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THRU THE EYES OF JO LEE

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透過眼睛的 JO LEE

A Romantic Repast

BY JO LEE FOR JO LEE MAGAZINE
NEW YORK/SAN FRANCISCO/HONG KONG/LONDON/TOKYO/ROME/TORONTO

This month and in all the months ahead, the stars shine for “the dream” in all of us.

I pause for a moment, reminisce and conceive – that the dinner parties my mother and father so brilliantly produced best exemplify my mosaic of the stars above.

As I scurry through Vienna’s streets with mind crackling in excitement, I beam at the joy of knowing that what I’m about to create will be a grand opportunity to dine with historical figures of our past and to study the settings and improvise to our heart’s content, in an evening by the fire.

Shall we step into the monarchical décor of the past, its velvets, its white satins, its crystal and gold, its jewels.

This intimate dinner whose multiple richness of elements burgeons with the romance of things now and past can

certainly be set by you: the table that sparks a brilliance that lasts.

The magnificence of Vienna’s Hofburg gardens, as partially seen in the painting atop the fireplace, sets the tone. The Hofburg is the former Imperial Palace in the center of Vienna, Austria and was the residence of the Emperor until 1918. Colors are restricted to gold, as seen in the fine bone china. Vintage glassware with bouquets of soft white flowers with the essence of green complete the creation of simple elegance.

Notice how the entire room invites.

There is wine and candlelight and Viennese waltzes among the crackling fire in the background that guests revel within among historical art and figures – until the clock strikes midnight.

The magic? Ah, the evening lives with brilliant clarity as it has been brushed

with joy and framed with the love of those who are so special in our lives.

The title of our dinner is “The Jewel”, and how it turns out is our guess until the end of the final course.

E bravissimo! In every way, as beautiful as the stars shine within us.

JL

On The Cover: Jo Lee in Toronto with her Political Editor – Fabio Gesufatto
Original cover photography and Digital imaging by Julia Sera Viola, Toronto – Canada.

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PRINT
A | M AMPEDMEDIASTUDIOS

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MAUREEN O'MAHONEY

PRODUCTION
CORNEL BANDELL
SALVITA GOMES MAKHANI

SPECIAL ASSIGNMENT CHIEF
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CLIVE BRANSON
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CONTRIBUTORS



Susan Berger

THE GROUP OF 16

Susan Berger, after a successful career in finance, embraced journalism as JO LEE Magazine's Marketing Editor and writer of The Group Of 16. Previously, Susan held financial positions with major institutions including TD Financial Group and Alliance Atlantis Communications.



Alan Briskin

SENSING THE UNSEEN

Alan Briskin is an author, artist, and pioneer in the field of organizational learning. His co-authored "The Power of Collective Wisdom" won the Nautilus Book Award in Leadership. His work is distinguished by a grasp of unseen forces underlying our actions.



Stanley J. Dorst

PROS & EX.CONS
Stanley J. Dorst is a retired officer of Chevron Land Development Co. and CEO of Grosvenor Development Co. He's been advisor to European governments and private companies as Vice-President of The International Urban Development Association and advisor for The International Executive Service Corps on behalf of the United States State Department Agency for International Development.



Carla Dragnea

EDITOR AT LARGE
Carla Dragnea is a Biologist whose interest in feature writing has encompassed 'the study of life'. In September, 2008, she was appointed Intellectual Advisor to the YES! E-Help Campus which assists 44+ million young people worldwide with their problems. campusatyes.com



Rose A. Dyson

FUTURE ON THE EDGE

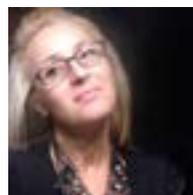
Rose A. Dyson, EdD, media education consultant experienced in nursing psychiatry, psychology and the arts, is president of Canadians Concerned About Violence in Entertainment. She was co-founder of the 1996 International Cultural Environment Movement, and serves on executive committees for Canadian Peace Research Association and World Federalists, Toronto Branch.



Kelechi Eleanya

WHEN ANGELS CRY

Kelechi Eleanya is an economist and a committed development expert with the UNDP. He holds a degree in Renewable Natural Resources Management and a Master's in Forest Economics.



Victoria Franciosa

MANSIONS & MILLIONAIRES

Victoria Franciosa's background in Art History has afforded her a unique approach to branding and advertising on the world stage. She is one of the founding members of AmpedMediaStudios as well as founder and head designer of Bishop & Medusa.



Lois M. Gordon

YES, VIRGINIA! COME – EXPLORE WITH ME

Lois M. Gordon is a world traveler and resides in California's Silicon Valley. She has spent her life as wife and mother, chairing several committees and indulging in her passion for reading and writing poetry.



Ray Scotty Morris

L'OCCHIO / THE EYE

Ray Scotty Morris is an internationally renowned photojournalist and successful San Francisco society photographer. He has won 29 photo awards in just ten years – local, state and national, including best news picture of the year. Scotty has received a Certificate of Commendation from the U.S. Senate along with the distinct honor of being written into the 107th U.S. Congressional Record.



Dr. Margaret R. O'Keeffe Umanzio

THE POET'S CORNER

Dr. Margaret R. O'Keeffe Umanzio, Peggy, has been an advisor to CEOs and corporate executive teams. She was a cofounder of the first fully-integrated alternative public school in the U.S., has lectured at Boston University as well as at Stanford, Berkeley and Tufts. She is currently writing a book titled Delivering on the Promise.



Warren F. Porter

IRON GATE'S WINE WORLD

Warren F. Porter is owner of Iron Gate-Private Wine Management, Canada's largest wine storage and collector services company. Warren works with collectors around the world on the often complex management of the asset that is their fine wine collection. This column will include inside tips geared towards those who are passionate about the world's greatest hobby.



H. Gail Regan

THE MARVELOUS MAVERICK

Gail Regan is vice-chair of Cara Operations, retired. She chairs Energy Probe Research Foundation and is a member of the Canadian Association of Family Enterprise. She has a PhD in Educational Theory and an M.B.A. in Finance. Her background in sociology and personal experience of business has given her an intellectual interest in the problem of evil.



Julie Reikai Rickerd

PRIVATE MUSEUMS, THE

Julie Reikai Rickerd is a travel and arts journalist who specializes in discovering private museums around the globe, finding many on each of the seven continents she has visited. Antarctica being unlike any of the others. The entire continent is a fascinating private museum with the cleanest air on the face of the earth.



Sally Anne Reisner

THE POET'S CORNER

Sally Anne Reisner grew up in San Francisco's Bay Area and then taught in an urban-suburban high school in New Jersey for eighteen years. At the age of fifty she left her job, re-married and focused on her writing.



Vera Resnik

THE POET'S CORNER

Born in Prague, Czechoslovakia, Vera Resnik lost most of her family in the Holocaust. Her volunteer work in the New Jersey court system – as a conflict resolution resource and advocate for children's rights – led to a court appointment to the child review committee. Today, Vera's writings are widely read.



Craig Ricker

THE DIGITAL DIVIDE

Craig Ricker is a prolific writer and among the world's best photographers. He went to Russia to develop an understanding of its world from the inside and to accurately portray their life predicament within his books.



Mark Raynes Roberts

THE RICH & THE FAMOUS

Mark Raynes Roberts is Principal of Raynes Art + Design Ltd, an internationally recognized crystal art and design firm, providing interior design solutions for luxury environments. Born and trained in England, his sculptures can be found in private and corporate art collections around the world.



Dr. James T. Rutka

SYNAPTIC TRANSMISSION

Dr. James T. Rutka is the R.S. McLaughlin Chair, Department of Surgery, University of Toronto, Director of The Arthur and Sonia Labatt Brain Tumour Research Centre, and pediatric neurosurgeon at The Hospital for Sick Children, Toronto, Canada. He has served as President of AANS, AAcNS and World Academy of Neurological Surgery. He is Editor-in-Chief of the Journal of Neurosurgery.



Kathleen Mailliard Solmssen

PIZZAZZ

Renowned designer, writer, successful photographer, hilarious speaker, chef, mixologist Kathleen Mailliard Solmssen resides in the magnificent outskirts of San Francisco. Her pinterest.com/fashionandflair and fashionwithflair.blogspot.com is filled with life lessons and laughter, exquisitely mirrored in her column Pizzazz. JL



THE MARVELOUS MAVERICK

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MARVELOUS 的心跳撩撥到連

Little Dorrit's Political Wisdom

BY H. GAIL REGAN
TORONTO – CANADA

I prefer non-fiction to fiction, but a friend talked me into reading “Little Dorrit” by Charles Dickens, published in 1857.

The story is about a London seamstress, Amy Dorrit, who attracts a customer’s son, Arthur Clennam, a businessman recently returned to England after 20 years in China. Arthur takes up a partnership with a brilliant engineer who assigns him the machine shop and a significant patent, then goes off to help build St. Petersburg. “Little Dorrit” is a saga of love and loss that ends when the heroine and hero marry.

Although the work is a novel, it is also a political treatise on wealth-destruction in a complex society. The story is woven around government that does not enforce the law, that blocks access, that cannot get through its own process, and that allows corruption and nepotism.

Dickens believed that evil government could sink Britannia, but his approach in 1857 was humorous. For example, he called government administration

the “Circumlocution Office” and the families that dominated it the “Barnacles”. He popularized the terms “Do- Nothings” and “red tape”.

Societies that take the political wisdom of “Little Dorrit” seriously restrict their civil servants to value-added work, encourage innovation through respect for patent law, minimize inefficiency, corruption and nepotism; they become wealthy as a result. Dickens pointed out this productive path and we should be grateful for his guidance.

Then the plot thickens. Arthur engages in a speculation and hurts the partnership. To show regret and perhaps for his own safety, he admits himself to debtor’s prison. There he is visited by a Barnacle from Circumlocution.

Assuring Arthur that he will soon be released, Barnacle importunes him to give up pursuit of the patent. Dickens tells us that Barnacle is frank, courteous, gentlemanly, and concerned that the Circumlocution has hurt Arthur. (It hasn’t. The speculation did

Arthur in, although the struggle for the patent exhausted him.)

Like today, these were very complex times. There was military conflict with Russia and balance of trade issues with China. Modern branch banking and the “joint-stock” company (the limited liability corporation) had just been allowed. These were difficult to regulate and financial speculation was rife. Barnacle is portrayed as competent but bewildered, courageously, “sanguinely” devoted to passivity. As he is there to govern and to be seen to govern well, the paradox of his nature suits him for the circumstances. He is a brave, polished Do-Nothing.

In the 1850s, England was at the height of its power. Sometimes, the top of the rollercoaster is the scariest place of all.

Note to readers: There is a 1988, six-hour British film, “Little Dorrit” by Christine Edzard. Also there is a 2008 BBC miniseries.

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A Growing Economy

BY STANLEY J. DORST
SAN FRANCISCO – CALIFORNIA

Why is it that some countries have growing economies and some are stagnant? Well there is more than one reason, but here are some:

Basically a growing economy derives from the creation of new jobs. New jobs are created by \$\$ – tens of thousands for land and buildings. Working capital and inventory. \$\$ can come from the government or from profits of high income individuals or companies. The level of tax on high incomes determines the split between private investment and public investment. High taxes will result in mostly government investment and 100% tax results in socialism.

So to soak the rich results in fewer new companies being formed and fewer new private initiatives by individuals and companies. On the part of

government there are many ways the \$\$ can go: social services, more government employees, world charity, and defense and infrastructure.

So which is more important – well all are, but the percentages are different in different countries.

Now, for instance, in a Socialist country the government runs all the businesses. In such cases the split is heavily away from innovative investment and heavily toward public services, welfare and corruption (i.e. businesses owned by friends of the politicians). In a dictatorship, the money goes to the dictator – who never uses it to start a new business.

In the USA with moderate taxes, hundreds of new private companies are started every year, creating new jobs.

Most new companies die in the first year from inadequate capitalization, so lower taxes result in more jobs both by more starting and more surviving.

Finally, people in the jobs created by the government do not pay taxes so do not create more jobs. Also, they do not often expand because they are dedicated to serving the programs of the politicians rather than the desires of the people.

So how productive are high taxes on the rich?



The Poet's Corner

BY DR. MARGARET R. O'KEEFFE UMANZIO,
VERA RESNIK & TIMOTHY WINSTON SNELGROVE

PHOTOGRAPH BY PETER SOLMSEN
SAN FRANCISCO – CALIFORNIA

From Me To You

I have a box, not big, not small,
not magical,
simply wrapped.
It is a box of gifts, from me to you.

