are easy to book on top of accommodation.

Lisbon is famous for its food scene. From fresh seafood dishes such as grilled sardines to pastéis de nata (custard tarts), the city's offerings create a paradise for food lovers. Arguably, the most authentic experience is to go to local food markets, such as the Mercado da Ribeira (Timeout Market), where one can find the best of the best Portuguese cuisine and meet the locals.

Fado, a traditional Portuguese music genre, is known for its soulful songs and strong vocal style. It is best to hear Fado performances in intimate venues throughout the city, after dinner. Time stands still while listening to the emotional vocals of talented Fado singers. It is an experience quite like no other.

Forget the car—go on foot or by rickshaw around the city to experience Lisbon with an insightful local guide or on one of the iconic yellow trams that wind through the narrow streets. The tram will come in handy when going for the view from the top of one of the seven hills. The scenery of the Miradouro da Senhora do Monte is breathtaking.

A walk around Alfama, Lisbon's oldest district, navigates a maze of narrow streets, historic buildings, and Fado houses. Bairro Alto is an area known for its nightlife that never sleeps—leave the high heels at home.

A day trip to Cascais is highly recommended. This charming coastal town has beautiful beaches, a picturesque old town, and provides easy access to the westernmost point of continental Europe, Cabo da Roca. Another short train ride away is Sintra, a fairy-tale town with colorful palaces, lush gardens, and a



mystical atmosphere.

And last, but not least, a visit to Nannarella, the ice cream shop, is a must! You will thank me later!

For more information, follow @santabernahl on Instagram or visit champagnefair.com.



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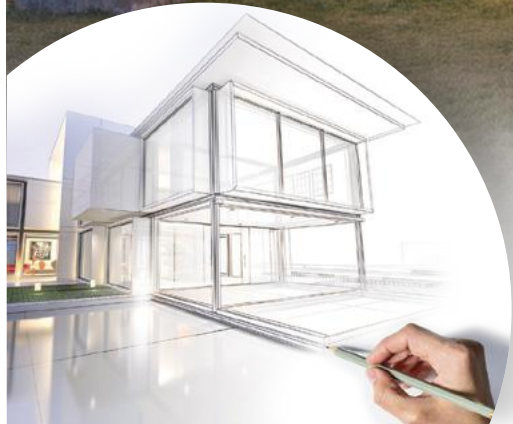
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Idyllic Retreat for Nature Lovers

By Rebekah Moan | Photos Courtesy of Carmel Realty

For nature lovers, Carmel Realty Company's property "The Egg Farm" can't be beat. The 8.5-acre working farm has crops such as apples, peppers, tomatoes, and more. That's in addition to the 200-plus olive trees that the property owners harvest to produce delicious olive oil. If guests wish to venture further afield, they can explore the beauty of the Carmel River.

One of the unique features of "The Egg Farm" is that when guests want to traverse the outdoors, they don't even have to leave the property. They can simply meander to the base of Carmel Realty Company's property and access the Carmel River. Whether that means relaxing at the water's edge or booking an adventure on the river, there are a variety of outdoor experiences to suit everyone's taste.

The property is surrounded by rolling hills and breathtaking landscapes that can provide a beautiful backdrop for unforgettable gatherings. Moreover, the property features not only a three-bedroom, 2,000 square-foot main house but also a two-bedroom 1,100 square-foot guest house and a versatile barn that can transform into an event venue. The exposed-beam ceilings, warm ambiance, and country elegance means that the barn is suitable for any special occasion.

"This is a beautiful venue for family parties, corporate retreats, or weddings," says Katie McAlister, director of vacation management at Carmel Realty Company. "The space provides ample opportunity for outdoor events with a fun event barn." The structure used to be an egg-sorting facility, which inspired the farm's nickname, she explains.

The main house, originally built in the 1920s, was remodeled in 2014. Large windows allow for ample sunlight, and glass doors open onto patio spaces so that guests may wander seamlessly from place to place. The primary suite in the main house contains a king-size bed with a large en-suite bathroom. The two guest suites have queen-size beds and share a hallway bathroom. "The kitchen is masterfully designed, and the house has cozy living spaces and spacious bedrooms for an atmosphere of relaxation and indulgence," says McAlister.

For those who desire a little more privacy, the guest house, recently rebuilt, offers a luxurious respite. "It's tastefully appointed and thoughtfully arranged to provide a serene escape for guests to enjoy the tranquility of Carmel Valley while maintaining the convenience of proximity to the main house," says McAlister. Each of the bedrooms contain a king-size bed and has a private bathroom.

Several outdoor spaces pepper the property. One sports a firepit where guests can tell campfire stories or gaze at the stars because there's little light pollution to obscure the view. At another, 10 people can easily dine al fresco. For the children, there's a small play structure—they can slide, swing, and jump around to their hearts' content.

"The Egg Farm' is more than just a vacation rental," says McAlister, "it's a destination where cherished memories are made."

For more information, visit carmelrealtycompany.com/vacation-the-egg-farm-2818.htm.

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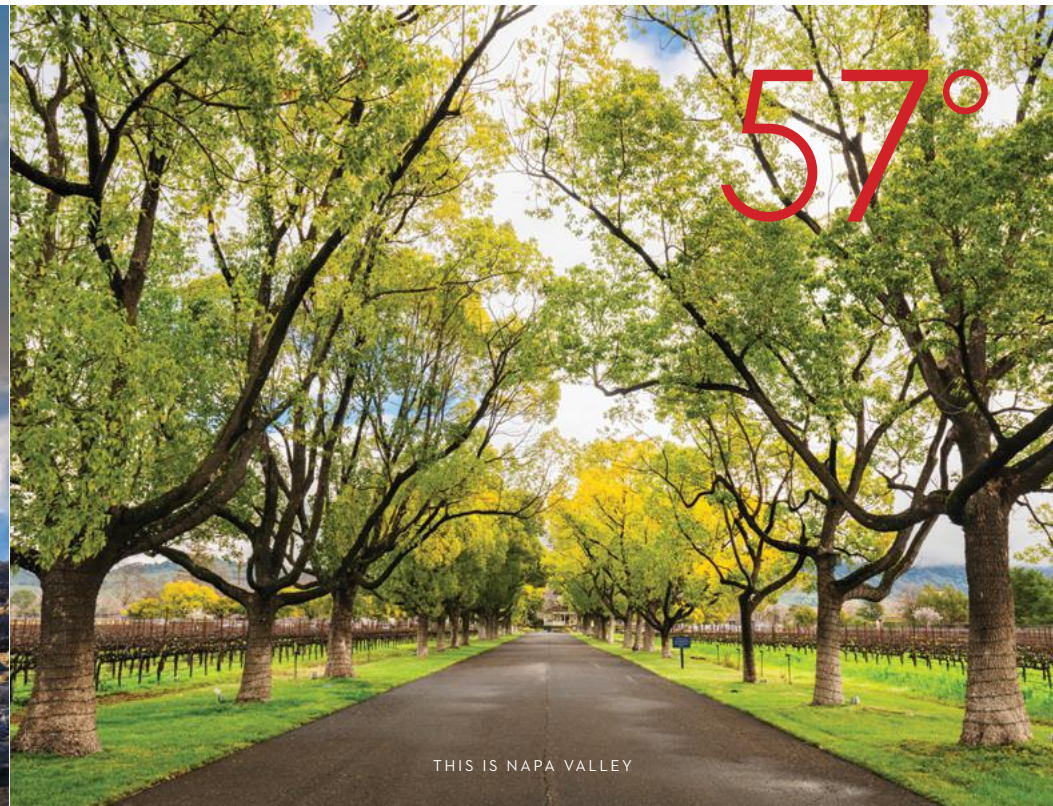
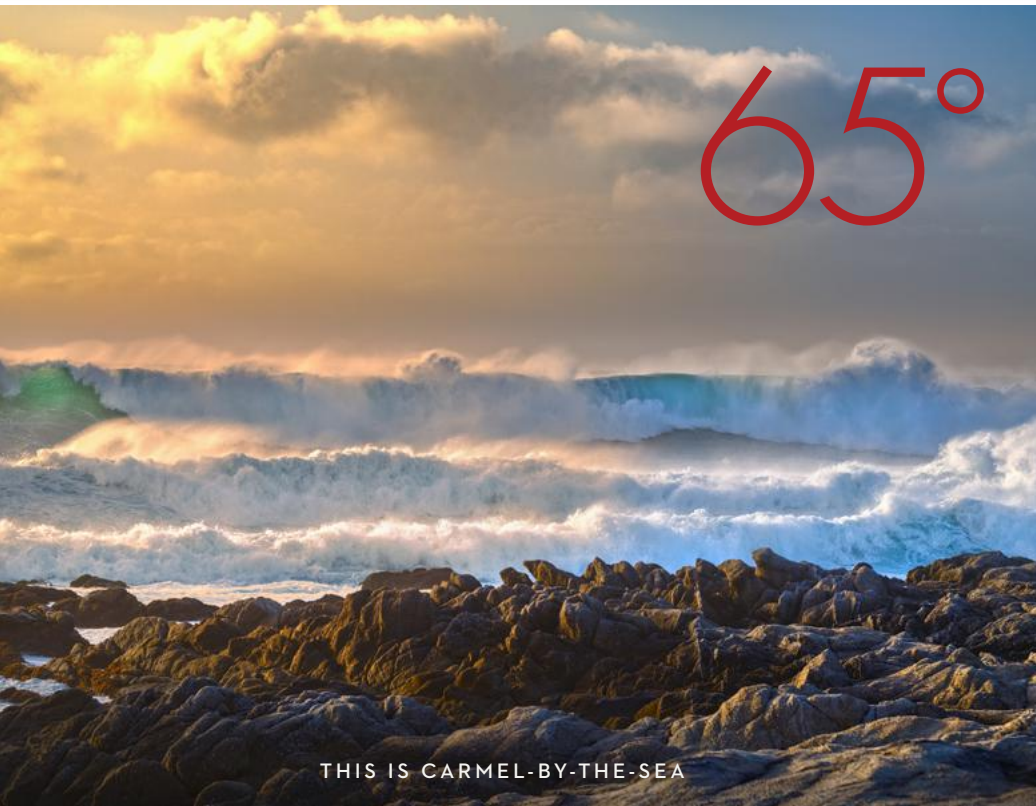
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Welcome to 65° and 57° Magazine. The premier lifestyle magazine serving Carmel-by-the-Sea, and Napa Valley. Experience the lifestyle of these destination spots through the people and pages in this upscale publication.





