WHAT TO WEAR | WHERE TO GO | WHERE TO BE IN COLUMBUS

HOLIDAY 2007

C

THE COLUMBUS MAGAZINE

Getting Kozy

Exclusive Interview with the Busiest Man in Jazz

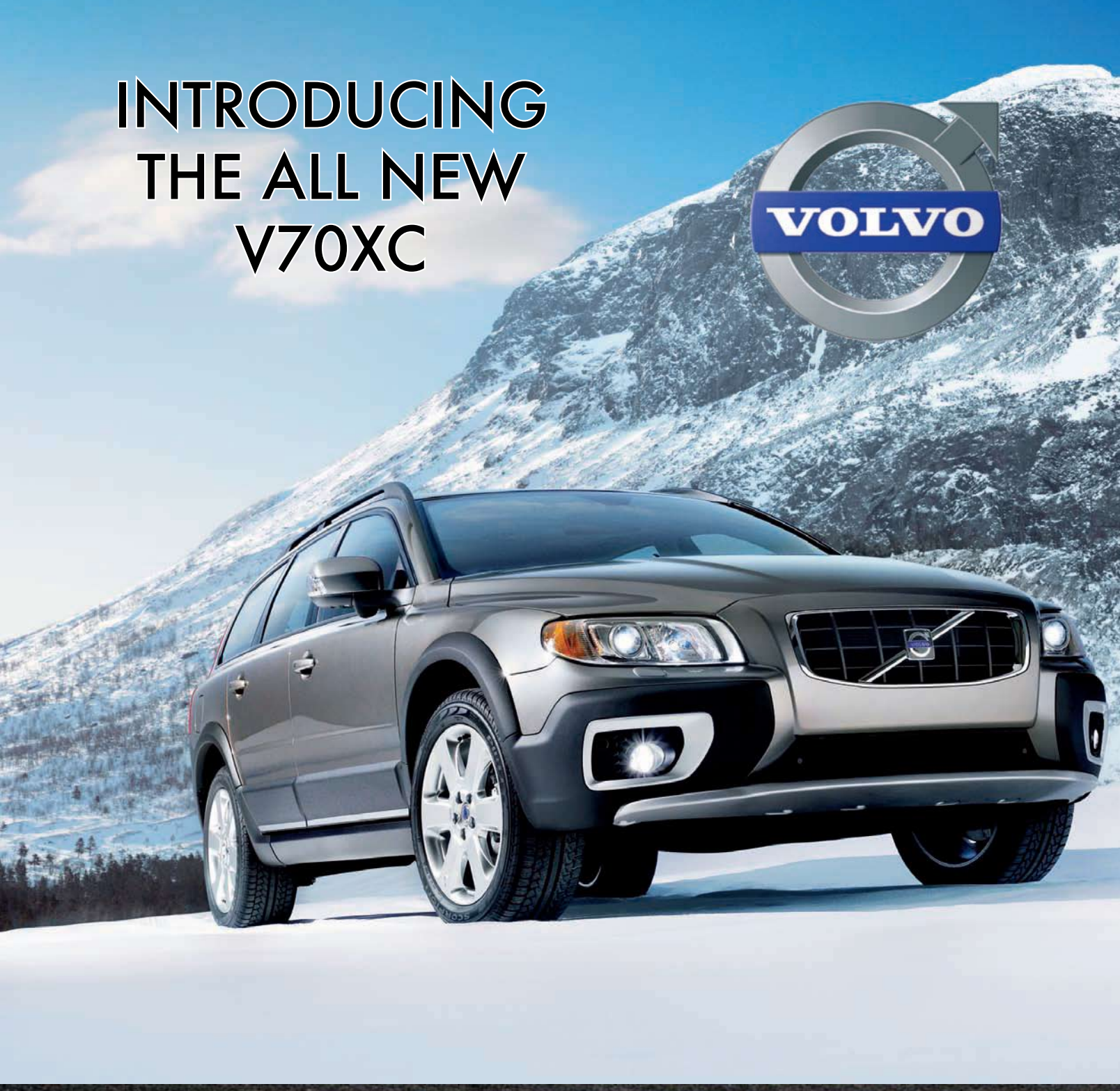
Dave Koz

Hear Me Now?
Shawn Cunix

Time-Tested
The Clarmont

Expanding Grandeur
Bexley Gateway

Compounding Mixes
The Lab Rats



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Roopan Dey with Anna Melomud at the C Magazine, Dooley & Co. Realtors and Santer Communities event at Avenue One

Cozy Kitchens

The weather is slowly starting to turn and the bustling patios at fine Columbus eateries are being packed up as we move into winter. During this time of the year, I particularly enjoy the eclectic variety of restaurants in our fair city that provide cozy comfort from the cold winter chill.

For a great cup of coffee and the best plate of hash browns in Columbus, you need to try **German Village Coffee Shop**. In addition to the hash browns, this comfortable diner serves incredible pancakes and omelets. Even if you encounter a line, I suggest you wait. The crowd moves quickly, and it is definitely worth the wait.

Banana Bean in German Village offers the unique menu of Floribbean fare. The food, inspired by Caribbean and Floridian tastes, offers an excellent brunch or lunch on those cold winter days. Be smart and call ahead for a table—getting in here ain't easy, and waiting out in the cold for one is insane, no matter how good the food is.

Dipping into one of the most intimate restaurants in the city, the **Melting Pot** is by far one of my favorite spots in the city to dine. Located at Easton Town Center, this low-lit restaurant, located under Joshua Homes, nestles you into cozy booths outfitted with the necessary fondue essentials needed for an exciting and eccentric meal. This is not your psychedelic fondue party of the seventies, but a sophisticated and delicious event to be shared with close friends.

Keep warm,

Roopan Dey
Publisher & CEO

loves it

Healthy Toes

This is an interesting product I came across. Healthy Toes is like a yoga workout for your toes. The gel material helps you excercise your feet and is said to improve circulation and the overall health of your feet.

With winter here, this is a great way to keep your feet in shape, or something interesting to do with your toes while nestled at home on those cold nights.

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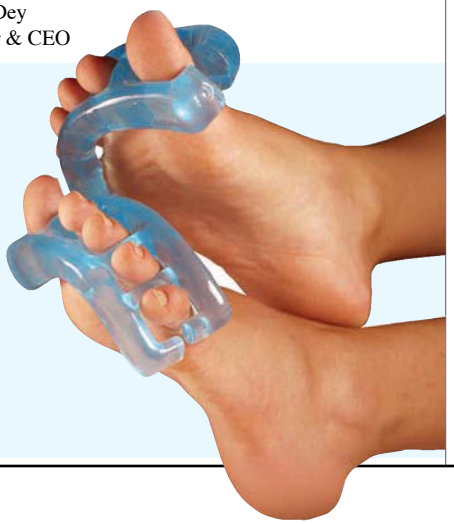

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Jason Ohlson chillin' at Michael Redd's house during last month's cover shoot.

from the editor
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Remembering to Breath

Ah, the holidays. They're here and gone before you know it. Like the seasons in which they fall, they can be kind and rewarding, as well as trying and tortuous. The way to avoid the latter pair of attributes, at least in some small part (for, as any intelligent person knows, holidays are the wicked work of gnomes and grandmothers to force large groups of people who should never ever get together, get together), is to be empathetic and understanding of other people's situations and support whatever decision they make regarding how they want to spend their holiday. After all, it's theirs, too.

For some, hibernation is the key. Others need a nip or two (or twenty) of their prized hidden spirit (again, for one, it may be a bottle of Louis XIII or Screaming Eagle that strikes their fancy, and for another, a sampling of holiday ales is their calling). Some people honestly map out their feasts, one food coma at a time, and help out with the cooking just to eat even more. Grandmothers work with gnomes; fathers try not to work at all; decorators decorate every inch of their homes; hunters hunt; mothers cook, for so long and to such great lengths that time and reason actually disappear; shoppers shop; servers serve… The list goes on and on.

The point is that the holidays would be no fun and have very little impact if they were only dates on a calendar, and if everyone celebrated them exactly the same way. Holidays are made to be customized, by each country, each family and each person, hence the concept of tradition.

Make your own traditions this holiday season. Use this holiday issue of *C Magazine* to help you break out of your norm and into something exciting and new. Above all, treat yourself, even if to only a moment of holiday reflection. There's much to be thankful for, like turkey and stuffing and cookies and presents. Oh yeah, health, friendship and family are great, too.

Jason E. Ohlson

HOLIDAY 07

30 **Just Be Koz**
Known as one of the premier superstars of contemporary Jazz, Dave Koz is like the Energizer bunny – he just keeps going and going. With the release of two new albums this year, a successful radio show, his own record label and one of the most favored holiday tours around, there is nothing this man hasn't done. Now he's got an interview with *C Magazine* under his belt, too.

11 **SUITLESS**
From a purveyor of all things "boxed" to an adventure seeking culinary captain to the man who gives a whole new meaning to the word "style," as usual, we've got them all here for you to meet and admire.

20 **9 FOR $9**
Think you know your way around town, do ya? Chances are we've got something you haven't tried and even better, all nine of our choice spots have dishes that are under $9 bucks and taste marvelous. Now top that!

40 **FEATURE RESTAURANT**
The Clarmont is a mainstay in Columbus' "Rat Pack" culture. They always give patrons exactly what they expect, and what they expect is top-notch service and selections. Plus, they have all the stuff Sinatra and Sammy used to eat when they hung out.

46 **HOMEWORK**
When you think of Bexley, Ohio, you most likely think of tree-lined streets, boutique shops and some of the most beautiful private residences in the city. It should come as no surprise then that the Bexley Gateway project fully lives up to the community's reputation.

57 **RIDE23**
Matt Vara is a well-known rider in the bike scene. His bike of choice is a 2005 GSXR 1000 equipped with a Yoshimura Tri-oval slip-on exhaust system that was specially ordered from Japan. Listen up; he's comin' at ya.

