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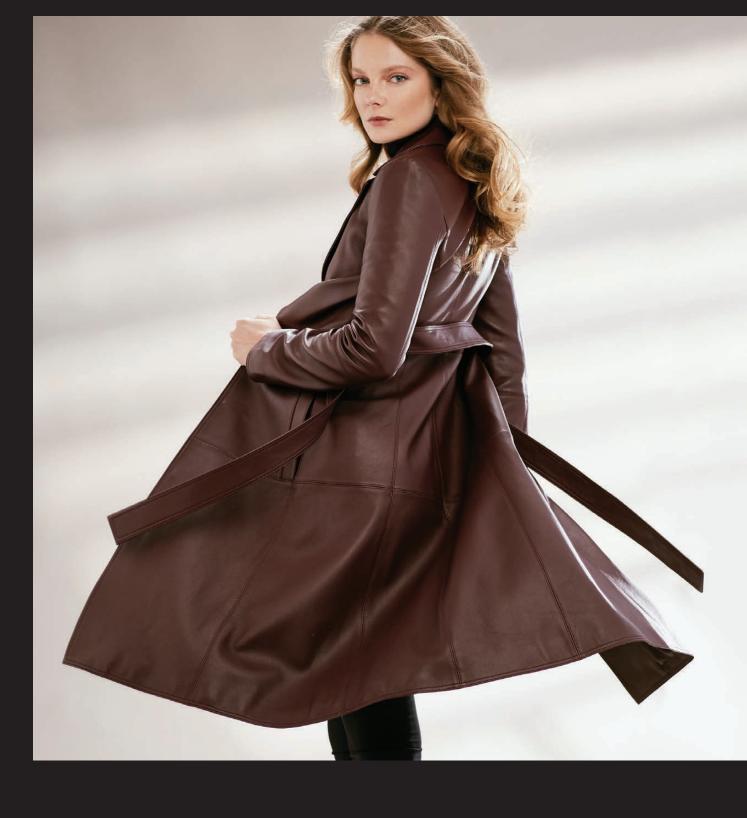
by NIGAAM JEWELS

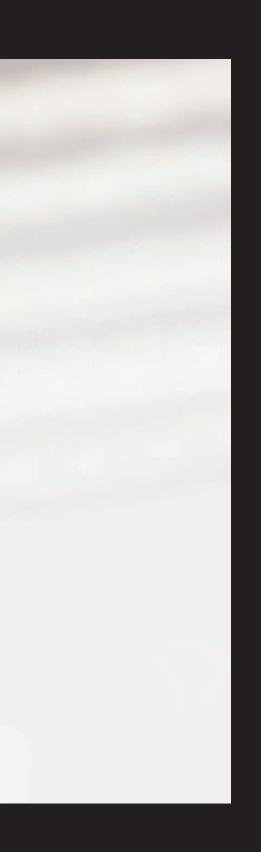
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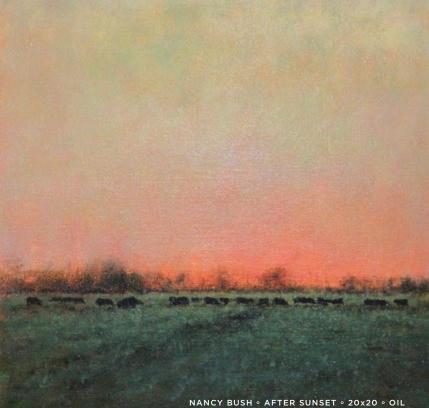
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Jamie L. Wallace Registered Client Service Associate 210-805-1029 jamie.wallace@ubs.com

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102. ROME IS WHERE THE HEART IS

Rome, the cradle of civilization, is always the perfectly classic European city to visit. From discovering its hipper side to embracing its centuries-old pedigree of chic, try on these fun travel suggestions for size. **By Rob Giardinelli**

Photography by Shutterstock, Archival

110. GRIT & GRANDEUR

The Iron Orchard is a film that could become a modern classic. Join us as we go on location to see what the new *Giant*-esque cinematic effort is all about... with its period splendor.

By Lance Avery Morgan

Photography by Zach Campbell and Mathieu Plainfossé

118. SERIOUSLY CHIC The strong and fashionable tie between designer

The strong and fashionable tie between designer Norman Norell and his clients in Texas is legendary. Here's a look at the mid-century's flawlessly enduring fashion and how you can embrace it with your own personal style.

By Gordon Kendall

Photography courtesy of Museum of the Fashion Institute of Technology, Zach Hilty, The University of Indiana Archives



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It takes a village to create this magazine and our digital media platform, TheSocietyDiaries. com. Here's a look at some of the many talented dynamos who make it happen as we dive into the fall social season.

32. EDIT

Editor-in-Chief and Creative Director Lance Avery Morgan is ready for cooler weather and here's how he sees it unfolding, from the past, present and future.

34. CURATE

Looking for more culture as fall cools down? Take a look at some our state's finest museums and cultural institutions in the country, according to our arts arbiter Jonathan Spindel.

38. INDULGE

Feeling more 80s yet? Our fashion insider Tori Johnson is loving the 80s redux with glam polka dots that you'll soon be seeing everywhere around you.

40. BEHAVE

Of course, Ms. Modern Manners Sharon Schweitzer, JD has all the answers to your current social conundrums... she's always steering us on the right path.

42. REVEAL

Miss Texas America 2018 and Dallasite Madison Fuller is ready to set the world gorgeously ablaze, as well as the Miss America competition this month.

44. BEAUTIFY

Think outside the pretty box. Our beauty insider Ana Bribiesca recommends the coolest new makeup trends for the season.

46. RECALL

Austinite Lori Duran shares the roots of quaint old Austin locales that will never be forgotten.

50. QUEST

We've collaborated with Rob Giardinelli and ModXMan.com to learn about some of the hot new men's insider trends for the stylish fall season ahead.



52. DISCOVER

Our editorial style setters Lance Avery Morgan (Austin), Cynthia Smoot (Dallas), Jennifer Roosth (Houston) and Eleanora Leeper Morrison (San Antonio) are always on the scene with their favorite new finds across the state.

56. CELEBRATE

San Antonio continues to celebrate the grand Tricentennial celebration that is taking the state by storm.

58. PROMOTE MARKETPLACE

A look at the new events, people, places, and things that have been happening across the state.

66. ENDEAVOR

Meet some of the up and coming professionals in our state.

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72. PARIS, Gatsby Geerts, Loretta Lazar and Michael Lee



79. SAN ANTONIO, Bonnie Muecke, Meredith Howard and Linda Gail Dullnig



84. DALLAS, Joyce Goss and Kenny Goss



88. AUSTIN, Bobbi Topfer, Lynne and Stuart Sargent & Mort Topfer

HOST

ENTRANCE: ARRIVAL

68. SAN ANTONIO The OPERA San Antonio event

INVITE 72. PARIS The American Friends of Versailles gala

SPECTATE 79. SAN ANTONIO The Texas Biomedical Forum gala

ENTRANCE 84. DALLAS The MTV/Goss-Michael Foundation gala

> **88. AUSTIN** The Zachary Scott Theatre gala

90. HOUSTON The Houston Symphony gala

92. SAN ANTONIO The San Antonio Museum of Art gala

94. DALLAS The Emmitt and Pat Smith gala

96. AUSTIN The St. David's Foundation events

> **98. HOUSTON** The Astros Team Up event

100. SAN ANTONIO The Le Chapeau luncheon

ARRIVAL 126. SAN ANTONIO The Blue Star Contemporary event

130. AUSTIN The Contemporary Austin's dinner

ARRANGE

Senior Social Editor Rob Giardinelli recommends the very best events from across the state for you to support.



90. HOUSTON, David and Claudia Hatcher



94. DALLAS, Bishop TD and Serita Jakes & Pat and Emmitt Smith



96. AUSTIN, Bill and Venus Strawn



98. HOUSTON, Kara and Lance McCullers



100. SAN ANTONIO, Louella Carr, Sharron Batchelor and Jan Gignac

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EDITOR-IN-CHIEF & CREATIVE DIRECTOR Lance Avery Morgan

GRAPHIC DESIGN October Custom Publishing Torquil Dewar, Shelley Lai, Monica Valenzuela

> DIGITAL DIRECTOR Eleanora Morrison

SENIOR SOCIAL EDITOR Rob Giardinelli

ASSOCIATE EDITORS Tori Johnson, Jennifer Roosth, Jonathan Spindel, Rose Betty Williams

WRITERS

Ana Bribiesca Lori Duran Jake Gaines Rob Giardinelli Jason Grosgrain Tori Johnson Gordon Kendall Lance Avery Morgan Eleanora Morrison Jennifer Roosth Sharon Schweitzer Cynthia Smoot Jonathan Spindel

PHOTOGRAPHERS

Whitney Arostegui Megan Kyle Bennett Zach Campbell Chris Cantoya CatchLight Group Jenny Anthil Clifton Brian Fitzsimmons Thomas Garza Robert Godwin Greg Harrison Zach Hilty Korey Howell Daniel Ortiz Charles Quinn Photography Wilson Parish Barbara Perlick Mathieu Plainfossé Anthony Rathbun Super Q Photography Michelle Watson

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Natalie Bond Bloomingdale – Los Angeles Paul Bradshaw – London John Danielson – Washington, D.C. Luis Rubén de Borbón – New York

NATIONAL AND REGIONAL ADVERTISING Rossana Leeper, Associate Publisher Rossanaleeper@gmail.com 210.861.3324

U.S. CUSTOMER SERVICE MANAGER/SUBSCRIPTIONS Montserrat Chavez 210.338.8521

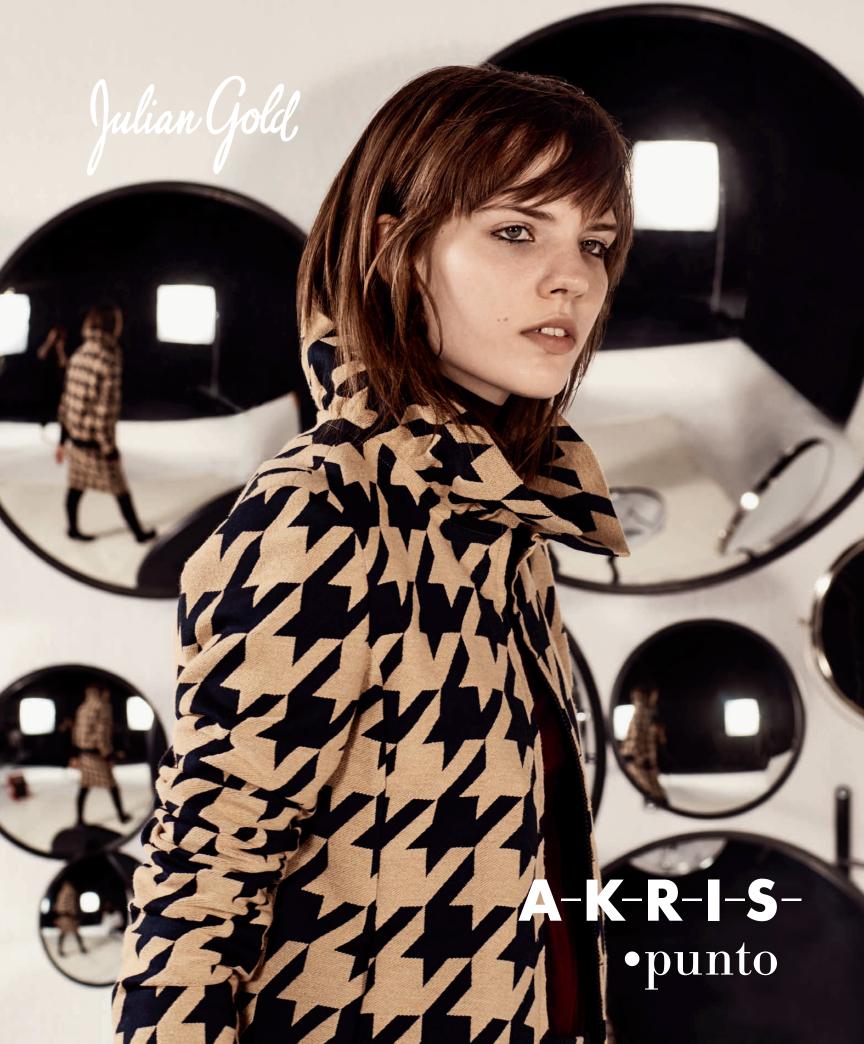
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COVER: This month's cover takes us to experience all the glories of glamorous Rome, the Eternal City. PUBLISHED BY

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CONTRIBUTE

ANA BRIBIESCA

Writer and enthusiast of all things beauty, fashion, travel and healthy living-related, our Beautify contributor Ana Bribiesca is currently working in the higher education non-profit sector and in launching AnaBribs.com, a lifestyle blog where she plans to share her passions, experiences, tips and sneak peeks inside her life hoping to share large doses of inspiration.



TORQUIL DEWAR

Torquil Dewar is the founder of October Custom Publishing. Originally from Scotland, he can claim to be the world's first-time traveler after moving from London, England in 2001 to Peoria, Illinois in 1978 (at least that's what it felt like). As an art director for a wide variety of magazines and books, he also publishes a current events magazine for the Austin area called The Austinite.

ROB GIARDINELLI

Certified professional life coach and branding expert by day, social commentator by night and author of the book Being In The Room (available at Amazon.com), Senior Social Editor Rob Giardinelli is a man of many interests. In this issue he helms the cover story on Rome as well as social chronicling. Giardinelli himself is involved with several philanthropies and loves sharing how Texans so generously and passionately give back to the community they love, while he weaves interesting social commentary that showcases the many who work tirelessly to raise awareness of important issues in the state.



TORI IOHNSON

Our stylish contributor Tori Johnson, who helms our Indulge feature in this issue is the owner of sTORIbook Public Relations and is a fashion and lifestyle blogger of ThesTORIbook.com. She is also a successful commercial and editorial stylist. Johnson has been voted San Antonio Fashion Blogger of the Year and has worked with a bevy of top names including Neiman Marcus, Nordstrom, Lancôme, Armani Exchange, and many more.



LORI DURAN

With a Bachelor of Arts in History, and a Master's Degree that combined Latin American Studies with MBA classes from the University of Texas, Lori Duran researches interesting historical stories about social changes. This has been her life-long passion and her past research has been included in other writers' published articles and books. Now she is writing freelance articles for publication, like this month's Retreat piece on five-star New Orleans, and she is also writing a pictorial book about the history of Austin's Travis Heights neighborhood that will be released in October 2018.



JAKE GAINES

Whether finding the best restaurant

in Venice overlooking the canals or

taking a private tour of the Queen's

art collection at Buckingham, cultural enthusiast and arbiter Jake Gaines, a native Texan, is on the go. Our very own James Bond

on the social scene, he will gladly

wield his saber to pop open a bottle

of Champagne before advancing

into a masked ball. His motto?

Bring your passport and tuxedo

since one never knows what can

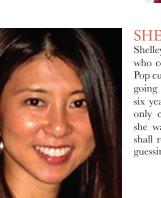
happen. He's a handy extra man

at a dinner party and is known for

his disappearing tablecloth trick.

When in doubt, he recommendseveryone into the pool for a midnight game of Marco Polo.



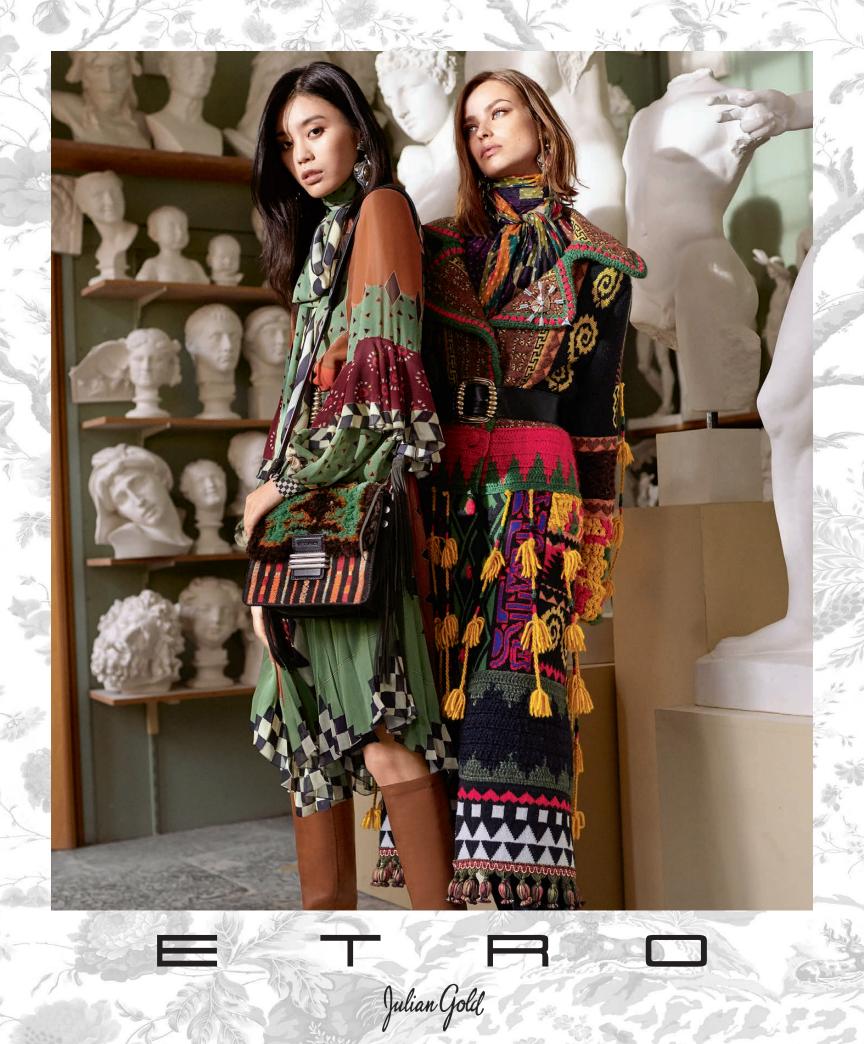


SHELLEY LAI

Shelley Lai is a fearless designer and art director who contributes to The Society Diaries magazine. Pop culture and bubble tea get her creative juices going on a daily basis. Winning Best in Show at six years old sparked her passion for art. She's only cussed twice in her life, and both times she was quoting someone else. Who that was shall remain a mystery, yet she always keeps us guessing with her design acumen.