Empowering Napa Valley's Next Generation

By Atissa Manshoury | Photos Courtesy of Boys & Girls Clubs of Napa Valley

Before gaining its current cachet as a luxury destination of five-star hotels and nine-course tasting menus, the Napa Valley was characterized for over a century by its family farms and the hardworking communities that cared for the land. Although the growth in tourism has brought a corresponding blossoming of arts and cultural opportunities in the county, it has also widened the gulf between what visitors and locals experience. "There are generations of people living and growing among the vines of Napa Valley, and a growing number of them simply do not have the ability to participate," says Greg Bouillercce, executive director of the Boys & Girls Clubs of Napa Valley.

To help bridge this gap, the Boys & Girls Clubs of Napa Valley serve over 5,000 kids and teens annually, providing safe, positive places for them outside of school through key programs emphasizing academic success, model citizenship, and ethical principles. Programs offered by the Boys & Girls Clubs focus on everything from athletics to academics, healthy lifestyles, and leadership, along with numerous opportunities in the arts. Some of these programs leverage the county's most well-known assets. "Creating opportunities for kids to ice skate at Meritage [or] having them present from the mainstage at the Uptown . . . is an absolutely vital part of connecting them in a meaningful way to what it means to be a part of the Napa Valley experience," says Bouillercce.

An exciting new collaboration between the Boys & Girls Clubs of Napa Valley and artist Blake Barrios of Rebellium Wines provides teens with the opportunity to design and market their own wine label, connecting them with the very industry that powers so much of Napa's economy. Under Barrios' guidance, and using his signature glass-painting technique, the teens are producing a limited release of 100 bottles with their custom-designed label featuring a colorful dragon design. The proceeds will benefit the organization. Adding a five-star dash of star power is rock legend Lenny Kravitz, who has autographed a special three-bottle lot of Rebellium wines for auction at Boys & Girls Clubs of Napa Valley's upcoming fundraising event, the UnGala. In addition to the bottle designed by the club's teens and a custom Rebellium bottle, the auction lot includes a bottle adorned with a portrait of Kravitz by Barrios.

Bouillercce is enthusiastic about the positive outcomes of collaborations such as this. "These things extend beyond mere recreational activities," he says. "They are windows into the rich tapestry of Napa's culture and traditions. As we introduce our youth to these unique facets of our community, we are not just creating memories, we're instilling in them a sense of belonging and pride in the place they call home."

For more information, visit begreatnv.org.



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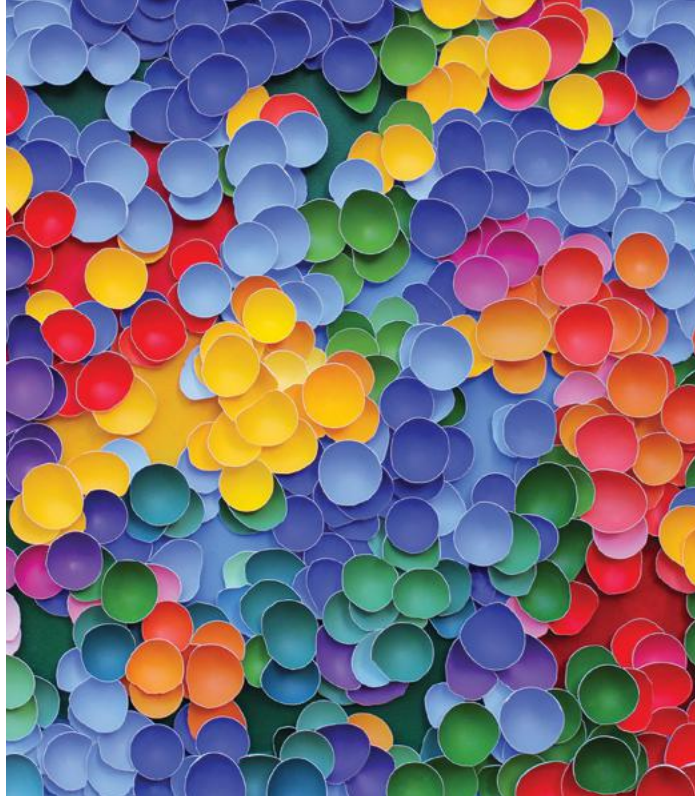
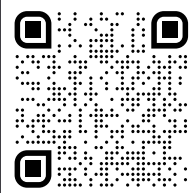
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RICHARD MACDONALD

Diana Earth & Moon, Third Life *bronze*

The mythological goddess of the light and of the moon, is a symbolic expression of the divine power, strength and grace of the feminine form. Diana stands confidently above the earth, while gracefully holding the moon in her hands. She is physically seductive and emotionally ethereal; solid as the earth and as mysterious as the moon.

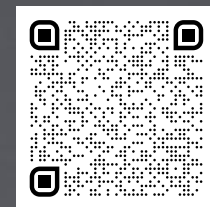
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Breaking Free

By Adam Joseph

FEATURE

Tune in to Bettina's Buzz

By Nora Heston Tarte

HEAL

Nature Cures

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Evoking Glamour of a Bygone Era

By Jessica Zimmer

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Photography Supporting Conservation

By Rebekah Moan

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History and Horses in Carmel Valley

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A Family Affair

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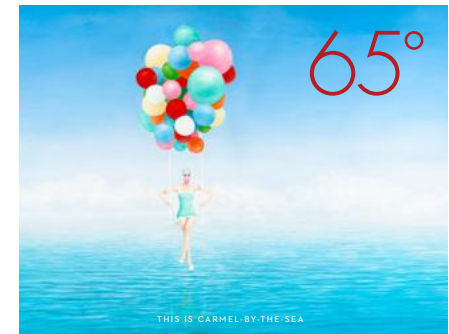
The Biggest Little Zoo

By Kimberly Ho

COMMUNITY

A Story to Savor

By Caitlin Fillmore



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Evoking Glamour of a Bygone Era

By Jessica Zimmer | Photos Courtesy of Dawson Cole Fine Art

Phoenix-born painter Elise Remender looks west for inspiration—specifically, to the pools of Southern California. Her “Bathing Beauties” series depicts colorful, sleek swimmers in tailor-made swimsuits flanked by bubbles, ripples, sweets, and butterflies. Her pieces blend Pop Art and classical fine art. Her vivid, surrealistic details echo those in the films *Willy Wonka and the Chocolate Factory* and *Alice in Wonderland* and the books from which those stories originated.