64 **FINAL WORD**
This month's Final Word comes from Shawn Cunix, Columbus' cellular savant and owner of Flexicom Wieless. And don't worry; we gave him some of our family sharing plan minutes to enlighten you.

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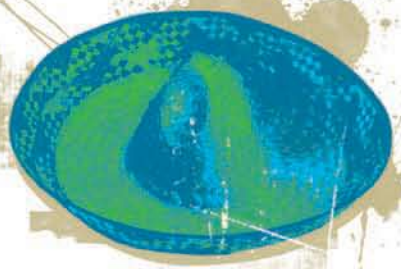
LUNCH FOR EVERY TASTE.

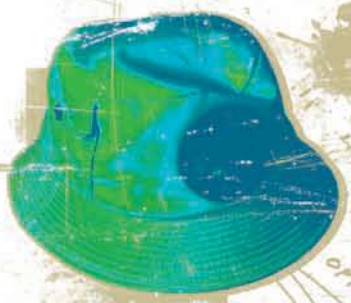


OUTDOOR SEATING

MAD MEX

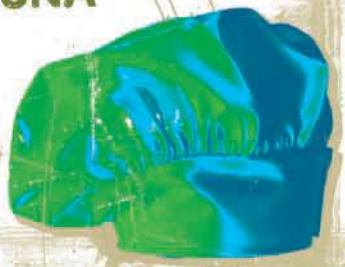
LOTS OF VARIETY

EDDIE GEORGE'S
GRILLE 27

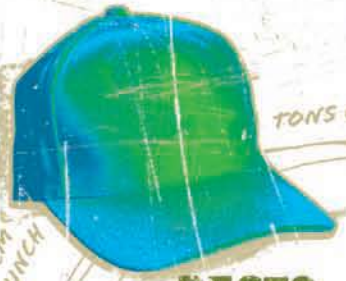


KEEP YOUR OPTIONS OPEN

UGLY TUNA SALOONA



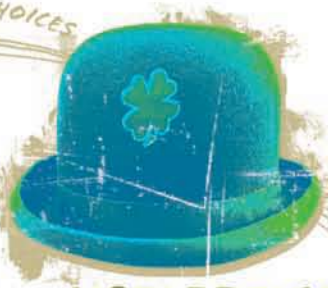
PANERA BREAD



TONS OF CHOICES

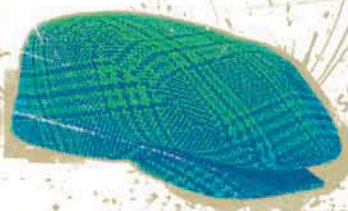
IMPRESS 'EM WITH LUNCH

PESTO
CREATIVE ITALIAN BISTRO



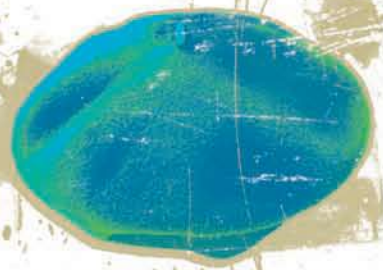
SEE OR BE SEEN

MCFADDEN'S
RESTAURANT AND SALOON



SATISFY YOUR TASTE BUDS

POTBELLY
SANDWICH WORKS



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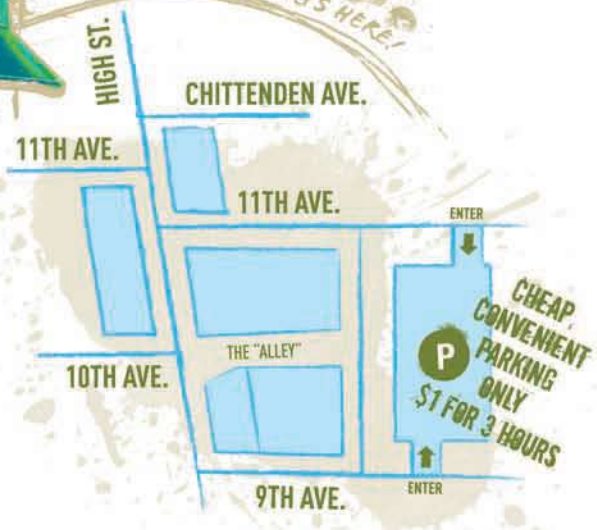

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Inside the Box

Jimi Marshall

Story | Kristen M. Foley
Photography | Eric Wagner

A box is just a box, right? Not to Jimi Marshall, Regional Sales Manager for Stephen Gould Corporation, the largest privately owned packaging sales organization in the United States.

"If I handed you a corrugated box and told you to talk to me about it, you would probably talk for less than 15 seconds. You would say it's a box, it's square, it's made of paper and it's brown," says Marshall. "Give it to me and I can tell you everything from the manufacturer of the paper to how the content of the paper is even manufactured and more. I can talk for hours on it, but you would be bored to tears."

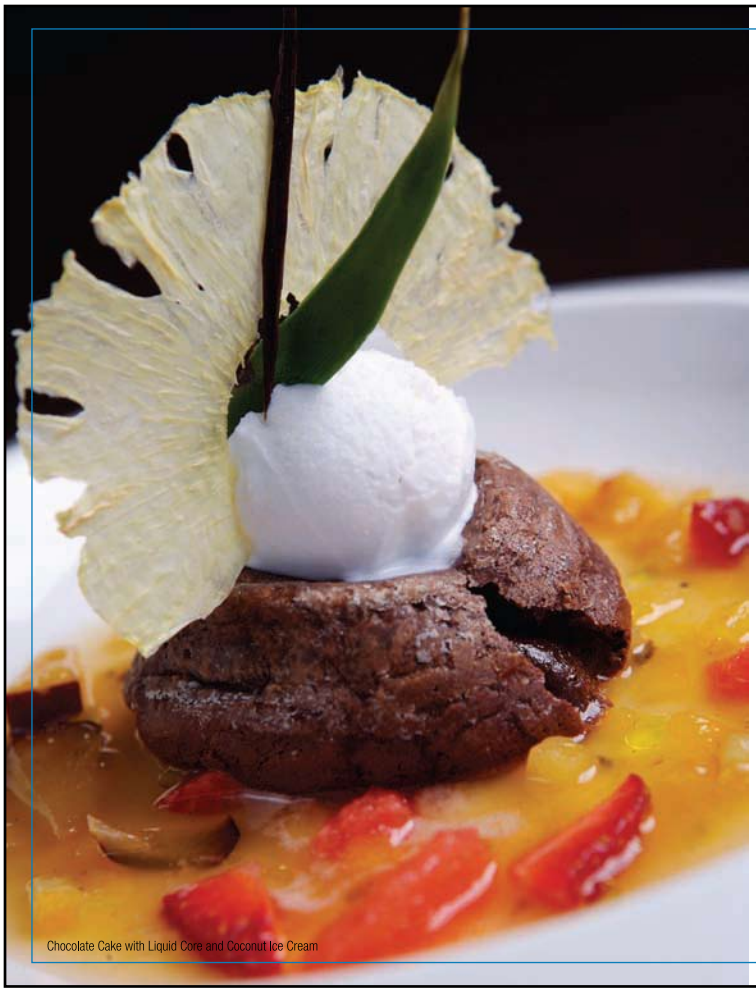
To tears? No. But to the point? Yes. Marshall definitely knows his stuff, and he should, after spending 30 years with the company. He's worked with such clients as Bath & Body Works, Johnny Walker Red and Cadillac, while helping to create everything from corrugated boxes to point-of-sale displays.

"Although the core product is the same," reflects Marshall, "every day is different because every customer has a different requirement."

Stephen Gould itself operates 37 branches throughout the world and handles every aspect from creative to customized packaging design and production to fulfillment, warehousing and "Just-In-Time" delivery. Here in town, the setup is just as elaborate to help fulfill the needs of all of those big-name clients.

"In Columbus, we have a 75,000 square foot, state-of-the-art collation and assemble assembly center where we take our customers' products and collate them with products we manufacture, then shrink wrap, label and recut the displays and distribute."

Just another box? Yeah, right!



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Fare Fashion

Jose Becerra

Story | Kristen M. Foley
Photography | Eric Wagner

Jose Becerra has always been a fan of innovation, especially when it comes to food. As Director of Food Operations for Abercrombie and Fitch's corporate office, his main priority is to keep the selections fresh, healthy and unlike any other corporate cafe around.

"I try to stay ahead of the latest trends in foods, snacks and beverages and our main repertoire is based on California Cuisine," says Becerra. "It's a mix of ethnic foods that marry well together. If it is happening in Las Vegas, Los Angeles or New York City, you'll see it here, too."

Born in San Francisco, California, Becerra's love of eclectic and ethnic foods evolved at an early age, thanks mostly to his family. His mother, a native of Peru, loved steamed rice and Asian foods, while his father favored Spanish, Italian and Mediterranean. Every Friday night his family would try a new restaurant or dish. "So, I always had this affection for all types of foods," reflects Becerra. "Even to this day, I eat out a lot and love to try new things."

After a stint as a successful Latin Club owner in California, Becerra attended the California Culinary Academy and then worked with Dan Gordon and Dean Biersch at the original Gordon Biersch in Palo Alto and Jacky Robert at Amelio's, a 5-star French restaurant, prior to joining the Abercrombie and Fitch team.

"We had Vitamin Waters on our shelves five years ago, before they became mainstream," muses Becerra. "We are about to introduce a line of juices that are hip and cool in LA, as well as toying with an Oxygen Bar and introducing a line of organic foods and an array of vegan products."

In addition, Becerra has started yet another trend that easily transforms Abercrombie's café into a culinary cornucopia. "We look to restaurants that have a special appeal that fits our culture, and invite them here to sell lunches and market themselves", he says. "Some of the restaurants are North Market favorites like Lac Viet, Firdous and Benevolence Café, and we are currently talking with Latitude 41."