GORDON KENDALL New to The Society Diaries editorial team this issue is Texan-turned-New Yorker Gordon Kendall. He is a freelance fashion author and educator, and helms our extensive feature story, Seriously Chic, about vintage fashion designer Norman Norell, who was much beloved by Texans. He is also an executive member of Fashion Group International/New York and a member of The Couture Council, The Museum at F.I.T.



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JENNIFER ROOSTH

some mighty fine parties."

Our Associate Editor Jennifer Roosth is a Houston-based writer who never ceases to be amazed by the wonderfully generous spirit of the Houston philanthropic community. "It's nice to live in a city where so many are excited about giving back," she says, "In the process, they throw

ELEANORA MORRISON

Our digital director at the helm of TheSocietyDiaries.com, The Style Setters featurette, and all associated video and social media platforms, Eleanora Morrison has been a writer and editor since the magazine's first issue, covering events, culture, weddings and travel. Morrison is the creator, editor and digital personality behind the lifestyle and career blog OhEleanora.com and its associated platforms, and is Founder & CEO of S.H.E Media Group, a new female-focused digital media company that launched in the summer of 2018.





SHARON SCHWEITZER

Sharon Schweitzer, J.D., is a cross-cultural trainer and modern manners expert. In addition to her accreditation in intercultural management from the Hofstede Centre, she serves as a Chinese Ceremonial Dining Etiquette Specialist in the documentary series Confucius was a Foodie on Nat Geo People. She is the resident etiquette expert on two popular lifestyle shows: ABC Tampa Bay's Morning Blend and CBS Austin's We Are Austin. Her Amazon #1 best-selling book on International Business, Access to Asia: Your



Multicultural Business Guide, now in its third printing, was named to Kirkus Reviews' Best Books of 2015. She's a winner of the British Airways International Trade Award at the 2016 Greater Austin Business Awards. Photo by Korey Howell.



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CYNTHIA SMOOT

through interactive social media strategies and public relations for the firm's lifestyle clients. She is the go-to resource for what's happening and who you need to know in Dallas. Through her popular lifestyle blog OhSoCynthia.com readers get the latest scoop and inside information on fashion, food, philanthropy, events, celebrity and reality TV news. Smoot describes her blog as "a love letter to the city of Dallas" and enjoys taking readers along for the ride as she experiences all that the city has to offer.

A partner at Gangway Advertising, Cynthia Smoot

JONATHAN SPINDEL

Jonathan Spindel is a native Austinite with a global appetite for arts and culture. When he's not searching the world for the best trends to share with our readers, he can be found at local art galleries, music venues, and hip happenings around the capital city. He reports on all that makes us proud to be part of Texas society and is inspired by the unique individuals and organizations he engages as an Associate Editor, highlighting the happenings that bring the best to, and make the most of, our great state.





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EDIT



GOODBYE HOT SUMMER, HELLO COOL FALL, IT'S BE too long.

As we look around us, dipping our toes into the cooler weather months day by day, we realize this might just be our favorite part of the year. We are back from vacation, among our family and friends. Social happenings are getting into high gear again after the summer respite. There is truly a crisper note in the air.

Around here we agree with Rumi, who wrote: *Let the beauty of what you love be what you do.* Sounds perfectly simple to us. We love beauty. We love what we do. Boom.

With this issue, love and beauty are our guiding principles as we bring the best of Texas directly to you. As we chronicle the latest and greatest moments in philanthropy and society, you may even see friends and colleagues from all over the country. Ultimately the largesse-filled scene and bold endeavors in every issue tell the story of *you*.

We love presenting the many facets of Texas. When I had the honor to be a judge for the Miss Texas America 2018 competition this summer, the many young women who represent a sparkling future, as well as the winner Madison Fuller, were a delight to get to know. Realizing that the Miss America organization is the largest scholarship-granting organization in the country for young women was the icing on the cake. With a week of heavily scheduled activities to get to the point of choosing from such a close competition of over 50 contestants was worth the effort to be a part of these young women's lives and dreams. You'll get to know Madison better in these very pages with an up close and personal look at her shining personality.

As someone who loves film, it was our great good fortune to be a part of the filming of *The Iron Orchard*, a Texas story shot in Texas, starring mostly Texans, and produced by Texans. Its style is impeccable, and we hope you appreciate our point of view on modern filmmaking. Since September dictates the season's fashion, join us as Rob Giardinelli reports on stylish five-star Rome and Gordan Kendall weighs in with vintage fashion design favorite Norman Norell to inspire your own personal style. Plus, peruse the many style departments and social event pages that chronicle the latest people, places and things to know and see to keep you in the loop of where you were and what you missed.

Along with our talented editorial and design teams, we're also thrilled to present a refreshed design to reflect our evolving tastes and mission to mirror your lives and how you present yourself. So, join us won't you, as we move forward into what we think is the most glamorous fall season yet. S

XO Lance Avery Morgan lance@thesocietydiaries.com





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EDGE OF THE CITY

The Blanton Museum unveils a bold display of work by Vincent Valdez, inviting you to confront a portrait of ideas that are challenging,



yet strikingly familiar. Until October 28. At BlantonMuseum.org

DALLAS/FORT WORTH

IT'S A SMALL WORLD

Meadows Museum brings together a salient selection of Salvador Dali's minute masterpieces. The selected paintings offer an understanding of Dalí's artistic and formal influences,

as well as his technical mastery. September 9 to December 9. At MeadowsMuseumDallas.org



and accessories. October 7 to January 6, 2019. At KimbellArt.org



ARCHITECTURE IN MOTION

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January 27, 2019. At MFAH.org



NOW THAT'S A BRIGHT IDEA

While the main building of the Menil Collection is closed for updates, check out the nearby installation in Richmond Hall – Dan Flavin's immersive fluorescent masterpiece. At Menil.com



RAISE YOUR VOICE Soweto Gospel Choir celebrates the unique and inspirational power of African Gospel music and is dedicated to sharing the joy of faith through music with audiences around the world. October 24. At SPAHouston.org

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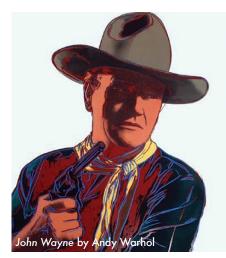
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CURATE

SAN ANTONIO



THE WEST GOES POP

Two exhibitions, rooted in American Pop Art, pay tribute to America's collective mythology of the West with Andy Warhol and Billy Schenck, two titans of the Pop Art movement. Until September 3. At BriscoeMuseum.org



TERRIFIC TRAVIATA

Verdi's classic opera is one of the best-known stories of the 19th century, and its enduring themes still resonate with audiences today. An excellent introduction to opera, and a treat for connoisseurs of the genre. September 13 and 15. At OperaSA.org



CRAFTED & COLLECTED

The McNay presents the first major presentation of San Antonio native Dario Robleto, recently appointed the Texas State Artist Laureate. His fascinating assemblages, made from collected and crafted items, address deep humanistic themes. Until September 23. At McNayArt.org





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INDULGE

RUFFLED UP

This precious Alexis ruffled skirt is embroidered with blue polka dots for just the right amount of sweetness and chicness. \$385. Photo and availability courtesy of Saks Fifth Avenue.

SPOTTED ON THE CATWALK

Polka dots could be considered the #1 fashion trend of 2018. Designers keep coming back for more and transitioning it from season to season. Photo courtesy of Carolina Herrera.



WHO'S GOT THE TIME?

Tell time on this beautiful Kate Spade watch featuring a gold, black and white combination on a silicone band. \$150. Photo and availability courtesy of Kate Spade.



FULL CIRCLE

Marc Jacobs once said, "There is never a wrong time for a polka dot," and we couldn't agree more. Designers have gone completely dotty this year with a never-ending reinvention of the timeless classic. *Our style editor*, *Tori Johnson of ThesTORIbook.com*, is helping us connect the dots on this latest fashion trend.

HEAD OVER HEELS

Have some fun with the polka dot motif with these multicolor stiletto Manolo Blahnik pumps. \$695. Photo and availability courtesy of Neiman Marcus.

BALL DROP

These 18k yellow gold and sterling silver earrings from designer John Hardy feature a circular drop accented by yellow gold dots on leverbacks with silver dots. \$795. Photo and availability courtesy of Lee Michaels.







Lauren Hutton 1970s

BRIGHT EYED AND BUSHY TAILED

Beauty trends went bold on Fall 2018 runways. Chanel's multi-effect quadra eyeshadows are ideal with their intense pigmentation. \$61. Photo and availability courtesy of Saks Fifth Avenue.



THESOCIETYDIARIES.COM



MIXED PRINTS

Never be afraid to mix your prints. This Harari Kalinka kimono is a perfect example of print mixing done right by pairing a classic polka dot with a bright floral. \$422. Photo and availability courtesy of The Garden Room.



CUTE AS A LADYBUG

Inspired by a ladybug's red and black spots, these sunnies are cheerful with their sculpted frame and an optional clip-on butterfly charm. \$365. Photo and availability courtesy of Marc Jacobs.

IT'S ALL BLACK AND WHITE TO ME

Valentino's pre-Fall 2018 collection featured a modern interpretation on polka dots that can be seen in this quilted leather shoulder bag, \$3,045. Photo and availability courtesy of Net-a-Porter.

FALL FLORALS

Monique Lhuillier is lightening up fall this year with this hi-lo gown featuring a polka dot and floral print with a thin cord belt and sweeping train. \$4,995. Photo and availability courtesy of Julian Gold.



SMELL AS SWEET

With invigorating notes of grapefruit,
blood orange, jasmine, cedar and iris
Chanel's "Chance" Eau de Toilette
Spray is an energetic scent laced with
floral. \$130. Photo and availability
courtesy of Neiman Marcus.





GOING IN CIRCLES

A gorgeous addition to the modern home, this "Futura Circles Vase" from Jonathan Adler is made of high-fired porcelain and accented with 16-karat gold circles. \$325. Photo and availability courtesy of Jonathan Adler.



CONNECT THE DOTS

Tie around your neck or on your favorite handbag – this Saint Laurent silk-chiffon scarf is as equally cool as it is fashionable. \$445. Photo and availability courtesy of Net-A-Porter.



IN THE LOOP

We love mixing metals, don't you? Especially with this 18K yellow gold and sterling silver open marquiseshaped diamond earrings with a diamond cluster top. \$2,750. Photo and availability courtesy of Shetler Fine Jewelers.

DOTS & TIES REQUIRED

There is just something classic about black and white polka dot prints. This Andrew GN mini dress features a sleeveless bodice with a shift silhouette and neck tie. \$1,965. Photo and availability courtesy of M'oda 'Operandi.





PICK A SPOT

Polka dots might have been resigned to children's rooms in the past, but they have now been gaining in popularity across the home. This Jessica Charles chair makes a perfect neutral accent to a living room. Photo and availability courtesy of Stowers Furniture.

SEPTEMBER • OCTOBER 2018



Dear Ms. Modern Manners,

We're been offered an incredible opportunity to stay at a friend's chateau in France while they are not there. What do you recommend we leave behind for them as a substantial host gift?

DEAR CHATEAU ON THE GO,

Chateau Chic

For a unique experience like this, there are two requirements: leave a handwritten note and a gift. There is an emphasis on the handwritten note to demonstrate your time and appreciation to the host. You may leave this with the gift or send it immediately after leaving their chateau.

The gift must be personalized to the friends' taste. Ideas range from fine chocolates and wines to luxury items for the home, such as five-star coasters, soaps, crystal, linen napkins and placemats. If your friend has a family of their own, include them with the personalized gift. Another fun idea can also be to include photos shot during your stay and sent after your departure. Staying in their home will provide additional insight into their taste and may help you find the perfect gift.

Dear Ms. Modern Manners

Since it's gala season, can you remind me if it is fine to have place cards at a dinner table so that guests can mix it up a bit and create new, strategic relationships?

DEAR GALA GOING,

Gala season is a joy every year. If you have generously hosted or sponsored the entire gala table, then yes, it is completely appropriate to have place cards for your invited guests at the dinner table. However, if you are assigned or seated at a table of 8 or 10, then it's the host or hostess' prerogative to have place cards, not yours. It's extremely inappropriate to use place cards if you aren't the host, hostess or underwriter. Whatever the case may be, enjoy.

WHEREVERYOU GO, INTERVENTION OF THE PROVINCE AND ADDRESS OF THE PROVINCE ADDRESS OF THE PROVIN

Fall is on the way, and it's time to bring the etiquette indoors. Our expert Ms. Modern Manners Sharon Schweitzer, J.D. provides answers to questions about some of life's most interesting situations.

Dear Ms. Modern Manners.

For the holidays, how far ahead should we let our in-laws know we are going to start alternating Thanksgiving and Christmas with them and what if our schedule doesn't correlate with theirs?

Holiday Happiness

DEAR HOLIDAY DELIGHT,

Holiday planning can start as much as 4-6 months ahead of time, especially with airfare and large family gatherings. Some couples choose to alternate holidays with the in-laws annually. If successful, once the cadence is set then the family knows what to expect in future years. Starting this practice as newlyweds is an ideal option. Otherwise, start the conversation in the summertime to avoid conflicts. If your schedule doesn't correlate the first year, one or both of the families may need to make adjustments. However, it gives you a chance to plan for the following year so that everyone's schedules can align. Keep in mind, for this pattern to work successfully long term, family peace and harmony will be an important part of every holiday.

Dear Ms. Modern Manners,

I've been recruited to help host a fundraiser honoring a recently deceased friend. What's the best way to move forward from the emotion of it to create a winning philanthropic evening?

Always Thinking

Gala Goer

DEAR THOUGHTFUL ONE,

Memory fundraising is a growing trend to honor those who have passed on, particularly when there is an emotional connection between the deceased friend and the receiving charity. For those involved, the fundraising itself becomes part of the grieving process, a way to work through the life of the friend and pass that energy on in a positive way. If you are the host:

- Recruit a few mutual friends to co-organize the event with you to assist with the grief journey.
- Share stories and memories of your friend with the group, so that the most raw feelings have an opportunity to heal a bit before the event itself.
- Hire or enlist a professional event planner to ensure success.
- Conclude the fundraising evening on a positive note with an uplifting story about your departed friend. [5]





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REVEAL

CROWNING GLORY

South Island, New Zealand

Newly crowned Miss Texas Madison Fuller is a ball of energy. Smart, beautiful and talented, she will compete for the Miss America title, yet first she catches up with our Lance Avery Morgan to reveal her favorite things.



My social platform is... Sock It To Cancer that's all about joy. When visiting pediatric cancer patients, I use ventriloquism to brighten the days of children by introducing them to my puppets: Leo the Lion, Frisco the Frog, and Marty the Dog.

My perfect day would begin ... with a Gossip Girl style breakfast spread, a good cup of coffee, and a patio with sunshine and my PJs.

How I made my first dollar...was teaching gymnastics in an elementary school cafeteria.

Last thing I binge/marathon watched...was The Crown on Netflix because I'm obsessed with the history of the English royalty and the women who have worn the crown.

A book that left a lasting impression on me... I loved Shonda Rhimes' Year of Yes. The idea of approaching life's endeavors with a "yes" mentality to be open, try new things and step outside of your comfort zone is definitely something I'll strive to do this year as Miss Texas.

First album I bought ... was Hilary Duff, I'm pretty sure.

On my bucket list to do soon...will be checking off my number one item by competing on the Miss America stage in September. Next on the list is to meet my favorite artist of all time, Keith Urban.

If I could live in a foreign country it would be...

New Zealand. Not only is it beautiful, but also is known for its friendly population.

What every woman should try in her lifetime is...living alone, even if for just a short period of time. It's important to love your own company first and also edible cookie dough.

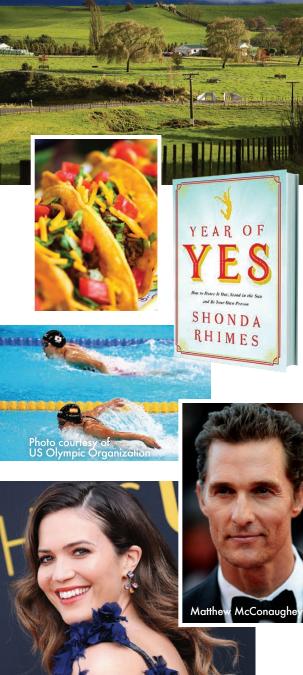
If I could compete in an Olympic sport it would be...swimming. I have zero athletic skills, but admire and respect the determination of the Olympic swimmers.

The beauty essential you have to pry out of my cold dry hand is...moisturizer and Chapstick. Skin care is so important to me.

Celebrity I would prank phone call ... would be Matthew McConaughey. I would just ask him questions over and over again to hear his voice.

My style icon is... Mandy Moore. Her style is everything and I feel especially connected to her as a fellow tall girl.

My perfect day would end ... with Tex-Mex for dinner and then friends over for a movie night with an action-packed movie and popcorn. S



dy Moore



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BEAUTIFY



SHADOW DANCING

Jewel shades in unexpected combos dominated the runways. Subtlety is thrown out the window, letting in an air of Mod 60s and Wild 80s. Try Fenty Beauty Moroccan Spice Eyeshadow Palette to create prismatic strokes of bright color blocked around the eyes. \$59. At FentyBeauty.com



POWER POUTS

A perennial staple that evokes glamour is how the powerful red pout takes a turn towards ethereal and romantic with matte velvet textures and a touch of gold. Try Lawless Beauty Soft Matte Liquid Lipstick in Romeo. \$25. At Neiman Marcus.