Audiences can find her works in The Ritz Carlton, San Francisco, the Hard Rock Hotel Las Vegas, and Hilton properties around the United States. Her paintings also hang in the homes of celebrity collectors Ryan Seacrest and Kylie Jenner. Locally, they are on display at the Carmel location of Dawson Cole Fine Art.

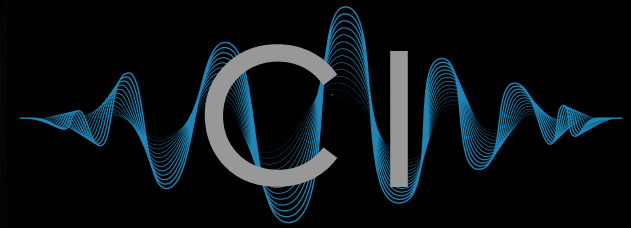
Remender loved swimming as a child. She has long been fascinated by the style of swimmer-actresses such as Esther Williams. “As a teenager, I used to browse thrift stores, looking for mid-century fashion magazines and clothes,” says Remender. “In 2008, I saw Alfred Hitchcock’s 1955 thriller *To Catch a Thief*, with Grace Kelly.”

Kelly’s cat-eye sunglasses and yellow halter-top one-piece caught Remender’s eye. “Soon, I hired friends and professional swimmers from Aqualillies, a water entertainment company, to pose for photos to use as sources,” she says.

Remender plans to continue creating works in a hyperrealistic style, gradually introducing elements of Impressionism. She uses a hybrid paint from Golden Artist Colors that allows her to create backgrounds similar to hazy, multitone watercolors. Her figures are opaque and glazed, looking like swimmers emerging from a pool.

The dessert-themed paintings of Bay Area artist Wayne Thiebaud inspire her, and she used to visit them at the San Francisco Museum of Modern Art. “His works encourage me to showcase a world that is exquisite and shows my sense of humor,” she says. “I, too, want to offer audiences surprise and bliss.”

For more information, visit carmel.dawsoncofineart.com.



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Starting at 1700 17-Mile Drive

Motorlux

(Formerly McCall Motor Works Revival)

196 Sky Park Drive, Monterey

Gooding & Company Pebble Beach Auction

3300 Potola Road, Pebble Beach

Thursday, August 15

Bonhams Quail Lodge Auction

8000 Valley Green Drive, Carmel

Rolex Monterey Motorsports Reunion

1021 Monterey Salinas Highway, Salinas

Legends of the Autobahn

Pacific Grove Golf Links

Monterey Jet Center Auction

300 Sky Park Drive, Monterey

Mecum Auction

1 Old Golf Course Road, Monterey

Ferrari Owners Club Concours Carmel

Downtown Carmel-by-the-Sea

Thursday, August 15

Pebble Beach Classic Car Forum

Concours Village, Pebble Beach

Prancing Ponies Car Show All Woman Car Show

Downtown Carmel-by-the-Sea

Pebble Beach Tour d'Elegance

Presented by Rolex

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Friday , August 16

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Mecum Auction

1 Old Golf Course Road, Monterey

Pebble Beach Classic Car Forum

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Gooding & Company Pebble Beach Auction

3300 Portola Road, Pebble Beach

Friday , August 16

Rolex Monterey Motorsports Reunion

1021 Monterey Salinas Highway, Salinas

Monterey Jet Center Auction

300 Sky Park Drive, Monterey

Werks Reunion

1250 Garden Road, Monterey

The Quail, Motorsports Gathering

8205 Valley Green Drive, Carmel

Pebble Beach Retro Auction

Lopez Road, Pebble Beach

Saturday , August 17

Mecum Auction

1 Old Golf Course Road, Monterey

Pebble Beach Classic Car Forum

Concours Village, Pebble Beach

RM Sotheby's Monterey

1 Potola Plaza, Monterey

Rolex Monterey Motorsports Reunion

1021 Monterey Salinas Highway, Salinas

Concours D' Lemon

440 Harcourt Avenue, Seaside

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Photo by Manny Espinoza





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Animals Pétillant Naturel
2021 Le Mistral Syrah

SECOND
American Diver Scallop,
Lemon-Butter, Bacon Bits
2007 Folk Tale Reserve Chardonnay

THIRD
Chouin Soup, Comte Cream
2021 Folk Tale Carbonic Sangre

FOURTH

FIFTH

SIXTH

Tonight's
Playlist



A Story to Savor

By Caitlin Fillmore | Photos Courtesy of Folktale Group

Greg Ahn has stories to tell. After working in museums, paper packaging, and the New York fashion industry, Ahn moved back to California and rediscovered his love of food and wine. Today, Ahn has crafted some of the most talked-about gathering places on the Monterey Peninsula.

Alongside his co-CEO and wife, Madigan, Ahn owns the Folktale Group, including Folktale Winery & Vineyards, the Seventh & Dolores Steakhouse (also known as 7D), and The Annex. “Carmel is again becoming a culinary epicenter,” says Ahn. “We’re super excited about all the things happening.”

The tranquil Folktale Winery & Vineyards in Carmel Valley opened in 2015. Ahn describes the winery as the Group’s heart and soul, akin to a town square. The estate spans 17 picturesque acres in Carmel Valley. In total, Ahn oversees 450 acres of wine grapes throughout Monterey County. The vineyards produce a range of varietals supported by the distinct terroir of the area, from the buttery Folktale Santa Lucia Highlands Reserve Chardonnay to a trio of pinot noirs. The 2021 Le Mistral Joseph’s Blend features notes of eucalyptus, bay, and oak—all locally abundant.

“What Folktale became was a place where stories are made and a definition of what is Monterey,” says Ahn. “That is still our mission in many ways.”

If Folktale Winery illustrates the Ahn aesthetic by day, then 7D, the upscale steakhouse, which opened in 2017 in Carmel-by-the-Sea, shows off the Ahns’ nighttime style. The couple hail from Los Angeles, which is represented in the restaurant’s slick, high-energy atmosphere. “That modern city vibe was something that we didn’t readily find in Carmel-by-the-Sea,” says Ahn. “When we had the opportunity, we wanted to create

that kind of space.”

The Annex, a 2023 addition to Folktale Group, is still writing its story. Located next door to 7D, the evolving concept evokes a clubhouse, combining the casual escape of the vineyard with expanded wine options and small bites from the steakhouse. “We’re going to play a lot this year with the The Annex,” says Ahn.

Telling the story of the wine-growing region serves as Ahn’s primary inspiration, but he also seeks to elevate other aspects of the area’s cultural history. “What people know of our community now is either outdated or very narrow,” he says. “The birth of the music festival was arguably Monterey County, but it’s hard to find venues. We have the longest-running jazz festival, but no jazz club. All of those things inspired us to buy this beautiful winery and bring these things back to life in a little way.”