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Damon Givens

Story | Cary Smith
Photography | Eric Wagner

The dream was to create an atmosphere where anyone could come in for service and instantly feel comfortable and at home. The salon would reflect the collective personality of the neighborhood, but ultimately cater to each client's individual style. At Stile, Easton's hottest salon and spa, maintaining their smooth image is crucial, but exacting each client's anticipated experience is everything.

"The "I" in Stile's name is really the most important part," says Stile co-owner Damon Givens. "It can stand for individual, inspiration or a number of things. It's really about the individual; that's what Stile is all about."

Givens, a late 80s New Jersey transplant to Columbus, attended Eastland vocational school to study Cosmetology and learn the ropes of the business. After a short period of time cutting his friends hair in his basement, he was urged by his cousin to learn how to cut women's hair and expand his horizons.

"My friend Curtis and I were just cutting out friends' hair," says Givens. "I went to Steiner Douglas Salon and worked as a stylist for Kelley Douglas for years before we worked together to open Stile."

Givens opened the boutique at Easton with the help of longtime friend Curtis Barnett and his business partner Kelley Douglas after seeing the empty space at Easton and realizing the potential it had. The Stile concept will be transplanted into different neighborhoods, but each location will mirror the area. Stile at Steiner Douglas is already in place and a Short North location is in the works that will center on an edgier fringe fashion element. Givens doesn't know how many locations it will take before he is satisfied.

"I always thought that I would reach this point," says Givens, "I just don't know when I'll be able to just stop. You could take this concept anywhere. You could see Stile at Polaris or on Fifth Avenue or on Rodeo Drive."

For more information on Stile, go to www.stilesalon.com

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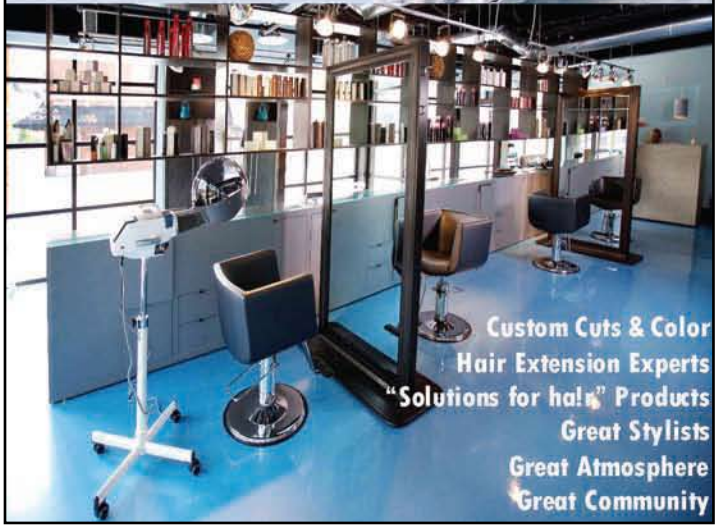

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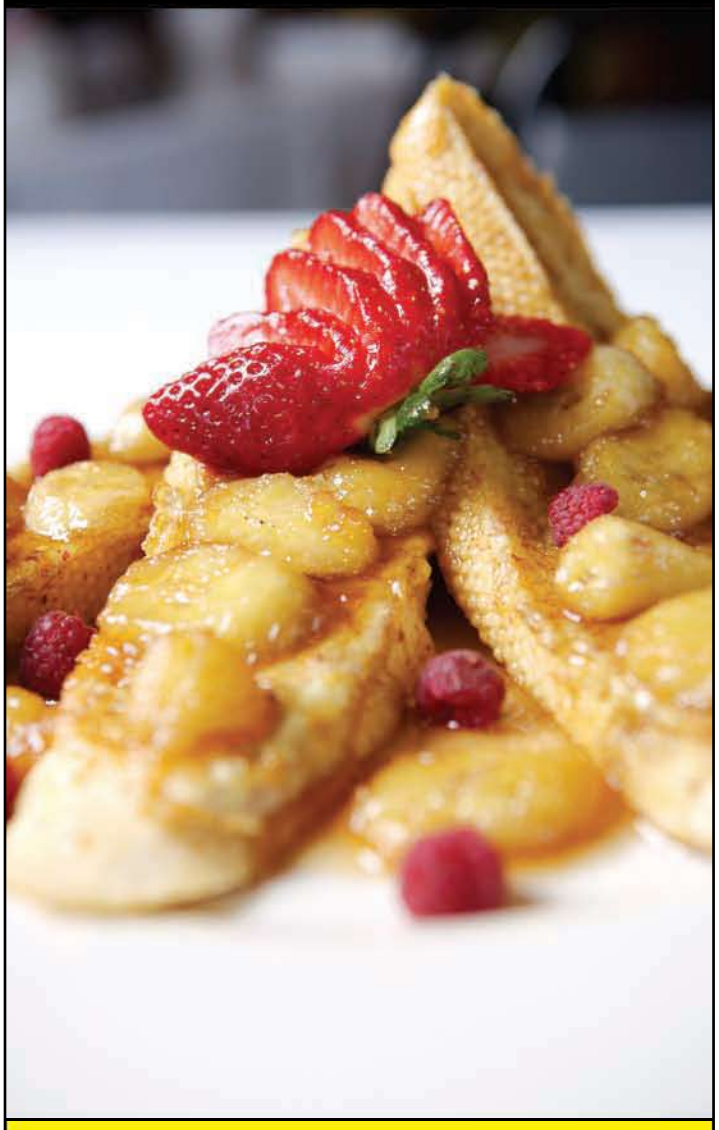

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The word "Zen" has been a part of the American lexicon for quite a while. Well, what Zen and Cha together mean to Columbus is a tastefully stark and soothing room in which to consume over a hundred different types of tea, each prepared fresh and served in the appropriate vessel, while peaceful music and tempting aromas surround us. Surprisingly, it also means lunch. Stop in and try their **Fig Parmesan Basket Salad ($7.49)**. Organic baby greens with fig and prosciutto are prepared in a green tea parmesan basket with fresh blackberry black tea dressing and toasted walnuts.

Juergen's

525 S. Fourth St. (614) 224-6858

Mapquest it. Google it. Whatever-the-heck it is you gotta do to find Juergen's, do it. They have **Schnitzel Nature ($8.95)**, which they serve with red cabbage and bread dumplings. There are wursts, spaetzle and goulash. The beer has some crazy diphthong and lots of hops in it, and the puffs are full of Bavarian crème. Check out the rest of the pastries in the case on your way in, and, after a couple of long franks or some spinach strudel, take a couple with you when you go. Whatever you get at Juergen's, it doesn't get any more German, or tasty for that matter. Und das it alas.

Schnitzel Nature for $8.95 at Juergen's

Café Napolitana

40 N. High St. (614) 224-3013

Is there such thing as enough cheese? We have yet to find out, but the closest we got was at Café Napolitana. They stuff the stuff into pretty much everything they serve for lunch. And, if they are not stuffing the stuff into something, you can bet they are melting it on top. Maybe both. The **Pizza Pastries ($5.75)** come in no fewer than five varieties and are chock full of the stringy, melty, chewy goods. Some have ham. Some have sausage. Some have ham AND sausage. There's even one with spinach and ricotta – and mozzarella. Then, after you peel the stray cheese from the plate and devour it, Napolitana has homemade gelato in all the flavors you don't yet know you love.

The Pizza Pastries for only $5.75 at Café Napolitana

The Corner Stone Deli-Café

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It might be the best bagel in Clintonville and maybe the whole wide world. The bagel sciences haven't progressed enough for there to be a truly quantitative approach to their judging, so we can make claims like this with impunity. And, we will, as long as the bagels really are fantastic and the people serving them are as lovely as they are at Corner Stone. They will make you a **Giant Salad ($8.64 w/ chicken or tofu and a bagel with your choice of spread)**, and toss it with any or all of about fifty different ingredients right as you order it. This is one of those couple-times-a-week joints.

Giant Salad from The Corner Stone Deli-Café for $8.64

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One of Pearl Alley's coolest offerings is a Latin American restaurant that serves all the traditional way-south-of-the-border goodies. They have empanadas, arepas and the like, and they even cure their own pork, Columbian style. The great thing about the arepas and empanadas is that they aren't too big; think about getting one of each and try two different fillings. But no matter what, on one of your trips to El Arepazo, be sure to get a loaded **Beef or Pork Patacon (fried plantain) ($7.99)**. You'll be hooked soon after.

The Beef Patacon for $7.99 from El Arepazo

Get Nutty
The Nutcracker

Deemed as one of the most traditional holiday events in the city, Balletmet's *The Nutcracker* returns December 8th – 23rd at the Ohio Theatre. *The Nutcracker* captures all the wonder and childlike joy of the season with beautiful dancing, live music from the Columbus Symphony, touches of humor, opulent scenery and the unforgettable voice of Roger Moore as the narrator.

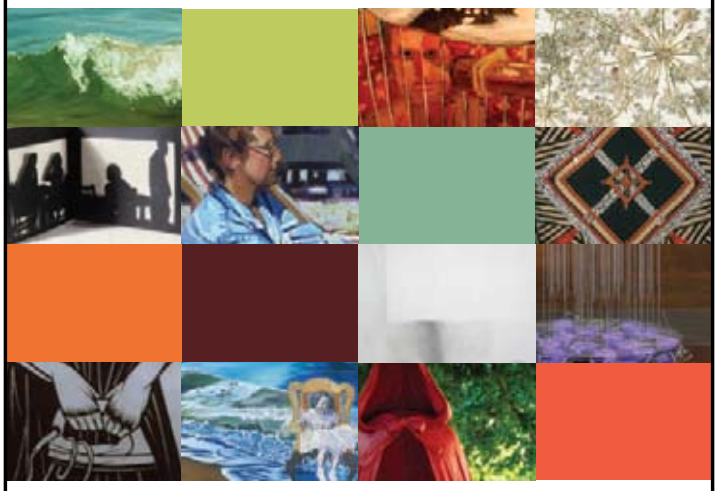
But the holiday tradition has truly become an event beyond just the main performance. Extra events such as *The Nutcracker Celebrity Storytime* (occurring 30 minutes prior to several of the matinee shows), the Firefighters 4 Kids Toy Drive (donate an unwrapped toy at the Balletmet Dance Center and receive a special gift, while supplies last) and a special Salute to Seniors Performance on December 21st , truly make this something for all ages.

