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**ART/EVENTS**  
KRISTEN FOLEY

**BEYOND 270**  
CARY SMITH, ERIC WAGNER

**FINAL WORD**  
JASON E. OHLSON, ERIC WAGNER

**DROP POINT**  
ERIC WAGNER, BRIAN HENDRICKSON

**COVER STORY**  
STORY: JASON E. OHLSON, ERIN WOLTJA  
PHOTOGRAPHY: COLLIN STARK.COM  
GROOMING: NICOLE ARTMONT OPUS



**ON THE COVER:**

ERIC LANGE, ACTOR AND CAST MEMBER OF THE ABC HIT SHOW *LOST*, REMENISCES ABOUT HIS EXPERIENCES ON THE SHOW AND CHATS ABOUT LIFE BACK HOME AGAIN.

*special thanks*

CAMILLE'S SIDEWALK CAFÉ, MIA HANSEN, ERIC LANGE, SCHMIDT'S SAUSAGE HAUS, FUNNY BONE, TIM FLAHERTY OF POST HOUSE, BUD SELECT, THE REFELECTORY, GERMAIN MERCEDES, CHUCK AND NINA HARRIS AND BAKERY GINGHAM

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Jason Ohlson, with Steve Germain, celebrating the unveiling of the 2010 Mercedes E-Class.

from the editor  
[editor@columbusmag.com](mailto:editor@columbusmag.com)

## Homemade

Houses are bought—or not, as it seems these days. Homes, on the other hand, are made. They are the culmination of living dreams, wishes, wants, needs and visions blending together. At best, a home can provide an inspiring environment fit to nurture family, the most valuable key to all human life.

Every progression in life is a result of allied opposites working together to make change. Progress demands change, which can be kind and brutal, fair and devastating all at once, just like the seasons. The key is to find ways to weather the storms. And how do we weather the storms of progress so that we may enjoy a brighter future? By remembering to dream, and believing in the dreams we build as a community.

Similarly, our city is also our home. Without care, attention and emotional investment, it will grow sterile and lifeless. In this, our “Home & Leisure” issue, you’ll hopefully be inspired to at least look around. Our population believes in this city and it shows on all compass points.

So get excited. Get inspired. Get off your ass and step out of your box. Only then will you begin to live in your city. If you’ve got some time to burn, hop in the car and drive a little beyond your normal, easy destination. Stop and smell the flowers—or coffee, steaks, popcorn, burgers, brats, ribs... While your at it, stop wondering about the new restaurants and venues around town and actually go to them. Valuable opinions are the ones earned, and when it comes to our hometown, we should all be experts.

Jason E. Ohlson

# HOME & LIVING 2009



## COVER STORY

### 24 | ERIC LANGE

What if you found out you had just won a trip to Hawaii, and you get to hang out with the actors and actresses from your favorite television show? That’s how Eric Lange felt when he received a callback after his audition for *LOST*. He loved being in some of the most exciting episodes of the show, but it turns out Lange also enjoys a quiet day at home in his studio.

### 13 | SUITLESS

Meet three locals who have made Columbus proud. Hayley Savage, the owner of Hayley Gallery, left her 9-5 in the pursuit of all things art; Jack Sands, an entrepreneur since age 12, is now in charge of cutting-edge GPS technology; and Jeff Pongonis, a young and involved landscape architect, has already made a big impression downtown. Some wish; others just do it.

### 34 | THE FARE

Barrio’s brilliant blend of sweet and spice is attracting attention from Columbus food connoisseurs. The relatively new, Latin-influenced restaurant prides itself on simplicity and originality. As the brainchild of Jeff Mathes, who also owns Due Amici, it was destined to be delicious. A South American meal on the corner of Spring and High is a summertime must.

### 45 | RIDE 23

Girls don’t know anything about cars, right? Wrong. Emily Wiggins owns a 2007 BMW M6, and she’s fueled by all things automotive. This graduate student has a laundry list of modifications she’s made and plans to make to her BMW within the next few years. For her, customizing her ride is almost as fun as driving it, and that’s a big statement when your talking M muscle.

### 47 | BEYOND 270

The Columbus band, Calendar for Preston, is stirring up the area’s music scene. Their new CD, *Paint by Numbers*, is themed around the unpredictability of life and the idea of mirages: what you see is not always what you get. Their sound is layered just enough to demand a second listen. And speaking of being unpredictable, you’ll never guess how this band got their name.

### 48 | FINAL WORD

There are few things more noble than raising up the children of our fair city to be more aware and interested in the fine arts. But to do so in a way that also supports the power of an open mind? That’s righteous. Steven Anderson is the Artistic Director for the Phoenix Theatre for Children, an organization dedicated to empowering children to be better-thinking individuals.



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PHOTO: ERIC WAGNER

OHIO  
ARTISTS

Hayley Gallery takes pride in their Ohio-artist policy, and Ohio has many artists of which we all can be proud.

→ **MAYA LIN**  
Sculptor | Athens, OH



Lin is most noted for designing the Vietnam Veterans Memorial in Washington D.C., but her piece entitled *Input* can be seen on the grounds of her alma mater, Ohio University.

PHOTO | CHEUNG CHING MING

→ **ANN HAMILTON**  
Artist | Lima, OH



Hamilton, who now calls Columbus her home, is a world renowned contemporary artist known best for her installations, textile art and sculptures, but she is also active in the fields of photography, printmaking, video and video installation.

PHOTO | WWW.ANNHAMILTONSTUDIO.COM

→ **BILL WATTERSON**  
Cartoonist | Chagrin Falls, OH



Watterson, the creator of the well known and much cherished *Calvin and Hobbes* comics, moved to Chagrin Falls as a child. He has come and gone, but still calls Chagrin Falls home.

PHOTO | CALVINANDHOBBS.WIKIA.COM



## Brokering Beauty Hayley Savage

While trapped in the cold, corporate office culture for decades, Hayley Savage longingly remembered trips to the Modern Museum of Art and the Guggenheim while growing up in Long Island, NY. She remembered the promise she had made to herself that she would purchase a piece of original art every year. Even though she was very good at what she did, her heart was into something else-art.

"You get to a point in your life where you kind of wonder if this is where you really want to be," says Savage. "I saw an opportunity once I moved out to New Albany to do something I loved, so I took it."

While raising money through an art auction at the Temple Beth Shalom, Savage inadvertently realized that there was a real market for art in the New Albany area when she immediately sold much more of the art than expected. She realized there was an interest and decided on opening the Hayley Gallery.

"There are a lot of people that come in and admit to me that the last piece of art they purchased was at Target," says Hayley. "Then they see this gallery and all the original pieces I have and gain an interest."

Despite being away from the major strip of galleries in the Short North, the Hayley Gallery has thrived in suburbia and has been voted the "Best Art Gallery" in Columbus. The roster of artists at the gallery is made up of mostly locals, something that Savage hadn't expected in such numbers. She never hangs anything on her gallery walls that she wouldn't hang at her own house and is very selective about which art she incorporates.

"I like to get to know the artists and know what they were thinking when they made a piece of art," says Savage. "I just have a huge appreciation for art and the inspiration for it."

For more information, go to [www.hayleygallery.com](http://www.hayleygallery.com)

■ Cary Smith

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The Columbus Museum of Art is getting a makeover due to come to completion in 2012, just in time for the their 20th anniversary. So what's in store? The museum will be increasing its size

by 56 percent. The extra space is needed since only 10 percent of the 10,000 pieces owned by the museum fit in the permanent collection galleries right now. Financially, they are just past halfway

on their estimated \$80 million needed.