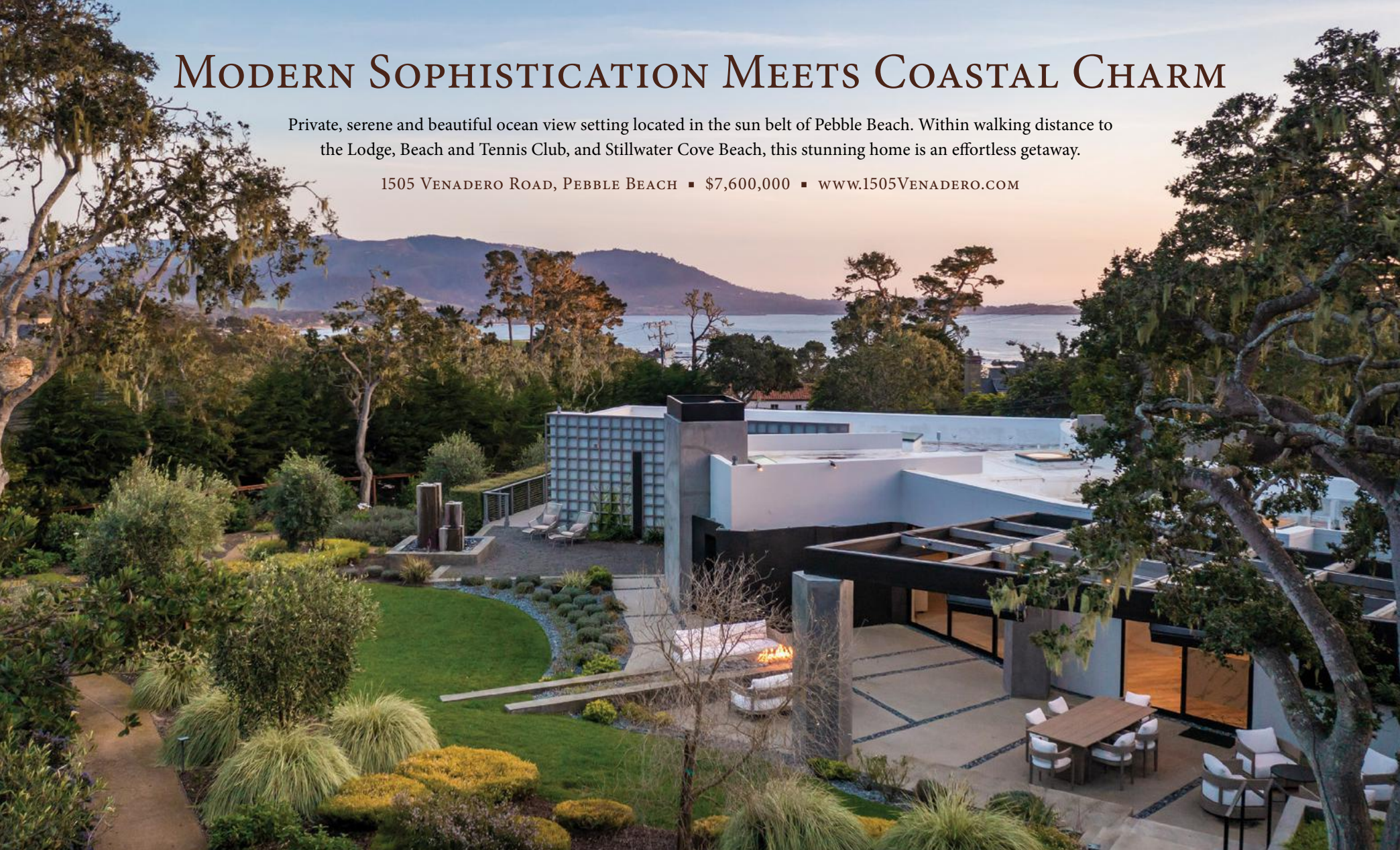
The lively Barrel Room anchors one side of Folktale Winery. This venue serves as a popular and unique space for concerts and local fundraisers. “We want to celebrate and support our local treasures and are very focused on our philanthropic activity in Monterey County exclusively,” says Ahn, who has hosted fundraisers for the Special Olympics, Big Sur wildfire relief, and Rancho Cielo, where he serves on the board of directors. “Our philosophy is that making our community better and stronger is good for business.”

For more information, visit folktalegroup.com.

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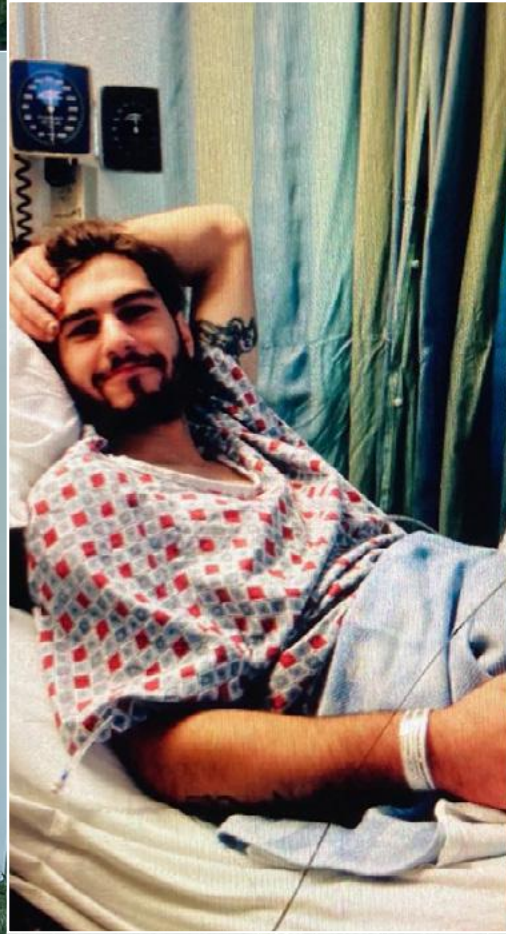
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Breaking Free

By Adam Joseph | Photos by Tristan Babaian

According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, in 2015, about 53,000 reported deaths in the United States were caused by drug overdoses. The 2023 data indicate a much higher incidence, at 106,000-112,000 deaths. Even with new legislation, more education, additional treatment options, and game-changing safeguards such as Narcan®, the ongoing worldwide uptick of opioid addiction, primarily with fentanyl, continues growing exponentially. No one is immune to its choke hold.

Monterey native Matt Babaian realized that he was a drug addict when he was 18 years old. “Drugs weren’t a party anymore,” Babaian, now age 32, says. “I needed to do [drugs] to get through the day.” During a 2013 hike near Toro Park, he broke his pelvis, and the injury ended up feeding his addiction. “[It] made things a lot worse because I was getting better drugs from the hospitals and the doctors,” he says. “By that time, I was heavy into opiates.”

The Monterey native mostly lived in his car and motels in the throes of his active addiction, when he was taking fentanyl, opiates, Xanax®, and whatever else he could get his hands on. A felony drug charge led to 10 months in county jail after missed court dates and probation violations. But Babaian wouldn’t stop using until he realized that his family and everyone he cared about had separated themselves from him. Another probation violation also meant that he was looking at more jail time.

Babaian had become a shell of who he used to be. “Drugs took away my soul,” he says. “I was on autopilot. I burned many bridges with my family during that time. My mom said, ‘If you’re gonna keep doing this, we’re gonna take a step back; we’re not going to watch you kill yourself.’”

September 14, 2020, was the last day that he used. With his mother’s assistance, he got into Sun Street Centers in Salinas, an inpatient rehab facility.

It took about three painful months of withdrawal for Babaian to detox from all the drugs on which his body had become dependent. “I’d go through the pain of [breaking my pelvis] five times over instead of going through that again,” he says. Today, he’s sober, has finished school, is driving, and is working as a heavy equipment operator in Colorado. He has a strong support group that includes his parents, brothers, and close friends.



Marta Sullivan, senior program officer of substance abuse services for Community Human Services in Monterey, says that there isn’t a magic bullet. Whether it’s been treated through a 12-step program such as Narcotics Anonymous or therapy, addiction is a disease that never goes away. “I’ve seen many people in the program relapse at 5 years, 10 years, or more,” she says. Sometimes, a perfect storm of emotional events can derail someone. It is one day at a time. We have to treat [addiction] like a brain injury, and we have to give people coping skills to manage it.”

Babaian approaches each day with determination. “At the end of the darkest tunnels there is always a light,” he says. “If you give yourself a chance, you might be surprised at what you can achieve. When you grow and learn you become a better person for yourself and for the people around you.”