In addition, if you are looking for a more formal way to enjoy the wonders of Clara and the magical creatures of *The Nutcracker*, escape to this year's *Nutcracker Ball* held December 1st at Lane Aviation. All Proceeds will benefit BalletMet's performances, Academy and Education/Outreach Programs.

To purchase tickets for The *Nutcracker Ball*, contact Barbara Markus at (614) 586-8671; for *The Nutcracker* performances, visit www.balletmet.org.

More Art to C >>>

Ohio Arts Council's RIFFE GALLERY



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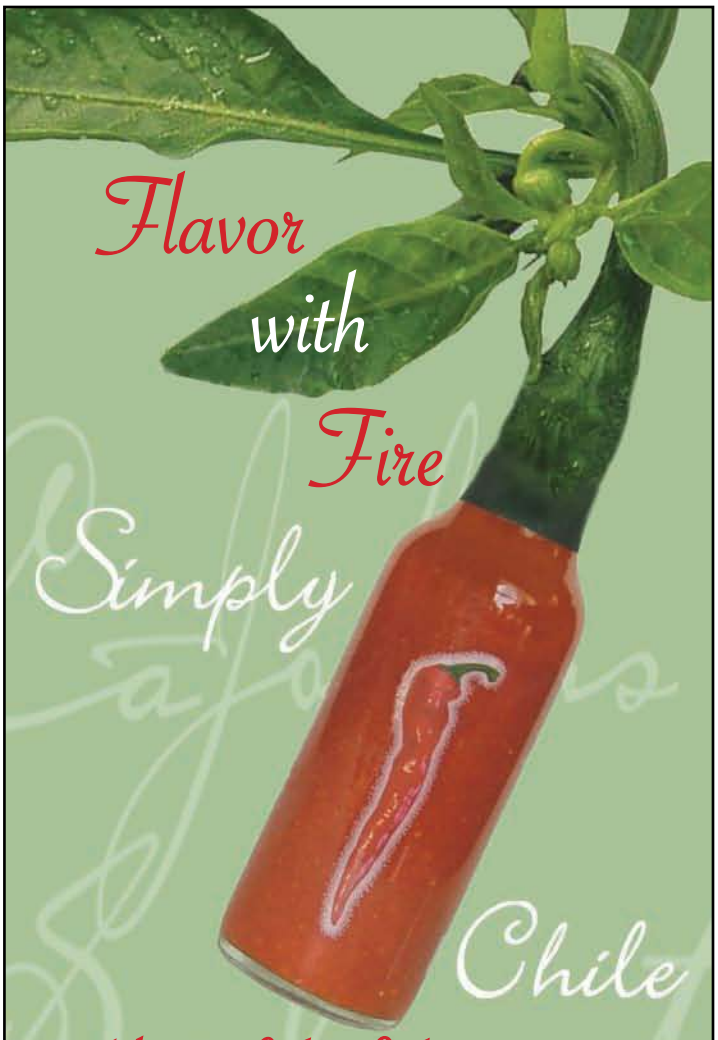

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The Western Omelet from Marshall's starts at $6.95

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These Asian take-out places are popping up like Kudzu in Columbus these days. Tai's shows us why. Their robustly seasoned cuisine is tangy, spicy, tart, sweet and salty—completely unlike anything we in the West would ever have thought of. Yet, even the most medium-well-steak-and-potato, timid eater seems willing to try it. The **Sichuan Chicken Chow Fun ($6.95)** may look odd (right down to its spelling), but the firm chewy noodles with spicy, ground-chicken sauce will make you forget all about appearances. Just like mama said you should.

Sichuan Chicken Chow Fun $6.95 from Tai's Asian Bistro

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Two plates. It takes every last inch of two full-sized paper plates to hold the giant subs at Jersey Mike's. Actually, the subs hang off the edge of both of the plates, so if you really wanted to get technical about it, it takes three. The **Italian Super Sub ($8.75 for the Giant)** has three kinds of meat, cheese and all the fresh, crispy, tangy fixins you can imagine, including banana peppers. It's like a double dare on a plate (or three plates as the case may be).

Italian Super Sub $8.75 for the Giant found at Jersey Mike's

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A Dickens Affair

Looking for something new to do with the family this holiday season? Take them to the Ohio Village for *Dickens of a Christmas*, December 7-8 and 14-16 and step into the world of Charles Dickens and the Victorian Christmas made famous in his stories. Your whole family can enjoy plum pudding and caroling by the characters from his writings. If that's not enough, a *Dickens of a Dinner* will be served at the American House Hotel in Ohio Village on December 7-8 and 14-15 at 6 p.m., and a Christmas Brunch on December 16th at 11 a.m. and 2 p.m. Call (614) 297-2300 or visit www.ohiohistory.org for more information.

Hoop It Up

The definition of Hoopla in the dictionary is "a bustling excitement or activity or a hullabaloo." And since Holiday Hullabaloo is a bit of a mouthful, we're glad Shadowbox settled on *Holiday Hoopla* when they started their shindig 16 long editions ago! Be sure to stop by and see the show full of original sketch comedies with a holiday twist as well as returning favorites The Santa Babies and the disgruntled first reindeer, Dasher. For more information call 614-265-7625.

On the Horizon

The Ohio Arts Council's Riffe Gallery presents *New Horizons: Rewards of Time and Place*, November 8, 2007 – January 6, 2008. *New Horizons* features work by 11 Ohio artists, including Mary Jo Bole, Laura Lisbon, Laura Sanders and Todd Slaughter of Columbus, who all participated in the Ohio Arts Council's domestic residencies program within the last 10 years. The result is artwork that reflects the tangible rewards artists gain from experiencing a new horizon. Visit www.riffegallery.org or phone (614) 644-9624 for more information.

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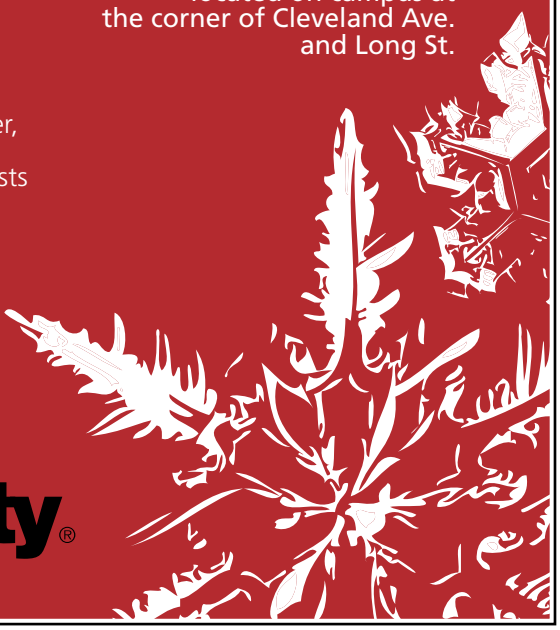

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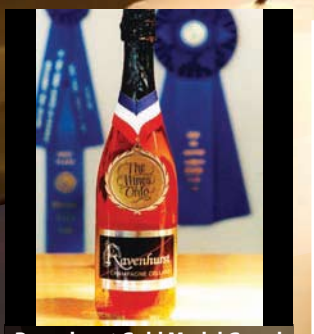

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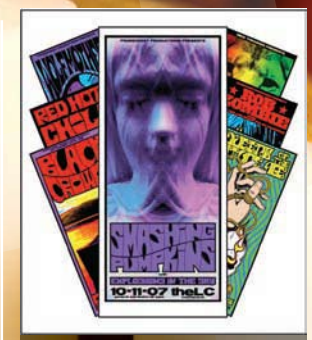

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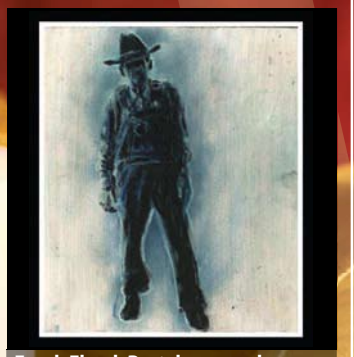

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For 24 years, artist Lambertus Van Boekel has exhibited "Top 100" chronicling his favorite songs. Please contact Kristin Meyer, Director.

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A Just Koz

Dave Koz's career spans a couple of decade. Though that may seem like a long time, once you learn of all his accomplishments, it's amazing he's been able to do them in such a short time. With numerous albums under his belt, several radio shows and his own record label, Koz could easily be considered the king of the Jazz world—only without a king-sized ego.

Koz is, by nature, an easy-going guy who not only loves what he does, but has totally enveloped himself in every ounce of the musical process. His most recent celebrations of the craft were just part of the reason *C Magazine* wanted to chat with him. His recent album release *At the Movies*, pays homage to classic movie songs, with an added twist of his own here and there. With a 40-piece orchestra behind him, Koz recreated such favorites as "Moon River" (eloquently sung by Mr. Barry Manilow himself) and one of his most beloved songs, "Over the Rainbow."

And because he's not busy enough, Koz recently released another album of time-honored songs, just in time for the holidays. *Memories of a Winter's Night* was released in September 2007 and features a dozen holiday standards, including two duets by Kelly Sweet and Kimberley Locke of the famed *American Idol.*

On December 8th, Locke will join Koz as he plays selections from both albums on the *Dave Koz and Friends A Smooth Jazz Christmas 10th Anniversary Tour* at the Palace Theatre. Alongside Locke, you can expect to see other special guests, including Jonathan Butler and Wayman Tisdale. It truly is a holiday show that shouldn't be missed.

In between rehearsals, radio shows and appearances, *C* chatted candidly with Koz about everything from how he manages to look so "saxy" in his photos to why he loves making Columbus one of his holiday tour stops.