Take the box. Open the box.
Look inside, see my favorite
possessions.

Kisses to melt your hurts
Hugs to embrace tenderness, caring
Passions to stay true to your beliefs
Hope to wash away any burdens, light
the darkness.

Laughter to share, scatter
Joy to live abundantly with gratitude
Smiles to keep sadness at bay
to know the beauty of your being.

Dreams to never give in or up
A book of blank pages to fill
with warm words that stem from the
depths of your heart, honest, true.

Love to treasure, be unconditional
to give, to walk with you, to bloom.

© Vera Resnik

What is this thing called Death?

Half way between the spring equinox
and the summer solstice,
Bonfires burning to mark the end of
winter.

Cattle marching between the protective
fires to the pasture,
Morris dancers tapping to awaken the
earth.

May Queens dancing under and
around the streamers of the May pole,
The Hawthorne bush proudly standing
in a dress in flowers, ribbons and shells.

Celebrated as the Feast of Bealtaine
in Ireland, Walpurgis in Sweden, Lei
Day in Hawaii, Walpurgisnacht in
Germany, Armindeni in Romania, and
Vappu in Finland.

Feast of St. Joseph the Worker,
International Workers Day around the
world.

© Margaret Umanzio

To Unify

To combine absolutely everything
functional from all trials.
To reap the rewards of humanities'
success.
To breathe in today, and not fear
tomorrow.

Ignorance is a shadow cast by blind
faith.
It causes us to deflect each other,
instead of embrace each other.

We could overcome this.
We could function beyond the one
percent.
We could all care.

But would we?

Will we?

Odds out of favor, for mankind is of
greed.
Possibilities and Probabilities.

One provides butterflies, and the other
soaks its wings in water.
Keep our heads held high, and our
expectations even higher.
Hold ourselves to it. Breathe peace.
For very few chances to grow out of
our ways will pass in the blink of an
eye.

Are we able to reverse the damage we
are doing? Yes.

To comprehend is one thing. To act is
another.
Reality does not have to be so bleak.

© Timothy Winston Snelgrove



Encounter With Higher Consciousness

TEXT & PHOTOGRAPHY BY ALAN BRISKIN
SAN FRANCISCO – CALIFORNIA

A group of us, working on what became the Collective Wisdom Initiative, stayed at the Institute of Noetic Science's campus in Petaluma, CA, when the Institute's Board of Directors, including its founder, Apollo astronaut Edgar Mitchell, were also meeting. Curious about what we were up to, Dr. Mitchell wandered over to our dormitory. We, in turn, were interested in him and, specifically, how going to the moon influenced his decision to establish the non-profit Institute.

He told us how he was originally slated to be part of the Apollo 13 lunar mission but events unfolded that changed those plans. Of course, Apollo 13 was aborted when an oxygen tank exploded during the flight and the crew had to return to earth. In the wake of that near disaster, Apollo 14 was a closely watched global event.

Mitchell was the Lunar Module Pilot, and with Commander Alan Shepard, spent over 33 hours on the moon's surface. Returning to earth, Mitchell

recounted, he had fewer responsibilities and fell into a meditative state, gazing out the cockpit window at the earth and then the cosmos. He told us it was under these conditions he had an epiphany – an ecstasy. He said he realized that the molecules of his own body and the molecules of his fellow crew and the molecules of the spacecraft and the molecules of space around him had all been born from a common origin, the workings of an ancient furnace. And as he told this story, tears welled up in his eyes. I had the distinct impression standing next to him that he was re-experiencing this extraordinary moment. He told us that on returning to earth, he searched for a word that reflected his experience and finally found it in the Sanskrit term “Samadhi”. “Samadhi” suggests a meditative absorption, a state of being wholly in the present moment from which one can tap into an infinite potential of possibilities.

Mitchell told us that the inspiration for starting the Institute of Noetic Sciences was a direct result of his epiphany.

When we see the world differently, it allows us to act in the world differently. Each person's perception of wholeness is unique, but the inspiration that arises shares a common source and follows a predictable direction. Mitchell would later write about how it is possible, under certain circumstances, to develop an “instant global consciousness, a people orientation, an intense dissatisfaction with the state of the world, and a compulsion to do something about it”.

His words and example live on through many individuals and networks now operating around the world that are seeking to join a state of global consciousness with service to the world.

EXCLUSIVE —
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The Distillery District

CANADA

BY SUSAN BERGER

NEW YORK / SAN FRANCISCO / HONG KONG /
LONDON / TOKYO / ROME / TORONTO

The construction of a windmill on the waterfront of the young city of Toronto in 1832 by James Worts and William Gooderham heralded the development of what would become the largest distillery in the world by the late 1800s. In addition to the distillery and flour mills, the buildings included a wharf, storage facilities, an icehouse, and a dairy. Prohibition curtailed production in 1916, and the distillery was converted to the manufacture of gunpowder for the war. By the 1950s, the Toronto shoreline had moved 500 meters south, and the area became landlocked. The distillery, designated a National Historic Site in 1988, was permanently closed in the mid 1900s, and the area fell into disuse.

Shortly thereafter, the district, with its 47 Victorian buildings, developed into a destination for film shoots, becoming the number one film location in Canada and the second in North America after Hollywood. Its future prospects were tenuous until it was purchased by Cityscape Holdings in 2001. With the goal of preserving its unique heritage, Cityscape created The Distillery District, a car-free neighborhood dedicated to arts, culture and entertainment. Their vision was “to combine the romance and relaxing atmosphere of European walking and patio districts with the hip, cool dynamic of an area like New York City’s SoHo”.

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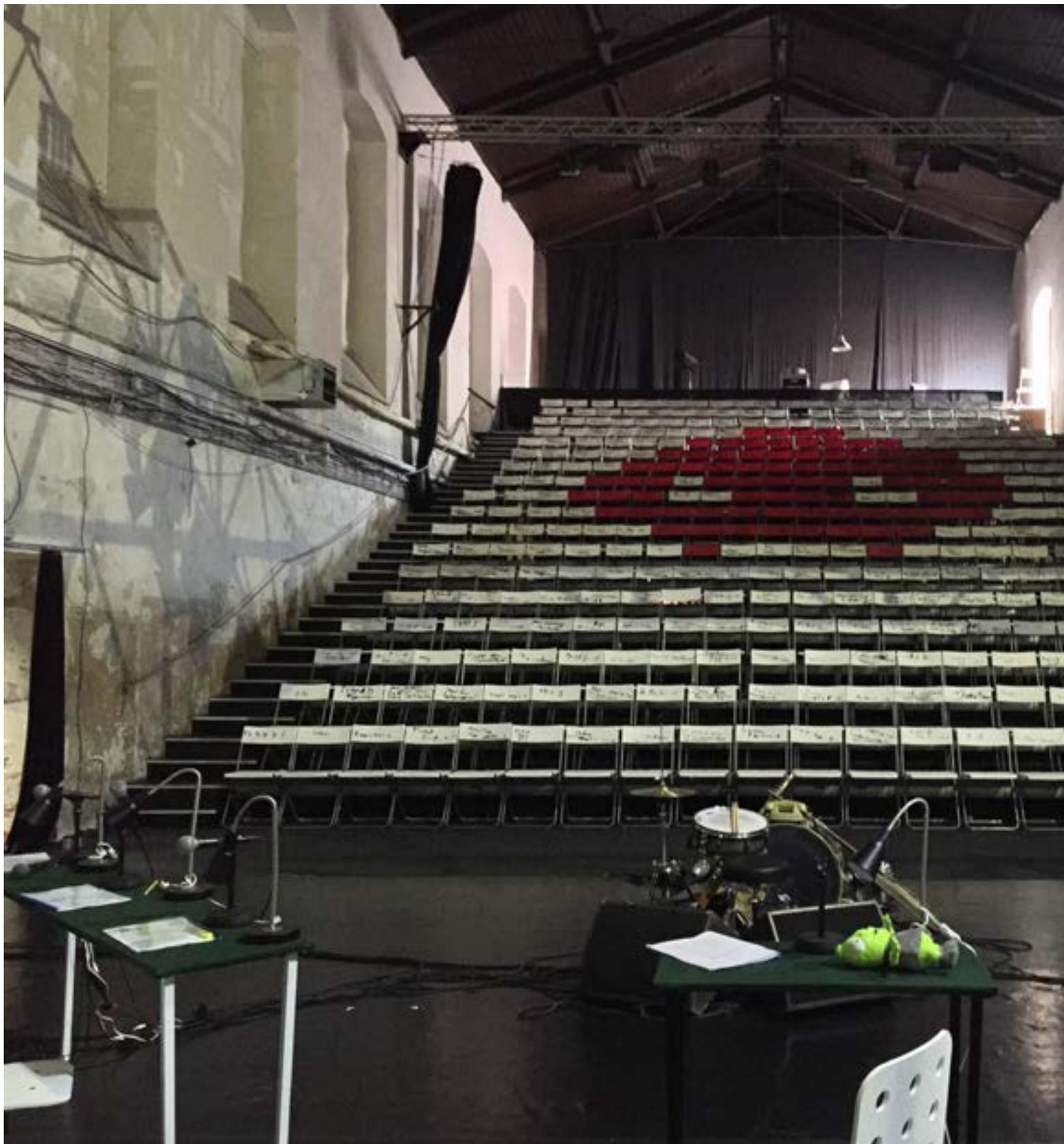
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Northeast of central Beijing in the Dashanzi area lies what is now called the 798 Art Zone, but was once the site of state-owned factories that manufactured electronics. This included Factory 798, which produced top-secret components for the Chinese military. The Factory was built during the late 1950s and early 1960s in the Bauhaus style by the East German government with money earmarked for the USSR as reparations for World War II. It was intended to be an example of collaboration between socialist entities, a working model of Mao's vision for China of an advanced socialist state based on heavy industry and communist ideology.

In the 1990s the Chinese government started to decrease its subsidies for state-operated factories, and many of the buildings became unoccupied. Attracted to the natural light in the space, members of the Central Academy of Fine Arts chose the area for their sculpture department. Independent artists soon followed, enticed by the low-cost space, converting the buildings into studios and lofts. About half of the 600,000 square meters is now rented, occupied by 50 galleries as well as publishing houses, restaurants, bars, bookshops, music and movie-producing companies, artist studios and design companies.

The 798 Art Zone, which is now one of the largest arts districts in China, has made sure to keep the past along with the present. On one side are redbrick walls containing slogans from different ages, including Maoist propaganda. On the other side are industrial plants and pipelines. The galleries have regular exhibitions of works by Chinese and foreign contemporary artists.

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Holešovice

CZECH REPUBLIC

BY SUSAN BERGER
NEW YORK / SAN FRANCISCO / HONG KONG /
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For hundreds of years, the Holešovice district, surrounded by the Vltava River on three sides, was a peaceful expanse of fields and meadows. It was transformed in the 19th century into an industrial meatpacking district, and was officially incorporated into Prague in 1884. Without any progress during the Communist years,

Holešovice deteriorated into a derelict area known for crime and drug deals. Over the past few decades, companies have been encouraged to locate there in order to take pressure off the city center, and the resultant construction of new multi-story buildings has changed the city skyline. The area has undergone considerable gentrification, turning old apartment blocks and factories into upscale office, retail and cultural centers, strewn with galleries and restaurants.

Holešovice is now the home of DOX, Prague's center for contemporary art, with exhibits that include photography, painting, sculpture and video. A former paint warehouse has become La Fabrika's performing arts space. With input from Frank Gehry, a 19th century brewery has been converted to the A7 Office Center. Even an old slaughterhouse has been renovated and now houses SaSaZu, a fusion restaurant-nightclub. Nightlife is now a huge attraction, with Holešovice containing some of Prague's most popular clubs, attracting both locals and tourists.

In contrast to the gleaming new spaces, many second-hand shops are still scattered throughout the district. The massive Prague market is located here, with food stalls and rows of kiosks selling eclectic goods. Directly across from the center of Prague, Letna Park in Holešovice provides magnificent panoramic views of the city.