RAISE THAT BROW

This season's trend is all about embracing the beauty of your own brow, building dimension and fullness with natural shades to fill in with gentle strokes. Try TrèStiQue Define, Sculpt & Set Brow Pencil. \$24. At Sephora.

NOW THAT MAKES ME BLUSH

We bid farewell to deep bronze summer shades and keep the natural mood of this season with the peachy pink tones. Try Glossier Cloud Paint in Puff and Beam, a seamless, sheer, and buildable formula for a flushed-fromwithin glow. \$18. At Glossier.com



RISE & SHINE EYES

Combating aging eyes, Dermelect's new treatment targets the major areas of concern and features both concealing and soothing elements that further sets it apart from any other eye cream on the market today. We love the new 5-in-1 advanced eye treatment, Revitalite Professional *Eyelid and Dark Circle Corrector.* \$59. At Dermalect.com

EXPECT THE UNEXPECTED

The temperature drops as confidence and nostalgia from the 60s to the 80s reigns with bold beauty looks that manifest a message of female strength. Creativity is the only thing stopping you from having fun with these trends, according to our luxe beauty expert Ana Bribiesca.

GILD THE LILY

This decadent luxe eye look warms up the colder months while designers used gold leaf accents for a molten gold effect on the runways. This simple yet enthralling detail is easily recreated by gently pressing imprecise layers of Stila's foil-finish eyeshadow in Metallic Gilded Gold onto the center of the eyelids. \$32. At Sephora.



PINK, REMEMBER PURPLE

In a world of contrast and brazen bright colors, a graphic pink and purple eye takes center stage with an exuberant, shamelessly girly 80s vibe. Try TARTE's Love, Trust & Fairy Dust Eyeshadow Palette to create your own flirtatious and retro look. \$39. At Tarte.com





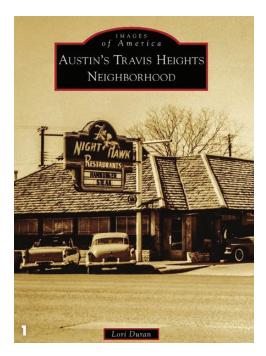
STUDIO & SALON MAKEUP + HAIR ARTISTRY

BE YOUR Most Beautiful

JAXStudio © @jaxstudio jaxstudiosa.com San Antonio, TX RECALL

URBAN LEGEND

The quaintly chic hamlet of Travis Heights in Austin has never been more desirable, and it boasts a rich history too. The new book *Austin's Travis Heights Neighborhood by our vintage Texas expert Lori Duran* reveals the stories behind the landmarks. Next time you are in Travis Heights, look a little closer at the rich history that envelops the picturesque area.



1. The original NightHawk Restaurant faced South Congress Avenue at the intersection with Riverside Drive. Opened in 1932, it has been one of Austin's most famous and enduring restaurants. Harry Akin opened this restaurant at 336 South Congress, where once there had been an abandoned fruit stand. The NightHawk expanded and opened other locations in Austin, but today most of them have closed except for the Frisco Grill and a supermarket line of frozen foods. The original South Congress restaurant closed in 1985. (Austin History Center PICA 26611)

2. The Walter Tips house was built in 1876. Originally located downtown by the Capitol, it was relocated to the corner of South Congress Avenue and Oltorf Street. Neal Spelce, the longtime Austin news anchor and businessman, along with former Austin City Council Woman Emma Lou Linn, shared some memories of the site in



their 2107 Austin History Center oral history contributions. Spelce recalls the humorous story about when the Tips house was moved southward on Congress Avenue during the night that a man stumbled out of a Sixth Street bar and as he saw the large house on a trailer going by he mistakenly exclaimed My God, they're moving the Driskill (Hotel)! Moving the house was a tremendous undertaking as the house weighed 166,000 pounds. Linn recalled also the efforts to save the beautiful but condemned house and that the move took place despite concerns over the stability of the Congress Avenue Bridge supporting the weight of the house. (Photo Courtesy University of North Texas Libraries, The Portal to Texas History, and the Texas Historical Commission.)



3. This house was built at 1308 Alta Vista Avenue in 1936 for Alden and Mabel Davis. Mabel was well-known in Austin for her civic leadership and her passion for nature and gardening. She headed Red Cross volunteers during World War II and she was president of The Violet Crown Garden Club, The Humane Society and The Austin Women's Club. She pushed Austin's Mayor Tom Miller to build a tuberculosis hospital when there was an outbreak. The Zilker Rose Garden was named after her. In addition to that, in the late 1970s the city of Austin named Southeast District Park Mabel Davis District Park. With the help of a federal grant this park has an Olympic-size swimming pool located less than three miles away from where the Davises lived. (Author's collection.)



4. The Fulmore Middle School bell has a rich history. The bell was given to the school by developer Charles Newning, and was used to notify the neighborhood of the start and end of the school days. On the night before Thanksgiving 1911, pranksters from the University of Texas's B-Hall men's dormitory stole the Fulmore school bell. The students were soon found out partly due to the bell having a distinctive ring. After much pressure by Superintendent A.N. McCallum, the B-Hall boys returned the bell where it has stayed since. Sometimes youngsters will still toll the bell on Halloween and New Year's Eve much to the annoyance of neighbors. (Author's collection.)

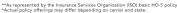
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Deductible Waiver	YES	NO
Kidnap Expenses	\$100,000	NO
Loss Prevention	\$2,500	NO
Loss Assessment	\$100,000	\$1,000
Guaranteed Replacement Cost	YES	NO
Green Upgrades	YES	NO
Pet Injury	\$5,000	NO
Back Up of Sewers & Drains	YES	NO
Broad Liability Coverage	YES	NO
Deductibe Reserve Option	YES	NO
Mold	YES	NO
AUTOMOBILE COVERAGE		
Agreed Value Option	YES	NO
Original Equipment Manufacturers	YES	NO
New for Old Option	YES	NO
Full Glass Coverage	YES	NO
Airbag Replacement	YES	NO
Rental Reimbursement	YES	YES w/ Per day Limit
Rental Loss of Use	\$10,000	\$600
Tapes, Records, Disks or Other Media	YES	NO
Towing/ Roadside Service	YES	YES
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High Limit Liability	YES	NO
Shadow Defense Cost	YES	NO
Private Consultation	\$25,000	NO
Reputation Damage	YES	NO
Limited Employer's Liability	YES	NO
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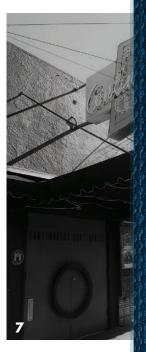


5. The foundation base for the Stephen F. Austin sculpture used to stand in South Austin Island Park. The statue was created by Ira A. Correll and placed in this park in 1955. But in 1991, it was smashed by vandals and now just the sculpture base remains. The engraving on it says: "Stephen F. Austin, Father of Texas 1793-1836." The sculpture was a gift to the city of Austin with the provision that it be displayed where visitors passing through the city could easily view it. (Author's collection.)



6. The wavy parking cover from Austin's Pig Stand restaurant at 2201 College Ave. The Pig Stand was there from the late 1950s until the late 1970s. The Pig Stand is gone but the eyecatching parking cover still stands and gets used today for people parking at the Vinaigrette restaurant that now sits in the same location. The poles for the Pig Stand elevated sign also still stand. The massive Live Oak tree in the patio could be one of the oldest in South Austin.

The Pig Stand restaurant first opened in South Austin in the early 1930s along South Congress closer to the Colorado river. After closing in the mid-1930s, it opened again in the 1950s at the College Avenue site. The Pig Stand franchise started in the Dallas area and eventually spread throughout the United S have now closed except for The Pig Stand is credited ized fast food staples su ion rings, chicken fried s Toast. (Author's collection



7. The Continental Clul 1315 South Congress A started out as a swanky reportedly became Austi and in the late 1970s it venue. The Continental ic landmark and is still known club for roots roo and blues, rockabilly at thor's collection.)



8. The name embedded only remainder of the M was once located at the

LET'S PARTY along the San Antonio River at the **48th Annual** Witte Game Dinner Presented by H-E-B. This year's theme, Rio **48TH ANNUAL** Fandango, celebrates the San Antonio River's pivotal role as a lifeline for generations before us and many to come, all with a Spanish flair. Don your best western chic attire for a night of fun, with an array of sizzling wild game cuisine, one-of-a-kind silent and live auctions, and a country music concert for kicking up your NNER heels at the end of the evening! MONDAY, OCTOBER 15, 2018 6:00 TO 10:30 PM WITTE MUSEUM SAN ANTONIO, TX PRESENTED BY (H-E-B) Game Dinner Chairs: Jessica and Ryan Berg **Texas Heritage Award Honorees:** Individual/Foundation: Walter Embrey Corporation: Frost FEATURING LIVE MUSIC BY KEVIN FOWLER PRESENTED BY The Witte Museum would like to thank our generous sponsors: **ROOSEVELT OUTDOORSMAN** V LEE MICHAELS FINE JEWELRY MEREDITH AND MIKE HOWARD VALERO TRACEE AND J. J. FEIK TROPHY **Frost C**·H·GUENTHER ROBERT & ANNA SIGMAN TRAYLOR (H·E·B) & SON, INC. BIG GAME **Mission Pharmacal** Aldrich Law Firm Finck-Las Encinas Ranch Arnold Investments, Ltd. Gunn Automotive Shiner Beer Mary Arno and Peter Hollimon **Hixon Family Offices** Southwestern Motor Transport IBC Bank **Avalon Advisors** SWBC Klesse Foundation **Texas Farm Credit** Bud Light/Silver Eagle Distributors Bonnie and John Korbell Texas Monthly **Capital Title** Ives/Daniel Sisters Luther King Capital Management Wells Fargo Bank _____0 ____ Don't miss this great opportunity! TO MAKE YOUR RESERVATION, VISIT WWW.WITTEMUSEUM.ORG Sponsorship opportunities are available! PRESENTED BY Funds raised provide valuable support for the programs and exhibits of San Antonio's most widely visited public museum.

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Champagne on Lake Como by Gray Malin



ENDLESS SUMMER

Not ready for summer to be over quite yet? Enjoy the warmth of the sun year 'round with photographer Gray Malin's summery pieces that are shot with his museum quality perspective. At GrayMalin.com



SCENT-SATIONAL GUY

Maison Margiela has developed a new scent, Replica, that re-creates the nostalgia of a traditional barber's shop with hints of soapsuds and fresh musk. Plus, the bottle is inspired by an old apothecary jar. \$126. At MaisonMargiela.com

THE FINER SIDE

We love partnering with ModXMan to bring you the latest people and places for the stylish Texas man on the go... *our style guy Rob Giardinelli* has some keen insights for you this summer.



ROCKET MAN

La La Land director Damien Chazelle teams with Ryan Gosling again for the larger-than-life story about astronaut Neil Armstrong and his race to be the first man to walk on the moon. It's out of this world. October 12. From Universal Pictures.



NO GLOVE, NO LOVE

Thinking ahead, these Mark and Graham leather gloves are perfect for our first cold snap. The adjustable driving glove button will have you taking curves with ease. \$59. At MarkAndGraham.com

GRAY SLAYS

Forget black and ditch navy for fall. Monochromatic gray is where the action is for dressing from day to evening. Layer it, pair it and wear it everywhere like this Joseph Abboud outfit that states you're going places in life. At JosephAbboud.com



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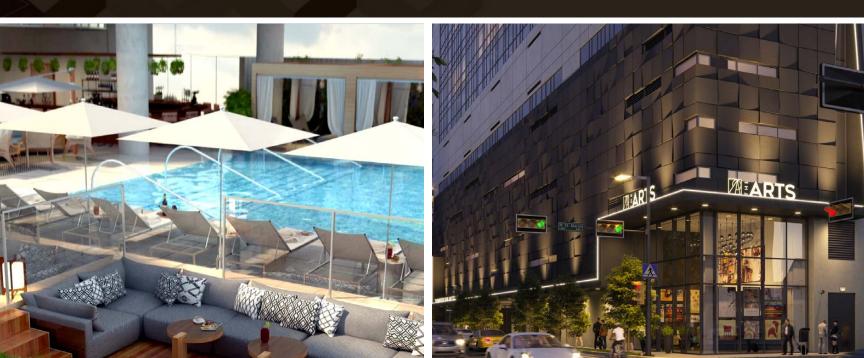
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DISCOVER

NEW, NOW & NEXT

Join our erudite editors Lance Avery Morgan (Austin), Eleanora Morrison (San Antonio), Jennifer Roosth (Houston) and Cynthia Smoot (Dallas) who are on the scene and on the go with this month's recommendations of where to be, what to see and who to know.

AUSTIN



PADDLES UP, PLEASE

Have paddle, will travel. New York-based SPiN is a network of ping pong social destinations that combine a unique mixture of sport, design, and entertainment meant to inspire connections and shared experiences, all in an exclusive environment. Specialty dishes and craft cocktails are even more reason to return as a group or a date. At Austin.WeAreSpin.com

THE WHOLE DEAL

Intero, which means *whole* in Italian, just opened thanks to married native Austinites Ian Thurwachter and Krystal Craig. Housed in a space that once housed the city's Harley Davidson shop, the Italian cuisine might be some of the best west of Florence.



Plus, Craig's artisanal chocolates to finish the meal will have you making reservations again soon. At InteroRestaurant.com



LIFE ON THE SPICY SIDE

Like Mexican food? Then you'll *love* DK Maria's Legendary Tex-Mex restaurant created by native Texans Mike and DK Reynolds and Bruce and Mary Evans. In fact, it might be the best Mexican food outside of a five-star resort south of the border. With a cold margarita (we recommend watermelon) and classic Mexican fare, old Austin never seemed so familiar. At DKMarias.com

DALLAS

TRULY LUCKY

Truluck's Seafood Steak & Crab House is celebrating 20 years at its Uptown location and they remain one of Dallas' hottest happy hour destinations. The new cocktail menu features twenty new craft cocktails, featured wines, and selected



appetizers - all are 1/2-priced Mon-Fri, 4:30-6:30 PM. Experience live entertainment seven nights a week. At Trulucks.com



TANGERINE DREAMS

After 16 years of owning and operating his own brand, Daniel Lewis has joined forces with Tangerine Salon Group (the official salon of The Dallas Cowboy Cheerleaders) as the lead stylist in the newest of their five Dallas-area

locations at The Star in Frisco. You've known Lewis since he burst onto the national scene as a fan favorite on the Bravo TV show, *Shear Genius*, charming viewers with his wit, Southernisms and fondness for big hair. Additional salon locations include Dallas, Coppell, Allen and Highland Village. At TangerineSalon.net

ROAD TO RECOVERY

When Michael Molthan appeared as a guest on a radio show about his recovery, iHeart Radio executives were so impressed with his passion and conviction that they offered him his own show. Tune into M2 The Rock on 1190AM or watch at the M2 The Rock Radio

on Facebook every Monday-Friday from 7-8PM CST and on Saturday and Sunday from noon-1PM CST. Hear Molthan and a variety of guests discuss solutions to addiction, alcoholism, and unmanageable habits and how to support those on the road to recovery. At M2TheRock.com



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Thanks to our supporters in 2018, students from Central Texas can pursue their health career dreams. More than \$500,000 in gifts were matched 2:1 by the St. David's Foundation Community Fund, providing a total of more than \$1.5 million for the St. David's Neal Kocurek Scholarships—an exceptional success that will help today's scholars become tomorrow's health professionals.





See more event photos at toastaustin.org



DISCOVER

HOUSTON



THE SOFTER SIDE

Longtime Houston favorite, The Cotton Club Collection, has new owners. Jennifer Cunningham and John Maguire, both former Tootsies senior buyers, have given a charmed facelift to this contemporary women's clothing

boutique that also has a curated gift shop for both men and women, fine jewelry, and a spotlight on accessories from around the world. At CottonClubCollection.com



BE MORE PACIFIC

Nobu Houston has arrived to the Galleria with over 10,000 square feet that includes an outdoor terrace, bar, lounge and event space. We loved it on the coasts and we love Nobu here, too. At NobuRestaurants.com/Houston



SPACE RACE

Want a deep dive into NASA? Visit Rocket Park that literally has rockets everywhere. It's a nod to NASA's presence in Texas that has been so dynamic. At SpaceCenter.org

SAN ANTONIO

GARDEN DELIGHTS

La Botánica is a haven for the environmentally conscious diner, with edible gardens that serve as a real-life laboratory for those wanting to learn to grow their own food. For patrons who like to dine for a cause,



the restaurant also doubles as a hot spot for film screenings, live music performances, installations by local artists, and cooking and gardening classes. At VivaLaBotanica.com



GET THE LOOK

Trusted San Antonio hair stylist Damian Gonzales III has opened a new contemporary, ultra-chic salon in the heart of Alamo Heights... LOOK. The byappointment-only venue welcomes clients both old and new, and of course... "Royals" too, as one of the Fiesta Royal Court's preferred stylists year after year. At LookSalon.com



A MEAL AT THE MUSEUM

San Antonio top chef Jason Dady has relocated his popular Tre Trattoria restaurant to The Historic Beretta Hops House at the San Antonio Museum of Art. The refreshingly updated space, formerly the museum's cafe, is now home to Dady's Italian eatery featuring breathtaking views of the San Antonio River. At TreTrattoria.com











Recently refreshed and reinstalled, the Lang Galleries at the McNay Art Museum—which house works by artists including Claude Monet, Pablo Picasso, Georgia O'Keeffe, and Joan Mitchell offer an artful setting for entertaining. In the galleries, beloved artworks in the McNay collection from across disciplines, movements, and eras are juxtaposed to create exciting and provocative conversations. The Lang Galleries are perfect for intimate seated dinners.