For more information, visit chservices.org/substance-abuse.









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A Family Affair

By Adam Joseph | Photos Courtesy of Pelio Estate Wines

Sisters Lindsey and Shelby Pelio grew up in Los Gatos but spent most weekends with their parents in Carmel-by-the-Sea. They'd complained about the trips because they'd miss out on time with their friends. But those getaways came to foreshadow something more significant.

In 2000, the Pelio family purchased land on the other side of the highway in Carmel Valley. The sisters knew little about the area yet enjoyed the warmer weather and exploring the vast, mysterious expanse. No paved roads led to the property then, so getting there was an adventure. "You felt like you were going up a mountain," Shelby recalls. "It was just a dirt road and cows. We would roam around and spend a lot of time out there." The dusty land became home to unforgettable childhood memories. Lindsey learned to drive in an old Ford Explorer on those jagged roads and popped her first tire.

Initially, there were no plans for a vineyard, but a consultant surveyed the land and discovered that the soil was of the shale variety, ideal for growing Burgundian-style grapes. In 2006, the Pelios enlisted vintner legend Peter Figge—his Figge Cellars label is highly regarded. He got the Pelio vineyard going, growing chardonnay and pinot grapes that produce wines that are not overly buttery or oaky like wines of similar varieties.

Figge's sudden death in 2017 tasked Shelby and Lindsey, who had already taken over all vineyard operations, with finding someone equally talented. They brought on winemakers Greg and Chris Vita, a father-son team who have quietly built a solid reputation throughout Monterey County. Lindsey attributes their wines' unique flavor profiles to the soil, the peaks and valleys of the land, and proximity to the ocean; as the crow flies, Pelio is the closest vineyard in Carmel Valley to the Pacific, and the Vitas use that geography to their advantage. "We

rely heavily on [the Vitas] when it comes to winemaking style or any planting decisions," says Lindsey. "[Our wine] is light, slightly acidic, and crisp."

Production is limited, and Pelio is currently available only at the winery's new tasting room that opened in 2023 in Carmel Valley Village after an extensive remodel. It's an indoor-outdoor space that boasts the area's beauty, with couches for lounging and a firepit for more chilly days. "We want it to feel like you're just hanging out in someone's living room," says Lindsey.



The tasting menu features a Classic Tasting (rosé, chardonnay, and a pinot), a Comparative Tasting (rosé and two pinots) and a Vertical Tasting (all pinots). They're still tweaking the tasting menu and working on the label art for their first sparkling rosé, which may debut this spring.

Shelby and Lindsey also bring a funky vibe that isn't typically found in tasting rooms. Each of the three pergolas was customized with a rosé button that triggers a light in the kitchen when pushed. They're still brainstorming, but it'll probably be used for on-demand rosé orders.

"Lindsey and I decided to call [the winery] Pelio Estate because we aren't aware of any relatives that will carry on this last name," says Shelby. Lindsey was recently married, and Shelby is getting married this summer, so they see it as a way to honor the family name.

The vineyards, the wine, and the tasting room were all informed by Shelby's and Lindsey's childhood experiences on the land, playing hide-and-seek, climbing trees, and looking for wildlife. "Even now, we go there and act like kids again," says Shelby.

For more information, visit pelioestatewines.com.

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PHOTO

YVONNE WRIGHT







Photography Supporting Conservation

By Rebekah Moan | Photos by Yvonne Wright

Photographer Yvonne Wright thinks that birds are endlessly fascinating. “Birds connect us to the world,” she says. “Bird photography has allowed me to capture some of those moments of connection and feelings of incredible awe and amazement that I feel when observing them.”

Wright’s “spark bird,” which ignited her love of birding, was the Anna’s hummingbird, and she decided to try photographing them. At the time, she was working in nursing management at Kaiser Permanente Oakland Medical Center and wanted to take up a new hobby. “I’ve always been interested in nature photography but became more serious in 2019,” she shares.

Once the pandemic hit, Wright’s interest in birds accelerated because she was spending so much time outside. Also in January 2020, she and her husband moved to Monterey County, and she started volunteering with the Monterey Bay Aquarium, Point Lobos State Natural Reserve, and eventually the Snowy Plover Guardian Program.

When she learned that the western snowy plover population has been in decline for years, it ignited her love of conservation and visual storytelling. Wright wants to bring more attention and awareness to the environment and issues related to wildlife. “It’s made me realize how important it is to take care of this world we live in,” she says. “It’s led me on my journey to become a conservation photographer. My goal is not only to share images but also to use them to make an impact that matters—whether it’s a better appreciation of nature or to inspire hope or action.”

Wright shares the perspective of conservation biologist Thomas Lovejoy, who said, “If you take care of birds, you take care of most of the big problems of the world.” For her, that means using her prints in calendar fundraisers and donating her proceeds to benefit nonprofits. “There’s a lot of education we can do, and photos are just one way to inspire action,” she says.

For more information, visit yvonnepwright.com.

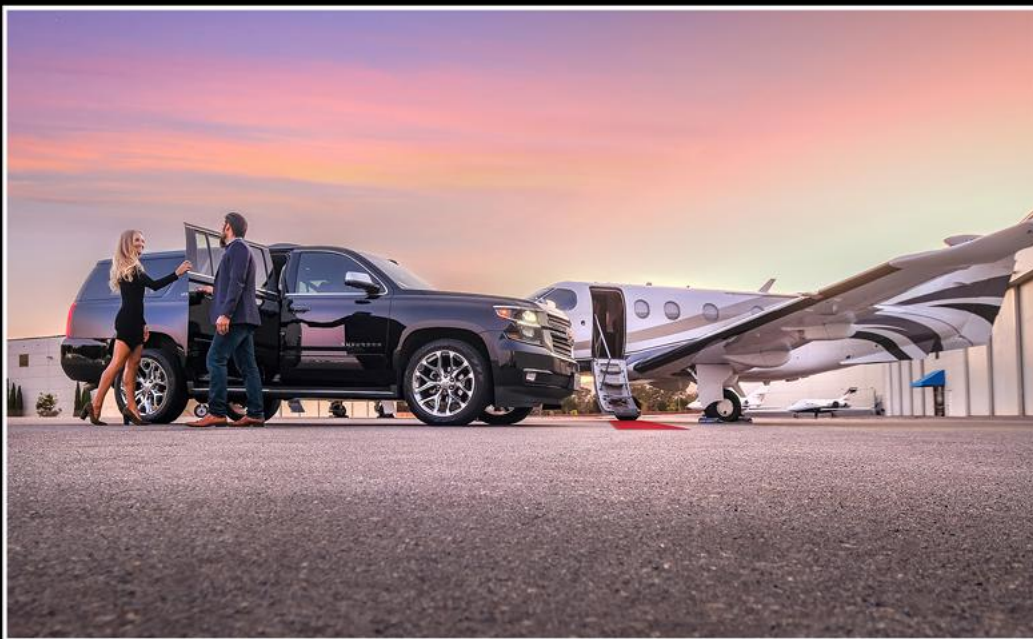


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Photos by Manny Espinoza





A Classical Tradition

By Jessica Zimmer | Photos by Manny Espinoza Photography

On March 16, the Monterey Symphony opened its doors to all members of the community for a lively, inclusive pre-party and concert, its sixth Women's Night Out. The annual event celebrates women and their achievements in business and the arts.

"Vibes" was the theme for the pre-party at Studio 105, with music spun by DJ Gwynneth of Monterey's Pearl Hour. The Italian discoteca theme was accentuated by décor that included disco balls, sequined fabrics, and gold lamé.

The subsequent two-hour, full symphony concert was held in the Sunset Center's main hall and featured artist Orli Shaham. The American pianist is known for her grace and subtlety in musicianship. She is also artistic advisor to the Pacific Symphony in Irvine.

The program included Mozart's Overture to Don Giovanni and Piano Concerto No. 20 in D minor. Additional works were George Walker's "Lyric for Strings" and the West Coast premiere of "Light Forming" written for Shaham by American composer David Robertson, who is also Shaham's husband.