C Magazine: What's the first memory you have of picking up a musical instrument?
Dave Koz: I wouldn't have picked it up because it was a piano. My mom, who was a frustrated (but did it for a living) pharmacist, loved music and her dad always encouraged her to learn music. Her mandate as a mom was to have her three kids take up piano. Of course, I hated the lessons; I hated the whole experience. She's passed now, but I used to thank her all the time for it because I usually write all of my music on the piano.

C Magazine: Why the saxophone?
Koz: It was an instrument that found me. My brother had a band when we were kids and they played weddings, bar mitzvahs and fraternity parties. I didn't want a job flipping burgers and wanted to go out and make a couple hundred dollars making music. So as a typical younger brother, I bugged my brother non-stop. He finally said, "You're not going to get in this band, but if you would, the only way you could is if you played the sax because we don't have a sax." I didn't hear the part: "You're never going to get in." All I heard was: "Pick up the sax." I was in the seventh grade, and from the moment I picked up the sax, it truly felt natural, almost like finding a friend. I practiced my butt off for two years and drove him absolutely crazy until he finally relented. He let me come on a gig to a wedding in Woodland Hills, California where we grew up. I got paid $10 when everyone else got paid $100. I never let him forget about that. When I became a recording artist, my first record for Capitol, we wrote this song that became the first single and I paid him $10 for it.

C Magazine: Is there any other instrument you would still like to master or learn?
Koz: I always wanted to play the bass and I have no idea why. I think it's because bass players in bands tend to be cool.

C Magazine: What do you do when you aren't writing, playing, producing, etc.?
Koz: I have a lot of different interests that are semi-related. I started a record company about 5 ½ years ago called Rendezvous Records with two partners. I actually enjoy working with other artists and helping them do their stuff. I do a lot of radio, too—kind of the same thing in being an advocate for both the music and the artists. But completely away from the arts, my favorite thing in the whole world is traveling and the more exotic the better.

C Magazine: What's the zenith of your travels?
Koz: A couple of years ago, we had the opportunity to play in South Africa in Johannesburg and Cape Town. I was like, "They want me to come play my music there?" It was kind of [an] out-of-body [experience]. So we went and my music was very popular there and 5,000 people showed up. I couldn't believe it. Last month, we had a string of shows in Japan and I took a few extra days to kind of decompress in that country and take it all in. That's what I did in South Africa. I took a Safari and it was just…I felt so fortunate that my living could bring me that type of experience.

C Magazine: What's your guiltiest pleasure?
Koz: M & M's.
C Magazine: How would you define yourself as

a musician, in simplest terms?
Koz: Three words: melody, melody, melody.

C Magazine: How many years have you been professionally involved in music?
Koz: I've been playing for 30 or so years.

C Magazine: Was there ever a time when you wanted to give it up?
Koz: There have been times when I have been frustrated with things. You have to knock on a lot of doors and a lot of doors in life are closed and I sometimes feel that I'm a horn player in a vocal world and always trying to kind of fit into something else. Sometimes I take breaks. Last year, I took a chunk of time off and didn't tour. Hotel rooms with bad beds and lumpy pillows and constant travel sometimes get to me and can be grueling. I realized this year that a lot of what drives me is the fact that those doors are closed. The true challenge is unlocking those doors, or getting them open just a crack, so that I can get in and do what I do. It's taken me a long time to get that what I do has a special quality to it and it's my job, not anyone else's, to make sure that it gets shared. Someone said this to me a long time ago, "Your talent is not yours." That is where ego gets in the way for a lot of performers and artists. My talent has been loaned to me. For this lifetime, I have this talent or this gift, so it's my job to shepherd it through my life in the best way possible.

C Magazine: Given your musical repertoire, to whom do you relate most in the musical world?
Koz: Those questions are so hard to answer. The first thing that pops into my mind is Burt Bacharach on a lot of levels. One, songwriting; two, tireless; and three, always looking out. He is a guy who can totally rest on his laurels, and he doesn't. He's always searching for something new and that's what keeps him young. He's in his late seventies now and I've worked with him on one of my albums and wrote a song with him. Just in that process and dipping into his creative process I learned so much. He wakes up in the morning and is like, "What am I going to do today? How am I going to push?" Stevie Wonder too.; he's a guy who always is doing things and creating and giving.

C Magazine: How have things changed since the label started?
Koz: It's a struggle for survival. We've been around for about six years. We have about 10 different artists on a catalog of about 40 records. When we started the record, the music business

was completely different. I think if it was just us, I'd be a little worried; but I think even the major labels are having problems finding their relevance because music has really taken a turn. I always try to embrace change and be as positive as possible because it's reality. That's the way it is. People consume music very differently now than when I was growing up. I would focus completely on a record when I bought it. Now with kids, music is part of the experience, thankfully, but it is part of a total experience. Music has never been healthier because it's never been so consumed as much as it is now.

C Magazine: How do you spot new talent? What criteria, if any, do you follow?
Koz: Not to sound cliché, but it's the same thing that the beginning people in this business say. Like the guy who first saw Hendrix play at some club. Or the first person who saw Joan Baez sing. There is something that comes off the stage that is intangible and connects with people. To try to put a formula to it on paper, you'll never find it; it's just lightning in a bottle and you hope to be lucky enough to see it. We've all seen it at some point in our life. It's just when you are the first to see it, that's the great fortune. But you also have to be able to have the guts to say, "I believe in that." And then put your money where your mouth is.

C Magazine: Is there anything from your musical career that you felt you had to overcome in order to get ahead?
Koz: I never thought in my professional life that I would, "come out," but I did in 2004, so it's been about 3 1/2 years. I guess maybe my age, and you see young people doing it all the time in whatever career they have. But, for me, I could never see that happening. I think that's the thing I'm most proud of is being able to truly show up as myself and still have a career and not be worried. I risked it all only to find out that I risked nothing in doing it. You have to get to a certain point where you say, "I don't care. I have to do this because I am who I am so why not fully show up in your life." The great irony of the whole thing is that I built this huge wall that I didn't think I'd ever get over. When I turned back and looked, I realized there was no wall; it was completely fabricated in my head. That year I had the best ticket and album sales of my career. It was just the universe saying over and over, "You did the right thing."

C Magazine: How did your radio career begin? Were you not busy enough already?
Koz: It started with a guy by the name of Paul Goldstein, who was working with SW Networks, which was an independent radio network. He had this idea to have an artist host a Jazz radio show and he came to me and said, "I think you can do it." And I said, "I don't know what you've been smokin', but it's radio, so I'll try it." I was admittedly really bad that first year, but the affiliates started to get into it and come in and that show has been on for over 14 years.

C Magazine: What was your inspiration for creating *Memories of a Winter's Night*?

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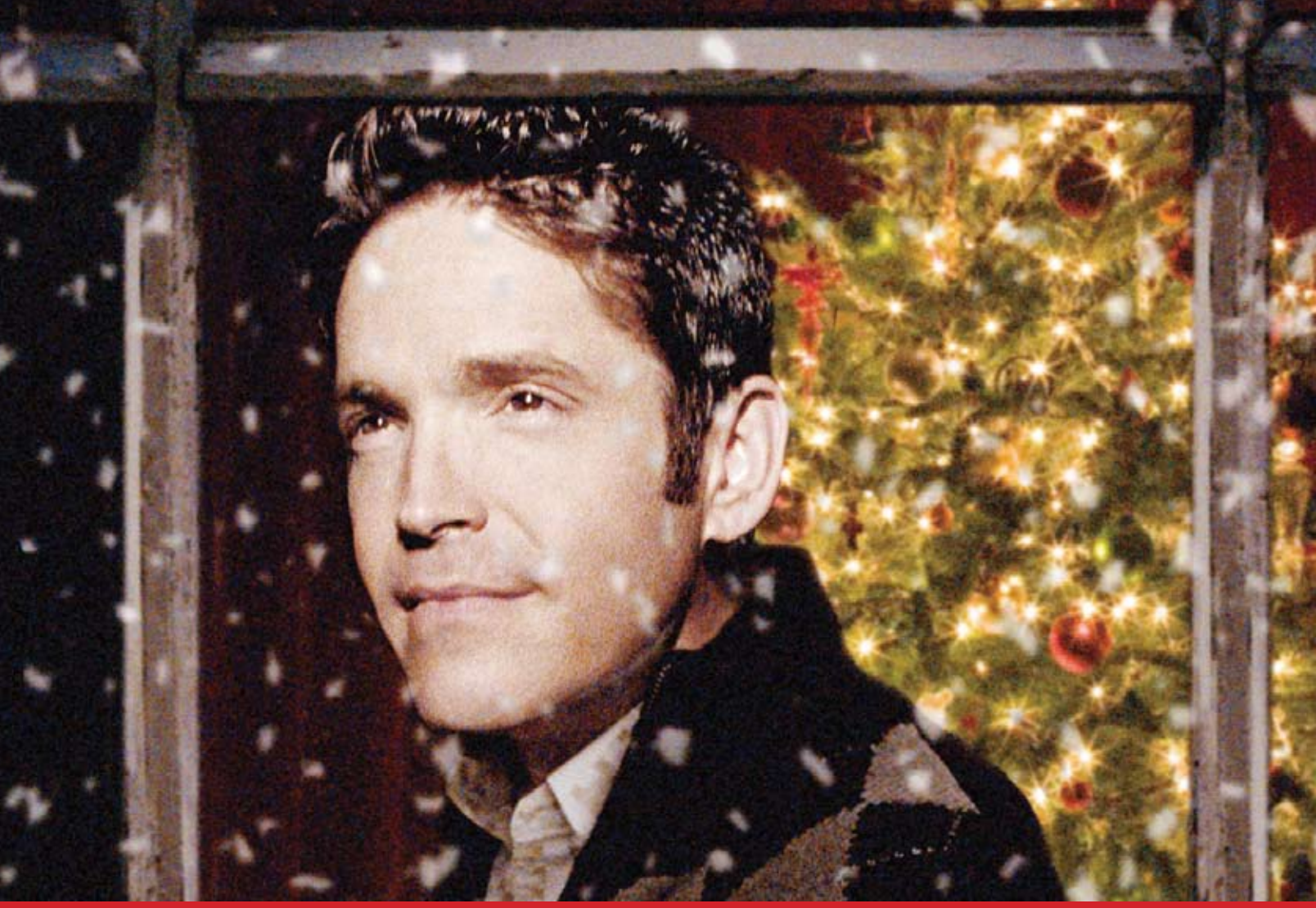

Koz: For most of us, as we enter the holiday season, which seems to get longer and longer and earlier and earlier, it's a very rich time of year for people. And that doesn't mean it's always positive; some memories can be very painful, especially when you're talking about family and experiences. The song that the album is named for is a song I wrote and has a sort of Hanukkah feel. It's a little bit more reflective in nature, and it's a ballad. For me, when I listen to it, it makes me think about my life and years past. As my third holiday album, it seemed like a fitting tribute to call it as such. Hopefully, this will be part of people creating new memories in this year.