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Rotermann Quarter

ESTONIA

BY SUSAN BERGER

NEW YORK / SAN FRANCISCO / HONG KONG / LONDON / TOKYO / ROME / TORONTO

Once the industrial center of Tallinn, the area was founded in 1829 by Christian Rotermann, who produced construction material. 1850 saw the building of the Rotermann department store, now the oldest building still standing, which has since been used by numerous educational institutions. The district, located between the Baltic Sea and the old town, grew to include a distillery, a pasta factory, a flour mill, a lumber mill and a wool factory.

The Soviet occupation of Estonia in 1940 resulted in the nationalization of all companies. The buildings in the Rotermann Quarter became untended and rundown to the point where repairs were considered impossible. With the independence of Estonia in 1991, changes began in the Quarter. The first was the renovation of the salt warehouse in 1996, which today houses the Estonian Museum of Architecture. In 2001 the area was given heritage status, recognizing the historical value of the limestone buildings, and the decision was made to renovate and repurpose the former industrial buildings with the addition of contemporary architecture. A height limit of 24 meters was established, being the height of the grain elevator.

The plan for the Quarter has been to create a “live-work” area with a pedestrian friendly environment. The flour storage facility, barley mill, and lumber workshop have all been renovated. The beautifully restored Quarter now encompasses shops, restaurants and offices, and the main square is home to festivals and outdoor performances.

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HafenCity

GERMANY

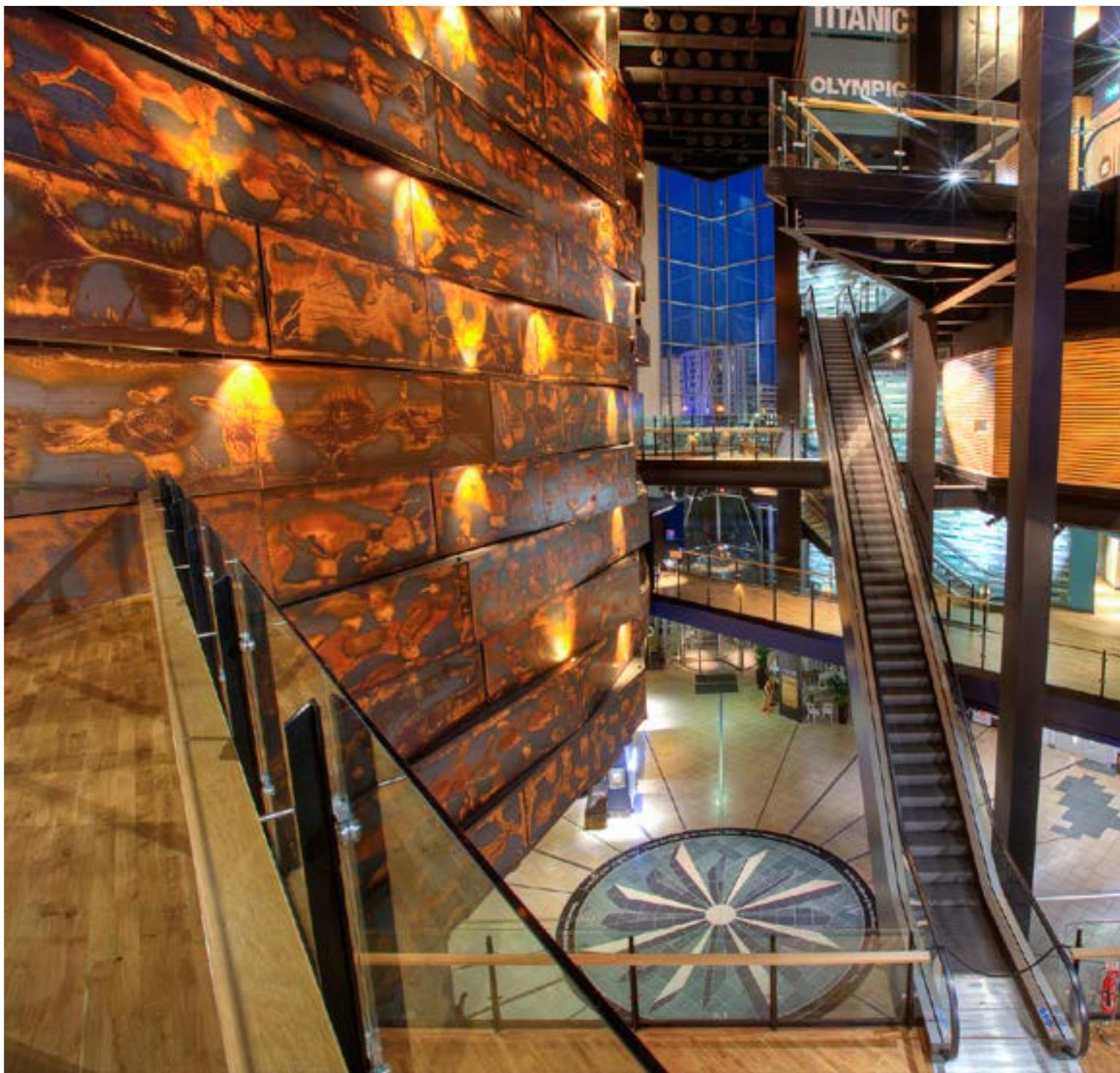
BY SUSAN BERGER
NEW YORK / SAN FRANCISCO / HONG KONG /
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Considered to be the largest inner-city development in Europe, Hafencity in Hamburg began its life as a port. Once a thriving point of embarkation for European emigrants heading for North and South America, activity halted during the World War I. During World War II, the port was used by the Nazis for deportation of people from Hanover Station to ghettos and concentration camps. When the war was over, the railroad station was demolished and the area fell into neglect. With the invention of the freight container in 1956, the existing harbor basins became too small and shallow for the larger modern container ships, and the area fell into further decline.

In 2000, the city of Hamburg approved a Masterplan for the development of Hafencity, providing for the conversion of the edge of the port district and extension of the inner city of Hamburg. The plan envisioned 11 district sectors, creating a mixed-use urban quarter with apartments, restaurants, nursery schools, shops, parks, promenades and offices.

The first district to be constructed, Sandtorkai, consists of four residential and three office buildings, the Tall Ship Harbor and cantilevered buildings above a promenade. The Kaiserkai district contains the Elbphilharmonie concert house, built on the foundations of an old storehouse, as well as numerous promenades and squares by the water. Upon completion in 2025, residential units for 12,000 people will have been built and businesses will provide 45,000 job opportunities.

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Titanic Quarter

IRELAND

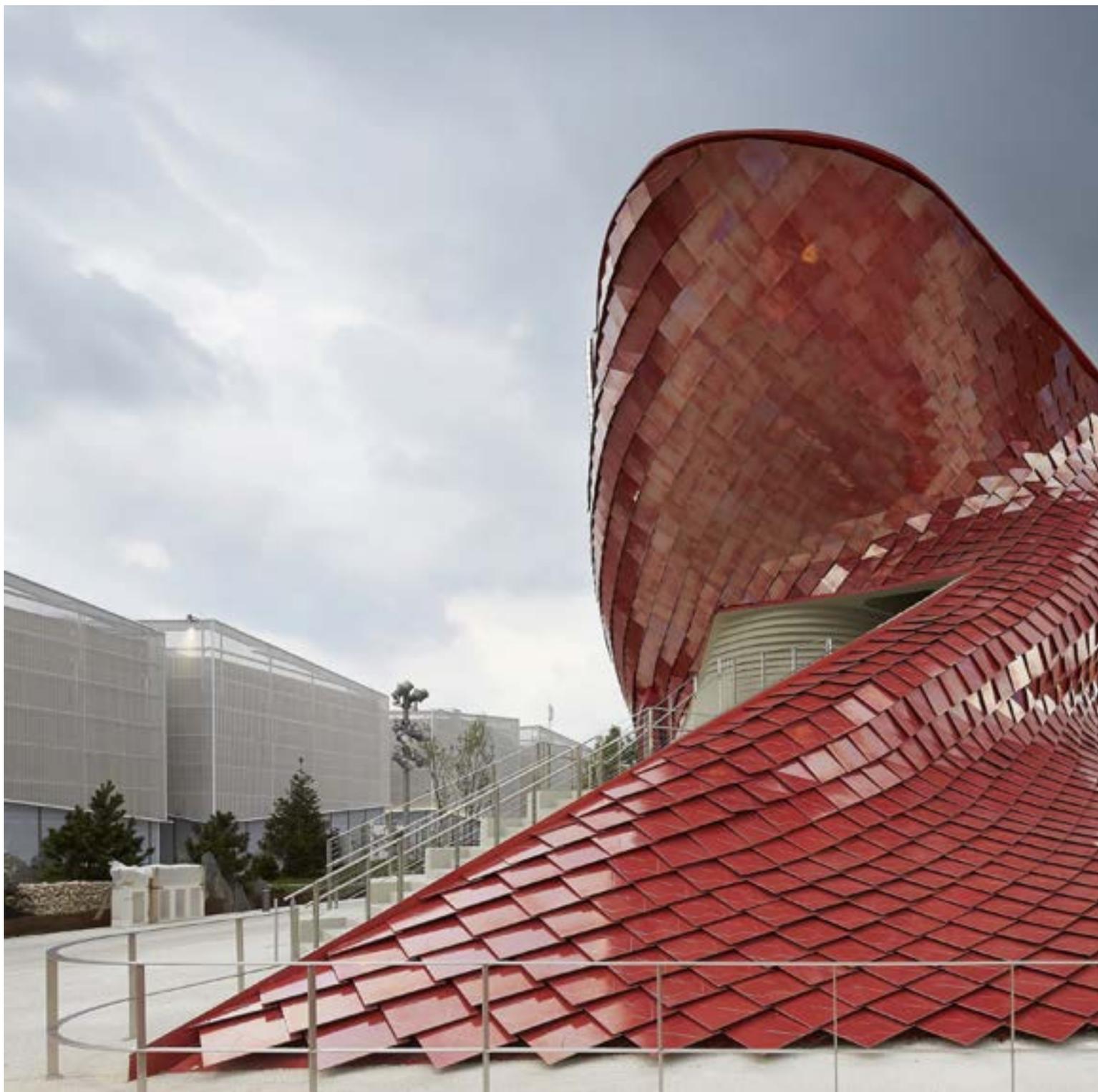
BY SUSAN BERGER
NEW YORK / SAN FRANCISCO / HONG KONG /
LONDON / TOKYO / ROME / TORONTO

Set on the site where the Titanic was designed and built, the Titanic Quarter in central Belfast is one of the most extensive urban-waterfront renewal projects in the world. It is situated on Queen's Island on the bank of the Lagan River, in the old Harland and Wolff shipyard, which dates from an era in the 19th century when Belfast was a world center of maritime trade, shipbuilding and commerce.

The intent of the regeneration project is to preserve the history of the Titanic and Belfast shipbuilding while creating a modern mixed-use space. Master-planned over 185 acres, the Quarter has become an area of residential, commercial, tourism, education and retail space where 18,000 people live, work and study. It is currently home to over 100 companies with 4,000 employees.

Within the Quarter are the Titanic Drawing Offices, in which one can visit the rooms where the Titanic's plans were created by hand by Thomas Andrews. The slipways where the Titanic was built and launched have been restored, and a memorial lists the names of the people who died when it sank in 1912. To appreciate the size of the Titanic, a visit to its dry-dock is now possible. The Titanic Exhibition Centre hosts lifestyle, sporting and conferencing events, and The SSE Arena entertainment complex features an arena and movie theatres. The Urban Sports Park, set in a former shipbuilding warehouse, now offers a variety of activities from skateboarding to urban art to DJ sessions. Completion of the development of the Titanic Quarter is estimated to be in the 2030s.

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City Life

ITALY

BY SUSAN BERGER
NEW YORK / SAN FRANCISCO / HONG KONG /
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The commercial and residential development of CityLife in Milan began when the Fiera Milano, an exhibition space of trade-fair pavilions, was relocated to the outskirts of the city in 2005. The design for the space provided for half of the 366,000 square-meter site to contain landscaped parkland dedicated to pedestrians and bicycles around a central grand piazza. At its center are three commercial towers, all designed by world-renowned architects, surrounded by residential buildings.

Zaha Hadid's tower twists as it rises, with its floor plates rotating around a central core. Hadid also designed one of the two residential developments of the site, consisting of seven buildings surrounding a courtyard. The second residential area was created by Daniel Libeskind, whose vision contrasted Hadid's by designing the residences as a collection of angular blocks. The Isozaki Tower, meant to be the tallest skyscraper in Italy, was designed by Arata Isozaki and Andrea Maffei. Sitting beside it is the third tower, with a curving design by Libeskind.