If you would like to get involved, go to [www.columbusmuseum.org/involved](http://www.columbusmuseum.org/involved)

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Suitless



PHOTO: ERIC WAGNER

## In the Know Jack Sands

The spirits of a salesman and an entrepreneur have always circulated through the veins of Jack Sands.

At twelve, Sands started his first of many business ventures, a driveway sealing business with a catchy name and sales pitch. Captain Jacks' driveway sealant business was a monumental success in his New Jersey neighborhood and was his first step to many other successful ventures. "I always enjoy the building up parts of starting a company," says Sands. "It's the sticking with it afterwards that I have to work on."

Always on the lookout for something that could turn into a success story, Sands started V Force, a company that uses call centers and cutting edge customer relations software to retain more customers. The company was such a big success with his client AAA Auto Club that they decided to buy him out and take advantage of his entrepreneurial exuberance in other ways. "They came to me to try and find something that would be a benefit to AAA and be an exclusive,"

says Sands. "So I went out and found the solution in this technology in California."

And so the sixth business started by Sands became a reality when he came back with the TripTrak, one of the smallest, most sophisticated GPS devices in the world. The tiny GPS unit has many intended uses, but acts mostly in the capacity of a locator on road trips for families in need of direction, or to keep track of children. The TripTrak will be rented by AAA members on a day-to-day basis mostly for trips. The exciting beginnings to the in-box product had been a long time coming for Sands, and the service it provides is a benefit to all who travel or have children.

"Over time, I've learned to have a little patience and stick with it, even though I'm always still on the lookout for something new."

For more information go to [www.aaaohio.com](http://www.aaaohio.com)

■ Cary Smith

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## IF YOU BUILD IT

To reignite interest in America's favorite pastime, team owners are building new ballparks. Columbus' new Huntington Park is no exemption. But are these new ballparks really bringing the excitement?



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New Yankee Stadium	
New York Yankees	
Capacity	52,325
Attend.	44,762
Cost	\$1.6 Bil.
Avg. HR	3.62 per



New York, NY	2009
Citi Field	
New York Mets	
Capacity	42,000
Attend.	39,016
Cost	\$632 Mil.
Avg. HR	1.46 per



Washington DC	2008
Nationals Park	
Washington Nationals	
Capacity	41,222
Attend.	21,487
Cost	\$611 Mil.
Avg. HR	1.90 per



PHOTO: ERIC WAGNER

## Outside In Jeff Pongonis

When you walk through the main gates of Huntington Park, the picturesque view of center field might make you stop and marvel. The view of the diamond that brought on these feelings is no coincidence—it was carefully planned out by landscape architect and urban designer Jeff Pongonis.

"We really wanted to try to integrate the ball park into the neighborhood," says Pongonis. "We want to make it as transparent as possible, but while still providing a environment that is welcoming. It's something that we think we did with the two main entrances on Neil Avenue."

Pongonis has been creating welcoming environments for MSI Design since his graduation from the landscape architecture program at Ohio State. He's worked on many projects in Columbus, including numerous areas of the arena district such as Huntington Park and the adjacent Buggyworks building. Pongonis, originally interested in becoming a classic architect, was drawn into landscape

architecture and urban design after seeing the program at OSU, but had an interest in open spaces long before.

"I was lucky in that my family did a lot of traveling while growing up," says Pongonis. "I loved the outdoors and was kind of drawn to outdoor spaces."

After living in Buenos Aires for a quarter while in school and making frequent trips to Washington D.C., he saw how important urban design was for a city. He ended up staying in Columbus, putting his fingerprints all over some of the most important spaces in the city. Currently, Pongonis is working on the redevelopment of the City Center area and the mixed-use Grandview Yard project.

"As a landscape architect, I try to manage the places and spaces in-between," says Pongonis. "It's all about understanding a site and features of surrounding a project."

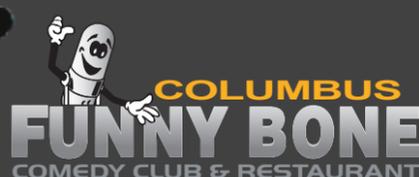
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■ Cary Smith



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## Look who we got this month!



**BOBBY LEE JULY 10 - 12**  
Bobby Lee has become a fan-favorite on Fox's "MadTV", known for his unique brand of pain-inducing, physical humor. Lee has appeared in "Curb Your Enthusiasm" and "Mind of Mencia".



**KEVIN HART JULY 23 - 26**  
Kevin Hart is electrifying. Kevin has the uncanny ability to flip the proverbial script and integrate his comedic routines to fit the audience. He has appeared in "Soul Plane", "40 Year Old Virgin", and "Fool's Gold".



**BOBCAT GOLDTHWAIT JULY 29**  
Bobcat Goldthwait has been compared to everyone from Lenny Bruce to a Warner Brothers cartoon character on the verge of a nervous breakdown. After a dozen films, his own HBO specials, and a myriad of guest spots, Bobcat is still an original.

Appearing also this month:  
**ADAM FERRARA** July 16-19  
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### MOVIN' ON UP

City Hop 2009 took place on June 13, and among its tour stops were three newcomers to the residential scene in Columbus. Tired of your current place? Looking to move downtown? Visit [www.ColumbusLandmarks.org](http://www.ColumbusLandmarks.org) to learn more about these and other urban communities.



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**Neighborhood Launch 2008**  
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## Nine for \$9



Number Nine (\$8.95)

### Barry's New York Deli

59 Spruce St. Columbus, OH (614) 221-6601 - NORTH MARKET

New York City is known for its exorbitant cost of living. It's also infamous for offering tremendous value when it comes to food. Barry's New York Deli in Columbus' North Market isn't in the Bronx, but your stomach won't know the difference when it has a sit-down with their **Number Nine** (\$8.95). This S.O.B is epic, but it ain't so tough on the wallet. The Number Nine comes with turkey, Muenster cheese, coleslaw and honey mustard, and it's served fresh to order on thick slices of grilled challah. If you're up to a challenge, I offer you the Empire Stack smuggled with an illegal amount of ingredients!

### Patio 5

428 S. Front St. Columbus, OH (614) 469-7885 - BREWERY DIST.

Patio 5 on Front has undergone a beautiful restoration and is once again open for business. The multi-level interior provides the perfect balance between private dining and community experience. Try their specialty dish called Louisiana Pasta, a heaping bowl of bow-tie pasta, veggies and a spicy, cheesy sauce. For something a little lighter, order up a plate of **Patio 5 Wings** (\$5.55) with a crunchy outer crust and juicy, fall-off-the-bone meat inside; it's just one of their \$5.55 lunches served seven days a week.



Patio 5 Wings (\$5.55)

### Dewey's Pizza

1327 W. 5th Ave. Columbus, OH (614) 487-8282 - GRANDVIEW

Dewey's is a full service family restaurant that's gaining a reputation for serving high-quality custom pizza, eclectic salads, craft beer and boutique wines. Their slogan is "Taking pizza to the next level". Our palette was taken to new heights when we bit into their **Socrates' Revenge** (\$18.40; serves 3). This 11" pie is busting out of its seams with off-the-charts cheese and roasted veggies. Their 11" pizza and salad combination is an ideal meal to share between a few hungry souls on a budget. When the check arrives, there's no need to excuse yourself to use the restroom, because each party comes out spending under \$9.00 a piece.