ARISTOCRATIC AESTHETIC

San Antonio Hosts Spanish Royalty For Tricentennial Celebration

WHEN KING FELIPE VI AND QUEEN LETIZIA OF SPAIN VISITED

San Antonio recently to help celebrate the city's widely anticipated Tricentennial this year, the city welcomed them with open arms. After all, San Antonio is accustomed to leading the cultural way and being internationally recognized.

So, when San Antonio officially kicked off the highly anticipated celebrations for the city's 300th anniversary earlier this year, it was a historic moment. Downtown San Antonio was punctuated with majestic projections on buildings, dazzling lighting and festive decorations dotted the region that will be long remembered.

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L to R, TOP: 2017 THF Star of Texas recipient, Red McCombs; Texas HERITAGEMagazine; 2012 THF Star of Texas recipient, Frost Bank. BOTTOM: THF supported projects - Gault archeological site, Florence; Charles Goodnight ranch house, Claude: "Birth of Texas" documentary film series, Houston.

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OF TEXAS HERITAGE MAGAZINE AND COUNTING The backbone of THF's mission is its grant program. Foundation gifts support diverse projects in wide-ranging geographic regions, cultures, and areas of interest. We are one of the largest organizations that fund preservation and education efforts across the state - from the tip of the Panhandle to the Rio Grande Valley, from El Paso to Beaumont, we help preserve Texas history in communities large and small.

To learn more about and/or become a part of the THF mission, please visit:

WWW.TEXASHISTORICALFOUNDATION.ORG

PROMOTE

ZOOM, ZOOM, ZOOM

Hi Tech Motorcars Hosts Hill Country Driving Event

By Jake Gaines | Photography courtesy of Hi Tech Motorcars

RECENTLY, HI TECH MOTORCARS hosted its 2nd annual customer appreciation Country Cruise event. The luxury performance dealership highlighted their brands by inviting high-end connoisseurs of Porsche, Audi, Rolls-Royce, Bentley, Aston Martin, Lotus, and Maserati to meet at the Hill Country Galleria for coffee and tacos from Bee Cave Coffee.

Then the gathering cruised west to Camp Lucy in Dripping Springs for an extravagant afternoon of world-class wine and food pairings from one of Austin's top-rated chefs, live music from Terra Vista Strings, and breathtaking vistas. The 20-mile drive was a thrilling treat for the drivers and their guests as they left the city and pushed the limits of their supercars while enjoying a scenic tour of the Texas Hill Country.

For entertainment, Terra Vista Strings began playing for the crowd of over 250 attendees with string cover songs of popular hits as guests enjoyed a lavish spread of chef-prepared foods and wine. Later in the day, the fun came to a close and the rumblings of the supercars filled the air as guests rallied home.

An experience like this can have a profound effect on the way a driver relates to his vehicle, and Hi Tech Motorcars is all about bringing the enthusiast out in every one of their customers. Hi Tech Motorcars is an Austin-based, family-run, automotive dealer group that deals exclusively in luxury performance vehicles. Audi, Aston Martin, Bentley, Maserati, Porsche, Lotus, and Rolls-Royce are among the exalted brands represented. For more information visit HiTechMotorcars.com







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PROMOTE





SUNNY STYLE

For the new Saks Fifth Avenue Vice President, General Manager Ryan Jay, style is an important element of his lifestyle and his store's brand. Here we catch up to learn more about his bright outlook.

By Jake Gaines | Photography by Greg Harrison

MILWAUKEE-TURNED-SAN ANTONIO RESident Ryan Jay loves the style of year 'round warm weather. The newly appointed Saks Fifth Avenue vice-president, general manager enjoys the sunny lifestyle of the Alamo City with his wife Amber and two sons, ages five years old and three months.

"I wanted to come to San Antonio because I have heard such great things about the city and I always wanted to live in the great state of Texas," shares Ryan Jay. "From discovering new restaurants to visiting the museums and local parks, we have just begun to appreciate what this city has to offer."

Family, fitness and fashion are what drive him most. "I love to be outside with my family, constantly staying active and enjoying the fresh air while exercising. In my free time I am either at the gym, discovering a new restaurant on date night, or spending time with my two sons at the pool and parks."

Since Saks Fifth Avenue is known for its high style, Jay understands its importance around him. "I enjoy following fashion and all the new trends and how it impacts each city that I have lived in. It's interesting to see what trends a city will really pick up on and which trends are just not the right fit. I love that San Antonio is all about big colors, bright patterns and flowing lightweight fabrics; not to mention how much the women love their jewelry and accessories." Plus, he states, "You will see more interaction with the local community as I truly believe in giving back and showing support for the city. With San Antonio growing at a rapid pace, my team and I will continue to expand and elevate our assortments and what we have to offer."





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PROMOTE

GARDEN PARTY PLEASURES Cloche Designs and M Interiors

Host Danielle Rollins

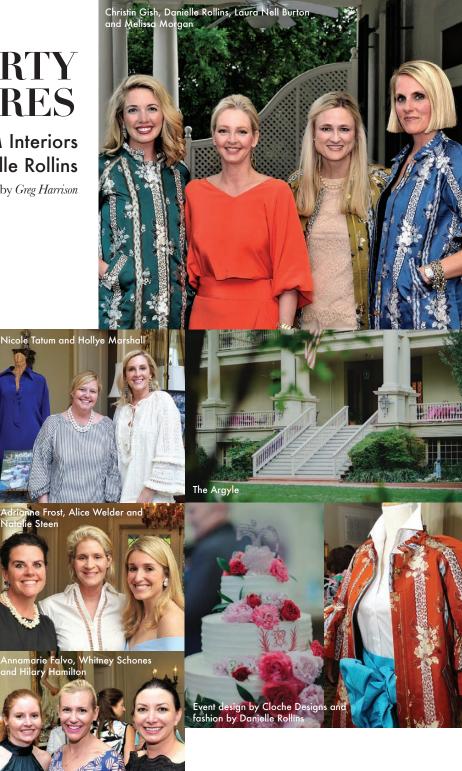
By Jake Gaines | Photography by Greg Harrison

WHEN CLOCHE DESIGNS' EVENT planners Laura Nell Burton and Christin Gish, along with M Interiors' Melissa Morgan, cohosted the event at The Argyle honoring author and stylemaker Danielle Rollins, the guests were in for a treat. Southern in style, the gathering was the ideal way to view and buy Rollins' new clothing line of chic, summery attire that was perfectly suited for Fiesta and beyond.

Rollins knows her way around stylish endeavors. Hailing from Texas originally, she is an internationally known lifestyle expert with a full-service interior design and gardens firm. She is a trained chef, contributing editor of *Veranda* and a bestselling author of *Soireé: Entertaining With Style*.

Her clothing line is quickly becoming the go-to for women who want classic pieces made with couture details. Iconic tastemakers and hostesses including Jackie Kennedy, Grace Kelly, Dorothy Draper, Elsa Maxwell and Lilly Pulitzer appropriately lend their names to Danielle's relaxed yet elegant creations. The flowing skirts, matching tops, sophisticated jackets and easy dresses guarantee any woman beauty, comfort and confidence. Rollin's collection features breezy summer linens, versatile silk separates, and ever-classic Liberty of London cotton prints.

A portion of the event's proceeds benefitted The Generations Fund at Texas Biomedical Research Institute.



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PROMOTE

RUNWAY REVELS Neiman Marcus San Antonio Hosts Runway Fashion Event

By Jake Gaines | Photography by Super Q Photography

NEIMAN MARCUS AND ANAPAULA WATSON recently hosted a runway fashion show featuring the store's Senior Vice President and Fashion Director Ken Downing. The event featured Downing demonstrating how to mix and match the latest fashion must-haves with Coomi Jewelry. Givenchy Beauty was on hand to give the ladies touch ups and to help choose the perfect lipstick shade for the season.

The gathering benefitted the San Antonio Museum of Art with over one hundred guests in attendance. They enjoyed champagne, bites from Tim the Girl while listening to spin master DJ Lucy Wrubel. Xitlalt Herrera-Salazar, the store's Public Relations Manager and the visual team transformed the Fine Apparel floor into a chic runway lounge bathed in pink and yellow, the store's "it" colors of the season.





CHIC SHIRTS

FGI San Antonio Debuts T-Shirt Designs for City's Official Tricentennial Celebration

By Eleanora Morrison | Photography by Chris Cantoya

FASHION GROUP INTERNATIONAL'S SAN ANTONIO chapter partnered with six award-winning artists to design limited edition t-shirts based on the concept of what it means to be a #ModelSanAntonian. Fashionistas arrived dressed to impress and support the convergence of art and fashion in the Alamo city, which celebrated its 300-year anniversary last spring.

Light and bright in white-chic attire, guests fit in with the artists' t-shirt themes. Hosted by the new Maverick San Antonio restaurant in Southtown, the contemporary, fresh feel of the LePalm patio and the LeBox private dining room were the perfect fit to entertain the fashion-forward crowd. The participating artists whose t-shirt designs were featured were Cruz Ortiz, Naomi Wanjiku, Angelina Mata, Agosto Cuellar, Golden Skyy, and Giovanna DiZurita.

The Fashion Group International of San Antonio is a nonprofit organization with a mission to design the future of fashion in San Antonio. Serving as a chamber of commerce for the local fashion industry, FGI San Antonio is a regional chapter of the larger Fashion Group International organization of New York City. The funds raised from this event support FGI San Antonio's annual membership programming.



Kendall Inn is both a Texas and National Landmark. The history of the Ye Kendall Inn began in 1859, bringing the Southern Colonial style of architecture to the Texas Hill Country. The property extends down to the Cibolo Creek and consists of approximately 6.5 acres.

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ENDEAVOR

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Presented in collaboration with Eleanora magazine, *The Society Diaries* is proud to feature Texas Top 50 Women to Watch, (Em)powered by the companies, communities and families these women work passionately to support every day. Join us in celebrating this diverse list of women across Texas whose career accomplishments and community involvement are the heartbeat of not only their individual industries, but also of their collective networks that make a lasting impact in their cities and beyond. Read each individual profile of these inaugural women honored at TheSocietyDiaires.com and at EleanoraMagazine.com.



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SEPTEMBER • OCTOBER 2018

HOST: SAN ANTONIO

BOHEMIAN BEAUTY

OPERA San Antonio Presents Puccini Classic La Bohème

By Jonathan Spindel | Photography by Greg Harrison



Tim and Eva D'Antonio, Gisela Girard and Al Aguilar

THE SCENE: OPER A San Antoni

OPERA San Antonio, the resident opera company of the Tobin Center for the Performing Arts, concluded their fourth season with the production of Giacomo Puccini's *La Bohème*. It's easy to be captivated by the deep emotion embedded in the romantic storyline and the raw passion portrayed by the performers.

The subject and iconic arias have been an inspiration for countless works in pop culture, making it the perfect opera for newcomers who want to fall in love with the art, and also seasoned patrons who can't stop falling in love with it. Seasoned opera singer Amanda Kingston played the role of ill-fated Mimi, alongside Derrek Stark portraying her beau, Rodolfo. The talented cast was led under the stage direction of internationally acclaimed and award-winning director E. Loren Meeker, as well as artistic direction provided by Adam Diegel.

THE VIBE:

As San Antonio thrives and grows, it's vital to continue cultivating a robust and diverse performing arts community. The production of *La Bohème* represents the kind of high-quality performance that OPERA San Antonio is committed to providing to the community.

THE CAUSE:

OPERA San Antonio is designated as the only local resident opera company of the Tobin Center for the Performing Arts to produce and present worldclass opera for San Antonio and South Texas. It strives to increase awareness of opera in the community through its year-round outreach to parents, educators, and K-12 students.



Sarah Huerta, Tom and Rachel James & Annie and Blair Labatt

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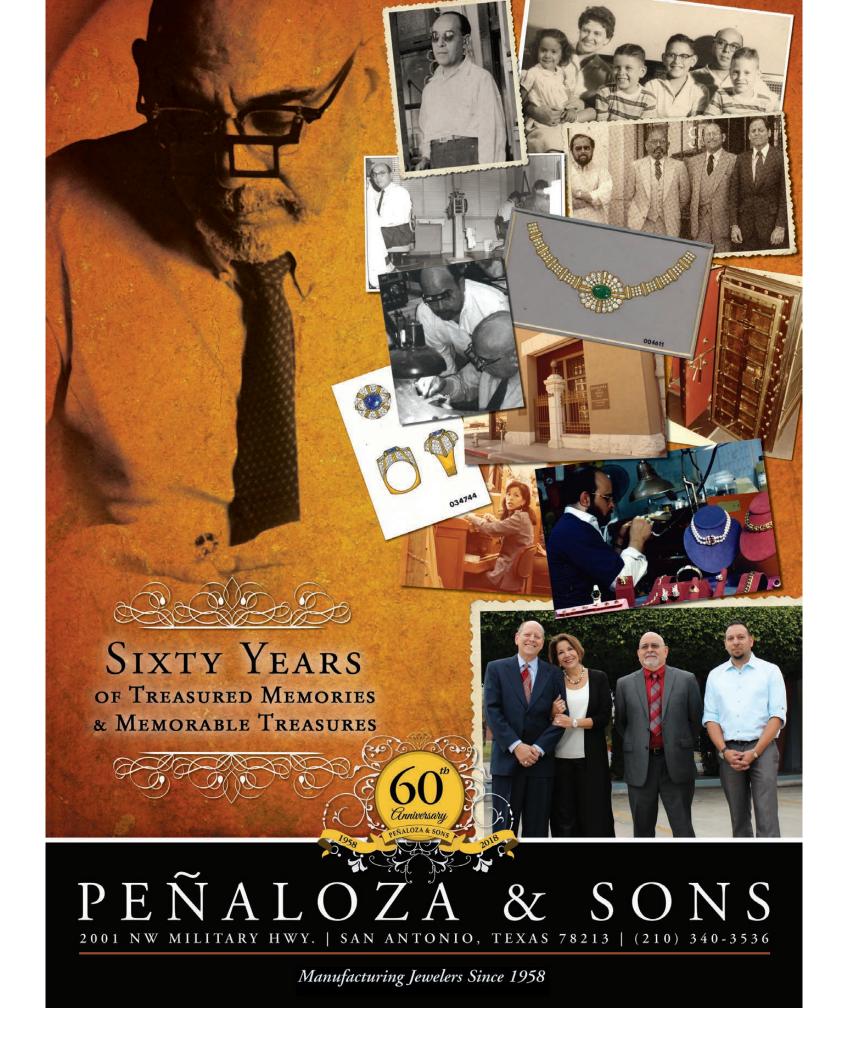
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ERYVERSAILLES

Gala De Versailles Series Stuns Texans With Opulence

By Jonathan Spindel | Photography courtesy of American Friends Of Versailles









Marjorie Vickers and Becky Dodson



Serge de la



Francine LeFrak Friedberg and Richard Ware



Curry Glassell

Catherine Pegard

nd David Hamiltor

Teresa Lee Kay

THE SCENE: Benefitting the restoration projects of

the Château de Versailles, the American Friends of Versailles, the brainchild of Chicago resident Catharine Cline Hamilton who is originally from Amarillo, hosted extraordinary events benefiting the restoration of The Queen's Guard Room at the exquisite French landmark. The Société des Amis de Versailles committed in 2017 to join efforts alongside the American Friends to complete the financing of the restoration of its marbled walls and wood floor.

CONTINUED ...



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Elodie Arnaud and Thibaut Bazin de Caix



Anne-Marie deGanay and Prince Nicolas Dadeshkeliani





estored Queen's Guards Room Ceiling at Versailles

THE VIBE:

Hundreds of guests, many of whom were Texans, arrived at the palace after attending myriad exclusive events, luncheons and cocktails throughout the week of festivities at the fabulous residences of many honorable chairmen and committee members, culminating in a special reception in the Palace of Versailles itself. Part of the festivities included Catharine Cline Hamilton receiving the Arts & Letters Commandeur award.

The week's festivities began with a welcome reception by Catherine Pégard, president of the Palace of Versailles, in La Galerie des Cotelle in the Grand Trianon to view the exhibition dedicated to the famed artist Jean Cotelle the Younger.

Lunch followed at the recently renovated French contemporary restaurant in the Pavillon Dufour, in Chef Alain Ducasse's Ore-Ducasse au château de Versailles. Pilar and Juan Pablo Molyneux, Vice Presidents of the American Friends of Versailles Board of Directors, hosted a cocktail dînatoire in their exquisite Parisian residence in the Marais.

CONTINUED ...





David and Whitney Gerkin, Brinkley and Patsy Dickerson & Will Dickerson



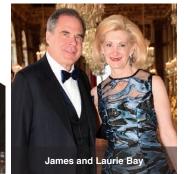




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THE VIBE:

Other highlights of the event week included a Champagne reception and amazing private tour of the Elysée Palace with Madame Emmanuel Macron, wife of the President of the French Republic; cocktails with Ambassador Jamie McCourt celebrating international volunteerism at another worldrenowned, grand Hôtel Particulier on the Faubourg Saint-Honoré; a festive dinner dance cruise on the Seine; a luncheon hosted by the Prince and Princess of Bourbon-Two Sicilies in their sumptuous private residence overlooking the Seine; and other illuminating events surrounding the high black-tie gala at Versailles.

The guests at the gala were enveloped by sounds coming from the royal chapel organ, a truly majestic, exceptional experience since Mozart played for King Louis XV on the same instrument. The grand dinner was served in the Salon d'Hercule, one of the grandest rooms in the Château, where guests dined on cuisine created by Le Notre with wines generously provided by the Académie du Vin de Bordeaux. Following the sumptuous dinner full of the international Jet Set, the sky was illuminated by a spectacular, grand display of feux d'artifice in the manner of the 18th century to baroque music with fountains flowing.