Daniel Libeskind described the site as "curving bands of lawn alternating with forest, with groups of commercial and residential structures floating like archipelagos amid the greenery". Due to the creation of the parkland in highly developed central Milan, the surrounding streets enter into the area only as pedestrian paths. To ensure cars are invisible in CityLife, they drive underground to below-grade parking lots.

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Westergasfabriek

NETHERLANDS

BY SUSAN BERGER
NEW YORK / SAN FRANCISCO / HONG KONG /
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Completed in 1885, the Imperial Continental Gas Association took advantage of the location's proximity to waterways on the outskirts of central Amsterdam, the rail network and roads to build the Westergasfabriek, or Western Gas Factory, which supplied gas for street lamps. In the 1960s, when large reserves of natural gas were discovered in the Netherlands, coal gas plants were shuttered, and Westergasfabriek closed its doors in 1967. As the soil was contaminated with toxins such as tar, cyanide and asbestos, finding an alternative use for the site proved very difficult.

Artists and entrepreneurs began to move into the old buildings, which led to a vision to transform the polluted site into a recreational and cultural space. Becoming a reality in the mid 2000s, the site underwent a major clean-up, the Dutch Renaissance-style buildings were restored, and even gas holding tanks were repurposed as water gardens.

Westergasfabriek covers an area of 13 hectares, and encompasses leisure and ecology features. A promenade flows from a formal urban plaza at one end to an open, natural space at the other. It flows through walking and bicycle trails, gardens, a playground, a waterfall, a bridge, and an artificial lake that can be drained to accommodate festivals. An open-air events field seats 10,000 people, hosting concerts and festivals, and is surrounded by markets, restaurants, a theatre, dance studio, food laboratory and galleries, which are housed in the renovated gas buildings.

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Manufaktura in Lodz the Spinning Mill

POLAND

BY SUSAN BERGER

NEW YORK / SAN FRANCISCO / HONG KONG /
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The cotton empire of Izrael Poznanski began in 1871 with the purchase of vacant land along Ogrodowa St. Over the next 25 years, it developed into an entire district, with weaving plants, spinning mills, facilities for bleaching, dyeing, fabric printing and finishing. The business grew to include buildings to repair machinery, a foundry, gasworks, fire station, warehouses, a hospital, church, a palace for Poznanski, and housing for thousands of his workers. World events of the 20th century negatively affected Lodz, and the complex subsequently went into liquidation.

The redevelopment of the district, which opened in 2006, has resulted in a complex of 13 repurposed historic buildings and a modern shopping mall. Its massive 27-hectare size is equivalent to 38 football fields. The outside has retained its façade from the 19th century, with impressive brickwork, arches, clocks and decorative gates.

Housed in what was at one time Poznanski's Palace is the Museum of Lodz, reflecting the local life of the city, including an exhibit of the memorabilia of resident pianist Arthur Rubinstein. The Museum of Factory, previously the textile finishing plant, displays a history of the factory from inception to closure. The largest building in the complex, the Spinning Mill, once containing 80,000 spindles, has been turned into a hotel. The complex currently contains 300 retail outlets, office space, a bank, a casino, an Imax cinema, theatre, and bowling alley. Offering pubs and restaurants, what is now the Market was once home to weaving and dyeing plants. In summer, the square is covered in sand, palm trees and thatched bungalows to create a beach, and is converted to an ice rink in winter.

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Clyde Waterfront

SCOTLAND

BY SUSAN BERGER
NEW YORK / SAN FRANCISCO / HONG KONG /
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The early 20th century saw the birth of massive shipbuilding along the River Clyde in Glasgow, fueled by World Wars I and II. The Cunard shipping line was founded here, and renowned liners such as the Queen Mary, Queen Elizabeth, QE2 and the Royal Yacht Britannia were all built along the river. By the 1940s, the river was filled with cargo ships and pleasure boats. This all ended in the 1960s when Glasgow entered a period of economic decline, taking the shipbuilding industry with it.

The regeneration of the River Clyde corridor has totally transformed the waterfront skyline of Glasgow, creating a more diverse area than the one that existed in the early 1900s, encompassing financial services, medical science, creative industries, leisure and tourism. From the Titan Clydebank, an outstanding view of the area can be seen by taking the lift to the top of one of Scotland's largest cranes.

The district now contains the Glasgow Science Center, which has become one of Scotland's most popular attractions, and includes an IMAX, science mall, planetarium and virtual science theatre. The Riverside Museum, which was designed by renowned architect Zaha Hadid and which won the European Museum of the Year award in 2013, is Glasgow's new museum of transport, exhibiting cars, bicycles and a variety of items including skateboards, prams and locomotives from Glasgow's past. Life at sea can be experienced by touring the Tall Ship Glenlee, and visitors can ski on Scotland's first indoor ski slope at Xscape. To add to the mix, Springfield Quay includes a cinema, restaurants, casino, and bowling alley.

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Marina Bay

SINGAPORE

BY SUSAN BERGER
NEW YORK / SAN FRANCISCO / HONG KONG /
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Created by reclaiming land around a body of water in central Singapore, the Marina Bay area was built to become Singapore's new downtown for the 21st century. At one time ships docked in the bay to transfer their passengers to smaller boats, which then ferried them to Johnston's Pier. Cargo ships that were too large to enter the mouth of the Singapore River anchored in the bay to load their goods onto lighter vessels for transfer to the warehouses along the river bank. Reclamation work commenced in the 1970s and construction began in the mid 1980s. Today the area is known by the tagline "Explore. Exchange. Entertain. Singapore".

The first to be developed was Marina Centre, which is fronted by Marina Park and its promenade. Subsequent expansion resulted in Marina East and Marina South. The area includes the retail shops of Millenia Walk, the shopping, dining and entertainment complex of Suntec City, and the soaring Singapore Flyer, the largest giant observation wheel in Asia. The Marina Bay Golf course, Singapore's first 18-hole public golf course, opened in 2006, and Marina East showcases the private residences of Tanjong Rhu, examples of "new indigenous" architecture.

Marina Bay was the first in Southeast Asia to build a network of underground tunnels housing all cabling and piping for water, power and telecommunications to save space on ground level.

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Maboneng Precinct

SOUTH AFRICA

BY SUSAN BERGER
NEW YORK / SAN FRANCISCO / HONG KONG /
LONDON / TOKYO / ROME / TORONTO

Considered a “no-go” zone in the 1980s, Maboneng was a deserted area of Johannesburg filled with abandoned factories and warehouses, rife with crime. Today it is an arts district bursting with galleries, boutique shops, businesses, studio space and restaurants.

In 2008, the Arts on Main complex was conceived by developer Johnathan Liebmann who purchased old construction offices and warehouses and, in conjunction with sustainable architect Enrico Daffonchio, restored the space into what is considered the heart of the precinct. While keeping its original architectural character, Arts on Main mingles office space with shops and galleries where Johannesburg’s creative community can come together to work and relax. Main Change has its roots in a run-down building now converted into a complex of offices and working spaces for innovative start-ups and freelancers.

2010 saw the opening of Main Street Life, a 1970s industrial building, now a housing and lifestyle complex. With residents living upstairs, the ground floor includes an exhibition space, restaurants, and the Bioscope cinema, which exhibits local and international films not shown in mainstream theatres. The rooftop contains an open-air boxing gym and a bar. On the top floor of the building is the 12 Decades Art Hotel, where each individually-designed room represents one of the past 12 decades of Johannesburg’s history. A Sotho word meaning “place of light”, Maboneng has become the center of creative energy for the city’s artists.

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Matadero

SPAIN

BY SUSAN BERGER
NEW YORK / SAN FRANCISCO / HONG KONG /
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Re-developed by the city of Madrid in 2006 with the goal of “promoting research, production, formation and the spread of creation and contemporary thinking in all its activities”, the original Matadero was built in the early 20th century as a slaughterhouse and livestock market. The resultant set of pavilions housed administration, livestock, sanitary services, vehicles, and a railway.

The area was used for other purposes during the Civil War, and by the 1970s it fell in disuse. When the city chose to repurpose the space, it opted to convert 75% of it to cultural use, showcasing all types of artistic expression, from fashion to design to architecture.

Today, the pavilions in the Matadero exhibit a variety of artistic endeavors. La Casa del Lector promotes reading through activities and pilot projects aimed at both readers and professionals. Cineteca is Spain’s sole cinema exhibiting only non-fiction films. Design is the focus of Central de Diseño, and the Nave de Música is a building geared to music, with recording studios, rehearsal rooms and a concert stage. Theatre is the purpose of the Naves del Español, which houses a café, performance area and a space for training, discussion and rehearsals of new productions. Lastly, the large esplanade of the complex can be transformed into a market, a bicycle race path or a venue for a concert.

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The Flon

SWITZERLAND

BY SUSAN BERGER

NEW YORK / SAN FRANCISCO / HONG KONG /
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Prior to the late 1800s, in what is now the center of Lausanne, the Flon River flowed through a peaceful valley. In 1868 two entrepreneurs envisaged a goods station servicing a future railway. With the inauguration of the railway in 1877, the valley was levelled out and the platform was developed into warehouses. With additional industrialization, the area developed into sawmills, tanneries and rail connections, and the Flon River subsequently disappeared under the buildings. As use of depots declined in the 1950s, the area fell into disuse. Offices and artists' studios began to move into the deteriorating buildings, and so it remained until the Swiss real estate company Mobimo began rejuvenation of the area in 2009.

Flon is now an area focused on creativity and entertainment. Mobimo's vision was to preserve the original industrial architecture while building for the future. The buildings, which range in style from Arabic architecture to modern design, house boutiques, offices, parking garages, apartments, restaurants, a cinema complex, bowling alley and a gym.

Seasonal events are held in the Flon throughout the year. One of the major attractions of the district is Flon Art, which takes place in the summer. For two days, studios and art galleries welcome the public, and the district is alive with concerts, dance performances, special exhibitions and art installations.

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Canary Wharf

UNITED KINGDOM

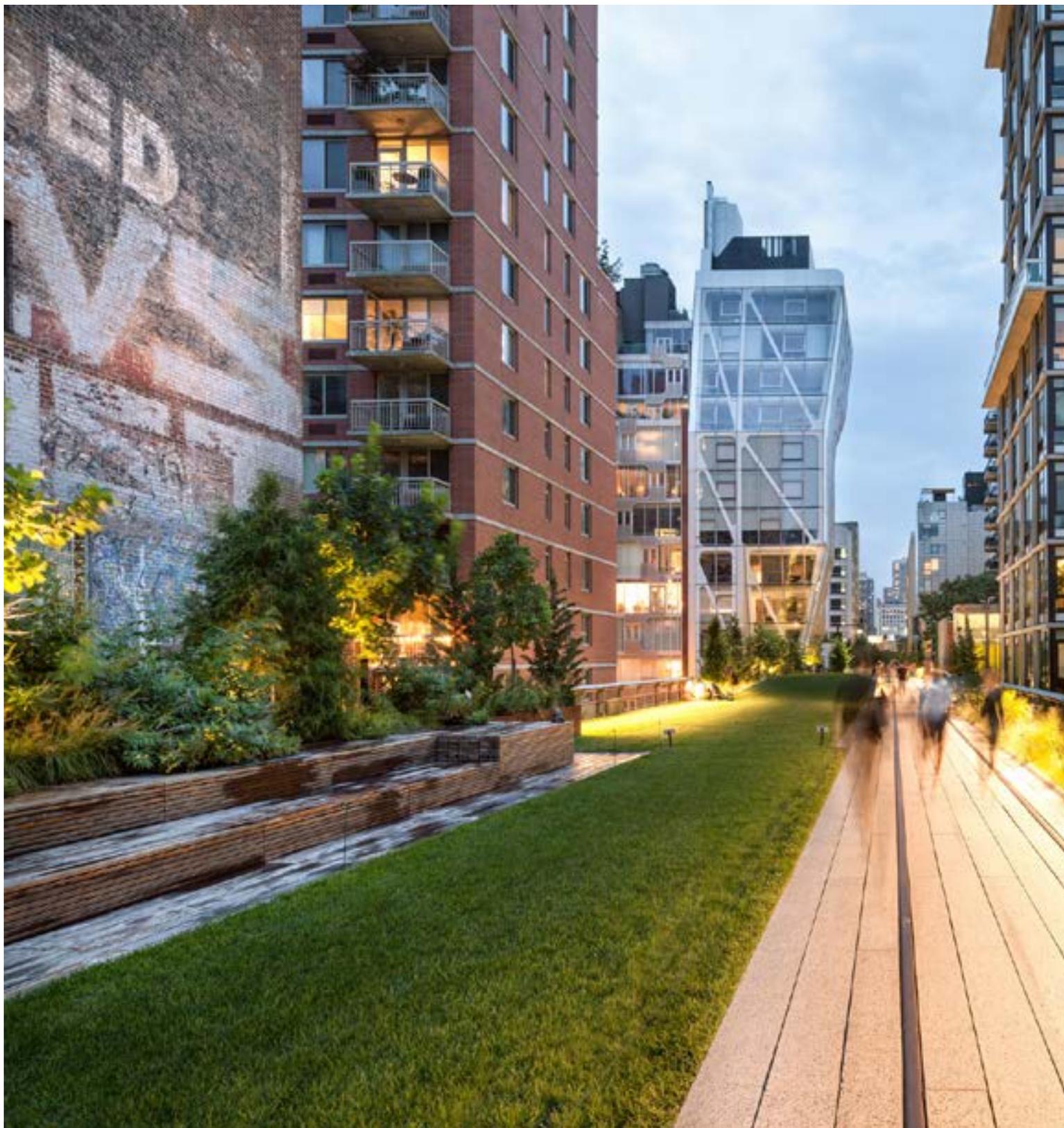
BY SUSAN BERGER
NEW YORK / SAN FRANCISCO / HONG KONG /
LONDON / TOKYO / ROME / TORONTO