Socrates' Revenge (\$18.40; \$6.14 split three ways)

### Kafé Kerouac

2250 N. High St. Columbus, OH (614) 299-2672 - CAMPUS

Sometimes, all you want is a chill spot for coffee, a snack and internet access. Kafé Kerouac on Campus is the indie alternative to a Barnes and Nobles cafe. Their **Honey Wheat Bagel**, generously slathered with cream cheese, is a classic compliment to their popular **Kerouac Latte** (\$4.50 for both). If you're more of the Bukowski type, then hit the bar and grab a Guinness and a shot of Jameson. The cafe embraces the Beatnik genre that Jack Kerouac made popular. But their business model is not nearly as complex. Come hang out, read, eat, drink, surf and talk... It's all about taking it easy here.



Honey Wheat Bagel & Kerouac Latte (\$4.50)

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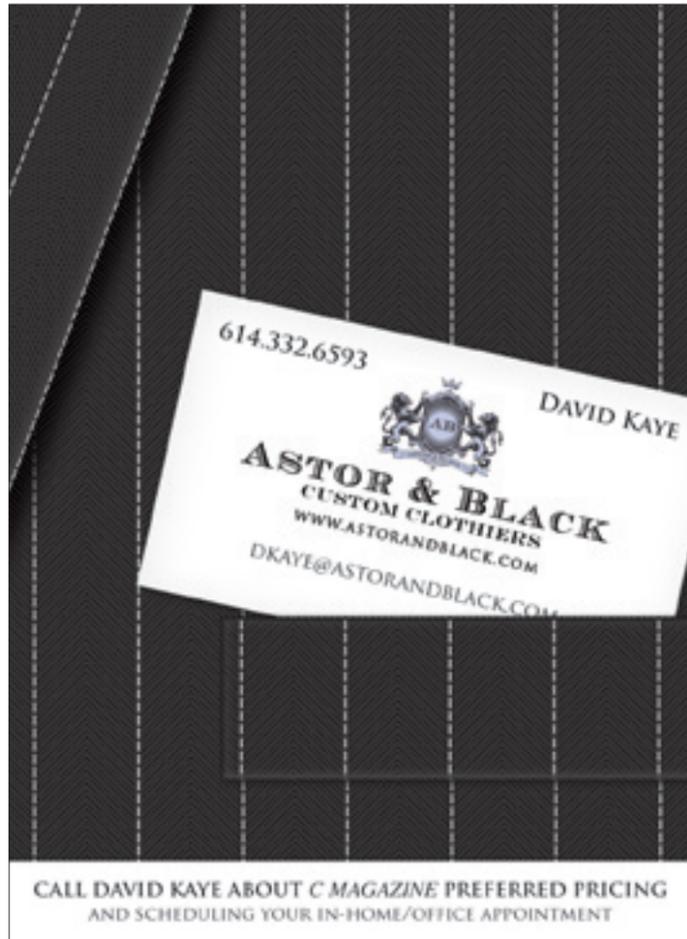
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## ART WHERE'S

More to C » p.47



### UNDER THE BIG TOP

Looking to add a little wonder to your summer world? Maybe you want more than just a day in the hot sun? From August 12<sup>th</sup> - 23<sup>rd</sup>, Nationwide Arena will offer a cool experience for the whole family, and we don't just mean the use of their air conditioner for the evening.

Cirque du Soleil makes its last US stop in Columbus with their *Saltimbanco*

Arena Tour. Since premiering in 1992, *Saltimbanco* has delighted and entertained more than 10 million people on five continents. Once performed under their signature big top, the show took on a much grander experience three years ago with their arena tour.

Regardless of what roof *Saltimbanco* is under, it's still full of color, costumes, music, theatrics and high-caliber artists performing their unique Cirque acrobatic display. It's an experience for the entire family to not only enjoy, but to remember for years to come.

Tickets are now available from \$45 - \$95 (Children 12 and under: \$36-\$76), and can be purchased through Ticketmaster.com. Plus, join the Cirque Club at [www.cirqueclub.com](http://www.cirqueclub.com) to get access to advance tickets, special offers and exclusive behind-the-scenes information.



### FACE-OFF

"The Kings of Pop," Billy Joel and Elton John, will grace us with their royal presence once again on their *Face 2 Face* tour July 14<sup>th</sup> at Nationwide Arena. Their tour is considered one of the most successful and long-running pairings in Pop history, so it's no wonder they're considered kings! Be ready to sing along to your favorites like, "Piano Man" and "Rocket Man!" Tickets are still available at [Ticketmaster.com](http://Ticketmaster.com), but are going fast!



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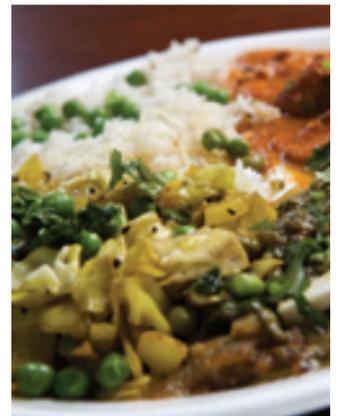
The British are coming! The British are coming! Well, at least to Gahanna! Creekside will host *British Invasion* as part of their *Concerts on the Creek* music series. Get ready for a night of dancing and 60s music. The group covers every British band you could imagine: from the Beatles to the Kinks to the Rolling Stones. Concert starts at 8 p.m. For more information, simply visit [www.creeksidegahanna.com](http://www.creeksidegahanna.com).

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Chicken Makhni (\$8.99)

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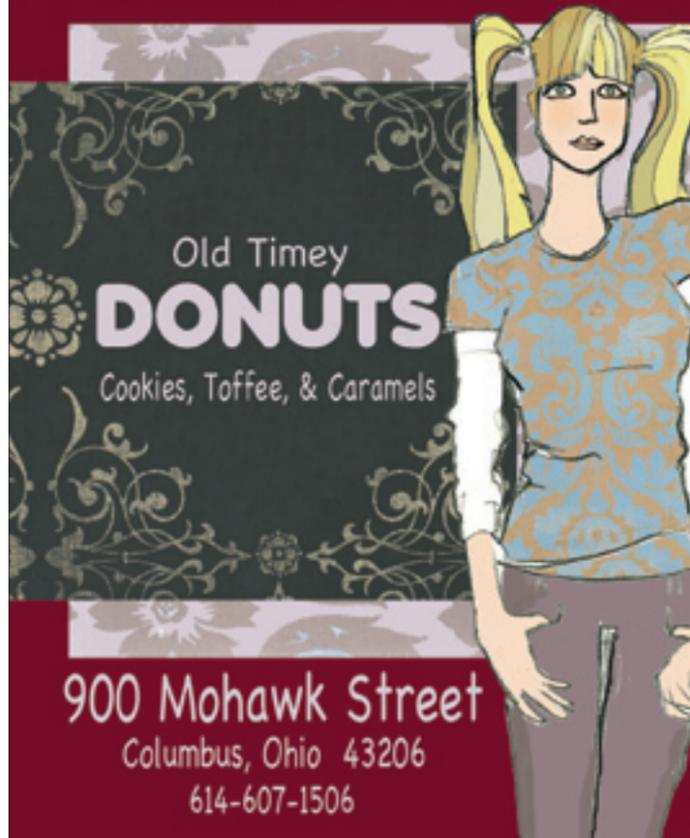


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# i'm not LOST

**A**BC's hit show *LOST* just wrapped up season five, and the much anticipated sixth and final season will air early next year. The combination of a huge ensemble cast and the fact that entirely all of the filming takes place in Oahu, Hawaii, makes *LOST* one of the most expensive and monumental TV projects of our time.