C Magazine: Given the amount of appreciation for some of the songs you feature on *At The Movies*, did you ever find it stressful that you were recreating some of the greatest movie tunes of all time?
Koz: Good question and absolutely. I had a couple aces in the hole and one was my producer Phil Ramone and he has certainly proved himself as a force in the world of music for years and years. Also Al Schmidt, who engineered and mixed the album. When we were mixing the album, both of these guys were talking about the originals and both of them were there for a lot of the original recordings. It was almost like I had the home team advantage because I had the guys who were around when those originals were made. But here's the kicker: I sent an advance of the album to a woman named Ginny Mancini, who is the wife of Henry Mancini, who I had gotten to know and has been a tremendous supporter. I was so nervous because my only real aim in this project, in addition to celebrating my life for the movies, was to take the original composers' vision and honor that because there is nothing that you can do but honor those songs because you don't want to screw them up. So I got a note back and she said, "Hank would have been very, very proud. You done good kid. Love, Ginny." I figured, "Ok, if I can make Henry Mancini's wife happy with this record, I can breathe a little easier."

C Magazine: What one movie had the greatest impact on your life?
Koz: The *Wizard of Oz* is probably my favorite movie, because it's so aligned with my childhood. It's my mom's favorite and "Somewhere Over The Rainbow" was my mom's favorite. For that, it will always be the most special.

C Magazine: Can you remember your favorite movie quote?
Koz: One of my favorites is from *Casablanca*. And she doesn't say, "Play it again Sam." She says, "Play it Sam, as time goes by." It's an interesting thing because I don't know how it got to be "Play it again Sam" because she never actually says that. When we play it live we actually play that clip and it seems to be pretty effective.

C Magazine: You used a full 40-piece orchestra on this recording. How does it feel to have that much power behind you?
Koz: A lot of people talk about how that is to stand up in front of an orchestra. It is pretty exceptional. You get 40 different people's souls and their energy moving together in the same direction. It becomes much larger and much more emotional because there are so many people putting their emotion into the sound. I think that's one of the reasons why that orchestra is still used prominently in movies, because it cuts right through and you feel it. That's what it did for me and hopefully that's what it did on this album.

C Magazine: Are you ever planning to release a greatest hits CD?
Koz: I've resisted it my whole career and here I am. I got signed to Capitol Records in 1987 and been signed for 20 years and I've never had one. I'd love to make one. I think it's timing. I think that's a likely scenario in the next couple of years.
C Magazine: When you start work on an album, do you ever know going into it that

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you have Grammy material in your hands?
Koz: I've never won a Grammy, but I've been nominated a few times. It's the farthest thing from my head. I don't think about that. I just want to make great listenable albums and I don't really release them that often because there is a great thought process behind each one. I want to be able to approach a new project with something to say. I've felt in years past that people rush too quickly to make an album and it just doesn't work. I like to make sure I've written the best material and that it hass long legs.

C Magazine: Now that the Smooth Jazz Christmas is in its 10th year, what surprises do you have in store for 2007?
Koz: We have a wonderful lineup this year. Jonathan Butler, South Africa's native son who is a guitarist and singer. A new member of our team is an American Idol alumni named Kimberley Locke. She was in season 2, I believe, when she came in right after Clay and Ruben. She's on the new CD too and she's an amazing power house. I'm so excited about her. We have former NBA all-star turned bassist, Wayman Tisdale, and he's truly a Christmas miracle for us because he was diagnosed with a cancerous tumor in his leg, of all places, in February of this year. To me, if you could ask for a Christmas miracle, we've got one.

C Magazine: How are the cities selected? You've been stopping in Columbus for quite some time now during the holidays.
Koz: Since the time period for touring is finite, we try to mix it up a little bit and try some new places everywhere and some fall off. Columbus has always been a great place for us. Also, I grew up in Los Angeles where December rolls around and it's not that much different from March, so the one thing I do request is that we spend more time in places that feel like Christmas. Columbus, Ohio is a place that feels like Christmas, at least in terms of weather.

C Magazine: You are almost always photographed with your sax. How do you keep them new and different?
Koz: It's like being photographed with a family member or a friend. I don't like to be photographed by myself.

C Magazine: What's the first album you bought?
Koz: Tower of Power – *Back to Oakland*. Hearing that horn section, that was it for me.
Koz: Next year, I'm leaving on a cruise tomorrow for our 3rd annual cruise. We have the whole ship sold out, 2,000 people with 40 musicians. Next year, guess who's our special guest? Tower of Power.

C Magazine: What made you start your own cruise vacation? How popular has it been for you and your fans?
Koz: We were pursued by a thing called Jazz Cruises and I sort of resisted it because I had this memory of taking a cruise with my parents and I hated it. But they kept coming after us and told us they would make it how we wanted. It turns out it's the most creative thing we've done because you have a whole week full of artists. They made that pitch to me and finally we did it. It's a fantastic vacation because you are immediately connected because you are all there for the same reason.

C Magazine: Has your approach to music, the type of music you play and the success you have earned kept you away from industry pitfalls and vices? If so, how does it all work for you?
Koz: I've learned a lot of good lessons, the hard way sometimes. I've had a lot of doors close in my face and I've had a lot of opportunities flower in front of me. I've had a really good balance of hard work and good fortune and, most importantly, had people around me who have my best interests at heart. They may not have always been friends of mine, but always cared about me and what was best for me long term. That's the key—long term vision.

C Magazine: Are you really as genuinely happy as you come across?
Koz: I'm a pretty happy guy. I'm a glass half-full guy.

C Magazine: What really pisses you off?
Koz: Silly stupid things, like taking my car in. I have to get a rental car because I took my car in last week and got it back and the problem was not fixed right so now I have to get a rental car. Those are the things that make me go crazy. The big picture stuff I can always deal with. Thankfully, I have people in my life to help with the small, itty, bitty stuff.

Story | Jason E. Ohlson & Kristen M. Foley
Photography | Ellen Von Unwerth, Rochelle Letas & Capitol Records

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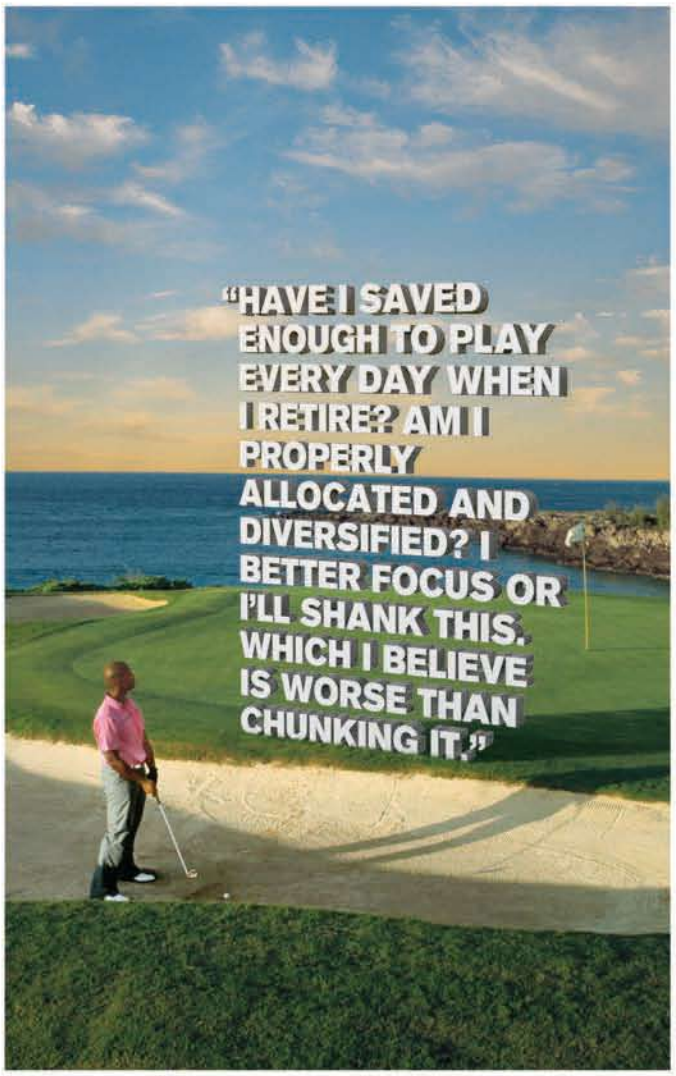