The London Docklands, formed by a loop in the Thames River, began as a port in the 16th century. The Industrial Revolution led to its expansion, and by the 1900s it became the largest port in the world. Reaching its peak in 1961, the Docklands entered a period of decline brought on by the increased size of cargo ships, as it could no longer compete with other ports. All of the docks were closed by 1981, and the area suffered from massive decline and high unemployment.

The Docklands Development Corporation was established by Margaret Thatcher in 1981 in an attempt to revive the old port. Aided by tax breaks, the area was developed as a commercial center by Canadian real estate magnate Paul Reichmann of Olympia & York and named Canary Wharf, acquiring its name from the quay where fruit and vegetables from the Mediterranean and Canary Islands were once unloaded. In 1990 the first Canary Wharf skyscraper was built, which remained Britain's tallest building for two decades. Major financial institutions, including Morgan Stanley, Credit Suisse, HSBC, Barclays and Citigroup all moved in.

Ownership of Canary Wharf continued to change, and it was ultimately purchased by a consortium led by Morgan Stanley. The project continues to grow, currently employing over 100,000 people, a number which is expected to double over the next decade. It contains 13 million square feet of office and retail space, including three shopping malls, an airport and parks. A new rail line, set to open in 2018, will provide easier access. Every year Canary Wharf hosts in excess of 100 art events and in the summer, screens are set up outside to watch major sporting events.

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High Line

UNITED STATES

BY SUSAN BERGER
NEW YORK / SAN FRANCISCO / HONG KONG /
LONDON / TOKYO / ROME / TORONTO

Now one of the top visitor attractions in New York City, the 1.5-mile-long public park began its life in 1929 when the elevated High Line rail line was built as part of the West Side Improvement Project, giving freight trains access to the upper-floor loading docks of warehouses, factories and storage facilities in Manhattan. In the 1950s, the growth of the interstate highway system and resultant trucking industry led to a decrease in rail traffic, and the trains stopped in 1980. In 1999 residents of the neighborhood formed Friends of the High Line to lobby for its preservation. An open competition was held, a landscape architecture firm chosen, and the land was donated to the city.

The design of the park was inspired by the plants that grew along the rail line during the 25 years after the trains stopped running. Half of the 350 species of grasses, trees, vines and shrubs are native to the area, and where possible, materials are sourced from within a 100-mile radius. In various spots along the park the railroad tracks have been placed in their original locations, meshed with the plants, and the design of the foliage offers different blooms, colors and textures every week of the year.

The High Line extends through three Manhattan neighborhoods: The Meatpacking District, West Chelsea and Hell's Kitchen. The creation of the park has led to the development of what was once an industrial area into art galleries, design studios, restaurants, museums, stores and condos. Every year, over 450 public programs and activities are run in the High Line, from art exhibitions to sustainable food vendors, children's activities, and historical tours.



A New Awakening

BY DR. ROSE A. DYSON
TORONTO – CANADA

In these troubled times, there is a growing hunger for meaning in life and a new interest in spirituality. For some, the threats to truth, civility and rational thought coming from the American White House are the catalysts. Whatever the reasons, these sudden changes in public behavior in the world's most dominant political power are welcome signs.

Mainstream newspaper subscriptions are up. There is a new-found respect for an independent judiciary and high school students are showing unprecedented interest in civics. These trends are augmented by new levels of grassroots political activity. Black Lives Matter is collaborating with marches for women's rights. We are seeing a badly needed increase in political literacy.

It all augers well for urgently needed attention to climate change. Apart from obvious and immediate threats to human health and welfare such as

jobs, safety, basic civility and brotherly love, we have accumulating disasters wrought by Mother Nature. Weather patterns are changing everywhere. Droughts followed by heavy rainfalls are multiplying. In parts of Africa, where increases in temperature have long since surpassed the two degrees Celsius earth warming temperature, overpopulation, civil wars and looming famine are accelerating migration flows, resulting in what the United Nations has described as the worst human disaster since World War II. Scientists tell us time is running out; that we only have years left to turn things around.

What is still poorly understood is that a massive reordering of our current way of life is essential, and by corollary, our entire global economy. Business as usual is no longer an option. The rallying cry for fairer free trade isn't going to be enough. We are all going to have to make do with less. Sharing will be the new normal. In

parts of the developed world, where ecological footprints far outstrip those in poorer nations, current initiatives for community sharing of goods and services such as lawn mowers and tool kits in addition to library books must be accelerated.

And, in our new digital age, addiction to every new invention that gives us endless variations of selfies, photo sharing opportunities, racy and otherwise, and continuous texting, is going to have to stop. Let's face it, not only would such changes be good for both our mental and physical health, to say nothing of our pocketbooks, it is a must for planetary survival. We simply cannot continue to allow the market and digital innovation regardless of the consequences to dominate our lifestyles, sources of livelihood, and how we relate to one another. More bold and courageous examination of our body politic and the changes needed are a must.

JL



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Buenos Aires, Argentina

BY LOIS M. GORDON
SILICON VALLEY – CALIFORNIA

Complex, energetic port city, it stretches south-to-north along the Rio de la Plata. Portenos, as the people of Buenos Aires are known, possess an elaborate and rich cultural identity. European heritage is highly valued, Italian and German names outnumber Spanish. The lifestyle and architecture are more European than any other in South America. Teatro Colon, a fine opera house is well used. Portenos are involved in the life and culture of their city.

The physical structure is a mosaic diverse and varied. Buenos Aires is composed of many small places. Glass-sheathed skyscrapers cast shadows on 19th century Victorian houses; tango bars filled with cigar smoke face treasure-filled antique shops.

The neighborhoods are small and individualized; each has its own colors and forms. The San Telmo district with multinational heritage is varied and cosmopolitan – Spanish Colonial

with Italian detailing and French Classicism. La Boca's tin houses are painted a rainbow of colors and muralists have turned the side streets into avenues of color.

The national dance, the tango, expresses the spirit of Argentina. People dance in dancehalls, parks, open plazas and ballrooms. The tango is a dance of intimate separation and common rhythm; elegant and passionate.

Buenos Aires, once a prosperous European-style metropolis, buckled under the strain of government and economic collapses but is now back on its feet. A generation of designers, soccer players, musicians and restaurateurs has reinvigorated the city, transforming it into a wonderful travel destination.

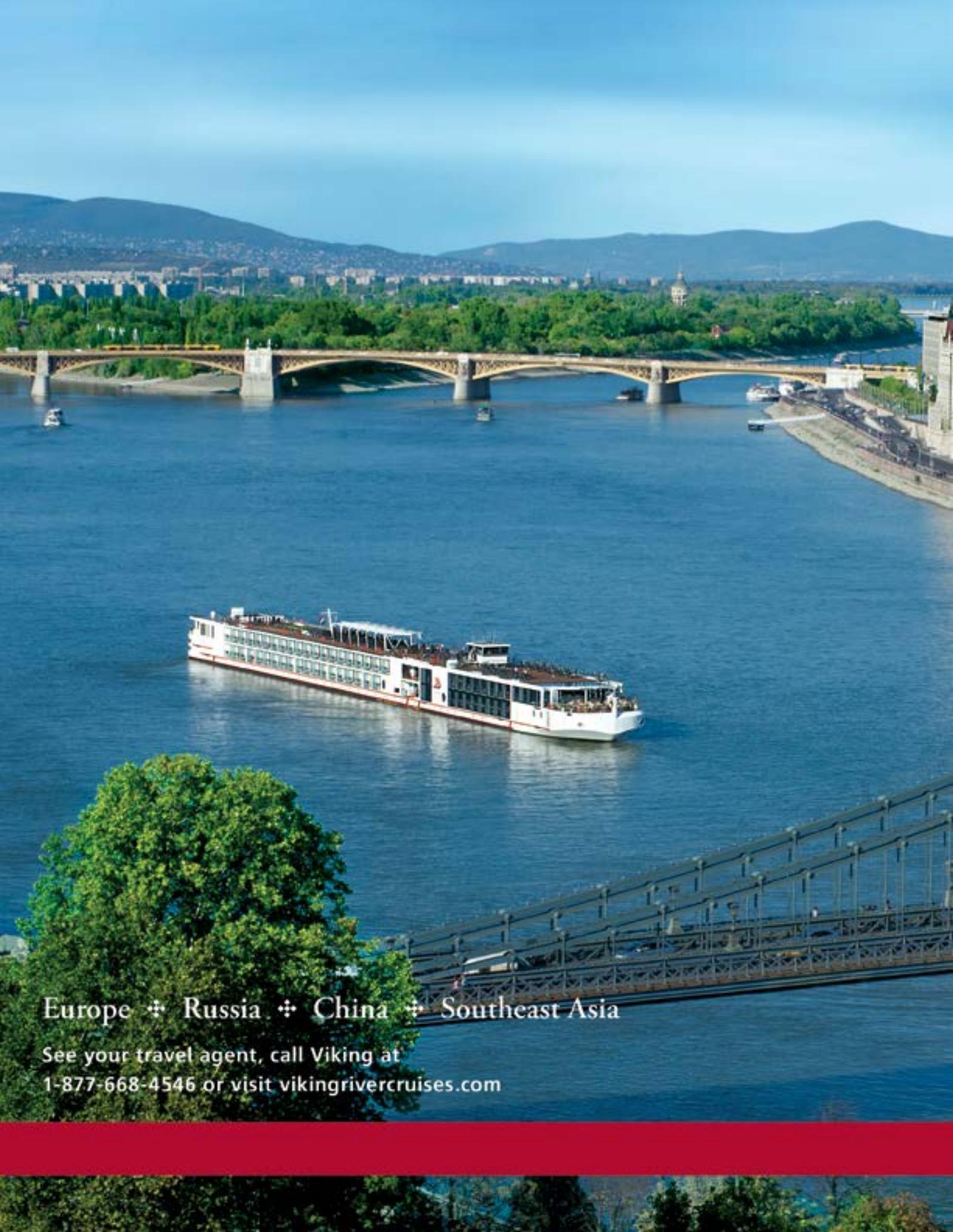
Shopping is a great adventure with the local fashion design; the steak dinners are divine, the dance halls filled with

students and teachers where even a traveler can join in; soccer matches filled with passion for all to enjoy and the wine delicious and affordable.

Buenos Aires embodies the bittersweet charm of old-fashioned sensibility and contemporary revolution creating simultaneous thrills for visitors and tears for old-timers. For every group of trendsetters enjoying cocktails, there is a cluster of old-timers gathered around a radio, listening to an old favorite song, tears flowing down their cheeks, remembering the days gone by.

I loved our visit and would gladly return. A beautiful, seductive city! See you there soon.