So think how Eric Lange, a Hamilton native and Miami University graduate, must have felt stepping onto the set of *LOST*, smack dab in the middle of it all. Without knowing it, you've probably seen Eric Lange on television before. His acting career includes countless cameos in shows from *Monk*, *My Name is Earl* and *Bones* to *Boston Legal*, *The West Wing* and *CSI: Crime Scene Investigation*. But it's his performance on *LOST* that really caught our attention.

To watch Lange portray his character on *LOST*, you can't help but think of him as the villain. Lange's character, Radzinsky, stands in the way of the characters we came to know and love over the previous four seasons, making him the proverbial "bad guy." So imagine our surprise when a cheery and courteous Lange sat down with us.

In our interview, we found out that Lange finds some off-the-set parallels to his character, but is also very different than Radzinsky. We even began to see that Radzinsky may just be misunderstood.

**Interview:** Jason E. Ohlson | **Intro:** Erin Woltja | **Photography:** CollinStark.com  
**Grooming:** Nicole Artmont Opus



## i'm not LOST: Eric Lange

**What kind of person were you in school (introverted, extroverted, etc.)?** In high school, I started out quite introverted. I had a very small group of friends, and I wasn't in the popular group. Then I started acting, and got into the school plays. By the end of high school, I was on the prom court and the homecoming court and running all kinds of things. It was a complete transformation from being this shy kid with not a whole lot of stuff going on, to being as busy as I was. I attribute that to the folks I met in drama club and theater. In college, it sort of continued that way. I wasn't a wild child by any means, but I was wildly busy in the theater. Really, acting sort of helped shape who I am today.

**What was your best subject in high school?** I don't remember enjoying much of school. I certainly wasn't good at math. I liked English. I just didn't have a jones for school. I was always really creative, always drawing. Before I was in the drama club, I was in choirs, I played the piano, and I wrote music. I was always artistically inclined. I was never good at any sports. I couldn't do sports for shit. But I had the artsy fartsy things going on.

**As a theater major at Miami, what theater pieces were you a part of?** A couple small plays that I did really early on come to mind. One was an Eric Bogosian play, and it was called *Men Inside*. It was eight monologues and just a bunch of male characters with me and this other guy doing all the parts. It was in a little black box seat theater that had about 15 people watching. That was an incredible experience. And in the same room was a play called *Someone Watch Over Me* that I did pretty early on in school. Those intimate, intense little plays always got me going. And then I guess on the other side of that, I got to play the MC in *Cabaret* my senior year in college, and that was about as much fun as you can have. *Burn*

*This* – that was a great challenge that I got to do my junior year. Those are the big ones. I'm sure there's more.

**How did you get into film and television?** I got into film and television because that's what I was a fan of as a kid. I loved watching movies and television, so a lot of those people were sort of my heroes. When I graduated from college, I knew I could move to New York and do theater and go that route, or head to L.A. and get into the film and TV business. Frankly, it's just really hard to make a living in theater. You just don't make a lot of money, so I was able to justify it that way. I still try to do theater about once a year. I guess something that was always amazing to me is the audience potential in TV and film. It was always nice to do a play, where you could move the 50 or 100 people who were in the audience with you; but when you do a television show, you can really have an impact on a lot of people. That was always pretty appealing to me, too.

**You have made a lot of appearances in popular television shows. Do you hope to be a star of your own show, or do you enjoy the cameos better?** Well, it would be great to be on a series as a series regular. But I've never seen myself headlining a show. I've always been interested in those ensemble shows like *LOST* where there's a bunch of different people and I'm not carrying the whole thing.

**When you're not filming, what do you do to pass the time?** I have a little studio in my office where I write music and that's something that I enjoy—mostly music from popular piano type à la. Ben Folds or Coldplay. I like things that are piano based, but go a little bigger, a little more dramatic, yet still have some sort of rocky edge to them. I've dabbled around with a little instrumental stuff and film score-

esque things. I just play whatever I'm in the mood for; it moves around a lot. Also, I've recently gotten into painting, which is much more difficult than anyone will tell you. Then I bought a house a year ago in Valley Village, which is near Studio City in L.A. So whenever I'm not doing any of those things, I'm usually repairing something, changing a light bulb or doing some other maintenance.

**Is LOST the type of show you would normally watch? If not, what kind of show fits your tastes?** I have a hard time committing to many TV shows, even with the Tivo and the DVR going. But *LOST* has been a favorite of mine for a while. I like a lot of cable shows. *Californication* and *Dexter* are great shows. I used to watch *Dead Wood* and the *Sopranos* when they were on. I'm a big fan of *Entourage*. On the other side of all that would be *The Office*, which I just never miss, and *30 Rock*. They are two of the best-written shows on television.

**What are your three favorite movies?** I will always say *Raiders of the Lost Ark*. It's just one of the best movies I've ever seen. I love *American Beauty*. And visually, *Pan's Labyrinth* was one of the most spectacular things I've seen in a long time. (Later in the interview he adds that *One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest* is probably his favorite movie and should have been in this list.)

**What book would we find on your bookshelf?** Right now, you would find three furniture catalogs. I know, it's exciting.

**Are there any actors who inspire your own acting?** I am a big fan of many actors. Jack Nicholson is one. I don't know who isn't a fan of Jack Nicholson. I've always been a huge fan of Anthony Hopkins, too. Also, Phillip Seymour Hoffman, Mark Ruffalo and Gary Oldman. Those guys could do just about anything. They

just seem so at home and relaxed when they work. It's fantastic to watch. You watch them and you just go, "God. Man." You have to realize that it's taken them a while, too. I know the more time you spend at it, the better you get at it, but every time I watch one of those people work, I usually get pretty keyed up. You sort of skip over Robert DeNiro and Al Pacino and Dustin Hoffman and Gene Hackman, because those guys are such icons. Literally, each one is a finely sculpted little creation.

**If you could place yourself in any role in any film in history, which film role would you want to take on?** I would have liked to have been in *One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest*. It's just an incredible film. Again, it's an ensemble of characters. It's incredible and encompasses what I keep saying over and over that make a good movie: Jack Nicholson, ensemble, and then you have troubled people. So it's a perfect film for me.

**What is your greatest fear?** Being locked in a small space. I'm ridiculously claustrophobic. If I was locked in some small space, I would lose my mind. I'm not sure what the hell started that. I remember as a kid one day we were with some friends, messing around, and I ended up getting rolled up in a sheet. I just remember not being able to move. That was the first time I knew. My mother's claustrophobic, but I don't know if it's hereditary.

**What is your most treasured possession?** My most treasured possession? My girlfriend's sitting in the next room. (calling out) You're not a possession, don't worry! I would have to say my house or my keyboards. I have a couple keyboards that have been with me for a long time. I don't collect much, but I am a bit of a pack rat. I throw nothing away.