Women's Night Out offers guests a relaxed atmosphere to dance, talk, and visit with proprietors of women-owned businesses in Carmel and Monterey Bay. Bakeries and wineries are represented, and makeup artists, and hairstylists frequently attend to share the best of their works. Past pre-parties have included gourmet bites, a roaming fashion show, and Tarot card readers.

"We want to make the Monterey Symphony a place for everyone," says Nicola Reilly, president and CEO of the Monterey Symphony. "The goal is to create an enjoyable experience and listen to wonderful music together." She thinks of Women's Night Out as an event for seasoned concertgoers as well as those who are new to classical music, and families and friends.

"This event brings a fresh burst of positive energy to our symphony hall," she says. "It's led to a strengthening of community across the Monterey Bay Peninsula."

For more information, visit montereysymphony.org.

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The Biggest Little Zoo

By Kimberly Horg | Photos Courtesy of Vision Quest Ranch

Charlie Sammut never imagined that working as a police officer in Seaside would lead to his life's calling. After arresting a man, he discovered that a pet cougar was living in the man's garage. He made a promise to the man that he would take care of the large cat, and that is how it all began.

Shortly thereafter, he ordered another large feline, a lion named Josef that melted his heart and eventually the hearts of millions. The mild-mannered animal gained so much trust that he gave piggy-back rides to Sammut's children, Justin and Briana.

Sammut's wife, Lisa, had to develop a special understanding that the animals are his top priority. He lived on site with the animals since the 1980s until recently, when he moved down the road (but is still with them seven days a week).

Between 1983 to 1994, Sammut trained animals for film. After adopting the abandoned cougar, he started buying animals and opened Wild Things—the original iteration of Vision Quest. He grew up around the Monterey Peninsula and didn't want to move, so he bought a special truck for the animals and commuted to Los Angeles when working on a film. He also performed stunts in movies with his animals, including doubling for Brendan Fraser in *George of the Jungle*, and he can be seen in scenes with Josef. Josef was also the model for *The Lion King*, and visitors can see pictures of actor James Earl Jones with Josef in the conservation's lobby.

Sammut's time in the movie industry helped him finance Vision Quest Ranch, a horse ranch in Salinas, where the animals are now housed. "Working in the entertainment industry made me dislike it, so when I decided to give it up, I asked myself, 'What do I do with all these animals that has meaning?' The answer: education and conservation," he said.

He spent two years and millions of dollars in repairs and remodels—the paths and guardrails have been redone, as well as the landscaping—and in

2020, Vision Quest Ranch became an accredited zoo with the Zoological Association of America (ZAA).

The animals have not only bigger but better enclosures. They are also paired with other animals as part of what Sammut calls a "can't we all get along campaign." "Mixing species creates better mental stimulation for the animals," he says. "We have to be conscious of how they feel, and I think it is good for them to interact with different species, like out in the wild."

Visitors can see three rhinos, two breeds of zebras, water buffaloes, and blue wildebeest on a five-acre savannah exhibit that just won an award for best design from the ZAA. Sammut designs exhibits on the computer and then makes them come to life by building and welding them himself. The zoo is sprinkled with lion cutouts and memorabilia of Josef, who lived to be 23 years old and is permanently resting at the zoo. The 51-acre ranch also offers overnight stays in bungalows—private suites with all the amenities from home. Guests also get special visits from some of the ambassador animals—they are often walked around the zoo for people to meet and learn more about. There are also animals outside the zoo for visitors to see—everything from alpacas, llamas, and camels to donkeys and goats.

In the future, Sammut wants to bring giraffes to the zoo and anticipates developing five acres for them. He also has plans for food trucks to park on the property to sell local delicacies.

Sammut considers Josef the true founder of his first animal business. "Our lives were blessed and made better for having met such a special being," he says. "I believe in another place . . . where we will be reunited and never separated again."

For more information, visit visionquestranch.com.



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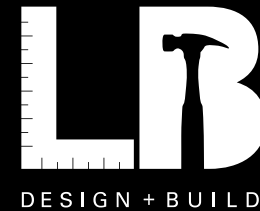


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Nature Cures

By Andrea Stuart | Photos by Manny Espinoza Photography

The pestle moves in a circular motion around the mortar, each rotation releasing aromatics, as herbalist Bonnie Burns crushes leaves and petals into fine granules. “Herbs work at a cellular level,” she says, “yet their potency can vary, from subtle nourishment to powerful effects, depending on their method of use and dosage.”

Burns embraces the slow, mindful practices that transform herbs into therapeutic compounds. When sourcing herbs for her new boutique apothecary, Earth Cura, in Carmel-by-the-Sea, she focuses on local, certified organic, fair-trade, sustainable plants that come from farms that share her values. From teas and internal remedies to hair and skin care, aromatherapy, bath and beauty, and candles, her products remain free of harmful pesticides and additives. Her process also guarantees that her business supports companies that care about soil, the planet, product quality, and the impacts of their businesses on the environment.

“Herbalism honors the slow and mindful path,” she says of choosing a career in herbalism. “It’s not easy, but it’s a beautiful reminder of how our current life is about convenience.”

Burns chose to open Earth Cura in Carmel-by-the-Sea in part to pay tribute to the creative spirit imbued in the small city’s bones. “Carmel has a history of attracting artists and resident artists,” she says. “In addition to making herbal products, I make jewelry. So, the space also serves as a workshop and studio for me.”

This new location gives customers an opportunity to have a conversation with the maker. While shopping, they can see where the products come from and watch the artist in process. “It’s important that we know these things so we can live sustainably and healthily,” she says.

Burns understands that most of us are busy with jobs and families, so we turn to neighbors for that which we haven’t mastered or procured ourselves. With Earth Cura, Burns provides clean, eco-friendly products to a community that wants to stay connected to nature.

For more information, visit earthcuraapothecary.com.



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STONEPINE ESTATE







History and Horses in Carmel Valley

By Trevor Felch | Photos Courtesy of Stonepine Estate

At the far eastern edge of Carmel Valley, just past Carmel Valley Village's tasting rooms and shops, it's as if there's nothing but endless, untouched California wilderness. But there is a hidden, spectacular exception residing just across the Carmel River from Carmel Valley Road: the magnificent Stonepine Estate.

Sprawling Gilded Age estates may seem more prevalent on the East Coast. One such notable estate was Vizcaya, a Miami masterpiece by architect Francis Burrall Hoffman Jr. He also designed an exquisite mansion on the West Coast that might possibly be the Monterey Peninsula's most under-the-radar luxury getaway destination today.

Stonepine Estate resides on over 400 acres of stunning California landscape filled with its namesake trees, plus abundant oaks and wildlife. Unlike fellow historic estates such as Filoli, Vizcaya, or The Breakers in Newport, Rhode Island, Stonepine isn't a museum; it's a place to play, unwind, and relax in modern-day Carmel Valley. "Staying at Stonepine is more than just a stay," says Nick Hentschel, whose parents, Noel and Gordon, acquired the property in 1983. "It's an immersive experience, largely shaped by the land itself. The property is situated in the most prime portion of Carmel Valley."

The focus is on enjoying a secluded retreat. Stonepine guests can choose how much assistance they would like to make their stay or event special. "The format of the accommodations is really ideal for corporate retreats, family reunions, and, of course, weddings," says Hentschel. "That's not only because of the picturesque backdrops but also due to the very personalized approach that we take with our guests."

Sixteen suites are available in the four homes and cottages across the property: the main Chateau Noel (which looks more like a Tuscan villa, design-wise, than a chateau), the English cottage-evoking Briar Rose, the French countryside-style Hermes House, and the New England-inspired Paddock House by the equestrian facilities. "What makes Stonepine distinct is that it is both intimate and expansive," says Hentschel. "There are many very intimate spaces that have an interesting history, like the prohibition-era hidden speakeasy bar behind the

library [in Chateau Noel]." The estate dates back to 1929, with splendid design touches rarely used in contemporary construction, including the Chateau's thick concrete walls for superb insulation and elegant oak panels in the dining room and library.