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Luxury In Presentation

BY WARREN PORTER
TORONTO – CANADA

Wine at its highest level is a luxury item with prices per bottle often in the hundreds, but frequently in the thousands, depending on your level of collecting.

So, I often wonder why so many people pay such little attention to the vessel they decant the wine into (should they choose to decant at all) and then serve it to their guests. Whether or not a wine requires decanting, it certainly adds a great deal to the ceremony of sharing a great bottle, as does your choice of crystal stemware.

Decanters today come in a vast array of styles, sizes and shapes. I would consider many to be almost works of art as the hand-blown glass stretches into unimaginable shapes yet maintains their core functionality of aerating your wine. My favorite for decanters has to be Riedel (pronounced like “needle”) of Austria, which lists 48 different styles

on its site ranging from around \$100 to \$1000 plus. The favorite one I own is called Eve, which can hold two bottles and is shaped like a snake in an upright pose.

Besides the simple functionality, the right decanter can add an incredible sense of luxury and style when serving to your guests. We recommend having a few on hand including ones for magnums (or just two bottles of the same) and even some for white wines.

Stemware is also crucial. Many argue that differently shaped bowls provide a unique experience and should be tailored to the grape varietal or blend. Riedel goes so far as to do a focused stemware tasting where they guide you through the same wine in different vessels. Should you attend one, the results will likely have you thinking differently about your choice of stemware to maximize what you get from the wine. The problem

you'll inevitably face is available storage space!

As with decanters, one of the largest and most diverse manufacturers is Riedel, but there are many others producing high quality products. Schotts Zwiesel, for example, produces beautiful pieces made of its own “Tritan” crystal, which feels delicate but can withstand far more rough handling and washing than most other crystal. At or near the top of the heap is Zalto, who makes stemware so light and delicate it seems like you're drinking out of thin air. The flip side is that they're extremely delicate and have a price tag to match their beauty.

The bottom line is that if you're going to spend the time and money on the perfect wine for that special occasion, don't scrimp on the serving vessels. While they can't turn plonk into Lafite-Rothschild, they definitely take the evening up a notch. JL



And That's Pizzazz Luxury

BY KATHLEEN MAILLIARD SOLMSEN
SAN FRANCISCO – CALIFORNIA

PHOTOGRAPH BY PETER SOLMSEN
SAN FRANCISCO – CALIFORNIA

When I dream about luxury – triple-ply cashmere and French champagne – a story about both of these dreamy items comes to mind. A fashion magazine editor once asked Diane von Furstenberg, “What is one thing you always take along on every trip?” She replied, “Without question, my tiny cashmere pillow. It travels with me everywhere”.

Immediately, with a combination of confidence and fear, I went to my wardrobe and pulled aside a holey cashmere sweater with those wonderful truffled sleeves. I cut pieces from the front and back, stuffed it like a Christmas goose, and glued the edges together. Now, I too, never leave home without my “Diane Travel Pillow”.

One sunny Sunday as guests settled around our terrace overlooking one of California’s gorgeous waterways, I served brunch (of course in my Chanel ballet slippers) to owners of a caviar company, a winery, and

a supper club. Chilled to castle temperature, I poured everyone a flute of French bubbles while my husband and I sipped on a fantastically inexpensive Bellini cocktail. The curious became more curious. Ah yes. And ultimately? Every guest switched from their French champagne for a bit of *belissima*.

CHOICE is luxury. No concern for price or availability. No matter what. If you want it, you can get it. Leaving the EGO out: freedom and pure pleasure is luxury. While some is earned, others inherit and the taste levels vary greatly.

Back in the day, artists traded their art for favors. I have a friend in New York City who traded his photography for art. Picasso traded with him. Knowing I had the blessings of the photographer, just running my fingers up and down and around those paintings was pure luxury. Slipping into a bathtub filled

with an entire bottle of English bath oil is heavenly luxury and sipping tea over conversation for hours with a dear friend are just a few luxuries that fill the memories and scrapbooks of my heart.

Then there is the other side of money: giving it away. Big time. In other words, philanthropy. No matter how much “dough-ray-me” you have, giving away a good-sized slice of it can either hurt or feel fantastic. Whenever I give away a chunk of change, I feel like I’ve just had a marvelous massage. When worry can be out of the equation and replaced with wonder, now you are talking luxury! Don’t get me wrong, I love top-of-the-line yachts, furs (vintage of course) precious jewels, top-drawer vacations and cognac served in rock crystal snifters, but simple pleasures are luxuries that last forever and indeed – luxuries that no amount of money can buy.

Now that’s PIZZAZZ.

JL

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The Judd House

BY JULIE REKAI RICKERD
TORONTO – CANADA

In many instances, the venue of a private museum is as compelling as its contents. This certainly is the case with Donald Judd's former home and studio, now his museum, in New York City. Often called the "leader of Minimalism", a title he vociferously denied, Mr. Judd was nevertheless considered "one of the most significant artists of the twentieth century, -whose radical ideas and work continue to provoke and influence the field of art, architecture, and design". As he himself said, he "sought autonomy and clarity for the constructed object and space created by it". He was a cerebral artist, art critic, and art "philosopher" whose works, writings, and radical ideas rejected both traditional painting and sculpture. His focus was always on the concept of the object as it exists in its environment; on geometric and modular creations he called "specific objects".

In 1968 Mr. Judd bought a cast-iron building that had been designed

by Nicholas Whyte in 1870 at 101 Spring Street, in what was then known as the Cast Iron District in New York's bohemian Greenwich Village, now gentrified and known as SoHo, to work, sleep, and live in. The 8,500 square-foot property with 7,500 square feet of glass and cast iron provided Judd and his then wife and two children with plenty of room in which to live as well as for Judd to create and install his works and those of many of his fellow artists that he bought or had commissioned. The Judd House contains 200 of these works of art and furniture, his own as well as, among others, those of Jean Arp, Claes Oldenburg, Stuart Davis, Marcel Duchamp, Dan Flavin, Frank Stella, and Alvar Aalto.

Although he moved to Marfa, Texas with his family in 1972, where he lived and worked until his death in 1994, he also maintained his New York residence. Following his death, his two children, Flavin and Rainer, created a foundation they run with

a board to enable the preservation and exhibition of Judd's works and collections in New York City and Marfa, Texas as Judd's private museums and archives.

The 101 Spring Street 90-minute visit, led by artist guides, is doubly gratifying for seeing both Mr. Judd's very special cast iron home and feeling his presence among the 2000 art and household objects he treasured.

101 Spring Street,
New York, NY 10012
Tel: 212-219-2747
www.juddfoundation.org

Visits by Appointment Only:
Maximum 8 persons per visit
Hours: Tues., Thurs., Fri.: 1:00PM, 3:00PM, 5:00PM
Sat. 11:00AM, 1:00PM, 2:00PM, 4:00PM

JL



THE RICH AND THE FAMOUS

LES RICHES ET LES CÉLÈBRES | LOS RICOS Y FAMOSOS | DIE REICHEN UND BERÜHMTEN | 多元與著名

Opposite: Badia a Coltibuono. The beautiful 11th century monastery has been famous for making Chianti Classico since 1050, and has one of the most glorious formal Italian gardens in the country.

Treasures Of Tuscany A Wealth of Vistas and Beauty

TEXT & PHOTOGRAPHY BY MARK RAYNES ROBERTS
LONDON/TORONTO

The Tuscany region provides many geographical surprises and is an area rich in culture, history and art. From the vineyards of some of the world's finest winegrowers such as Brunello Montalcino and Badia a Coltibuono, it is also the bread basket of Italy with rolling wheat fields which seem to go on forever. The walled medieval towns of San Gimignano, Volterra, Monteriggioni and Arezzo are reminders of the wealthy 13th century families who controlled them. At the cultural heart of Tuscany lie the cities of Florence and Siena, epicenters of Renaissance art and architecture that captivate the spirit.

JL





Opposite: The view from the Torre Grossa, the tallest remaining tower in San Gimignano, provides stunning vistas of the Tuscan countryside and also of a brave sun bather on the top of a neighboring tower. The towers were built as status symbols {based on the taller they were} and as safe refuge from attacking hill town communities in the area.

Montalcino in the heart of Brunello wine country is one of the few hill towns with a castle, and provides many panoramic views of the world-famous vineyards below.

The ethereal morning light in the Piazza del Duomo, provides a view of one of Italy's most famous symbols, the Santa Maria del Fiore Duomo built between 1296 and 1436. The magnificent white marble cathedral is beautifully inlaid with colored marble, and the dome built by Filippo Brunelleschi was the largest in the world when it was built.

Opposite: The nave inside the Duomo of Santa Maria Assunta, built between 1136 and 1382, showcases the stunning black and white marble pillars and vaulted ceilings.









Opposite: The Liberia Piccolominea within the Duomo Santa Maria Assunta, has the most stunning frescos on the ceiling and walls. The library houses some of the world's most valuable hand illustrated volumes of biblical works.

One of the most famous Renaissance paintings in the Uffizzi Gallery is "The Duke and Duchess of Urbino" painted in tempera on wood between 1472 and '75 by Piero della Francesca. Here is the Duke in all his finery with typical Tuscan landscape behind.





Opposite: A copy of the sculpture David stands in front of the Palazzo della Signoria built in 1322: it still fulfills its role as the Town Hall in Florence. Sculptor Michelangelo sealed his reputation with the creation of David at the tender age of 29, purposefully making the head and hands larger than in reality to create a more powerful impression. The original David was moved in 1873, to the Galleria dell'Accademia to preserve the masterpiece.

In the heart of San Gimignano is the Piazza del Duomo, where jazz concerts and such operas as Verdi's "La Traviata" are performed naissanceto an appreciative audience. The medieval town provides the perfect backdrop for the summer months and reminds that beauty is omnipotent.



Opposite: Donna Karan and her husband Stephan Weiss. Stephan died just six months after Donna gifted him with the virgin land that would become the family resort known as Parrot Cay in Turks & Caicos.

Donna Karan Bali Family Retreat – Turks & Caicos

BY VICTORIA FRANCIOSA
ROME/TORONTO

In Parrot Cay, situated in Turks and Caicos, nestled between a lush green scenic backdrop, with a seashell sandy shore, is where Donna Karan presented her husband, Stephan Weiss, with the piece of heaven she would eventually grow into her family vacation home and homage to her late husband, as he would die of cancer within the following six months. Stephan had asked her to build a dwelling for each of the children on the property; a promise that Donna Karan fulfilled with passion and Zen.

As promised, Donna Karan went to work in Weiss's memory. Bringing Bali to Turks and Caicos, she enlisted architect Cheong Yen Kuan as well as architects and interior designers Dominic Koserski and Enrico Bonetti. Together they created a dreamlike oasis composed of six structures: three vacation homes and three pavilions. It even boasts an Indonesian bale.

Serene in its capture, the entire property seems to be a haven for comfort, and somehow evokes creative daydreaming. Sprawled over

a beachfront view of white sands is situated an infinity pool, lined with volcanic rock, and with a bird's-eye-view of the gorgeous Atlantic Ocean.

The property truly is a sight to be seen. Luxuriously Zen. When designing the eco-friendly family vacation sanctuary, balance and wellness were paramount, with oversized furnishings and lounging ever-present as you explore this yogi's dream destination. Outdoor recesses with organic fabrics, nothing is harsh or seemingly resembles the concrete jungle of New York City, for which Karan was ever famous in her designs. Truly a masterpiece of Zen, where east meets west.

Donna's vacation home boasts comfort and luxury with soft white fabrics over low, timber bases. Floating couches operated by mechanisms literally suspend them in mid-air. Modernly simple bathrooms with deep soaking tubs made from Travertine create a spa-like environment.

Donna's personal en-suite houses a steam shower as well. It is obvious

that Karan fused the indoor with the outdoor environments relatively seamlessly. Large windows and pavilions have created a most airy feeling throughout the dwellings... even the screening room is in open air.

Monochromatic in that all the natural tones throughout the buildings of the island are gentle and very natural to the eye, with graphic polarity only through the neutral tones of organic white materials sitting on the deeper neutral tones of the teak furnishings. With the cedar and coral stone walls, floors of European walnut, rattan ceilings, even ruddy bangkirai wood on some of the structures, and art from Bali and Africa, there is no question that Donna has created a gentle and nurturing environment in homage of her beloved Stephan, and haven for her family.