>>>continued on page 28

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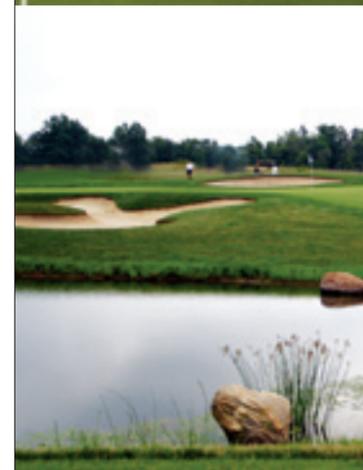
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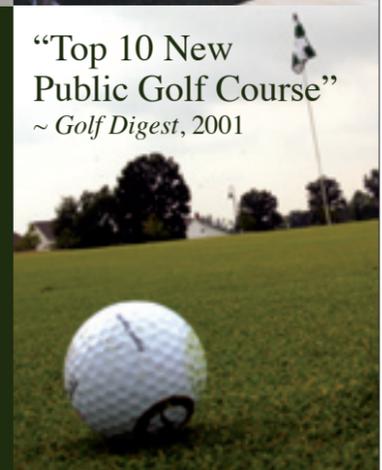
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**What, if anything, do you dislike about yourself?** The thing that bugs me more often than not about myself is discipline. I wish I was better at creating a day and carrying out that day. Us artsy people, we get sort of sidetracked. One thing I'm supposed to be doing for just 15 minutes, I'll do for three hours. For example, I was working on Photoshop trying to fix some images, and I ended up spending an entire day doing that. I didn't go to the grocery store or do anything else I planned on. That bugs me, but there's only so much I'm going to do to fix it.

**What is your favorite memory?** I had these DVD movies made from our 16 mm home movies from when we were kids. I did that for my parents for Christmas a couple years ago. There was this shot of me on this new bike on Christmas morning, riding up and down the sidewalk with my parents outside. It was this Evel Knievel bike and I really wanted that thing. That was a pretty sweet thing to see again. I have a great memory of it, but to see it again live was pretty sweet.

**If you died and could come back as anything or any person who/ what would you be?** I would come back as a dog. I'm a big fan of bull dogs because they are so ugly and loveable. I would probably live in some wealthy person's mansion where all I do is lay around while somebody feeds me and takes me for walks.

**You are walking down death row. Describe the meal you just finished eating.** My last meal would probably be a great cheeseburger and fries. I'm sure a lot of people say that, but there's just something about it that, even though it's done over and over again, it is still so unique and very satisfying. Something exorbitant like a steak would just seem like a waste, but a cheeseburger would be a nice way to say "thanks for the memories" and head off into the sunset.

**Red Dawn or Rambo?** *Rambo*. That was one of those movies I watched literally 100 times as a kid.

**What was the series of events that got you onto LOST?** It was just an audition. My manager got me an audition. Usually when you audition, you have to read for the producer, the director and whoever else is in the room. With *LOST*, since they're all in Hawaii, you're just videotaped. It was just me, the casting director and someone running the video camera and that was it. I read, and I went home. Two days later they called me and said that I got the part. I don't know how often they do this, but they didn't reveal the actual character name of who I was auditioning for. The script I had was for a guy called Marty Jankowski. Even when I booked the role, no one told me that it was any different. A couple days later, the costumer called and said, "OK, so you're playing Radzinsky and I need your sizes." I said, "No, I'm the Marty guy." His response was, "No, no, no. That was a fake name because we didn't want it getting out that we were going to finally see Radzinsky." That was kind of fun. But it was just an audition. It didn't seem any different than any other audition.

**Was it overwhelming coming onto such a monumental project?** I didn't quite know what was coming because the original part was only for two episodes, but I still thought it was fantastic. It was *LOST* and was for two episodes, and maybe it could turn into more! Then when I found out I was Radzinsky, I went searching around the Internet to find out what the deal was. I sort of remembered him from season two, but I didn't remember specifically. On the Internet, I found hundreds of web pages about theories like whether or not he's still alive and how did he know to draw the blast door map. And I thought, "Oh my God. All these people are really expecting something." After that, I

felt an intense amount of pressure to please millions of fans who were wondering if they'd ever see this guy. I never expected to be in seven episodes. I went home after the first two episodes I did, but they called and said that I would be doing more. This has been the most overwhelming job I've had. It's great to work at all. It's better to do that many episodes of a show, and even better to have it be a great part, especially when you're actually a fan of the show. Literally, it felt like I had won some trip where I not only got to go meet the cast of *LOST*, but got to be a part of the family for a while. That was really the cherry on top.

**Do you find the character Radzinsky to be like yourself at all, or is it a character you have to work yourself into?** I knew that he was supposed to be brilliant and that he had an intense personality. That was sort of written down in the character description. So when I got the job, I called and said, "Is there anything I need to know because this is a character out of *LOST* history?" They said, "No, we'll tell you if there's anything you need to know." I was left with this really cranky character, who was midway through his project on the island that no one had seen before. The audience is catching Radzinsky mid-story, so I had to come up with some level of justification for why he's as cranky as he is and why he's as determined as he is. As an actor, you create a back story for yourself. Here's my backstory: I had been wooed to come to the island and was told I would be put in complete control of these experiments. But, there were all these hippies running around who were screwing things up, and who were getting in my way. So I saw everyone else there as an annoyance. The problem, though, is when people get in my way, my anger management issue comes up. Then, when something seems like it might be a bad idea, like drilling into a pocket

of electromagnetism, drunk on power, I say, "We're going! We're going! I'm going to do this!"

**Have people on the streets ever approached you upset because you're mean to the traditional LOST characters?** It's funny because that started right after the finale ran. I've never experienced anything like it before. It's pretty wild. It takes a little getting used to. I half expected to get slapped on the back of the head or called an asshole, but everyone is really kind and almost a little afraid they're going to push my buttons. I always have to reassure them that I'm nothing like the character. It's interesting to come from theater where immediately after the play you walk out into the lobby and people are there to say, "Hey, great job!" You get instant feedback. But in television, you never really know what people thought about it. It airs, and that's it. When somebody comes up and says, "Hey, I like you on *LOST*," it's a little like that lobby feel after a play. It's a nice complement.

**In an interview with Maggie Grace, we learned that the actors on the set are on a strict "need to know" basis, and thus even they have to theorize what will happen next. What do you guess will happen next season?** Absolutely, and not a line more. They actually don't write very far ahead. They write very methodically script to script. I get the sense that they have bullet points they follow, but between those, there's room to play. They may know the season would turn out the way it did, but I was never aware of it. I was always running like hell down to the lobby when the script came out to see what I was going to be doing next week. It was exciting, yet challenging at the same time, to see where they were going to take you.

**Your character has been involved in a few gun fights.**

>>>continued on page 31



"Us artsy people, we get sort of sidetracked."



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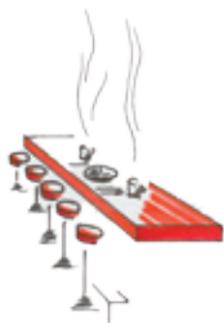
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## i'm not LOST: Eric Lange (continued)

**Did you get training for firing weapons?** Yeah, that's the funny thing. Isn't he supposed to be a scientist? Once we got those black suits, I nicknamed him Ninjinsky. Before that, he was Madjinsky because he was such an angry bastard. There was always somebody there to show us how to hold the guns, and every safety precaution was always taken. They're loud, and they've got a kick to them. We also had a little explosion near the end, and that was fun. It really started to feel like a movie; we had so many cameras running for the finale. There was this giant crane falling down and wheelbarrows flying across the set, and I'm driving a Jeep that's being pulled backwards by the giant crane. It was like being in a giant sandbox as a kid. It was so much fun. The guns and all that stuff is a hoot.