THE CAUSE:

Benefitting the American Friends of Versailles, the honorable chairmen and many more board members helped make this year's events a success. It was inspiring for guests to see all of the intense dedication in bringing this mission to life. S







McFadden and Alexander McFadden



Bourbon Two Sicilies, Duke of Castro





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MARIPOSA MARVELS

Texas Biomedical Forum Gala Spring Soirée Takes Flight

By Jonathan Spindel | Photography by Super Q Photography and Greg Harrison



THE SCENE:

The Argyle set the scene of the Forum *Mariposa* gala, so named for the progressive transformation within the Texas Biomedical Research Institute. As guests arrived, they were serenaded by an all-female mariachi group while enjoying the Argyle's famous margaritas and passed hors d'oeuvres. Many chose to pose and have their picture taken in front of an elegant, one-of-a-kind hand-painted Chinoiserie back drop. Acrylic and stilted colorful butterflies added to the magic of the evening.

The classic décor of the Argyle was masterfully transformed by the Austinbased event company Caplan Miller. Tables were set with sage green velvet and silk table linens, smoke grey Lucite Chiavari chairs and blush floral centerpieces accented with ginger jars and colorful butterflies. Guests were gifted with lovely favors from Lee Michaels Fine Jewelry at their seat secured by favors chair Jessica Berg.

CONTINUED...



The Argyle



Liz DeBarge, Sarah Owens, Kathryn Goertz, Brooke Meabon, Maria Beck, Anne Davidson, Linda Leavitt, Mary Barker and Nicole Hatter



Rebecca and Wes Madere, Judy and Larry Schlesinger & Debbie and Corbett Christie





THE VIBE:

Partygoers had the opportunity to bid on several exclusive silent auction packages and purchase raffle tickets solicited by silent auction and raffle chair Kelly Wade Fry. The generous silent auction and raffle donors raised a record-breaking sum. As always, the food and service at The Argyle was one of the evening's highlights. Following dinner, guests were joined by after party guests in the blush-draped tent with crystal chandeliers and festoon lighting. There were many elegant seating areas throughout the tent, an espresso bar with Mexican wedding cookies from Lily's Cookies, and the classic Argyle nachos, sliders and frites. The guests danced the night away at the after party enjoying the electric sounds of the dueling DJ's.

THE CAUSE:

This year's gala, organized by chair Denise Mosser, and co-chair Nicole McClane, raised well over \$400,000 for the Texas Biomedical Research Institute. The organization was founded in 1970 by a group of inspiring and hardworking women with the same goal to support the life-changing and life-saving work being done at the Texas Biomedical Research Institute through community awareness and fundraising.

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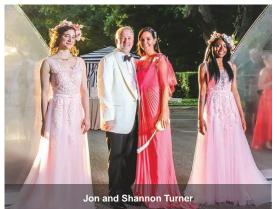


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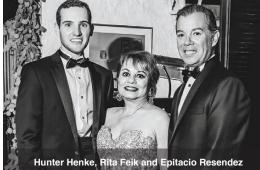




SPECTATE: SAN ANTONIO











Whitney Shones and Amy Maverick













Gloria and Miguel Dilley & Trish Hennessey



SEPTEMBER • OCTOBER 2018

SPECTATE: SAN ANTONIO





Brandon Grossman, Sloan Thomas and Miguel Dilley





Ryan and Jessica Berg



Tom and Kristan Northington & Erin and Jimmy Walker



Hailey Conger, Kelly Wade Fry, Courtney Percy and Linda Leavitt





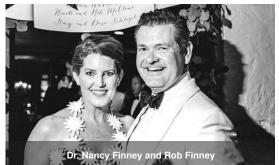


Curtis Johnson, Georgina Podjenski and Daryl Anderson



Daniela Serna, Lucy Peveto and Camille Mandigo







Audra Kerr and Brooke Meabon



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ENTRANCE: DALLAS

REDEFINED & REFINED MTV RE:DEFINE Gala Raises Over \$2.2 Million Dollars

By Rob Giardinelli | Photography by RE:DEFINE

THE SCENE:

NorthPark Center in Dallas was the recent scene for an evening of fabulous artistry, where over 400 social VIPs from across the globe were on hand for the 7th Annual MTV RE:DEFINE gala. The one-of-a-kind evening included world-class artists and showstopping musical performances.

THE VIBE:

The international crowd featured a range of attire where suits and ball gowns seamlessly mixed with creativechic looks. The evening began in the NorthPark Center foyer with a cocktail hour where guests sipped spirits and previewed the elaborate art on hand for bid later in the evening. The festivities then moved to the tented space on the beautifully manicured NorthPark grounds for the evening's program. The evening's hosts, Joyce Goss and Kenny Goss of The Goss-Michael Foundation, were accompanied by other VIPs including Tracey Emin, one of Britain's most influential contemporary artists. Simon de Pury helmed a spirited live auction that fincluded a piece donated by Emin that fetched \$220,000. The evening was capped off by singersongwriter Arlissa who brought down the house with a series of showstopping songs that brought the crowd to their feet.

THE CAUSE:

The evening, co-chaired by Brooke Davenport and Maxine Trowbridge, raised over \$2.2 million. The proceeds will be used to generate awareness for HIV and AIDS prevention through the MTV Staying Alive Foundation as well as funding for arts education and programming for the Dallas Contemporary. S



Kimberly Schlegel Whitman and Justin Whitman



Maxine and Ben Trowbridge

Brooke and Blake

Davenport









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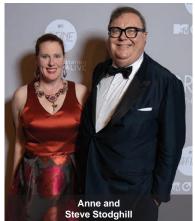
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ENTRANCE: DALLAS



















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ENTRANCE: AUSTIN

ZACH, MEET GEORGE

ZACH Theatre's Red, Hot And Soul Dazzles with Sunday in the Park with George Parisian Theme By Rob Giardinelli | Photography by Charles Quinn Photography



Ashley Hunter and Ross Mood

THE SCENE:

Zachary Scott Theatre was the setting for one of Austin's most anticipated galas of the year, Red Hot & Soul. The 420 guests were treated to an experience that included dinner, dazzling performances and an epic after party. The theme corresponded to the theatre's successful run of Sunday in the Park with George, set in 1880s Paris.

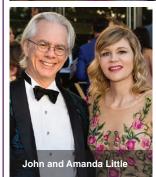
THE VIBE:

The black-tie crowd featured a creative, Parisian flair that was felt the moment while walking into the lobby of ZACH's Topfer Theatre. After cocktails in the lobby foyer, the très magnifique festivities moved to the Bobbi Pavilion where the fun continued. Celebrity florist David Kurio created one-of-a-kind Parisian décor with bold, colorful floral displays that popped against the pastel-chic tables. Partygoers were treated to a sumptuous meal catered by Four Seasons along with the evening's program that featured performances from the ZACH Theater and Preprofessional companies. The evening continued with a spirited live auction as well as a Fund-A-Dream paddlesup that raised over \$400,000. Guests then made their way onto the Topfer Theatre stage for the Moulin Rougethemed after party where revelers danced the night away. Ooh la la!

THE CAUSE:

The evening, chaired by Richard Hartgrove and Gary Cooper with Bobbi Topfer serving as honorary chair, raised over \$715,000 for ZACH. Each year over 115,000 Central Texans including over 50,000 children experience ZACH's plays, musicals, and education and outreach programs.











and Sam Slate





nd Maria Groten

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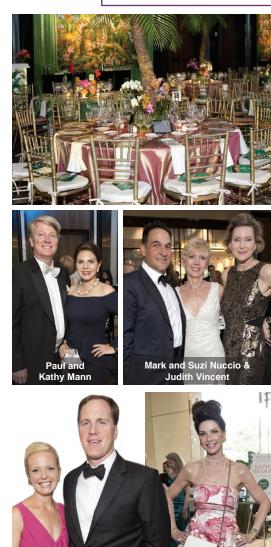


ENTRANCE: HOUSTON

EXOTIC OVERTURE

Houston Symphony Ball Celebrates With Gala

By Jennifer Roosth | Photography by Jenny Antill, Daniel Ortiz and Anthony Rathbun



Lawrence and Henry Bragg





Marla Hurley

Scotty Arnold

THE SCENE:

At the new Post Oak Hotel, more than 530 guests donned black-tie attire to enjoy this year's Houston Symphony Ball, themed The Balinese Room, the famous nightclub of yesteryear. Patrons enjoyed cocktails and hors d'oeuvres while bidding on one-of-a-kind silent auction items. As the dinner chimes rang, guests made their way to their tables which were covered with centerpieces of palm trees and orchids, and tropical floral arrangements.

THE VIBE:

The décor, created by Richard Flowers of The Events Company, transported guests to the past as they were welcomed by Balinese fire dancers. Murals, inspired by the Faena Hotel in Miami, were draped in tropical green firecracker curtains. Following the honoree presentation, the David Caceres Orchestra took the stage while dinner prepared by Executive Chef Jean-Luc Royere was served. Partygoers enjoyed an after party with New York City's DJ Kalkutta, with a Balinese Room signature drink and snacked on late night bites.

THE CAUSE:

The event, chaired by Robin Angly and Miles Smith, along with co-chairs Darrin Davis and Mario Gudmundsson and auction chairs Ann Ayre and Helen Shaffer, raised more than \$1.33 million for the Houston Symphony's Education and Community Programming. Phillips 66 served as the presenting sponsor for the fourth consecutive year. The evening honored Aurelie Desmarais with the Mike Stude Award for Enduring Artistic Vision, and Dr. Renu Khator with the Raphael Fliegel Award for Visionary Leadership. S







Nancy and Bob Peiser & Susan and Dick Hansen





Diane Lokey Farb



Betty and Jesse Tutor





Dr. Suresh Khator and Dr. Renu Khator







Brinton Averil Smith, Andres Orozco-Estrada and Evelyn Chen



Ed Struzynski and Aurelie Desmarais









Andrew and Valerie Dingee











Marc and Julie Boom & Rachel and Warren Ellsworth

ENTRANCE: SAN ANTONIO

A REGAL AFFAIR San Antonio Museum of Art Ball Celebrates City's 300th Anniversary

By Jason Grosgrain | Photography by Greg Harrison



THE SCENE:

The San Antonio Museum of Art recently hosted a ball to honor the city's 300th birthday with a gala that previewed the museum's exhibition Spain: 500 Years of Spanish Paintings from the Museums of Madrid. King Felipe VI and Queen Letizia of Spain lent an aristocratic air to the festivities by attending the Tricentennial exhibition that features more than forty masterpieces of Spanish painting drawn from major collections in Madrid-including the Prado, San Fernando Royal Academy of Fine Arts Museum, and the Reina Sofia-complemented by a select group of works from American museums.

THE VIBE:

A once-in-a-lifetime opportunity, guests enjoyed dined among the works of art from the Spanish museums. Guests dined in a tent that was constructed on the museum property and created by Billinda Wilkinson and her team at Wilkinson Rhodes. They transformed the interior of the tent by creating the ambiance of a Spanish colonial hacienda. The Jason Dady Restaurant Group catered the sumptuous Spanish dinner for the guests in attendance. Afterward, music in the tent provided dancing, followed by desserts and coffee.

THE CAUSE:

The evening's co-chairs were A. Kate Sheerin and Keller Henderson, with Malú and Carlos Alvarez serving as honorary chairs. The mission of the San Antonio Museum of Art is to collect, preserve, exhibit and interpret significant works of art representing a broad range of history and world cultures for the benefit of the community and future generations. S



courtesy of Daniel Holman)



JB and Corinna Richter









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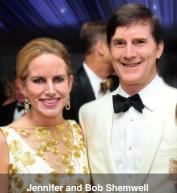
Katie Luber, Hon. Ron Nirenberg and Marie Halff (Photo Courtesy of Daniel Holman)



Juan Barrera and Romanita Matta-Barrera & Jessica and Ray Saldana



Brad and Emily Jones







Ben and Janet Adams & Charles Forster



Sonya Dawson, Rick Liberto, Carolyn French and Jamie Norton



Sylvia Rodriguez, David Gross and Laura Vaccaro







Rene Bario and Amy Stieren Smiley

ENTRANCE: DALLAS

THIS IS HOW WE DO

Emmitt Smith Celebrity Invitational Benefits Pat & Emmitt Smith Charities

By Cynthia Smoot | Photography by Thomas Garza



Bishop TD and Serita Jakes & Pat and Emmitt Smith





Jon and Dawn Mellon

Torii and Katrina Hunter







and Mark Page

THE SCENE:

The Emmitt Smith Celebrity Invitational took place this May at the Omni Frisco hotel, marking its ninth year of grand-scale fundraising to directly impact the lives of thousands of North Texas children, families and their communities. the theme for this year was Rising Stars. A star-studded red carpet, hosted by Cigna, kicked off the evening and included sports and entertainment notables such as Bishop TD Jakes, Thurman Thomas, Melissa Rycroft Strickland, Andre Reed, Woody McClain, and Kavon Frazier.

THE VIBE:

Entertainment Tonight's Nischelle Turner hosted the evening that showcased the impact of the organization's community work by interviewing three of the young adults their programming had benefited on-stage. The evening culminated with the presentation of the 2018 Roger Staubach Award that was presented by Haggar to Jason Witten, who had retired from the Dallas Cowboys just days before. The gala wrapped up with a surprise performance by 90s pop star Montell Jordan joining Emerald City Band on-stage to sing his hit song This Is How We Do It.

THE CAUSE:

Event chairs Janiece Evans-Page and Mark Page led the event alongside honorary chairs Torii and Katrina Hunter. To date, the Emmitt Smith Celebrity Invitational has raised more than \$7.2 million dollars in support of Pat & Emmitt Smith Charities and has supported more than 150 charities in North Texas, including 7,000 Dallas ISD students and families.





Carole and Scott Murray















Libby Vincek and Cynthia Smoot



Kavon and Gera Frazier











TOASTING THE CITY

St. David's Foundation's Toast Of The Town Sizzles

By Rob Giardinelli | Photography by Robert Godwin



Brooke and Brandon Taylor & Andrew Mason

THE SCENE:

Each spring St. David's Foundation's Toast of the Town wraps up the Austin social season with a bang. Over the course of six weeks, intimate parties – no, make that one-of-a-kind experiences – attract a diverse array of VIPs from many branches of Austin's burgeoning social scene. This year was no exception with a record 22 *Toast* experiences for even the most discerning partygoer.

THE VIBE:

The Toast party season literally kicked into high gear from the very first party, Life in the Fast Lane with Jeff Mosing where guests were able to view dozens of classic vintage and muscle cars. The fun continued for the following 21 parties. Those inspired by the sporty kickoff party could also rub elbows with various head coaches from various University of Texas Athletic Departments during later events. The sophistication of downtown Austin was also on display with the opportunity to enjoy unique experiences such as Dinner with Mayor Steve Adler and Celebrity Chef Tyson Cole, and An Austin Kind of Night with Lyle Lovett at the W Hotel and ACL Live. The festivities concluded with a quintessentially Austin experience an outdoor concert with legendary musician Bob Schneider.

THE CAUSE:

Toast of the Town, chaired by Cassie Bale with Lesa Rossick serving as vice chair, raised over \$1.5 million for the St. David's Neal Kocurek Scholarship which provides funding for college students seeking to pursue a career in the medical field. **S**















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Bill and

Lesa Rossick

Brian and Phillis Patek & Jenny and Brandon Aghamalian Brian Saari and Sandra Jarman **David and Landen Winston**





Sara and Pat Lee



Polly and Marcus Lines







Dr. Josh and Sarah Tao



Dr. Ravi Jhaveri, Tyson Cole and Rita Jhaveri





Arhian Albis Ramos and David Pierce



SCOTT

ENTRANCE: HOUSTON

ATRUE HOME RUN

Team Up For K9s And Kids Hosts Baseball-Themed Event

By Jennifer Roosth | Photography by Daniel Ortiz and Michelle Watson/CatchLight Group and Barbara Perlick





and Will Harris

THE SCENE:

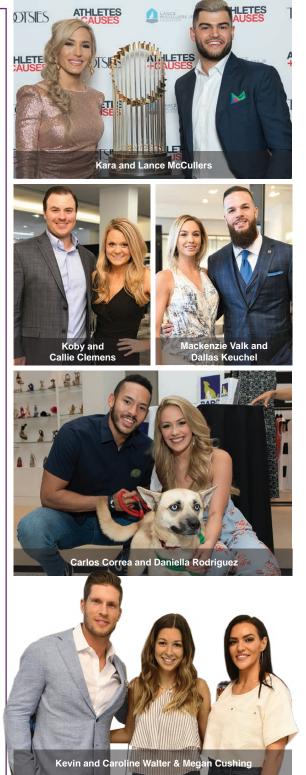
Astros Lance McCullers Jr. and Dallas Keuchel, along with 2018 American League MVP José Altuve, served as hosts for the evening benefiting Team Up for K9s and Kids children's and animal organizations across the Houston community at Tootsies.

THE VIBE:

The crowd was completely star-struck as the hottest team in the majors turned out in full support of the community efforts of the athletic trio. Leading the way visiting with fans and supporting their teammates' charities were players Carlos Correa, George Springer, Gerrit Cole, Justin Verlander, Brad Peacock, Collin McHugh and Joe Smith. Surprise guest and National Baseball Hall of Fame member Craig Biggio, and Houston Texan Greg Mancz dropped by as well. During the highly entertaining live auction, the players took to the stage to promote their causes in an effort to sell the artwork depicting their likeness, a custom portrait of McCullers, Altuve, Keuchel and Verlander made of wood and resin by renowned artist Jason Skeldon. At the end of the night, the auction results were a true score for the players' causes.

THE CAUSE:

The evening raised over \$360,000 for The Lance McCullers Jr. Foundation, The José Altuve Foundation, and Dallas Keuchel Foundation, all through Athletes and Causes. The players' focused causes for the evening were animal rescue efforts BARC Animal Shelter and Adoptions, and The Sunshine Kids Foundation, which benefits children receiving cancer treatments throughout the United States and North America.