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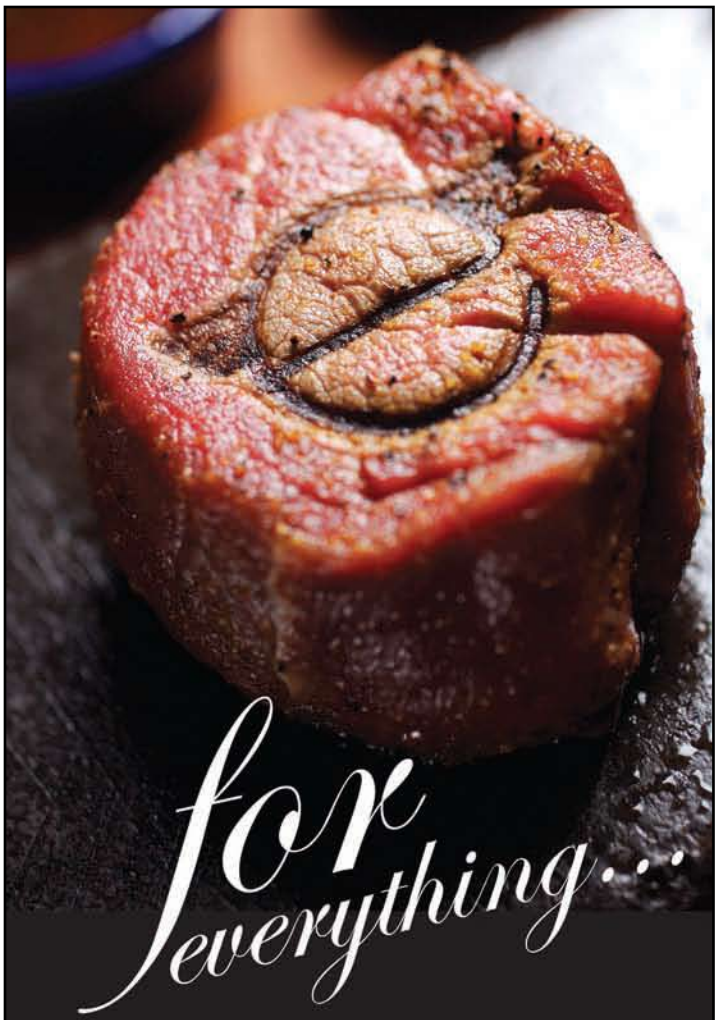

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It didn't used to be that a person could just walk into any open-collar restaurant and find lamb on the menu. An erudite individual would have to put on a necktie and some aftershave lotion and head out to a fancy place. There, the rack of lamb would be rubbed in garlic and balanced on a raft of grilled asparagus. Coincidentally or not, that is also the way The Clarmont does their lamb rack. So, don't worry about how to dress; just know that the old-school, fancy-dinner rack of lamb is at Clarmont, and now, you don't need that tie to get it. Of course, the Delmonico steak is just as fancy as it always was, too. Clarmont covers theirs with a delicious blanket of peppers, onions and mozzarella. Order it with a side of peas and mushrooms or a baked sweet potato.

It should also be noted that the Clarmont has the wine necessary for the associations implied by their reliable menu. There are ample white and red selections to cover everything from oyster appetizers to a giant grilled porterhouse steak. Be sure to browse the list before ordering.

It isn't really eating out, if you don't have dessert. So, order a cup of coffee and a Frangelico. Relax a little. If you want to stay seated for a while, unbutton the top one for a few minutes. Then order a slice of cheesecake with sugared strawberries. It has the graham crackers in the crust, just like old-school cheesecake should. It also has cinnamon somewhere and creamy sweetness colliding with the bits of strawberry. Good old fashioned, tried-and-true, classic cheesecake, that's what you want. It goes perfectly well with coffee and Frangelico.

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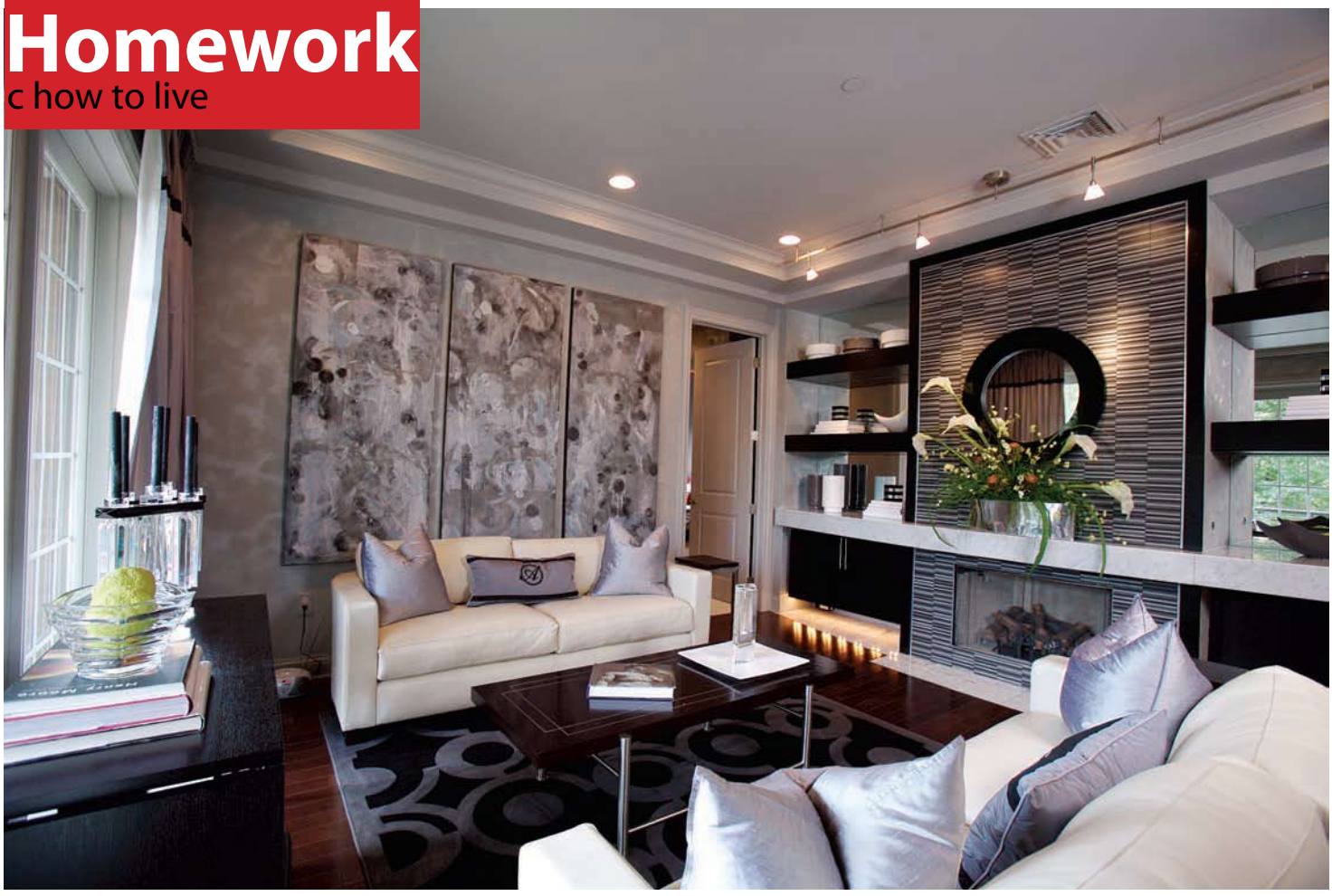

The simple color palette and decorative art gives the model living room an added contemporary flair

The Corner on Luxury

Bexley Gateway

Story | Michael Scott
Photography | Eric Wagner

When you think of Bexley, Ohio, you most likely think of tree-lined streets, boutique shops, and some of the most beautiful private residences in the city. It should come as no surprise then,that the Bexley Gateway project at the corner of Main and South Parkview Avenue lives up to the community's reputation in every respect. This stunning new development consists of luxurious penthouses, New York-style brownstones, and condominium residences, all combined with brand new office and retail space to form a vibrant community-within-a-community sure to become Bexley's next great landmark.

Bexley Gateway is divided into three distinct parts: the Shoppes at Gateway, the Park Three brownstones, and The Alexander, which is a completely separate building that houses 27 condominiums and 6 customizable penthouses. The Shoppes is already home to the comfortably-casual Rusty Bucket, and the charming Mozart's Bakery. And because of the building's distinctive and grandly styled corner turret, it's the most obvious sign to the public that they are about to enter Bexley's business district. Space within the Shoppes at Gateway is currently available for several retail outlets from 500 to 2,000 sq. ft. and for office suites from 1,200 to 8,000 sq. ft.

At the center of Bexley Gateway, Park Three is the home to Columbus' only truly authentic brownstones. Each residence offers over 3,600 sq. ft. of living space split among five floors that are connected by a private elevator. Amenities for Park Three include 2 bedrooms and 3.5 baths in each unit, 2-car garages, lower-level family rooms, gourmet kitchens, laundry facilities on multiple floors, fireplaces, walk-in closets and luxurious master bedroom penthouse suites. The brownstones do enjoy a property tax abatement, and pricing starts at just over $1.3 million with no monthly condo fees.

Across a small courtyard from the Shoppes and adjacent to Park Three is the Alexander building, which anchors the north end of the complex. The first floor of the building consists of a lobby and reserved, covered parking. Each resident has an assigned spot within the lot and concierge provides valet parking. Security cameras monitor the garage and

The spacious terrace can be accessed from the living room and master bedroom

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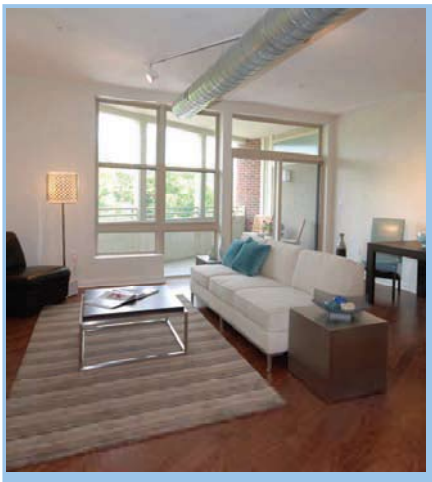

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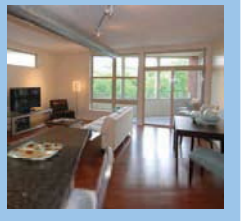

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The master bedroom in traditional styling illustrates the wide range of interior possibilities at Bexley Gateway

Bathrooms are loaded with luxury finishes

guest parking around the clock and emergency call buttons go directly to 911. Inside the Alexander's stylish lobby are an inviting billiards area and a cozy library with fireplace and baby grand piano. A powder room and catering kitchen round out the first floor common space.