**LOST fans are known for examining every single detail of the show. Does this make this role more difficult than other roles you've performed?** Yeah, I was worried about that early on because I saw all the scrutiny over *one* character who had been mentioned on *one* episode, yet had never actually been on the show. I thought, "My God, what are they going to do when they finally see him. How harshly am I going to be judged?" It's a tricky thing. I can't please everybody, and obviously the people you want to please most are the people making the show. They do a really good job and I trust what they give me is going to work within the arc of the show. That's who I aim to please.

**Have you picked up any good advice while on the set for LOST? If so, what?** The first thing that comes to mind is time and pressure. Time and pressure is often just what it takes. Sometimes, it's a waiting game; sometimes, you're being challenged in a way that you have to push forward, and it makes you better. Both of these things built whatever career I have. There's a lot of self-belief required to do this job. Having supportive parents

always helped, as well as having people around me who believe in me. This is what I wanted to do, and I went after it. As long as it keeps making me happy, I'm going to keep doing it. I think that's the trick. Many people say to me, "My daughter wants to get into acting. What should I tell her?" I always think it's just about keeping that self-belief going and only doing it if it makes you happy. There are a lot of really miserable people trying to knock this career out, and that's a tough road to haul.

**Where would you place LOST: ground-breaking or the next generation?** *LOST* is ground-breaking. The pilot episode was about the best thing I've ever seen on television. To this day, no one is doing what they're doing on the scale that they are doing it. Something that bugs me is that a lot of people dumb everything down. We water everything down so much to the lowest common denominator. I love that in *LOST*, while they can do it every now and then, they don't specialize in dumbing things down. They say, "Come on and catch up with us. Use your brain, and we'll all have a great time here." I think they're doing many things on a level that no one has ever tried. It's movie quality in a TV show. That's how it is to make, too. And coming from a lot of television, like I have, it's always smaller than you imagine it to be. The sound stages are big, but when you walk on these sets that are just fake little rooms, it's always a little disappointing. But when filming *LOST*, you're in the jungle. You're *IN* the freaking jungle. There might be a rough road not too far away, but once you get past a certain number of trees, it's very easy to buy into what you're doing. It really feels like making a big movie.

**How do describe the cast in one sentence?** You mean the actors, themselves? They're some of the most generous people I've worked with. They're just generous. I'm not a series regular, but they were welcoming to me as if I were.

They were just the most friendly, welcoming, down-to-earth people, and I really admire the hell out of all of them.

**You've had some quirky roles prior to this, but this one's a punchy, really cool role. You also seem to have an innate balance between intensity and sensitivity. So where did you learn your most valuable life lessons?** Inherent in many of the characters I get to play is someone who was repressed in some way, shape, or form, or who wasn't loved enough and now has to make up for that. Whether they go kill somebody, obsess over a girl, or try and run a small corporation on a small island in a mysterious land, it's always fun to find what the character's breaking points are in a given script. As a guest star, you normally only get one episode or two. In those episodes, your arc is pretty well defined, and you only have a limited amount of time to get it in. With *LOST*, I didn't know my arc. I knew that the character was mentioned in Season 2 as having drawn the blast door map on the wall and that he shoots himself. But that's all I knew, and they only give us the script that we're working on that week. It was one of those things where there is only an arc when you look at the whole thing in terms of the entire season, and that's because of the writers. It was one of the first times I was sort of driving blind, and I didn't know where they were going to take me. Week to week, my character got more and more angry, and more and more aggressive. So on the fly, you sort of change your own justifications as to why he's getting this angry and how important this is becoming. Initially, you might be thinking that something is important, but once you get to episode 15 and you see how angry he is, it's like the biggest thing in his world.

**What's one thing Ohio really needs?** An open mind. I'm just talking about Cincinnati and a very specific time. I remember there was a Mapplethorpe exhibit

that came to Cincinnati that was banned. I also had heard at one time that *Angels in America*, which was this Tony Kushner play, was not allowed to tour in Cincinnati. I'm not sure if that's true or not. Going to theater school and working in theater a lot, many of my friends are homosexuals. And when I was there, there wasn't a real acceptance of that. Ohio can be a pretty conservative state, and I guess I would like it to loosen up a bit. But I haven't lived there in a long time.

**What are your Ohio Roots?** I was born in Hamilton, Ohio, and we moved for about six months to Indiana, and then back to Fairfield, Ohio, where I lived in the same house until I was 21. Then we moved to another suburb of Fairfield, where my parents still live. I spent most of my childhood, or all of it through college, in the same 30 mile radius outside of Cincinnati. Then I went to Miami for college. Three months after I graduated, I packed up my car and drove to LA.

**Next thing on the burner for you?** I'm hoping to get a little bit more into the feature world at some point. I've been lucky to do a lot of TV, but films allow you some freedoms that you don't have in TV. In TV, if it's an hour show, you're locked in to 40 minutes of content. That means, if a pause takes too long, it's gone. Whereas in a film, it can be as long as it needs to be. You certainly have more artistic freedom in what you can say and what you can show. So I'd love to get into that world a bit more. Until then, I guess I'm just going to get back to hitting the bricks, going to auditions, and trying to take care of my house and keep myself fed.

**Keep an eye out for the LOST season six premier early next year on ABC. Who knows, maybe we'll see more of Eric Lange.**

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PHOTOS: ERIC WAGNER

Camarones con Chili (Ancho Chili Shrimp) on a bed of chayote squash slaw and generously coated in chili oil.

## STIMULATING SIMPLICITY Barrio

185 S. High St. Columbus, OH (614) 220-9141

**WHO:** Owner Jeff Mathes envisioned a restaurant concept that would be a first-of-its-kind in Columbus when he developed Barrio, which opened in March. White collars, students and downtown visitors alike can appreciate the casual yet classy vibe that the restaurant exudes. Not in any way, shape or form resembling the Wendy's that formerly resided at the same location, yet with hardly an air of downtown exclusiveness, Barrio is fresh, fun and relaxing for all. Mathes sums up the Barrio vibe as "polished casual with an international flavor."

It's the type of place where you wouldn't be out of place showing up in sandals and a linen shirt, and during your time at Barrio, you might just forget that you're on High Street in favor of a much more Latin locale. Mathes' only struggle is making the downtown lunch crowd embrace the idea that Barrio serves traditional South American/Spanish tapas, not the soup and salad combo that lunch-break America is used to.

**WHAT:** Mathes' mantra: don't do anything that's been done before, which means Barrio diners are treated to bona fide originals. A

wide choice of tapas (small, savory Spanish dishes), served fria and caliente, and larger dinner plates complete the menu. Fresh fruits, vegetables, cheeses, meats and breads blend together flavors of sweet and spicy, a marriage found in many of Barrio's dishes, and the seafood gives no hint that Ohio is most definitely land-locked. And by not doing anything that's been done before, Mathes has created a restaurant that is completely different from his other, Italian-themed eatery, Due Amici. "I didn't want them to be at all the same," Mathes made sure to state.