George and Charlise Springer







Hallie Vanderhider, Bill Baldwin and Alicia Smith





Kimble and Terry Sagrera & Carrie and Brent Strom

Greg Mancz and Justin Verlander



Giannina and José Altuve



Morgan Kaldis, Channing Tang and Sarah Martinez







Craig and Patty Biggio







ENTRANCE: SAN ANTONIO

CHIC CHAPEAUX Festooned Fashionistas Attend Festive Fundraiser

By Jonathan Spindel | Photography by Greg Harrison



Karla Nelson, Jessica Berg and Jennifer Soltis

THE SCENE:

Over 500 San Antonians supported the 15th annual Le Brunch des Chapeaux benefitting Autism Community Network at The Argyle. The event featured a style show by Julian Gold showcasing spring and summer fashions. Cloche Designs was engaged to help with the event décor that included a stunning display of hats crafted from fresh flowers flanked by champagne towers at the event entrance.

THE VIBE:

Guest speaker, Elaine Turner, whose candor, humility, honesty and style made for a memorable keynote address to the sold-out audience. The event co-chairs and committee paid tribute to the founding co-chairs, who were in attendance as well as the staff and board of Autism Community Network. Television personality and philanthropist Tanji Patton emceed the event and announced Best Hat recipients who each received a custom piece of Carroll Dorsey Walker jewelry. The raffle winners were awarded gift certificates from Shetler Fine Jewelry, Kelly Wade Jewelers, Julian Gold or Lee Michaels, along with a silent auction featuring exquisite trips and shopping excursions. Guests left with complimentary Nest candles benefiting Autism Awareness graciously donated by Worth &Associates and Julian Gold.

THE CAUSE:

Event co-chairs Camille Mandigo and Katherine Gainey helmed raising over \$200,000 for the organization, more than double the proceeds raised in the previous year. Autism Community Network provides early, high quality, interdisciplinary diagnosis and treatment for autism service providers and families affected by autism.







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Megan Steves, Triana Grossman, Amelita Mauze and Jessica Worth





Adrienne Jordan







Heather Tarkhurft and Erin Harrison



Louella Carr, Sharron Batchelor and Jan Gignac





Laura Nell Burton and Christin Gish









Heather Magarian and Leanne Cyr

SEPTEMBER • OCTOBER 2018

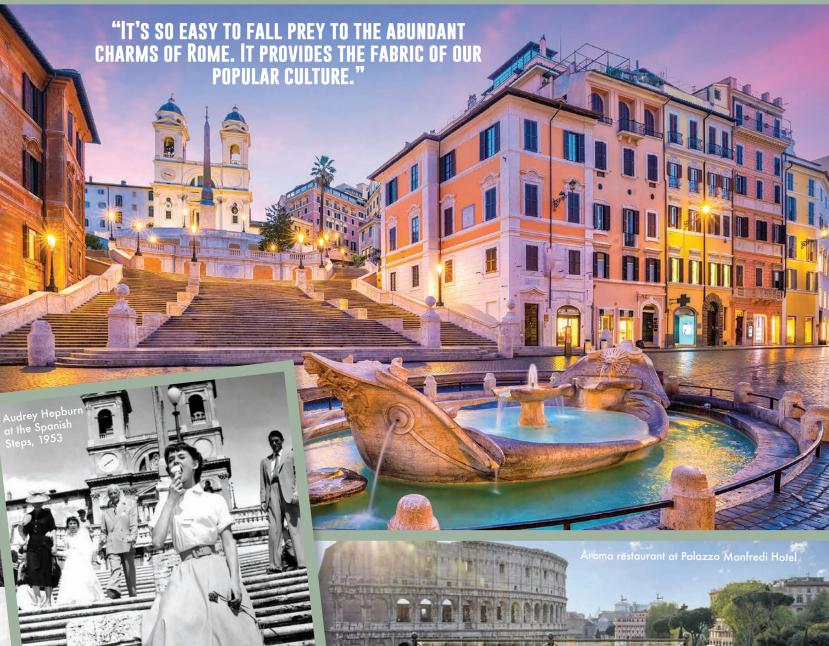


Join us on a breathtaking adventure to The Eternal City *as our Roman raconteur Rob Giardinelli* shares a modern spin on a classic destination that always surpasses expectations.

E MARK









THAT'S AMORE

THE ITALIAN SUN SEEMS TO SHINE BRIGHTER IN ROME than anywhere else. And no matter what time of the year, the sunlight beams around every corner you look within this ancient city. It's so easy to fall prey to the abundant charms of Rome. It provides the fabric of our popular culture. From classic films like *Roman Holiday, La Dolce Vita* and *The Roman Spring of Mrs. Stone*, to the nuances of Italy that permeate our culture in everything from fashion to food, there's an abundance of chic for the discerning traveler. In a recent bucket list visit and during my honeymoon, Rome, The Eternal City, was a dream come true.

Two things come to mind when anyone thinks of Italy, especially Rome. The love of history and cuisine. As a history buff of Italian descent, I couldn't think of a better place to celebrate the once-in-alifetime experience of a honeymoon. Over the course of four days, we walked, shopped, dined and most importantly, left while we were still having fun so we could make an encore trip in the future – perhaps to celebrate an anniversary – to experience more.

We arrived early on a warm, yet pleasant Sunday morning at Rome's Fiumicino Airport. As those who believe in living like a local, we opted to stay at an Airbnb residence instead of a five-star hotel, so we could have a truly authentic Italian experience. The owner of our flat arranged for a car and driver to pick us up upon our arrival. Since the airport is outside the city, this offered a unique way to experience the metropolis for the first time. As we drove further and further into the city, we passed by several walls the ancient Romans built to fortress their empire. With each wall we passed, it only heightened the anticipation of getting into the city, no matter how jet lagged we were.

Within a half hour we arrived at our flat, a spacious 19th century-era unit with two terraces, in the Monti district of Rome. Going during the offseason in late October, we were able to find this gem for a fraction of the price of a room at a five-star hotel.

One of the best things about the Monti district is its central location

and Boho-chic nature – think of it as Manhattan's Greenwich Village, done Italian style. Our flat was perfectly located on a narrow, oneway street dotted with neighborhood eateries and bars, about a fifteen-minute walk from both Termini (Rome's main train station) and the Colosseum. Being so conveniently located, we were able to mostly forego metros, taxis and Ubers during our entire stay in Rome. Traveling by foot allowed us to experience the neighborhood gems that would not be as readily available in the more touristy or less central locales of the Eternal City. After checking into our room, we unpacked our suitcases and darted out for our first afternoon in the city. We would only have to walk half a block before seeing something that would truly capture our eye.

As we rounded a curve in the street just footsteps from our front door, we saw an open garage door bay with many locals walking in an out with shopping bags. Intrigued, we walked in and discovered the Mercato Monti Urban Market. Open only on the weekends, this neighborhood gem features art, accessories, jewelry, and fashion at incredible prices. There were many luxury items for under 100 euros, including cocktail dresses and cashmere wool sport coats. Finding two sets of Armani cufflinks for 30 euros each, we quickly grabbed the bargains, paying the vendor in cash. One thing to note when you shop local in Rome is that many establishments are cash-only. Before you cross the pond, make a visit to your bank and have them order you some euros. You'll be grateful you did.

After venturing around our neighborhood a little more, we arrived back to our flat for a change of clothes to power through the day. As any seasoned traveler knows, the best way to fight jetlag is to stay up as late as possible on the schedule of your new environment. We donned our Sunday finest and strolled through Via Dei Concotti, Rome's allpedestrian version of Rodeo Drive, to a destination recommended by a native Italian friend of ours, the Stravinskij Bar at Hotel de Russie. This gem in the middle of Rome features one of the most stunning outdoor terraces of any hotel in the world. We enjoyed their perfectly made L'architetto and il Professore martinis against the backdrop of gorgeous weather and scenery. Opting for something more local for "IT WAS A ROBUST WAY TO EXPERIENCE THE DAILY LIFE OF THE LOCAL ROMANS. WHAT IMPRESSED US THE MOST IS HOW ROMANS VALUE AND INTERACT WITH THEIR ELDERS."

dinner, we embarked toward our flat to find a local neighborhood haunt, the delectable Trattoria Valentino for pizza, before resting up for the next day.

CLASSIC CULTURE

Neither of us had been to Rome before, so given our love for food and history, we decided it would be good to organize our three days into historic and gastronomic themes. We started with a professional tour of the city to have a better understanding of the landmarks and geography. For this we recommend Walks of Italy's aptly named Rome in a Day tour. It's an eight-hour, skip-the-lines VIP walking tour of Rome that hits all the high notes. It was a short 15-minute walk from our flat and a perfect way to get the blood flowing for the day ahead as we met across the street from the Colosseum at 8:30 AM sharp.

Our tour was a small group eight. Our guide Francesca, who had earned a doctorate degree in Italian History, gave us a detailed history and understanding of not just the venues we visited, but also of Italian culture. For the first half of the tour, we took in three of Rome's most iconic landmarks: the Colosseum, Trevi Fountain and the Pantheon. All of them were beautiful, yet they paled in comparison to our walk down Via dei Fori Imperiali en route from the Colosseum to loverladen Trevi Fountain where wishes of the heart are made with tossed coins thrown to the fates in the water. Via dei Fori Imperiali provides views of Roman ruins that are both plentiful and breathtaking, making the expanse and largesse of the Roman Empire of 2000 years ago much more relatable.

Near the Pantheon is Giolitti, a gelato shop near the Pantheon that opened in 1900 and is famous for its myriad flavors. They offer a gelato-making class, where students can work with a *gelataio* to make their preferred flavor and then go behind the counter of the shop where they can serve their gelato to waiting customers. A tasting of gelato follows, of course. For this gelato-loving experience, it's 700 euros, including car and driver. Another gelato insider tip: ask for whipped cream on top like the locals. For another typically Roman experience, there's the walk or drive down the Via Vennetto, one of the most famous, elegant, and expensive streets immortalized in the 1960 film, *La Dolce Vita*, glamorizing the outdoor café culture of the city.

Roman ruins

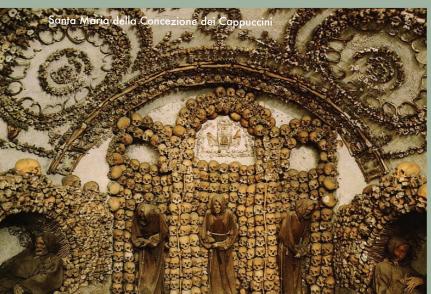
After allowing an hour for lunch when we dined with several of our fellow tour members, Walks of Italy arranged for transportation across the River Tiber for our afternoon at Vatican City. Walking through the Vatican, Francesca continued to impress with a detailed history of the Vatican, St. Peter's Basilica and the Sistine Chapel, as well as giving us time to absorb these incredible works of art and architecture. The vast and awe-inspiring Sistine Chapel, in particular, is something to behold and is a must-add item to your bucket list. From Michelangelo's fabled ceiling to the official anterooms nearby, the richness of history is remarkable.

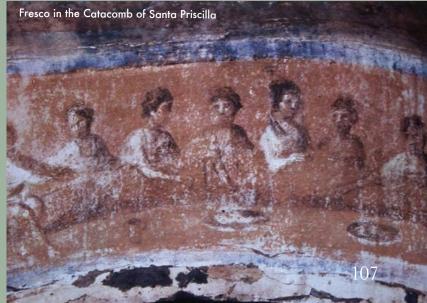
After a long day of sightseeing and absorbing Italian culture, we hailed our only taxi during our stay in Rome. We had our driver drop us off a few blocks from our flat near Trattoria Valentino, where we had dined the night before, since we knew there was a host of additional restaurants that we could enjoy. We decided to dine at Ai Tre Scalini, a local wine bar with delicious handmade ravioli and lasagna. Still peckish after dinner, we found a neighborhood gelateria, Fatamorgana Monti, less than a block from our flat. The best part, in addition to the amazing pistachio and lemon gelato, of course, were the pony walls on either side which made for a perch to enjoy our dairy treat while people watching. Who says you have to be in a piazza to people watch?

LIVE LIKE A LOCAL

The next morning, we laid low near our place opting to go to a little coffee shop on the corner. It was a robust way to experience the daily life of the local Romans. What impressed us the most is how Romans value and interact with their elders. We saw this in action on several occasions. The most impressive was an older gentleman who asked a young woman walking in the opposite direction for assistance. She stopped to help the older gentleman and aided him all the way up the street to his final destination.









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Trevi Fountain

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Vivien Leigh and Warren Beatty, The Roman Spring of Mrs. Stone, 1961

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"ORDERING WINE, WHICH WAS SERVED IN ONE-OF-A-KIND, VINTAGE GLASSES, WE Toasted our evening as we tried to discern Italian words from the people Occupying the tables around us in the vintage living room environ."

St. Peter's Basillica

On a high from the generosity from the native residents, we decided it would be fun to walk across the River Tiber to our Trastevere Food Tour. The brisk walk from our flat was a great way to burn calories in advance of all the eating we were about to do. Our tour guide Domenico lead us through the Trastevere region, with stops at eight different local venues, which included plenty of wine and Prosecco, sampling local delicacies such as suppli (a delicious fried risotto ball) and a visit to a vendor at the Trastevere's San Cosimato Market. More recommended stops are Da Ivo and Ai Marmi. Our tour ended in the Jewish Ghetto for dessert in a 10th-century building built on top of ruins that date back to the first century B.C.E.

After arriving back at our flat, complete with stops at a couple of piazzas for a beverage and some people watching, we changed and took a disco nap before dinner for a night out in the neighborhood. We began our evening at Black Market, a cocktail bar for locals. Walking in, I couldn't help feeling that this was the quintessential Monti establishment with a vibe that transported me to a still undiscovered neighborhood in an up-and-coming city. Ordering wine, which was served in one-of-a-kind, vintage glasses, we toasted our evening as we tried to discern Italian words from the people occupying the tables around us in the vintage living room environ. From there we walked a couple of blocks to La Carbonara, which has been world famous for at least seven decades. Because it's also popular with the locals, a reservation is highly recommended. Delicious food at an affordable price, we dined for about 40 euros. The Buffalo Mozarella, Rigatoni Alla Garcia and Spaghetti ala Carbonara are must-haves. En route home, we found a small local grocery store to buy a bottle of wine and enjoy a glass al fresco on the terrace while soaking in the sounds and energy of the city.

For our final day in Rome, we followed the pattern of our first two days. History, followed by food. A good friend of ours said no trip to Rome is complete without an underground ruins tour, specifically the Basilica de San Clemente. Since we had already booked our day-long, above-ground tour of Rome, I was able to find that Walks of Italy also offered a Crypt, Bones and Catacombs tour.

Maintaining the small group nature of our first tour, the underground tour began at Santa Maria della Concezione de Cappuccini, which is across the street from the Hotel Imperiale made famous in the legendary 1953 movie *Roman Holiday* starring Audrey Hepburn. A sight to behold, it features artistic installations of the skulls and bones of over 4,000 monks who have inhabited the space over the centuries. The tour also highlighted a must-see of the Spanish Steps, which were recently reopened to the public after years of conservation.

We then hopped on a shuttle and spent the rest of the tour underground. Our next stop was the Catabomb of Santa Priscilia where we descended several stories underground to see how Romans buried the dead over the centuries. Unlike Roman tradition of building new on top of old, the oldest tombs are buried on the top level, with subsequent generations in the layers below. Christianity was not founded in Rome until 313 A.D. which is evident on the upper layers where the tombs have no reference to Christianity. The final stop on our tour was the Basilica San Clemente, a church built on several layers of ruins, where the layers of time reveal the purposes of these grounds. Our guide shared the fascinating 2,000 plus year history of the Basilica which you can almost feel in your own bones as you descend through each level.

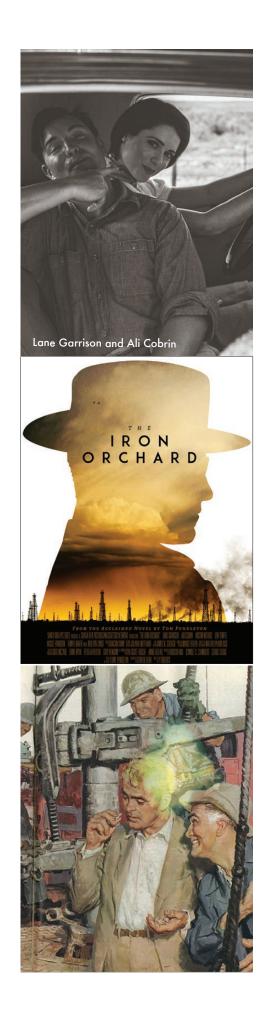
We wanted to cap off our time in Rome with a true five-star experience. There is no more magnificent place to do this than Aroma, a Michelinstarred restaurant atop the Palazzo Manfredi Hotel. Aroma features an outdoor terrace with views of the Colosseum. Against this backdrop, I can honestly say there is no more magical, romantic place to finish a visit to Rome – especially at night. Seated at the edge of the 8th story terrace, I looked down to see a historic surprise, exposed ruins. Seeing the above-ground and below-ground history all in one is simply remarkable. Featuring both a tasting menu and an a la carte menu, we opted for the a la carte. Enjoying the tagliolini pasta and risotto, we toasted our marriage and perfect honeymoon. And until we meet again, Rome, *Arrivederci!* S

Lane Garrison

H H H.

The upcoming film *The Iron Orchard*, which took 52 years to finally be adapted from the award-winning novel, will soon inspire Texas pride in viewers across our state and beyond our border. Here, *our cineaste Lance Avery Morgan*, who also appears in the film, shares his insight on the instant celluloid classic.

Photography by ZACH CAMPELL AND MATHIEU PLAINFOSSÉ



HOSE SONS OF RICHES

THE IRON ORCHARD, WHICH PREMIERES at the Austin Film Festival in October, has waited over five decades for its big screen debut since the eponymous book debuted to much fanfare. Yet the book's impact dissipated as fast as it rose to acclaim. Intriguingly, when the story raised its mighty Texas

head during its film adaptation, we knew we had to learn more and little did we know, the ties that bound us to it unfurled like a lasso on a dusty plain. Talk of turning *The Iron Orchard* into a film, a saga of the days of Texas lore, had been bubbling for years. But with fits and starts, movie rights licensed and rights expired, the dream wasn't realized until recently. So when *The Society Diaries* magazine was asked to join on set, we couldn't turn down the opportunity.