Beyond the architecture and suites, the property is filled with history and opportunities for enjoying the great Central Coast outdoors. Stonepine was originally called Double H Ranch, named for its original owners (Helen Crocker and Henry Potter Russell) and its early days as a horse-centric place. "[Russell] was a founder and the first president of the California Thoroughbred Breeders Association, and raising thoroughbreds was his passion," says Hentschel. "The equestrian facility the couple built hosted Kentucky Derby winners like Majestic Prince, Countess Nashville, and Bolero Lady and has played host to international polo challenges and film shoots." Today, the equestrian center is used mainly by people who board their horses at the estate. Carriage rides with Stonepine's own horses are also a special feature that ties weddings at the estate with its ranching roots.

The Carmel Valley sunshine invites guests to enjoy the miles of trails on the property. A dozen gardens, a waterfall, and a resort-style pool are situated around Chateau Noel. This bucolic corner of California offers ample opportunity to enjoy outdoor activities, including tennis, volleyball, archery, croquet, picnics, and garden chess. A pale yellow 1963 Rolls-Royce Phantom V on property, originally a maharaja's car, can provide a unique entrance for a bride and groom. Its presence reinforces Stonepine's owners' reverence for classic cars. Over the years, the estate has served as an exclusive location for new car reveals during Pebble Beach Concours d'Elegance.

Whether visiting for a wedding or a weekend with friends to escape the stress of daily life, every stay at Stonepine Estate is a celebration of Carmel Valley history and California's sweeping natural beauty.

For more information, visit stonepineestate.com.





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Tune in to Bettina's Buzz

By Nora Heston Tarte | Photo by Manny Espinoza Photography

Those who listen to the radio may be familiar with Bettina McBee's voice. The mass communications and photojournalism alumna has enjoyed a long career that's included spinning records as a Sunday morning DJ for the contemporary jazz show KMBY Jazz Transit, being an on-air personality with Reggae Connections at that station, and serving as DJ at Pacific Grove public radio station KAZU.

Her most recent job involves interviewing locals on Santa Cruz Voice, an online streaming local news and talk radio station with more than 30 broadcasters on board. Her show, *Bettina's Buzz*, introduces the audience to movers and shakers in the Santa Cruz community and beyond, including Natalie Johnston, a certified California naturalist with the Monarch Sanctuary in Pacific Grove, model/actor and Brad Pitt look-alike Coty Burnett, artist Richard MacDonald, and former San Francisco Mayor Willie Brown.

Started in September 2023, the show plays live each Saturday from 11 a.m. to noon. "I've enjoyed all my guests," she says, reminiscing about the funny quips and voice impressions made by Burnett and exploring the importance of positivity with NASCAR driver Jesse Iwuji. "Radio is fun!" she exclaims. "I've found that people who work in radio love it and love sharing their talents [and skills] with each other to help each other have a good show."

At Santa Cruz Voice, McBee is in good company. This includes other program managers streaming local news and hosts of a variety of themed talk shows, all as part of a collective effort that prioritizes local issues. Michael Olson, host of Food Chain Radio, is one of the founders of the station, and Brian Thomas hosts *Overschooled, Undereducated*.

While McBee landed in radio early in her career, it's not the only medium in which she is experienced. She first received her bachelor's in mass communications from San José State University in 1981, and after graduation, she took a job with the San Jose Chamber of Commerce, writing and taking pictures for its business news publication.

A move back to the peninsula jumpstarted her career in the radio industry. Her position as an office assistant for KMBY/KNZS radio eventually led to on-air jobs. She later enrolled in graduate courses at the Academy of Art College in

San Francisco with an emphasis on motion pictures and videos and started contributing to this publication, *65°* and *57° Magazine*, holding that gig for nearly a decade.

"I love the mission of the station, which is to give locals the spotlight," says McBee, "SantaCruzVoice.com gave me a voice!" Playing host to a talk show is a bit different than being a radio DJ, and McBee calls it challenging and creative. Her favorite part is finding guests to interview on the show. She teases a couple of people to join her, including Michael "Kidd Funkadelic" Hampton, who was lead guitarist of the legendary musical group Parliament-Funkadelic. And she hopes her passion for the project transfers to listeners.

"As well as share topics that are interesting to me, I hope listeners look forward to Saturday mornings on SantaCruzVoice.com," says McBee. "This area has so much to offer, in its beauty and its people."

For more information, visit [SantaCruzVoice.com](https://www.santacruzvoice.com).





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TEJIDO

Passion for Fashion

By Timothy J. Narup

Fashion-forward Sylvieann Vidal has owned and curated Sylvie Unique Boutique, a small store in Carmel-by-the Sea, since 2004. Studying fashion design in San Francisco and obtaining her degree, Vidal has developed her creative flair by incorporating an artistic outlook and a fashion sense into impeccable handmade lines. She sources top-quality materials from Italy, Denmark, Croatia, and the best clothing and accessories from small design houses in Europe, Israel, and the United States.

Vidal elevates the shopping experience by working with designers, including Igor and Xenia Design. She's excited to offer walk-in and by appointment shopping opportunities, during which customers obtain a full experience of designer fashion lines by Amma, Kedem Sasson, Monies, mSquare, Suzi Roher, Zzan Jewelry, and Vidal's labels Sylvie and Her Personal Shirt. Sylvie Unique Boutique prides itself on paying special attention to every detail, providing customers with an unforgettable experience, catering to their needs, and answering any questions they may have about the designer fit.

Sylvie Unique Boutique is hosting a trunk show in the spring, when it will display designer handmade jewelry, a must-shop event for those with appreciation for one-of-a kind, wearable art.

For more information, visit sylvieuniqueasyoucarmel.com.

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Carmel-by-the-Sea



A Unique Carmel Sartorial Experience

By Rebekah Moan

Augustina's on Ocean Avenue in downtown Carmel-by-the-Sea features coats, sportswear, belts and buckles, incredible jewelry, and the largest selection of Herno jackets ranging from size 38 to 54. If you don't find what you're looking for at Augustina's, it can be ordered. The boutique has always focused on providing unique special designs, according to owner Tracy Delaney Odle.

Stunning jewelry collections include Buccellati, Sylva & Cie, Paul Morelli, and many more. Odle is proud to announce that she will be showcasing gorgeous, distinctive styles from Sylva & Cie at Bernardus Lodge & Spa starting this spring.

Odle and her team love adorning customers with beautiful jewelry and the latest trends. While clients are perusing the boutique, they can enjoy a glass of champagne. "When someone walks into Augustina's, we want to create a fun experience they will enjoy and remember," says Odle.

Private appointments are available. Whether someone is looking for a new dress or a new wardrobe, Odle is happy to accommodate any appointment time. And if the client's schedule doesn't allow time for a visit, then the new window display, which is changed several times a week, can be viewed while driving past the store.

With new styles coming in weekly, there's always something new to find at Augustina's. Watch for monthly pop-up events to see new designers and collections that can't be missed.

For more information, visit augustinaleathers.com.

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Creating Personalized Looks

By Rebekah Moan

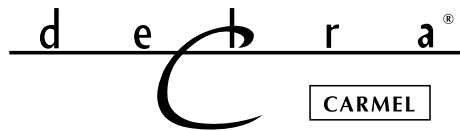
When Debra Couch first moved to Carmel-by-the-Sea, people stopped her in the street, wanting to know where she purchased her clothes. She told them, “My store in Beverly Hills,” and they responded, “Why don’t you open one here?” So she did.

Since 2012, Couch has carried high-end clothing at her 4,000-square-foot store, Debra C. Most of the clothes are private-label originating in France and Italy. However, the store also carries designers such as Amina Rubinacci, Bogner, Kiton, Piazza Sempione, and Via Masini 80, to name a few.

What sets Debra C apart from other stores is that all the looks coordinate—a cashmere sweater will be paired with a coordinating jacket and matching pants, so that customers are encouraged to purchase not one piece but an entire outfit. It’s a tactic that apparently works, as Debra C won the 2023 “Best Women’s Clothing Boutique” in the crowdsourced awards from the Carmel Pine Cone and the paper’s 2021 “Best Place to Buy Designer Clothes.”