**WHERE:** Barrio is impossible to miss on the corner of High and Spring. The two-story building is open and airy with a dark, wooden interior and simple, square features. The architecture conjures Frank Lloyd Wright's philosophy that form should follow function. All straight lines and earthy tones, the simplicity of design translates to the wonderfully simple blend of few, but flavorful ingredients in Barrio's dishes. Mathes aims to bring the flavors of Latin America without abusing them. Simplicity reigns at Barrio, through the food, atmosphere and architecture.

### SPANISH - ENGLISH



**BARRIO** (n.)

1. Neighborhood
2. The feeling you get from the open windows facing onto Spring and High streets.



**TAPAS** (n.)

1. Cover (you can look up the etymology of that one)
2. A snack or appetizer, typically served with wine or beer.



**DELICIOSO** (adj.)

1. Delicious
2. The best way to describe Latin American cuisine, from the tapas to the sangrias.

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## IN THE WORKS

Because there may be nothing better than eating Spanish and South American food under the summer sun (or moon), Barrio will have outdoor seating on the sidewalk available later this year. Also a rooftop patio is on the drawing board as we speak.



## FRESH BREAD

Barrio gets all its bread fresh from local Omega Artisan Baking. This little bakery, which makes its home in the North Market, is devoted to baking European-style breads. They serve up all kinds of other delicious carb-loaded treats, too. Stop in for a cinnamon roll, pretzel roll or some other creative creation, or pop into Barrio for a crispy slice of toast with deep fried provolone.



## PULL UP A CHAIR

**Community Table:** Grab a seat at this table, and you're sure to meet someone new and have a great conversation over a great meal.  
**Window Seats:** Barrio's massive windows open up giving the whole room an open-air patio feel.  
**Upper Level:** If you're just looking for an intimate evening with a small group of friends or family, request a table upstairs.



Barrio's South American inspired interior may cause you to forget you are still in downtown Columbus.

**WHEN:** Barrio is open seven days a week for brunch, lunch and dinner. Always bustling with activity, it's recommended that you make a reservation ahead of time, which can be done online.

A lounge area is slated to develop on the second floor, where soccer aficionados can kick back and catch a game of Spanish futbol. And on Barrio's two-year plan: a walk-out, roof-top patio also on the second floor. In the meantime, look for an open-air, ground-floor patio to extend onto the sidewalk in the next few weeks.

**THE TEST:** Imagine six courses of Barrio's best, each paired with a hand-selected bottle of Argentine, Chilean or Spanish wine; a warm, summer breeze blowing through the restaurant and Caribbean tunes playing subtly in the background. Mathes and general manager Morgan Wiland treated us not only to a Latin-infused meal, but a bit of South American hospitality that is rare this far north of the equator.

The meal began with marinated olives, Tuna Ceviche (a mix of tuna, a generous-sized plantain chip with squash and popcorn) served with fresh bread, and a glass of Madema sauvignon blanc from Argentina.

Next up, Poblano soup accompanied by a watercress salad and a glass of Apaltagua pinot noir from Chile. The soup was bold, infused with the mild spice of poblano, and complemented well by the tenderness of the watercress greens.

The third course: bacon wrapped dates and grilled octopus with Callia Torrontes, an Argentine white. The savory bacon, wrapped around a soft, sweet date, left all members of the dinner party speechless. And the octopus: it was simply grilled, giving it a soft, but not chewy texture.

Rounding the halfway point, we were on to Hanger steak and caramelized provolone cheese accompanied by a glass of Chilean Calcu. The steak: so soft, it barely required a knife. The provolone was

served with lightly toasted ciabatta and chips, a tapa that's so good, it's worth giving up your summer diet.

For the main course (if there was such a thing) the Paella Mixta and Ancho Roasted Chicken with a glass of Botani Moscatel Selo from Spain. The paella blended rice, seafood and meat into a phenomenal dish that could rival the most authentic Spanish paella. The roasted chicken was so tender that it fell right off the bone. Served with whipped sweet potatoes, spinach and dates, the flavor profile was incredible.

We ended on a sweet note. Panqueques and Tres Leches Cake paired with Osborne Amontillado, a medium sherry from Spain. The first, a crepe filled with dulce de leche and topped with a generous dab of whipped cream; the latter, a dense yellow cake, soaked in three different types of cream. A glass of light and fruity, but not-too-sweet sangria served as the perfect cap to a South American feast.

■ Annie Beecham

## KEEP IT SIMPLE

For the ultimate Barrio trifecta, begin with the Tuna Ceviche: a three-rowed platter with popcorn (a traditional Peruvian snack), sushi-grade tuna with basil and a large plantain topped with summer squash. Next, order the Paella Mixta: chicken, shrimp, chorizo, mussels and scallops served atop a bed of yellow rice. Finish with the Panqueques: a crepe filled with dulce de leche, and topped with whipped cream and fruit. Delicioso!



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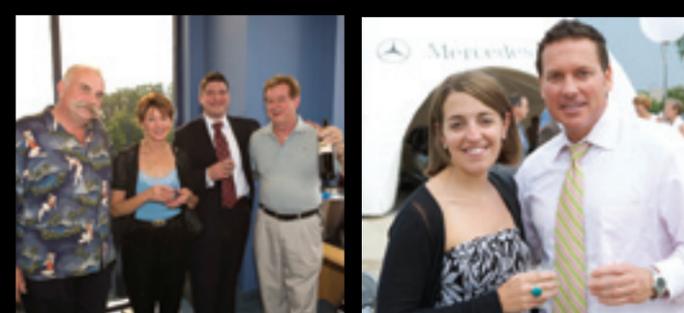


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# E-CLASS

A little rain couldn't put the brakes on the unveiling of the 2010 E-Class Sedan and Coupe at the Germain Mercedes-Benz of Easton on June 2nd. Big wigs from all over town arrived in their own luxurious rides, from Lamborghinis to Ferraris, and, of course, Mercedes. Treated to drinks provided by Budweiser and OhioWines and appetizers from the Refectory, guests hardly noticed the dark weather that eventually cleared. To top the evening off, Bakery Gingham supplied custom cupcakes decorated with the Mercedes emblem. Be sure to come to the next unveiling. They're always a blast.



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**MEMORIAL TOURNAMENT 2009** | *C Magazine* enjoyed the 2009 Memorial Tournament from holes 11 and 12 at the Muirfield Village Golf Club June 4<sup>th</sup> through 7<sup>th</sup>. The annual tournament, presented by Morgan Stanley, gave the perfect excuse for several homeowners along the golf course to host parties. After four days of play, no one was surprised when Tiger Woods took home the championship trophy—for a record fourth time.



**BUBBLES ON THE ROOF** | Tuesday, May 12<sup>th</sup> was not a typical Tuesday at Lindey's Restaurant & Bar. Samantha Barnes, manager of the Veuve Clicquot Champagne brand, hosted "Bubbles on the Roof," an evening during which guests were pampered with a sampling of five different Veuve Clicquot bubbles, hors d'oeuvres and sweets.

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**G&CO COUTURE PARTY** | *C Magazine* arrived at the G&CO Couture Party in style on Friday June 12th. But this event was about more than just style. Guests were able to enter a raffle for a luxurious gift bag full of great prizes with all the proceeds going to LifeCare Alliance. High Street Grill and Liquid Cafe kept the food and drinks coming all night, and Jimmy & Michael of 90.5's *All Mixed Up* radio show kept the energy maxed with live music.