In 1966, the 1930s-era book won the Texas Book of Letters fiction

award, along with Larry McMurtry's *The Last Picture Show*, the lusty and highly libidinous (for the era) coming of age story also set in West Texas. The latter appeared on the world's movie screens in 1971 and not only became a hit, but an enduring Texas cult classic. Sixties heartthrobs Paul Newman and George Peppard were reportedly interested in starring in *The Iron Orchard* film after the book was initially published. Either would have done a fine job, but the timing just wasn't right. Meanwhile, the story was

left on a shelf to be re-discovered by later generations.

If ever you could judge a book by its cover, it's this one. An oil derrick looms behind its master, the protagonist Jim McNeely. The back of the original paperback (long out-of-print and extremely rare to find) beckons the reader into the world of the *Giant*-esque Texas of not too long ago:

What does it take to satisfy a man like McNeely? He wants oil. And he's wringing it from the sullen, resisting earth. He wants a woman. And he takes it from a man who can't handle her. He wants respect. And he wins it with his fists, with his money, with his guts and brains. Soon to be a major motion picture.

THE GREATEST SHOW ON WORTH

The major motion picture never came to pass, until now. "As a native Texan, I've never been prouder of anything more in my life than this film," revealed actor Lane Garrison who plays the protagonist Jim McNeely.

"AS A NATIVE TEXAN, I'VE NEVER BEEN PROUDER OF ANYTHING MORE IN MY LIFE THAN THIS FILM." Lane Garrison, Actor

The film stays impeccably true to the tome. Simply put, *The Iron Orchard* spans three decades telling the story of McNeely, a kid from the wrong side of the tracks in a fictional city near Fort Worth. McNeely, who was orphaned in high school, finds that his girlfriend, Mazie, is reluctant to commit to a future with him. Naturally in that pre-war time period, Mazie's affluent parents do not approve of the relationship and they end up "helping Jim out" by getting him a job as an oilfield hand in the barren fields of West Texas.

The exhausting work among the brutal elements, with a boss who relentlessly pushes him to toughen up to survive the harsh industry, fuels Jim McNeely to climb the ranks and earn the respect of the crew. Violent confrontation and juicy romantic intrigue ends Jim's time in the fields and compels him to Odessa to start a small oilfield equipment service company with his new wife, Lee. After navigating the rough waters of the business and life in general, Lee and Jim move back to his

hometown where he becomes a formidable wildcatter. The stakes are higher, the drama is more intense, and a cast of unforgettable characters (most notably his old oilfield comrades, Ort Cooley and Dent Paxton) makes the adventure even richer.

The book, set in what now must seem like a different planet to those who were there then, is rife with not-so-politically-correct moments, especially in regard to how the characters talked about women, people of

color, and the disabled. However, while these moments were cringeworthy, they were also a profound reflection of the times and certainly added some authenticity to the novel. "When I read the book, it really spoke to me. The similarities between my life and McNeely's are parallel," confided Garrison. "I was also orphaned at an early age, didn't have a college education, and we have both been motivated in our careers by feelings of inadequacy," he admits, resonating with McNeely's search for a prize few are lucky to find.

The author, Tom Pendleton, a pseudonym of Edmund Pendleton Van Zandt, Jr., was a man of means from a prominent Texas family. He wrote the book under a pen name because he wasn't sure how the public would respond to his expository insider account of faces and spaces that were surely recognizable to his milieu. According to the Texas State Historical Association, Van Zandt worked for oil companies in various capacities; as roustabout, oil scout, and foreign oil concession negotiator in Venezuela and London, so he knew his subject matter well. He returned to the United States in 1962 to become assistant





to the president of the General American Oil Company of Texas in Dallas. In 1963 he joined the Fort Worth National Bank. As an executive at a bank with intimate knowledge of the biggest depositors of the era, some of his clients might have recognized themselves had they known Van Zandt loosely based his work on them.

Most who read the novel feel Van Zandt developed deep characters and wove an incredibly captivating story. At the beginning of many chapters, the author would write a few clever paragraphs about monumental moments or figures in the actual world of the oil industry during that particular time of the story. As Jim McNeely, the protagonist proclaims in the film, "Oil men want respect. And the only way to win

it is by striking oil." In addition to a great narrative about the oil patch and wildcatting, the reader also gets a high-level picture of the state's lucrative industry during the late 30s, 40s, and 50s when the action takes place.

COUNTRY MOUSE, CITY MOUSE

Fast forward to present day, with the film production in the oil fields of Big Spring, which seems almost dead center of the West Texas it portrays so richly. I knew an investor or two in the movie and was instantly fascinated. Who wouldn't be, with *Giant* among my top few proverbial "desert island"

films? One of the film's investors JK Baxter shared the excitement by musing, "I have worked in the oil and gas industry for many years. Based on my own personal experience, I have observed the rigors of this industry and its vicious boom and bust cycles. Plus, Lane Garrison perfectly captures the Jim McNeely character in this rags-to-riches-torags story of agony and despair. An amazing cast supports him."

The citified scenes, far from the dusty expanse of towering oil rigs, would be shot in Austin. I arrived to the set during the final days of the 26day shoot that had taken West Texas by storm. I received a call from JK Baxter, who had previously informed me of the location shooting during the Texas Film Awards. She put me in touch with another of the film's producers, Camille Scioli Chambers, who was thrilled to have me, our Senior Social Editor Rob Giardinelli and dear decadeslong friend Leanne Raesener be a part of the movie-making magic for a couple of days. "To be a female producer on a male-driven film is a rare experience," shares Camille Scioli Chambers. "Everyone loves the universality of the film. It's epic. It's the film of which I am most proud."

After getting to know the production team and especially the film's costume designer Juliana Hoffpauir, I knew that attention to details on

the period 1947 film would be perfect. Hoffpauir (a childhood friend of the film's director Ty Roberts), who had most recently costumed *NCIS: New Orleans* and before that, ABC's period TV series *Astronaut Wives*, was emphatic about the specific details needed to capture the era. After all, the world was coming out of a major war and the 50s' heavily pinked and turqouised future was years away on the horizon. "I resourced from the era's images of my grandmother and greatgrandmother when researching the film," shares Hoffpauir. "A period film is always challenging, yet places like The Cat's Meow vintage in Midland, Dolly Python in Dallas and the San Marcos Costume Company in McKinney were so wonderful." She goes on to say, "This film is a reminder of why I wanted to be in the movies in the first place

 it's all a group effort. Every single person made the engine run on this one."

The location itself in Austin, The Bellevue, was built in 1874 and served as a grand residence until it became the headquarters of the Austin Women's Club in 1929, and afterward the Junior Austin Woman's Club since 1940. The downtown Europeanstyle limestone-laden manor is now often overlooked because of the lush tree canopy that envelops it, yet once inside, it's like time has stopped.

Plush velvety furniture, noble portraits and dark wooden moldings lend an aristocratic air to what represented conspicuous wealth in days gone by. The atmosphere perfectly replicated a sumptuous new money house-that-wants-instant-pedigree of the film's male lead character Jim McNeely, played by Lane Garrison. Because it's always a small world in Texas, I'd previously interviewed Garrison while he was working on the Fox series *Prison Break* in Dallas, as well as his fellow actor in the film, Austin Nichols, an Austin native featured in The CW's *One Tree Hill*. They were actors on the rise and rise they certainly did. Among other projects, Garrison won rave reviews and was nominated for a Critics Choice Award in the *Roots* re-boot and Nichols became a fan favorite in AMC's *The Walking Dead*. So, reuniting with them both playing iconic Texas characters was a blast to see how they have expertly honed their craft in later years.

As Garrison tells me, playing Jim McNeely is a role the Texas native and actor believes he was born to play, so he researched it like no other role before it. "Five weeks before the film shot, I listened in to the conversations of the big wheels at Midland Country Club to learn more about my character," shares Garrison. "Then, I got on a rig. I was absorbing the way they all talked and spoke about their world.

"JIM MCNEELY'S STORY WAS PARTIALLY THAT OF MY GRANDFATHER AND FATHER'S, SO IT BECAME A VERY PERSONAL JOURNEY FOR ME." Ty Roberts, Director There's a big difference between driller and to the guy who funds it... ambition." He goes on to tell me that he learned from Paul Newman by re-watching *Cool Hand Luke*. "It was boots on the ground, living in that culture, and I ate it up for the role."

Another leading character of the movie was Texas itself. Much like *Lonesome Dove, Slacker*, and other films that portray a bigger-thanlife state like it is near the epicenter of whatever cultural zeitgeist is captures, the film was beckoning to be made.

MR. SUCCESS

"I came across the book thanks to my father, who worked in the oil business over 55 years," recalls director Ty Roberts. "One of his friends bought the rights and wanted to make a movie. Upon reading the novel I knew there was a very special story in there; one that told the story of the independent oil man in a very true to life way. One I had witnessed personally. Jim McNeely's story was partially that of my grandfather and father's, so it became a very personal journey for me... fortunately one that a lot of people supported thanks to the book which is a rare find." Roberts resuscitated the project from darkened bookshelves to bring the story to the light of the silver

screen. "With this remarkable cast we have on board, I am excited to bring this larger-than-life Texas story to the big screen."

The book, certainly exemplary of the writing style of the time, has a Western voice that is often peppered with a plethora of *reckons*, *gits*, *gonnas* and *ain'ts*. As we know in retrospect, education levels were not nearly as high then as they are now. The rise of Texas as a vastly agrarian state, then more so than now, was similar to that of a Sinclair wildcatter. Indeed, the voluminous Sinclair fields of lore in Texas are reflected fictionally in the book as Bison Oil Company, the great octopus of the oil industry.

The high get-it factor of Roberts and his team is palpable. When the little-known song by Frank Sinatra, *Mr. Success*, appears in the film, there's a high moment, one of many, when the story of rags to riches is embodied by the timeless story that is interwoven within the fabric of the bone marrow of Texas. "I'd love for *The Iron Orchard* to not only be revered as a quintessential Texas film, but to also be a window into a time and place that is rarely seen on screen," shares one of the

every little detail, from the period cars to the texture of the oil. We knew we were capturing more than just one man's story. We were also preserving a significant part of Texas history."

film's producers Houston Hill. "That's why we spent so much time on

It takes a village to raise a film project, and the similarities to funding an oil venture and a film venture are eerily close. Both take talent and luck, and the talent was abundant and ever present in getting this film made. Writer Gerry de Leon painstakingly adapted the Pendleton

> novel, while Houston Hill, Camille Scioli Chambers and George Sledge produced the mammoth project under Santa Rita Pictures. Greg McCabe and Brint Ryan serve as executive producers. McCabe's Wildcatters Network came in to help support the film in the final hour and Ryan, one of the film's supporters, restored his hometown's Settles Hotel. The venue was built in 1930 as a towering monument to Big Spring's first oil bonanza that never realized its full potential. The crew used the lavish hotel location for five weeks, with other scenes shot at Midland's Petroleum Museum and in Elgin, as well as the Austin locales. No matter the location, it was real work.

All the Way actor Ned Van Zandt, the son of the author, has a role in the film, so it's a truly full circle moment for the project so uniquely Texan. As Ty Roberts puts it, "For a New Yorker or Californian, Texas is like moving to a new and burgeoning place. Having that rough and rowdy mystique about it is definitely a draw. I truly want to honor that part of our history and hope others will see its value much like they did with *Giant, Hud*, or *The Last Picture Show* — some of the great films about Texas and its culture." The prophesy may come true since the film has already garnered major global attention by winning accolades from the Milan, Madrid and Santorini International Festivals, and in October it will debut at the Austin Film Festival.

The author Edmund Pendleton Van Zandt, Jr. would never write another novel as iconic to Texas as *The Iron Orchard. Hodak*, a novel set in South America, was published in 1969, and *Seventh Girl* was published in 1970. Although those efforts didn't have quite the heft of *The Iron Orchard*, we're thrilled to have this film adaptation of a fan favorite that captures the best – and yes, the worst – that this state can represent. S

"WE SPENT SO MUCH TIME ON EVERY LITTLE DETAIL, FROM THE PERIOD CARS TO THE TEXTURE OF THE OIL. WE KNEW WE WERE CAPTURING MORE THAN JUST ONE MAN'S STORY. WE WERE ALSO PRESERVING A SIGNIFICANT PART OF TEXAS HISTORY." Houston Hill, Producer











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Mid-century designer Norman Norell was admired and worn by some of the most stylish women in Texas and was championed by Neiman Marcus. Here, *pop culture fashion expert Gordon Kendall* reflects on Norell's career, the recent retrospective at The Museum at Fashion Institute of Technology in New York, and the designer's enduring appeal.



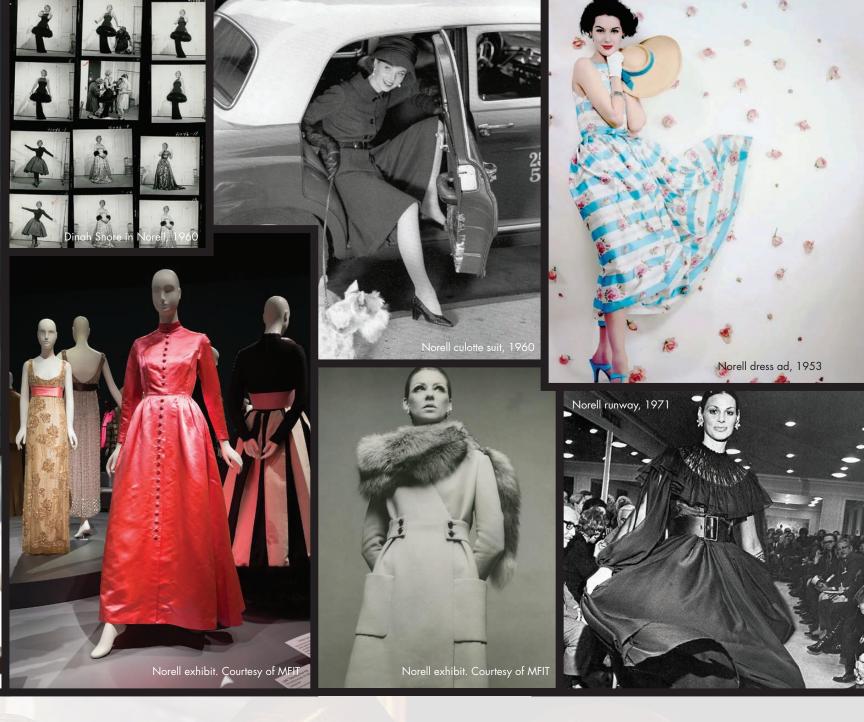


DEAN OF GLAMOUR

ABILENE, TEXAS. AN UNLIKELY PLACE, SURELY, FOR AN introduction to one of America's foremost fashion designers. But it was there, on my grandmother's dressing table, where I first saw the famous pyramid-shaped bottles, boldly bearing the name Norell. While she did not collect the namesake clothes, my grandmother Grace Gordon wore that fragrance, lovingly purchased from Grissom's or Minter's department stores, as proudly as if she had closets full of Norells. Years later, I learned why the name Norell – Norman Norell, that is – meant so much to her, to fashion, and what it can mean to current fashion lovers.

Quite simply, Norman Norell was among the best contemporary American designers. The Museum at The Fashion Institute of Technology, in New York's Garment District, recently exhibited *Norell*: Dean of American Fashion. Displayed were garments from Norell's heyday, the period from 1960 to 1972. Far from dated relics, each piece was an iconic example of what it meant, and still means to be considered the best in fashion. In terms of design, construction – and let's not forget that unseen yet so important fashion element, sophistication – the exhibit was a master class in fashion excellence.

Norell, born Norman David Levinson in 1900 in Noblesville, Indiana, early on became known as Norman Norell and by the 1920s had worked in Hollywood and become an established New York fashion designer. He partnered with Anthony Traina from WWII until 1960 and worked under the Traina-Norell label. In 1960, he bought the company outright and began production solely under the name Norell. The fashion-aware will recall another great American designer, Bill Blass, was also from Indiana. While Blass brought sporty informality



to off-the-rack fashion, Norell focused, unabashedly, on ready-to-wear garments made to the quality standards of French couture. Over time, he became known as *The American Balenciaga*, so exacting were his standards. In fact, in a 1958 *New York Times* article, he was listed along with Charles James, Pauline Trigère and James Galanos as the most original of American designers.

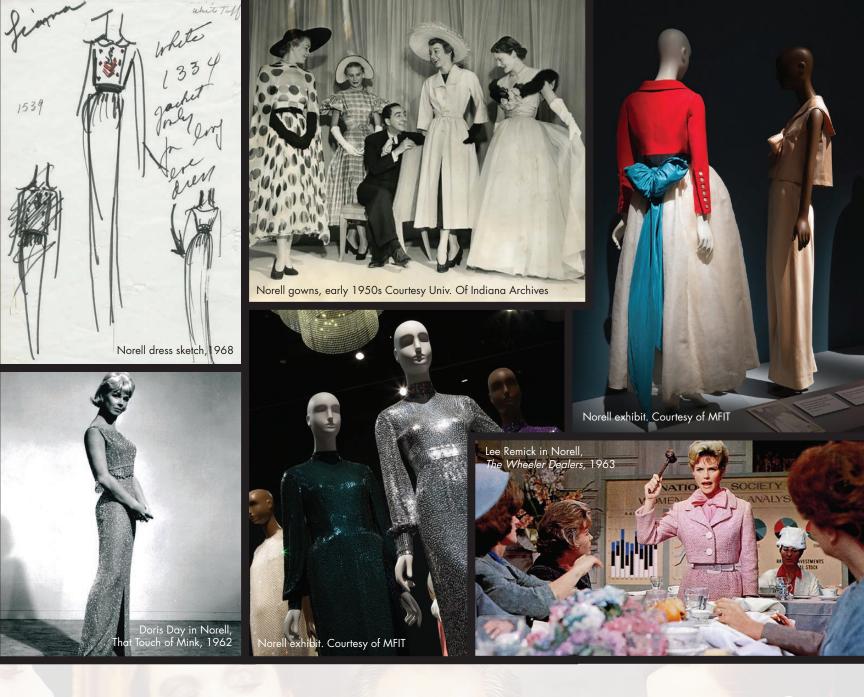
"Norman Norell personified American elegance in the mid-20th century and his timeless designs remain relevant today," shares Decades Fashion and Fashion Director Cameron Silver, who runs H by Halston and H. Halston and wrote the best-selling *Decades: A Century* of *Fashion* about vintage fashion. "From the glamour of a pailletteencrusted iconic mermaid gown to the sparse simplicity of a perfectly tailored sheath dress, Norell dressed women for a myriad of occasions providing a fashionable wardrobe of unparalleled quality, subtle yet intrinsic craftsmanship, and insuring the wearer looked fabulous but appropriate. He became the first icon of American fashion and his clothes continue to be worn by discerning women who are liberated from following trends."