Another unique feature of the store is that all its sales associates are stylists, so they are equipped to coordinate looks. “It’s not just a matter of picking out a pair of pants,” says Couch. “Someone is going to help make the look a total look.” Creating that look means more than just clothing, which is why Debra C also carries handbags and accessories.

For more information, visit debrac.com.



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More Than Customers

By Rebekah Moan

Tracy Delaney Odle considers the people who shop at her high-end, luxury establishment, Augustina's Designer Boutique, more as friends than customers. When she travels to New York City or Paris for market purposes, she shops with certain people in mind. "I call them and say, 'I bought this dress for you. Would you like to see it?'" she says. Invariably, the answer is yes.

Augustina's Designer Boutique focuses on dresses for customers who lunch as well as for special occasions. Designers include Oscar de la Renta and Rabanne, along with many others from around the world, and the store is the exclusive carrier on the Monterey Peninsula for Chiara Boni La Petite Robe.

"We believe in head-to-toe dressing," says Odle. "You'll find a dress, purse, and shoes for a fabulous outfit." With so many designers, customers will not only find special occasion dresses but also hand-knitted cashmere sweaters from Iris von Arnim, shoes by Jimmy Choo, and handbags from Wandler. "We have a really wonderful time dressing people," she says, no matter who comes in and what they need.

The boutique brings in new collections weekly, and designers are always being added, so there's always something new to see. When customers walk in the door, they are greeted by name and served champagne for the ultimate memorable experience. For those who cannot visit during store hours, the boutique is open for private appointments. "You can never make everybody happy," says Odle, "but my team and I will try harder than anybody, anywhere."

For more information, visit augustinasdesignerboutique.com.

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WANDLER

Tejido Collective Draws People In

By Rebekah Moan

Tejido (pronounced teh-hee-doe) Collective started as Tejido, an artisan design house collaborating with master craftswomen and fair-trade knitting cooperatives in Peru. Launched in 2013 as a wholesale brand, its seasonal collections were shown in New York City and Los Angeles.

The knitwear collections take inspiration from nature, with a focus on sustainable fibers, textural stitches, and classic silhouettes. “Our mission is to preserve the Indigenous tradition of handmade textiles through our sustainable and natural fiber collection of easy-to-wear knits, accessories, and home textiles,” says Taira Hustedt, who co-owns the company with Shanti Rackley. “We always use ecologically mindful yarns and low-impact or natural dye.”

Tejido evolved and opened its flagship store in 2020 in Carmel Valley. The brand added new makers and artisans, thus becoming Tejido Collective, supporting the original pillars of artisan, sustainable, and handmade. The store was so successful that, in 2021, Rackley and Hustedt expanded with a second, larger store in Carmel-by-the-Sea.

“The immediate success of our tiny but mighty Valley shop gave us the confidence that a bigger, more visible location would be just as successful if not more, so we took a big leap of faith,” says Rackley.

It was a smart move, because Tejido Collective has experienced exponential growth over the last two years, not only as a store but also as a space for community to gather and find products that align with the collective’s three pillars. “People just love being in the space,” says Rackley “People always comment that they can feel the good energy when they walk in.”

The website will soon have e-commerce capability.

For more information, visit tejidocollective.com.



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Timeless Fashion, Modern Appeal

By Rebekah Moan

Since a young age, Sonya Watkins dreamt of opening a boutique. After graduating with a degree in product development from the Fashion Institute of Design & Merchandising, she pursued hands-on experience in retail. In 2017, she was inspired to open her first boutique, Jade Allen Boutique, in Capitola.

“We continued to grow our business and opened our second location in Aptos in 2021,” she says. “Jade Allen wanted to expand our clientele and opened our newest addition in the pristine destination Carmel-by-the-Sea.”

As spring is just on the horizon, there is excitement for creating an effortless and chic wardrobe that complements warmer weather, including soft linen, luxurious silks, airy dresses, and timeless pieces. Watkins has partnered with brands such as Autumn Cashmere, Le Jean, Éterne, EKD Collections, and Bec + Bridge to offer casual and elevated pieces suitable for work, events, celebrations, and everything in between.

“At Jade Allen, we have everything from relaxed loungewear to upscale dresses,” says Watkins. “We will be adding emerging new designers to our current selection that offer long skirts, matching sets, and a variety of denim styles.” In addition, Jade stylists strive to meet their clients' fashion needs with curated looks for every body. “We create an atmosphere that is friendly and fashion-forward with an enthusiastic environment,” she adds.

For more information, visit jadeallentboutique.com or follow [@jadeallentboutique](https://www.instagram.com/jadeallentboutique).

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Preserving Monterey Peninsula History

By Amanda Corr | Photos Courtesy of Barbara Briggs-Anderson

When Barbara Briggs-Anderson married into the family of famed Monterey Peninsula photographer Julian P. Graham, she was unfamiliar with his work. Since then, she has created and curates the Julian P. Graham Historical Photographic Collection—the largest online archive of the photographer’s work, providing everyone, from researchers to golf fanatics, unfettered visual access to a golden age in Peninsula history.

Between the time Julian P. Graham was hired by Samuel F. B. Morse in 1924 to take photos for Del Monte Properties and other projects and his death in 1963, he took over 41,500 photographs of life on the Monterey Peninsula. To promote Peninsula real estate and club memberships for Monterey Peninsula Country Club and Cypress Point Club, Graham was tasked with capturing celebrities, political figures, and professional golfers enjoying everything the area had to offer. During his free time, however, he documented less glamorous aspects of the region, such as the canning and produce industries, providing future generations with a decades-long yearbook of those who left their mark on the Monterey Peninsula, regardless of social status.

By 2004, Briggs-Anderson had come into possession of 26,000 prints and negatives taken by Graham and went about making them publicly accessible on her website, Loon Hill Studios, named for a beach near her home in Santa Barbara County. By the time she had uploaded around 3,000 images, she had been contacted by interested parties from all over the world. “It’s thrilling,” she says. “I’ve learned so much, just helping people find whatever it is they are looking for.”

Briggs-Anderson has also written four e-books: *Salvador Dali’s A Surrealistic Night in an Enchanted Forest* (2012), *Pebble Beach Road Races in the Forest 1950–1956* (2017), *Marion Hollins, Her California Life in 158 Photos* (2021), and *Dr. Alister MacKenzie in 97 Photos 1926–1934* (2021), the last of which Briggs-Anderson has revised multiple times to include newly discovered photos.

Various organizations enjoy access to the collection as well. The United States Golf Association recently purchased two photos of Marion Hollins for its new museum and library in New Jersey.

Thanks to Briggs-Anderson’s preservation efforts, Graham’s life’s work can be viewed in countless publications, online websites, television broadcasts, and museum exhibits, allowing everyone around the world to experience the history of the Monterey Peninsula.

For more information, visit loonhill.com or julianpgraham.com.



FEATURE

BARBARA BRIGGS-ANDERSON

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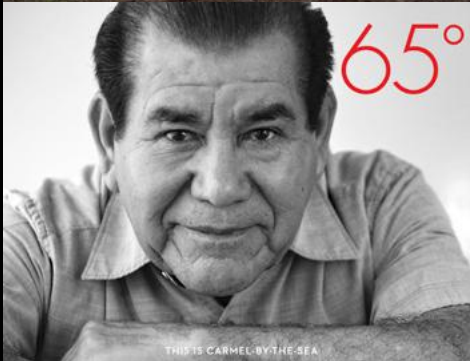
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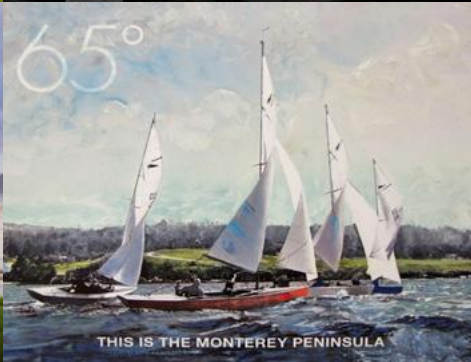
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