JL



The main house of Donna's Turks & Caicos Parrot Cay. Modern minimalism, exterior walls composed of floor-to-ceiling windows for unobstructed views of the lush greenery.





Four poster low-profile bed, stoic and calming in its placement. This room was designed for sleep and rejuvenation, minimalism in its most luxurious example.





Deep soaking tub made of Travertine enveloped in floor to ceiling windows overlooks an enclave of an all-natural eco-system with spectacular views. The island is extremely private.





The entire estate is designed for relaxation. Donna Karan has said, “there is nothing that you can’t fall asleep on”.





A blurred cityscape with tall buildings and a concrete ledge in the foreground. The text is overlaid on the lower portion of the image.

ALEXANDRA EGAN
DESIGN & PHOTOGRAPHY

alexandraegandesign@gmail.com

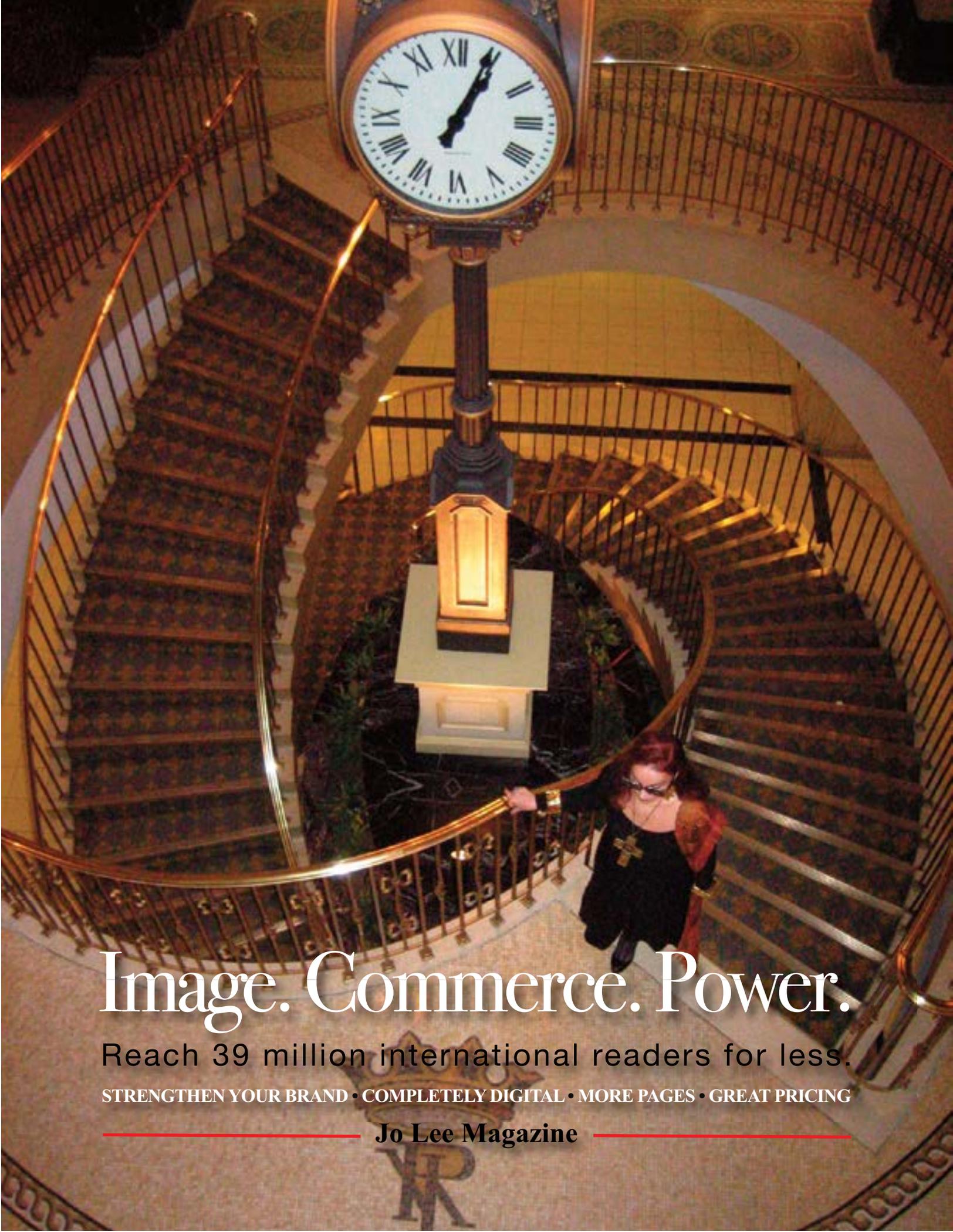


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WHEN ANGELS CRY

QUAND LES ANGES PLEURENT | CUANDO LOS ÁNGELES LLORAN | WENN ENGEL WEINEN |
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THE NEXT 100 YEARS: ONE CHILD'S JOURNEY. HOW SHE/HE WILL LIVE, LOVE AND NEVER REALLY DIE.

Before Our Very Eyes Who Will Help Fight Deadly Famine

BY KELECHI ELEANYA
UNITED NATIONS DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM
THE NIGER DELTA – NIGERIA

After several years of ongoing efforts to save and rescue humanity, we are experiencing some of the worst events right before our very eyes in the 21st century. Today, the world stands on the brink of four famines, leaving tens of millions of people to face risk of starvation in South Sudan, Somalia, Yemen and Northern Nigeria. Also, the global learning and monitoring systems and food security initiatives are seriously put to a test as the Horn of Africa is facing its third consecutive year of drought, causing thirst and hunger, decimating livestock, destroying livelihoods, spreading disease, and triggering large-scale migration of people.

No matter the lens one wears to view this, human development and progress has been hit, hardly pushing back gains of past efforts. Somalia's drought is already spreading to its neighboring Kenya and Ethiopia. Millions of families across these countries are

now at risk of starvation, and tens of millions more are in urgent and desperate need of food, clean drinking water, and sanitation. Focusing on specific threats may spur and galvanize the needed action by all. Seventeen countries are struggling to come out of vulnerability which has left about 40 million people at risk. Several factors continue to inflict harm and threats to livelihoods: empty granaries and people selling off livestock, high food prices, limited government services, poor and delayed rains, political crises, malnutrition, impacts of the El Niño, widespread crop failure, and falling terms of trade for pastoralists, insurgency and threats from militant groups.

The head of the United Nations humanitarian department described the crisis as the largest since the second world war in 1945, and states that an amount of \$4.4 billion is needed “to avert a catastrophe”. In one of the

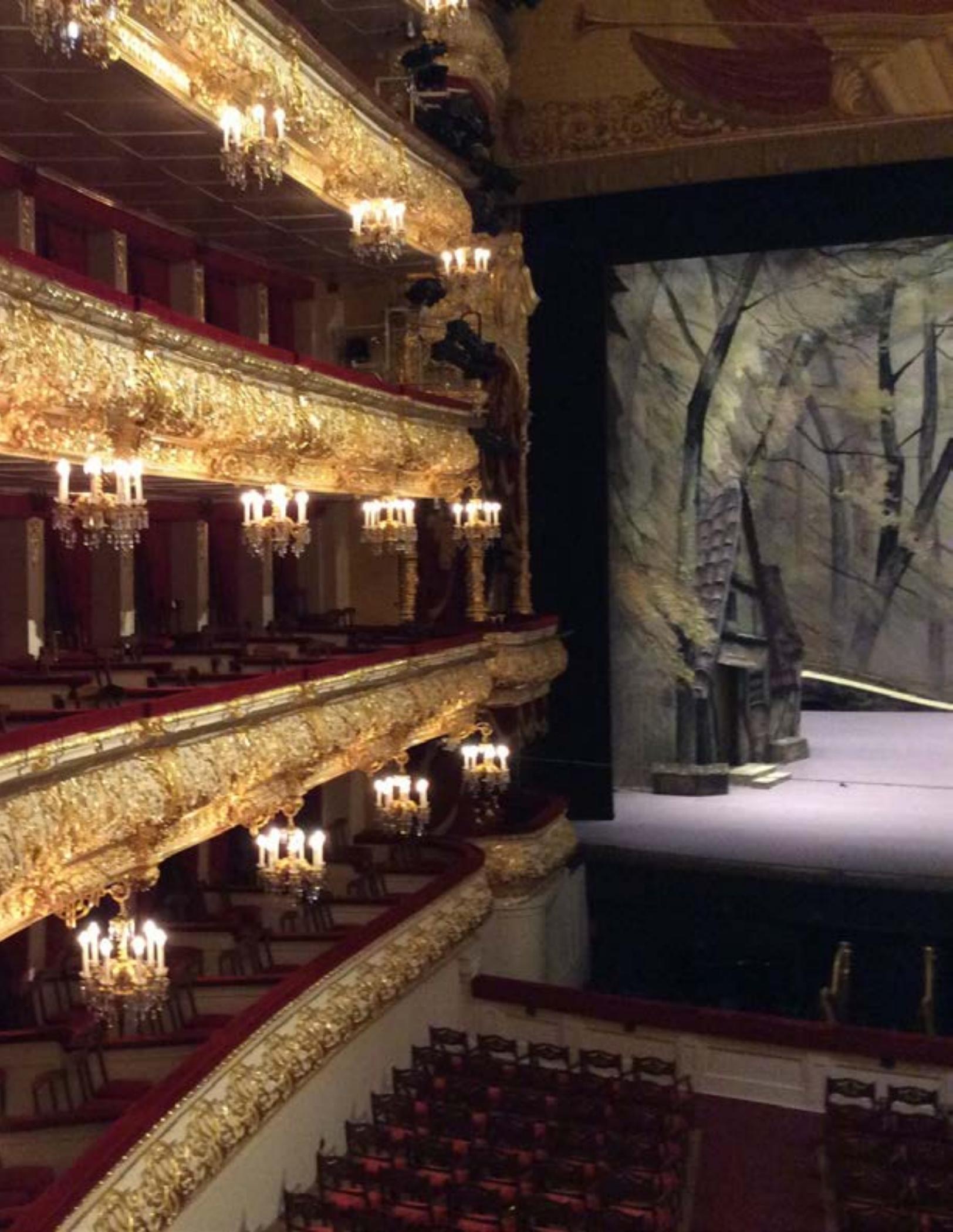
camps for internally displaced persons in Nigeria, one medical ward currently serves 250,000 people. As stated by the medical personnel, “When malnutrition and Vitamin A deficiency combine with measles this is a killer”.

UNICEF estimates that 8.5 million people need humanitarian assistance, 5.1 million malnourished, with about half a million children so severely malnourished that without treatment 75,000 more will die by June 2017. Aside from this, child mortality is currently off the chart and is up to four times above the emergency threshold.

This current human crisis likely ranks as one of the worst of our time. There is no time for a blame game. Collective action through cooperation and networking is necessary to save one more child out of the hands of death!

We can act together. Let's do it, and do it NOW!

JL



The Red Symphony

BY CRAIG RICKER
MOSCOW – RUSSIA

When I moved from California to Russia in 1992 I found a nation of people in severe agitation. They were experiencing a true economic collapse, not a banking crisis like we have from time to time in the West. Soviet culture had been discarded by the same elites who had previously enforced it and its grotesque form of political correctness. Throughout the Western media there was a stream of articles explaining how devastating it must be for Soviet citizens to suddenly be told that everything they believed in all their lives was a big fat lie.

Well, this was a shock, but not as big a shock as one might think. Although there was a brutal political correctness in the Soviet Union that dictated even how a person trimmed his beard, people were not expected to believe the psychological operations inflicted on them.

What do I mean by psychological operations? To really understand

leftism/Marxism it is necessary to grasp that it is an orchestra of psychological operations playing a Red Symphony. In the case of the Soviet Union, it was the ideas that Russians had been oppressed by their own Czarist culture, that the 1917 Revolution was a good thing, that all the peoples of the Soviet Union must discard their own identities and become a new kind of people, Soviet People, in which Poles are equal in every way to Uzbek tribal warriors. Naturally, when the cat was let out of the bag that this was all a hoax, it was not too big of a shock to the victims of the Red Symphony.

In the case of the West I believe the shock will be more profound when our Red Symphony propaganda machine suddenly discards the psychological operations that the Boomers have been raised on. Our Red orchestra is strumming false PSYOPs {psychological operations} like global

warming, egalitarianism, feminism, the West as oppressors, gay rights, and socialism etc. non-stop. The media in the West functions as enforcers against hecklers of these PSYOPs. TV talk show hosts and news anchor people are like the conductors of this symphony.