DIVINE DESIGN

Norell knew great dresses begin with great designs. His icons include simple chemise and tank dresses and gowns, razor sharp pleated skirts, capelet jackets, and gracefully fitted coats. He often looked to the 1920s for creative inspiration for these styles and routinely showed flapperinspired day and cocktail wear. He inspired designers around him with his slim silhouettes. Ever the imaginative designed, Norell even channeled his own childhood with boy's sailor suit styles reimagined as nautical-themed evening gowns.

Suzy Parker in Norell, 1952. Photograph by Milton H Greene ©2017 Joshua Greene, archiveimages.com

Aside from dressing celebrities, hemlines were the fashion question of Norell's time. Mini... midi... maxi... which was it to be?



The exceptional craftsmanship of his suits gave his designs great popularity for day to evening wear. Striking in their simplicity, a Norell suit would skim the body, making the wearer the focus of attention rather than the clothes. Daytime drama came in a range of colors, from inky dark shades to warm neutrals like beige and camel, as well as a range of jewel tones and bright, clear pastels. The colors were deftly mixed, and the garments were punctuated by large contrasting buttons. On occasion, Norell opted for stripes, dots, and checks.

During his career, Norell worked as a costume designer on Broadway, making the costumes for the Ziegfeld Follies and the Cotton Club, so he knew how to turn out the sparkle in his creations. It is no wonder his sleek, sophisticated American glamour was visible in all his work, from the daytime suits to jersey separates and from menswear-inspired outerwear to his hallmark "mermaid" dresses. His designs attracted an A-list clientele that included Lauren Bacall, Babe Paley, Marilyn Monroe, Lena Horne, Dinah Shore, Jacqueline Kennedy, and Lady Bird Johnson. Some of his clothes can be seen in such films as A Sainted Devil, That Touch of Mink, The Wheeler Dealers, and Klute. Being both classic and modern, Norell's vintage garments are still sought after and worn today by film stars and even former First Lady Michelle Obama.

Aside from dressing celebrities, hemlines were the fashion question of Norell's time. Mini... midi... maxi... which was it to be? His solution was perhaps the most elegant and flattering: to the knee for day and cocktail, and dropping directly to floor-length for evening. In the increasingly body-conscious 1960s and early 1970s, his designs were not billowing ball gowns, but long dresses that even if full-skirted, followed the body and its movements.

At the time, New York's Garment District was home to top-quality belt makers. As a result, many of Norell's day and evening designs featured belts, giving the garment and the wearer further definition. In a mantra dear to many Texas fashion mavens, Norell declared, "In



Norell's simplicity was anything butand it cost appropriately.

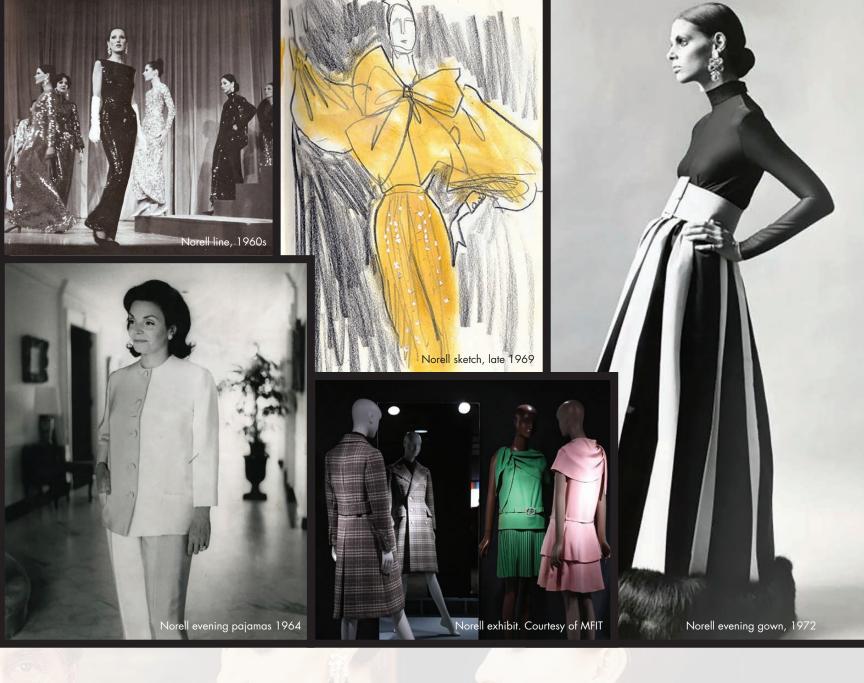
the evening, you have to knock 'em dead with glitter!" And indeed he did with his "mermaid" dresses, perhaps the style with which he is most associated. These long sheath dresses – sometimes high-necked, other times held by thin straps – were all covered in hand-set sequins, shimmering on their wearers as if they had been dipped in molten gold, silver, platinum, or a multitude of gemstone colors. Designer James Galanos, often compared to Norell, once remarked he admired his fashion colleague for his *restraint*. No matter how bold, Norell's strength lay in simple designs without excessive decoration and never with gimmicks or faddish trends.

KING OF CUSTOM

With great design came Norell's great construction. His Seventh Avenue workroom employed the best patternmakers, seamstresses, and sequin and bead embroiderers. Seams were straight-edge precise, buttons and zippers hand-set, allowances generous enough so garments hung evenly. Bust darts, common in almost all other women's ready-to-wear, then and now, did not exist; there was adequate and supportive interfacing for definition. Furthermore, he bought one-ofa-kind European fabrics and trims from the same makers as French designers. His signature belts were custom made for the specific style of each dress.

Then there were the furs. During Norell's time, the best domestic furriers were just blocks away and his use of fur as trimming reflected this. He only used fine ranch mink and if-you-have-to-ask-the-price golden Russian sable. Norell's simplicity was anything but and it cost appropriately. Retail prices for Norell garments ranged from the midhundreds to tens of thousands of dollars. In other words, as much as many cars of his era. Clothes like Norell's were certainly not "fast fashion." They took time, sometimes too much time to make. Legendary Texas retailer Stanley Marcus lamented Norell's inevitably late deliveries, often near the end of the season, rendering his clothes nearly unsalable without a loyal following.

But that didn't deter the luxury store from awarding Norell with the



Neiman Marcus Award for Distinguished Service in the Field of Fashion in 1942. Other accolades would follow with awards like Coty American Fashion Critics' awards in 1943, 1951, 1956, 1958, 1966; Parsons Medal for Distinguished Achievement in 1956; *Sunday Times* of London International Fashion Award in 1963; City of New York Bronze Medallion in 1972; and an honorary Doctor of Fine Arts from the Pratt Institute in 1962. In 1965, Norell was elected the second president of the Council of Fashion Designers of America. In 1968, he created and marketed *Norell*, the first Revlon fragrance named after an American fashion designer, which many of our grandmothers bought in droves.

Marcus, to use his own words, had a *mystique*. So, too, did Norell. Today, it would be called "brand equity," but no matter the name, what of it Norell had was certainly extraordinary. So much so that even a grumbling Marcus and other important retailers would return to New York, after the other designers' shows, just for Norell's. His were not just any show, however. They were always in his white carpeted, Seventh Avenue showroom, by strictly limited invitation only. They were always in the evening; they were always black tie formal affairs. The clothes were always the focus and the format was always set. Following cocktails, Norell showed day clothes. Next, the lights went up, and more cocktails and conversation followed. Then came late-day and evening turn outs. Sophisticated clothes shown as they were always intended to be worn.

Edna Ferber, in her novel *Giant*, describes a fashionable West Texas character as wearing the kind of clothes that are "neatly plain and simple... and cost like Hell!" This could be said about anything by Norman Norell. I'm not sure my grandmother Grace read that novel, but I thought of her at the conclusion of the Fashion Institute of Technology show, where gigantic factice bottles of Norell's fragrance, just like the ones my grandmother prized, were displayed. Far away from Abilene at the corner of New York's 7th Avenue and West 27th Street, my fashion knowledge came full circle. S

IT'S PLAYTIME

ARRIVAL: SAN ANTONIO

Blue Star Contemporary Hosts Red Dot Event

By Jake Gaines | Photography by Greg Harrison









THE SCENE:

Blue Star Contemporary (BSC) recently presented its most-beloved annual fundraiser to much acclaim. This year, BSC's 28th Annual Red Dot event honored patrons Alice and Eric Foultz and artist Anne Wallace for their significant contributions to San Antonio's creative landscape.

THE VIBE:

The theme, Creative Playtime, had guests enjoying numerous creative play activities such as making their own stop-motion animations and enjoying live performance art... all while enjoying light bites and cocktails. Honoree Alice Foultz has contributed her art expertise and helped shape many high-profile collections throughout San Antonio and beyond. She and her husband Eric Foultz's support of artists and the cultural arts is boundless as demonstrated by her previous service on the Texas Commission on the Arts, The President's Committee for the Arts and the Humanities, San Antonio's Public Art Board, and more. A recipient of BSC's Berlin Residency Program in 2016, honoree Anne Wallace's work can be seen in widespread collections both locally and internationally.

THE CAUSE:

The event was chaired by Lauren Kate and Peter J. Holt. Red Dot supports San Antonio's artists and its longest-running space for contemporary art through sponsorship and art sales. With 100 artworks offered for sale with the proceeds equally shared between the contributing artists and BSC, Red Dot introduces San Antonio artists to collectors by fostering relationships, cultivating the arts community, and enriching the creative economy.



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ARRIVAL: SAN ANTONIO



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Nikki Swift and Catrina Morrison Cavender





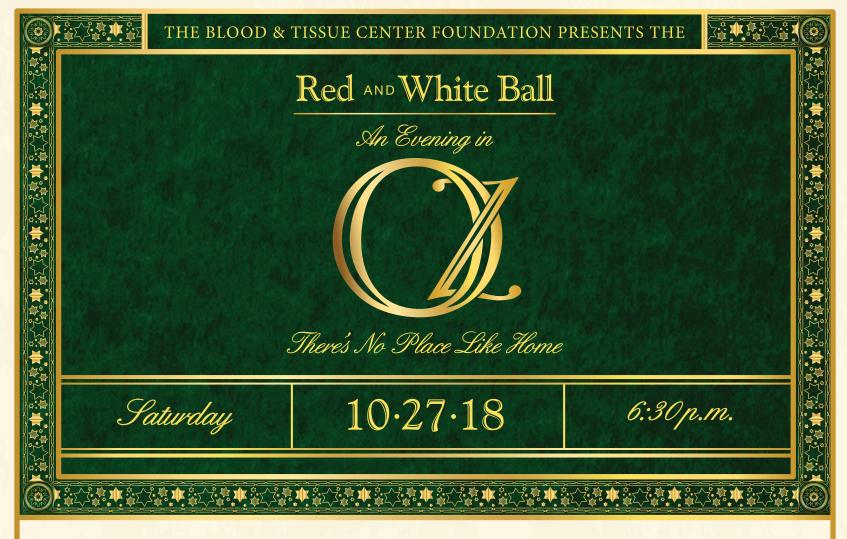


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ARRIVAL: AUSTIN

FIVE OF A KIND

5th Annual Contemporary Art Dinner Sparks Dazzling Inspiration

By Rob Giardinelli | Photography by Whitney Arostegui and Brian Fitzsimmons



Melba Whatley and Geri Hooks



THE SCENE:

The pastoral elegance of Laguna Gloria in Austin was the setting for an event that has quickly become one of Austin's mainstay social events. The Contemporary Austin's 5th annual Art Dinner drew a sell-out crowd of over 300 art patrons, collectors and social VIPs from across Austin and beyond.

THE VIBE:

The well-heeled partygoers, sporting their finest contemporary-chic attire, began their evening on the stunning venue's grounds for cocktails and conversation. The picture-perfect Austin evening allowed for an incredible mix of fashion, many of which were artful in their own right. Ballgowns and suits seamlessly mixed with colorful cocktail dresses, sleek black and white ensembles and playfully fun open collar suits that blended beautifully as the attendees previewed the live and silent auctions.

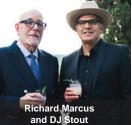
Guests sat at a series of long continental tables erected on the Laguna Gloria grounds for a scrumptious dinner by Uchiko and Uchi. During the dinner, Kevin Doyle and Christina Williams of Sotheby's New York effortlessly helmed a spirited live auction that included a Sarah Crowner piece titled Rotating *Circles* that went for \$75,000. The party lasted well into the night as guests danced the night away to the tunes of theatrical band Shy Beast.

THE CAUSE:

The evening, chaired by Lora Reynolds, raised funds for The Contemporary Austin, a world-class art exhibition museum that showcases a range of contemporary art through exhibitions, commissions, collections and education.

CONTINUED ...





Karen Hawkins and Anna Cain





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ARRIVAL: AUSTIN







Jocelyn Hornblower and David Middleton











Jane Schweppe and Robert Johnson

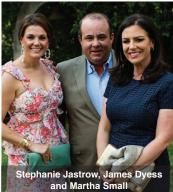


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September 28 Seton Celebration of Life Luncheon austincelebrationoflifeluncheon.com

September 28 Fete & fete*ish 2018 Ballet Austin balletaustin.org

September 29 Unite the Fight Gala Equality Alliance unitethefightgala.com

October 13 Catrina Ball Mexic-Arte Museum mexic-artemuseum.org

October 20 Play Bingo Ladies Luncheon Center for Child Protection centerforchildprotection.org

October 25 Austin City Limits Hall of Fame KLRU, Austin's PBS aclty.com/hall-of-fame October 26 Travel the Vine The Rise School riseschoolaustin.org/travelthevine

October 26 First Edition Literary Gala Texas Book Festival texasbookfestival.org

DALLAS

September 14 Dallas Contemporary's Ruby 40th Anniversary Gala dallascontemporary.org

September 22 Fur Ball 2018 SPCA of Texas spca.org

September 25 The Lunch Goodwill Industries of Dallas goodwilldallas.org

October 4 Key Leaders Lunch YMCA of Metropolitan Dallas ymcadallas.org

October 13 2018 Big Black Tie Ball Big Brothers Big Sisters bbbstx.org/dallas/event/bigblack-tic-ball

October 13 Fashion X DFW: South Asia fashionxdallas.com

October 13 Zoo to Do Galaw Dallas Zoo zootodo.dallaszoo.com

October 20 Cattle Barons Ball American Cancer Society cancer.org

October 24 2018 Woman of the Year Gala Les Femmes Du Monde lesfemmesdumonde.org

October 24 Hope for Humanity Dallas Holocaust Museum DallasHolocaustMuseum.org

October 25 Celebrating Women Luncheon Baylor Scott & White Health BaylorHealth.edu October 26 TWO x TWO for AIDS and Art 2018 amFAR twoxtwo.org

HOUSTON

September 8 Houston Symphony Opening Night Concert and Gala houstonsymphony.org

September 13 Great Futures Dinner Boys & Girls Clubs of Greater Houston bgclubs-houston.org

September 20 Knock Out Child Abuse Black-Tie Boxing Event The Children's Assessment Center knockoutchildabuse.com

September 22 Big Black Tie Ball Big Brothers Big Sisters bbbstx.org/houstonball

September 26 HGO & Placido Houston Grand Opera houstongrandopera.org/ placidoevent

October 4-6 Fashion X Houston houston.fashionx.co

October 5 The Grand Gala Ball Museum of Fine Arts Houston mfah.org

October 11 Razzle Dazzle Pink! Memorial Hermann memorialhermann.org

October 12 Feed Your Wild Life Conservation Gala Houston Zoo houstonzoo.org/conservation-gala

October 12 Celebration of Champions Texas Children's Hospital texaschildrens.org

October 13 Miami Vice Gala Children's Museum of Houston cmhouston.org October 19 Catwalk for a Cure A Shelter for Cancer Families cancerfamilies.org/events

SAN ANTONIO

September 15 Tee'r Up Golf Tournament San Antonio Stock Show & Rodeo Scholarship Fund sarodeo.com

September 21 Jazz'SAlive San Antonio Parks Foundation jazzsa.org

September 27 Landa Nights Landa Gardens Conservancy landagardens.org/landa-nights

October 1 San Antonio Sports Charity Golf Classic sanantoniosports.org

October 6 Red Cross Gala American Red Cross redcross.org

October 6 Cattle Baron's Gala American Cancer Society cancer.org

October 11 San Antonio Humane Society Friends for Life Luncheon sahumane.org

October 12 Outside the Lunchbox Luncheon The DoSeum thedoseum.org/OLL

October 25 Destination: Maine San Antonio Museum of Art samuseum.org

October 27 Catrina Ball San Antonio Public Library Foundation saplf.org/event/catrina-ball

October 27 Red and White Ball The Blood & Tissue Center Foundation bloodntissuefoundation.org

BY ROB GIARDINELLI, SENIOR SOCIAL EDITOR

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