**NETWORKING YOUR LIFE** | BoMA was the ideal local for Network Your Life and *C Magazine* to welcome the best-selling author, transition coach and entrepreneur Delatorro L. McNeal II. This was truly a night of networking, inspiration, music and food for job seekers, professionals and entrepreneurs. Network Your Life hosts parties like this to provide opportunities to individuals who may not have professional connections elsewhere.

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The shows aren't the sit-in-your-lawn-chair-in-the-parking-lot style shows, they are down and dirty rubber burning tire melting fun. Find out more information at [www.roaddevils.com](http://www.roaddevils.com)

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## 2007 BMW M6

Ever since I was young, I've never liked the "typical girl things." When most girls were playing with dolls, I was sitting in my parents' car, pretending to drive and shifting my bicycle as if it were a manual transmission. Gasoline runs through my blood; I know that it's why my husband married me!

Naturally, the prospect of me driving any sort of "girly" car was out of the question. Instead, I wanted a masculine, sexy, GT (Grand Tourer) that would be as comfortable around town as it would at 180 MPH. The choice was easy, the BMW M6. To stick with the GT theme, I went with the Black Sapphire Metallic exterior over Portland Brown Interior with Carbon Fibre trim—an all black interior to me is "played out."

I'm just getting started with the modifications, but so far, I've had the windows tinted and the front kidney and side grilles painted to match the exterior. I recently installed 20" HRE 597R rims onto the car (9" wide fronts and 11" wide rears) with Pirelli P-Zero Rosso tires. The list of modifications still to be done is quite extensive but will become much shorter when I'm finished with graduate school and have more time to focus on my car. The list includes: a new suspension (lowering the car about 2"), new brakes, a custom straight-pipe exhaust system (in black), blacking out all of the marker lights, taillights, and lenses, as well as a twin-turbo system (I need to keep pace with my husband's twin-turbo Murciélago!).

After that, some aerodynamic components will probably be installed and perhaps some more carbon fibre for the interior. The BMW is a work in progress but that is half the fun, the other half is enjoying the result!



Emily Wiggins, Owner

■ Emily Wiggins

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### ART WHERE'S

Continued from p.21



#### A SPLASH OF FOXX

If you don't make it to Jamie Foxx's show at Veteran's Memorial on August 14<sup>th</sup>, you may try to "blame it on the alcohol," but it might just be your lack of prep time. Foxx, best known for his Oscar-winning role in *Ray*, has managed to stay ahead in Hollywood and showcase his singing ability, too. Tickets for his *Intuition* Tour stop are still available, but you better drop the drink and get them now.



#### WHAT'S COOKIN'

Fans of *American Idol* will more than likely be regulars at the Ohio State Fair this year, with not one, but two former winners taking the stage. Season 1 winner Kelly Clarkson kicks it all off on July 29<sup>th</sup>, followed by Season 7 winner David Cook on August 8<sup>th</sup>. Cook is touring in support of his self-titled album that hit stores last fall.

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## Noted Calendar for Preston

It is always interesting to hear where some bands get their names. Sometimes, they are sitting around brainstorming and see something on the wall that seems too irresistible; sometimes, they name themselves after an obscure movie line they can't forget. And sometimes, band names just happen to come from writing lyrics in the calendar of your blackberry, nicknamed Preston.

"We were just staring at the printouts of my lyrics from my Blackberry everyday while writing," says vocalist Stephen Jordan. "At the top of every sheet it said 'Calendar for Preston' and it just hit us one day that it would work."

Jordan and the rest of Calendar for Preston all met by chance in late 2006, and after playing together a little, they realized they had something. After switching some instruments around, and adding a new drummer to the mix, the solid lineup was: Joey Sexton on guitar, Tom Gutman on bass and keys, Ryan Harris on drums and Jordan taking on the vocals.

They started playing their brand of passionate pop with

catchy riffs around Columbus and were quickly noticed. They signed on to have their music featured on Major League Baseball's web site and other events, which lead them to start thinking about recording.

The group traveled to Philadelphia to work with Grammy-award-winning producer David Ivory, who has worked with the Roots and Erykah Badu. They were there for months hammering out their forthcoming album *Paint by Numbers*. "It was just good to get out of town to work on it," says Jordan. "It felt like we were doing something bigger."

The hooks and catchiness of *Paint by Numbers* interlaced with the passionate story-telling lyrics make it stand out as your not-so-typical pop-rock album.

"The album is really just about mirages," says Jordan. "It's kind of about how you just think everything is going to be the typical get married, get a house, have a family happiness mentality and how it can be a mirage."

For more information go to [www.calendarforpreston.com](http://www.calendarforpreston.com)

■ Cary Smith

### CD RELEASE PARTY PAINT BY NUMBERS



On July 11th, CBR's in the Brewery District will host Calendar for Preston's CD Release Party. Come out and enjoy a fantastic live set, and get your hands on the new album *Paint by Numbers*. If, for some reason, you can't get to the release party, the album will also be available around town at Magnolia Thunderpussy, Used Kids Records and Lost Weekend, so there's no excuse for its absence in your car or home player.

CHECK OUT CALENDAR FOR PRESTON AT CBR'S ON JULY 11TH AT 8PM

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## JUST KIDDING Steven Anderson

Once a month, *C Magazine* sits down with a prominent Columbus figure to understand their vibe at 5:01. This month, we dialogued with Steven Anderson, Artistic Director for the Phoenix Theatre for Children. Naturally, we asked him to save us the drama.

**In your 16 years of service, what's the strangest children's performance you've performed or seen?**

I once wrote and produced a version of Goldilocks and the Three Bears that was envisioned as a Busby Berkeley musical. It had gangsters, a Shirley Temple character playing Goldilocks, dancing taxi cabs and chorus girls with skyscraper headdresses. It was weird. It was so colorful the children may have suffered retina damage.

**Ever though about performing 300?** Yes, but because I produce children's theatre, it would be a one-man show done all in mime.

**How does The Phoenix Theatre empower children?** The Phoenix, at its best, explores the essential questions of what it is to be human. Frequent themes of our plays and our work in the classroom involve questions like, "Who am I? Why am I here? What are my responsibilities as a citizen of the world?"

It is the easiest thing in the world to make a child laugh—fall down, make funny faces, speak in an exaggerated way. To help a child or adult to recognize their own dilemmas and conundrums on the stage is something I have tried to do with varied success.

**Should every city pay an art tax? If so, where would you spend the money first?** There certainly needs to be some mechanism to help the arts be more

sustainable. We have a deep and textured arts and culture community. I would focus funding on (big surprise) children so that each child, regardless of socio-economic background, has the opportunity to explore visual arts, music, dance and theatre.

**What are the key ingredients of any successful show?** Any theatrical production—for children or adults—should have the ability to help its audience see the world through

someone else's eyes. At the core, key ingredients are: honesty, passion, humor and truth.

**What is the hobgoblin of children's minds?**

Technology. It has boundless untapped possibilities to enhance our imagination, but it's mostly dumbing kids down, instead of making them smarter.

**What ever happened to the Letter People?**

I think they were probably replaced by email or maybe Twitter.

**At this point in history, can we learn more from children or adults?** Generally adults know things and children wonder things. You can have a much more interesting and engaging conversation with someone who ponders the wonders of the universe than you can with somebody who knows how many miles the earth is from the sun.

**Are you superstitious?** Not in the least—but I do refer to Shakespeare's *M.* as the Scottish play.

■ Jason E. Ohlson



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