Imagine the shock when those musicians and enforcers declare that their music is false. In the case of the Soviet Union this happened with a massive economic crisis in which the state also declared that it can no longer provide for all its dependents.

Try for a moment to picture this in America: all of the rationalizations for dependency are suddenly destroyed and the tens of millions of people dependent on the government are on their own. The same leftists who did this to the Soviet people are running our Red Symphony. They did once, they can do it again.

JL

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More Than A Ritual

BY JAMES T. RUTKA, MD
TORONTO – CANADA

PHOTOGRAPHY BY MARI RUTKA

Last fall, my wife and I had the privilege of traveling together to Heron Island in Australia. It was our first time visiting the Great Barrier Reef. Although it was somewhat of an ordeal to get there from Toronto, once there, our biological and physiological clocks were reset to a relaxing and peaceful rhythm.

Upon arrival on Heron Island, we immediately headed to the beach for a walk around the island, which takes only 20 minutes to circumnavigate. Along the way we were treated to some spectacular vistas of turquoise blue waters, white sands, and waves crashing in the distance, demarcating the breakpoint of the reef. On our second day, we had the great privilege of snorkeling up the reef and seeing the vast array of brightly colored coral species. Sadly, the reef is suffering the consequences of global warming. Coral bleaching

is occurring as a result of increases in ocean temperature. The warmer waters kill the important algae which the coral feeds upon, leading to a loss of its coloration. Coral bleaching and several human threats are making the future of the Great Barrier Reef uncertain.

After dinner one evening, we took another stroll along the beach. The moon was full, and high in the sky. It shone brightly on the beach. The tide was out to sea. As we walked, we saw several tracks in the sand, newly made, that resembled tractor tire prints at first glance. However, on close inspection, these tracks were made by the giant Loggerhead and Green sea turtles which come onto shore to make their nests on Heron Island. As we followed the tracks up the beach, we could see clouds of sand being tossed in the air. A giant female Loggerhead was actively

making her nest, digging deeply into the sand. We kept our distance so as not to disturb her, but the bright moonlight in the cloudless sky gave us a chance to follow this incredible ritual that has been going on since time immemorial. Once sufficient sand has been cleared, and a large hole made, the turtle lays upwards of 120 eggs in the hole. The hole is then covered with sand by the turtle before she lumbers forward to find her way back to the sea. We stayed up until early morning hours to view the entire process. We knew that it would be two months before the hatchlings from the clutch would dig their way out of their nests and head straight to the sea. Still, we were in awe of bearing witness to this component of the life cycle of the sea turtles. To us, it was more than a ritual!



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Mother Nature's Pharmacy

BY CARLA DRAGNEA
BUCHAREST – ROMANIA

More and more I find myself reaching out for natural remedies. From herbal teas to essential oils to natural ointments and toiletries; the variety of these products are more abundant than ever.

Herbal teas

Familiar to all, herbal teas have great health benefits. Here are some teas I drink regularly.

Artichoke herbal tea – helps to protect the liver and treat related diseases. It stimulates the liver function and the production of bile. Overall, it helps with liver insufficiency.

Dandelion tea – is for liver detox. In a study published in the Journal of Pharmacy and Pharmacology, dandelion tea was shown to dramatically increase a detoxifying enzyme of the control group of animals tested. Tea made from different parts of the plant (roots, leaves, stems, etc.) have different properties and assist different parts of the body.

Ginger tea – is a great digestive aid and can be used to curb nausea, vomiting

or upset stomach due to motion sickness. Also, when you have a cold, make fresh ginger tea by simmering a piece of ginger root on the stove for 10 to 15 minutes. For a powerful germ-fighting combination, add fresh lemon juice and honey.

Green tea – contains catechins whose antioxidants fight and may even prevent cell damage. Green tea is not processed much before it's poured into your cup, so it's rich in catechins. Research shows that drinking this tea improves blood flow and lowers cholesterol.

Essential Oils

I absolutely love essential oils. I use them in inhalations (to relieve congestion), baths (for a calming effect) and massages (to relieve aches, boost the immune-system or increase my energy level). I use them on myself and on my family. Here are my favourites.

Eucalyptus oil – enhances the breath and can be used as topical application or direct inhalation supporting the whole family's open breathing during

challenging winter months. It also helps to improve concentration.

Lavender oil – gives balance to the body and happiness to the mind. When used regularly, it reduces feelings of anger, agitation and insecurity. Add several drops to warm bathwater to help you relax at the end of a long day.

Sweet Orange oil – is well-known for its uplifting and worry-reducing properties. It is an overall mood enhancer and relaxant. Its balancing effect on the mind and body benefit people of all ages.

Oregano oil – has many healing properties but is best known for boosting and strengthening immune function and for helping to regulate menstruation. This should be a staple in each household.

If you are not familiar with natural remedies, always consult a naturopath or other qualified doctor.

Much gratitude to Mother Nature for providing us with these potent remedies!

JL



Welcome To The Exponential Age of Artificial Intelligence

BY JO LEE MAGAZINE

NEW YORK / SAN FRANCISCO / HONG KONG / LONDON / TOKYO / ROME / TORONTO

Last year, a computer beat the best Go Player in the world: 10 years earlier than expected. In 2030, computers will become more intelligent than humans.

There will be 90% fewer lawyers in the future; only specialists will remain.

Software will disrupt most traditional industries in the next 5 to 10 years.

Uber is just a software tool, it doesn't own any cars, and is now the biggest taxi company in the world.

Airbnb is now the biggest hotel company in the world, although it doesn't own any properties.

Autonomous cars: In 2018 the first self-driving cars will appear for the public. Around 2020, you won't want to own a car anymore. You will

call a car with your phone, it will show up at your location and drive you to your destination.

Insurance companies will have massive trouble because without accidents, insurance will become 100 times cheaper.

Real estate will change, because if you can work while you commute, people will move further away to live in a more beautiful neighborhood.

Health: The Tricorder X prize is announced. Companies have begun to build a medical device {called the "Tricorder" from Star Trek} that works with your phone, which takes your retina scan and your blood sample as you breath into it.

Agriculture: There will be a \$100 agricultural robot in the future. Farmers in third world countries can

then become managers of their fields instead of working all day in their fields. Aeroponics will need much less water.

Bitcoin is becoming mainstream and might even become the default reserve currency.

Education: The cheapest smartphones are already at \$10 in Africa and Asia. By 2020, 70% of all humans will own a smartphone. That means everyone has the same access to world-class education. The English app will be free, so that children in Africa can become fluent in English within half a year.

JL



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THE
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The Claude I. Taylor, O.C. Tribute Award

BY JO LEE MAGAZINE

NEW YORK / SAN FRANCISCO / HONG KONG / LONDON / TOKYO / ROME / TORONTO

The Claude I. Taylor O.C. Tribute Award has been created by renowned crystal artist and designer, Mark Raynes Roberts, whose sculptures and awards can be found in art collections around the world. The newly designed Crystal Sculpture

Award is made of the purest optical crystal, a material used in the space and aeronautical industry, and reflective of the vision, clarity of thinking and excellence each of the Claude I. Taylor O.C. Tribute Award recipients possess. The Crystal Orb

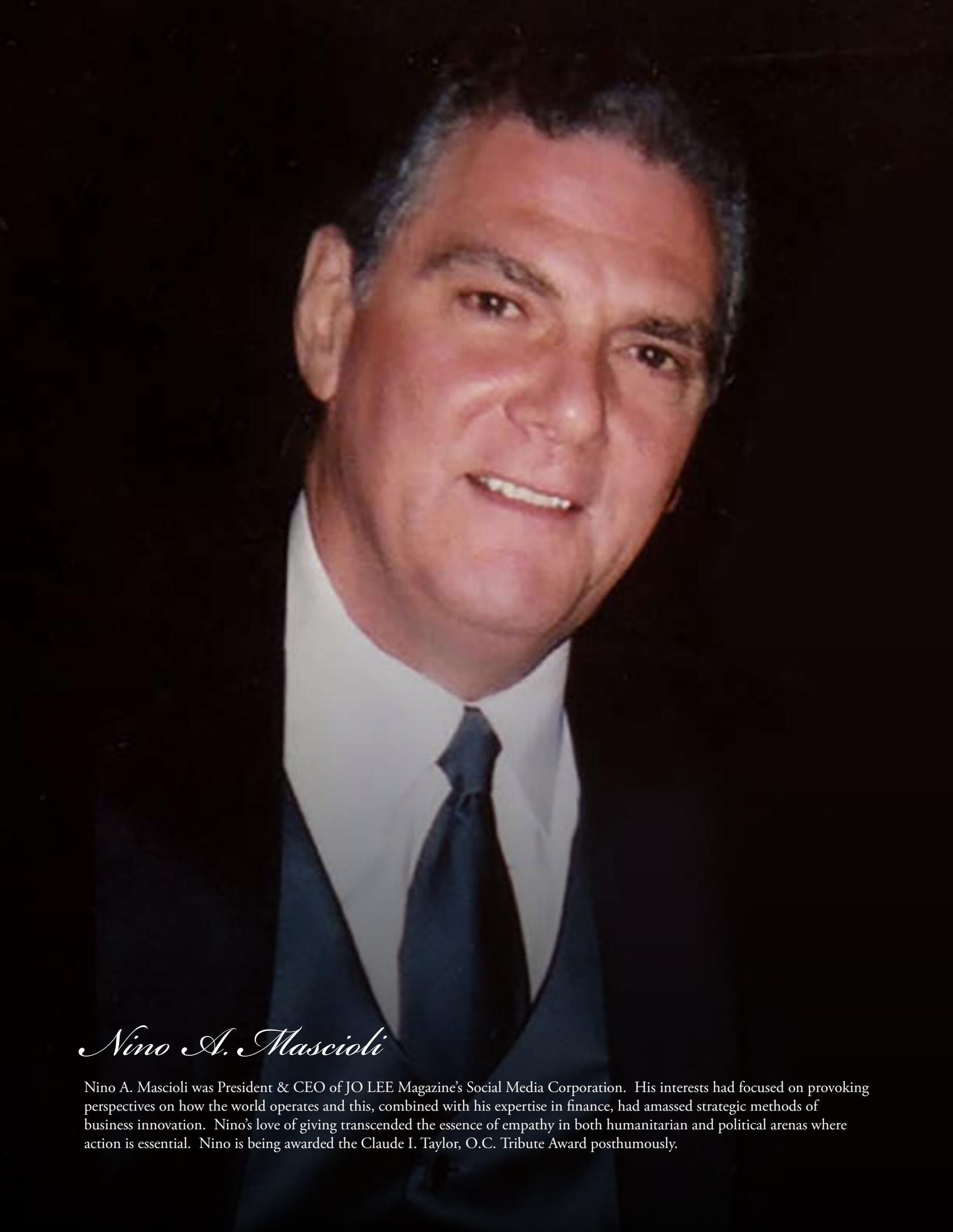
Sculpture is hand-engraved with a globe and linear lines on the cube symbolic of communication and the technological world we live in today. Markraynesroberts.com

JL



Ann Graham Calderisi

Ann Graham Calderisi was a humanist extraordinaire. Her lifetime endeavor and ethical stance emphasized the value of human beings, individually and collectively, affirming their ability to improve their lives. Ann was the sister of Edward {Ted} Rogers, a Board Member of Rogers Media and the Rogers Foundation and a member of the Advisory Committee of the Rogers Control Trust. Ann is being awarded the Claude I. Taylor, O.C. Tribute Award posthumously.



Nino A. Mascioli

Nino A. Mascioli was President & CEO of JO LEE Magazine's Social Media Corporation. His interests had focused on provoking perspectives on how the world operates and this, combined with his expertise in finance, had amassed strategic methods of business innovation. Nino's love of giving transcended the essence of empathy in both humanitarian and political arenas where action is essential. Nino is being awarded the Claude I. Taylor, O.C. Tribute Award posthumously.



Thomas A. McKee

Thomas A. McKee is recognized as a leading lawyer with a striking dossier of domestic and international clients who've spanned across a wide variety of industries where he is frequently seen in *The Guide to the World's Leading Financial Law Firms (Mergers and Acquisitions)*. Tom's philanthropic goals reach high and it is within the realm 'of giving' that he and Claude achieved great camaraderie.

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