Below the first floor is the on-site fitness center, Club Alex. The space was designed to accommodate an array of high-end equipment and an aerobics area that residents may use with their personal trainer or for group exercise classes such as yoga or Pilates. The men's and women's locker rooms come equipped with both a shower and a steam shower, and plenty of lockers for personal use. The remaining space on the lower level is devoted to climate-controlled storage space. Every condo is assigned a space ranging in size from 90 sq. ft. to 120 sq. ft. (size assigned correlates to unit size). Additional common space is found on the 2nd floor in the form of two adjoining rooms with wet bar capabilities and on the 3rd floor in the form of a stunning dual-level atrium. The atrium's signature showpiece is an 8-ft. stainless steel and bronze sculpture with a water feature that incorporates sound and light.

In designing the models at Bexley Gateway, designer Allen Baker had a vision. "I wanted to demonstrate how each resident can create a customized residence—and personalize it to suit a distinctive lifestyle—by choosing from an attractive and lavish palette of finishes," he said. And indeed, while one model is done in contemporary style and the other is more traditionally-styled, both truly epitomize what luxury living means.

Take the contemporary-styled unit for example. Every wall was hand-done by decorative painter Carol Buccilla. The concept was a marriage of continuity and simplicity and allows the high-end finishes to steal the show. The kitchen includes marble flooring, built-in refrigerator, island with built-in microwave, granite countertops, Kraftmaid cabinets, Kohler plumbing fixtures and a duel-fuel stove (gas burners and convection oven). Bedrooms were designed to accommodate a king-size bed with two nightstands and have 10 to 11 ft. ceiling heights. Bathrooms include double vanities, vanity-to-ceiling mirrors, frameless glass shower doors, fixed showerhead with movable wand and upgrades including tile in Black Ice slate and under-cabinet lighting.

With several units already in contract, prospective buyers are encouraged to schedule a tour as soon as possible.

For more information, please visit www.bexleygateway.com or contact listing agents Marilyn Vutech and Jeff Ruff at 614.273.6212.

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A "Pawfect" Evening

Tails were wagging and there was some major panting on the red carpet recently at the Paws on the Red Carpet event at the Hyatt Regency. The event benefited the Capital Area Humane Society and featured an evening of fashionable fun and Hollywood glamour. Adopted animals also strutted their stuff on the red carpet during the live auction fashion show, while their owners were treated to a display of silent auction items, a fabulous dinner and wine selections.

Cool Benefits

On Friday, November 9th, *C Magazine* sponsored Lamborghini Ohio Night at Azura Nightclub in the Crosswoods. It was an exotic evening of cool cars and hot dancing with an exclusive VIP champagne area – all door proceeds benefited the Arthritis Foundation.

Hit the Lights

On November 3rd, Stained Skin Tattoo and Body Piercing hosted its annual Black Light Art Show. Among the artists were local talents such as Coreroc, Cyrus Fire, Amy Shephard, Anthony DuBois, Naryan Claudy and many others. The evening's atmosphere was provided by the soulful sounds of DJ Drastic and Au Bon Pain graciously provided the catering.

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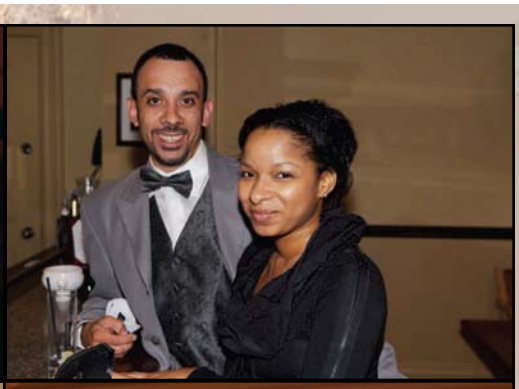
Fashioning a Goal

The Second Annual *Black Tie Blue Jackets* fashion show, presented by Kelly BMW, was held on October 28th. Blue Jackets players and their wives walked the runway alongside local pediatric cancer heroes during the charity style show at Saks Fifth Avenue at Polaris Fashion Place. Proceeds benefited the CBJ Foundation's pediatric cancer research initiatives.

A Very Good Bet

Monte Carlo Masquerade at the Capital Club was a casino-themed event involving gambling and entertainment benefiting the Homeless Families Foundation. Guests used "funny money" to test their luck (and skill) at an array of games from Blackjack to Poker, slots and more. Winnings were used to bid on prizes in silent and live auctions. Attendees also brought their own masks and enjoyed complimentary hors d'oeuvres.



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2005 GSXR 1000

Owned by Matt Vera

Story | Matt Vera
Photography | Eric Wagner

I started out riding a Ducati 748 when I was 17. Since then, I've owned four Suzuki GSXR's. I feel they are just much better stunt bikes because they are so nimble. I credit my riding ability to long-time friend and Columbus' own riding legend Paul Dentice who took me under his wing over seven years ago.

In the warm weather months, Columbus, Ohio swarms with all makes and models of sport bikes. As with cars, sport bike owners try to customize their bikes to suit their own personal sense of style. As an avid stunt rider, my bike of choice is a 2005 GSXR 1000. I chose the yellow and black bike instead of the typical blue and white Suzuki scheme because it's more rare. My bike is equipped with a Yoshimura Tri-oval slip-on exhaust system that was specially ordered from Japan. I wanted an exhaust no one else could get their hands on, so I picked it up when I was in Japan last year.

I had the guys at MSP custom tune my bike with a Power Commander bike computer. Some of my other accessories include frame sliders, adjustable Pazzo levers and yellow rim pin striping. But it's not just about customizing your bike anymore. What really matters is how well you can ride. Some people are into racing, and others only care to show off their bike; but everyone envies a talented stunt rider. It's really competitive out there; almost everyone can pop a wheelie, but who can ride it the farthest?"

Let's just say I know that Columbus's longest wheelie record is 10 miles, and I know exactly who holds it.

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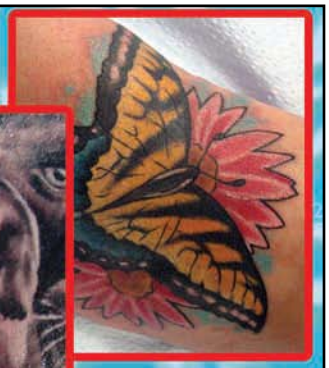

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Researching Rhyme

Lab Rats

Story | Cary Smith
Photography | Eric Wagner

With strong flows and Hip Hop beats, their own recorded samples and live instrumentals, the Lab Rats have mixed the perfect bubbling formula for a successful Indie Rap group. Putting out a sound that is described as "The Beastie Boys if they were produced by Beck with a little bit of the Allman Brothers" by band member and DJ, Kelly Warner, the Lab Rats put an emphasis on story-telling and the blue collar reality of the Midwest life.

"I think that it's really important to be true to yourself when you're writing music" says Warner. "You look at shows like *American Idol* and it's so fake. That's not what we're about; we tell stories about things that have actually happened to us."

The two-piece Rap outfit consisting of Warner and guitarist/lyricist Brian Brown started three and a half years ago when they met at a party and just clicked. Since then, they have mixed their eclectic influences to create two albums that have been met with critical acclaim and are in the process of putting out a third entitled *Swim with the Tides* in the near future. The new album will continue the gradual progression to include more recorded instrumentals and choruses sung by band members and fewer samples.

"Whenever we go into record an album," says Warner, "I always close my eyes and try to envision how the song would work and sound in a live situation."

Renowned for their live shows, the group plays in clubs all over town on the bill with Progressive Rock bands to Indie rockers. Their sound is well received by Columbus and they can typically fit into any venue and succeed.

"The support that we have in Columbus has been amazing," says Warner. "This city has given us every opportunity imaginable to mature as a group."

Check them out Friday, December 28th at Skully's.
For more information on the Lab Rats, go to
www.laboratoryrats.com

Wired for Success

Shawn Cunix

Interview | Jason E. Ohlson
Photography | Eric Wagner

Once a month, *C Magazine* interviews a prominent Columbus figure to discuss what makes them tick. This month, we met up with Flexicom Wireless owner and cellular savant Shawn Cunix.

C Magazine: Define success.
Cunix: Making a difference in somebody else's life.

C Magazine: While working in the corporate world, what are the three biggest mistakes you saw being made regularly?
Cunix: 1. Treating everybody like a machine—everyone's a number. 2. Bureaucracy. It takes too long for decisions to be made. 3. Education. In the corporate world, everything is a secret, which delays people from making necessary and timely decisions.

C Magazine: Do you have a dream?
Cunix: Actually, I do. I honestly want to make a positive impact on the world.

C Magazine: Which of your weaknesses could also be considered a strength?
Cunix: I am a very trusting and giving person. That vulnerability gives me strength.

C Magazine: What is the most generous thing you've done for one of your employees?
Cunix: We all chipped in and bought one of our guys a car.

C Magazine: What is one thing that few people know about you?
Cunix: I'm Griswold at Christmas.

C Magazine: What's your biggest vice?
Cunix: Poker.

C Magazine: Which actor would you like to see portray you if your life were turned into a movie?
Cunix: Al Pacino.

C Magazine: Do you cut your own lawn?
Cunix: I will not trade time for money. Before I spend two hours on my lawn, I'll build Legos with my son.

C Magazine: What really pisses you off?
Cunix: Lying, cheating and laziness.

C Magazine: Why do your employees love working for you?
Cunix: I really believe the majority of them know I care. There are so many things I do that are not related to a paycheck.

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