

LETTER *from the* EDITOR

April is an important design and art month in Houston and at *PaperCity*. We're getting ready for the **PaperCity Design Awards**, which is technically April 1, but all the excitement falls in the weeks before, as I write this letter: The judges turn in their results, a PowerPoint presentation of the winners' beautiful projects is finalized, a script is written, and all the arrangements are made for the judges to fly in. **Sheri Roane** (she and husband **Grant own Houston Design Center**) is planning menus, flowers, rentals and pondering AV systems for the HDC showrooms, where the awards will be presented. Close to 200 design professionals entered this year's awards, and four well-known designers lent their judging skills: **Alexa Hampton** (NYC), **Jay Jeffers** (LA), **Celerie Kemble** (NYC) and architect **Michael Imber** (San Antonio). This year, we also recognize breakout architects and designers, furniture and accessories designers, craftsmen, preservation and



Holly Moore

restoration efforts, and other mostly unsung heroes of the design world. The award of "Most Exhausted" should go to Ms. Roane.

Also of import on the calendar: **Dallas Art Fair** opening night is April 10 and runs through April 13. Although called Dallas Art Fair, this is very much a Texas fair. See this month's special section devoted to this amazing production and labor of love.

Meanwhile, April 23 through 27 is **Lawndale Design Fair**, where we always see and hear new things. As artist **Aaron Parazette**, whose specially commissioned work is featured on our Art + Home cover (page 33), so artistically says: BUY ART NOW.

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LETTER *from the* PUBLISHER



JIM KASTLEMAN

Patience is something I sometimes lack, even though my dad always tried to drill his mantra of "Haste makes waste" into me. Patience and long-term vision often seem to go together, and when applied to the real estate business — retail centers in particular — the outcome can be truly amazing projects. Look at Ed Wulfe plodding away on Boulevard Place for years, delaying the ground-breaking till the time was right. And now, it's a beautiful addition to the city. Same with Oliver-McMillan and their River

Oaks District. Years in the making, having patience till the time was right, and now — if you've driven by lately — you can see that it will be well worth the wait. Finally, your patience has paid off: The amazing Dallas Art Fair is here again, starting April 11. Join in: Attend panel discussions and look and buy some great art. See you there.

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Bulgari Serpenti bracelet-watch in yellow gold with turquoise, lapis lazuli and diamonds, circa 1965



Bejeweled History of Bulgari arrives at HMNS

Some things happen once in a lifetime. Case in point, the **Houston Museum of Natural Science's** dynamic collaboration with Roman-based jeweler **Bulgari**. The sweeping exhibition, "**Bulgari: 130 Years of Masterpieces**" (May 2 through October 5), includes both historical archival masterpieces as well as those in private collections, to fully evoke the spectrum of work, from Greek silversmith **Sotirio Bulgari's** founding of the brand in 1884 in Rome to today. Bulgari's distinctive Italian style, which incorporates Greco-Roman and Italian Renaissance themes, speaks to a loyal and discerning cliental, among them **Elizabeth Taylor, Sophia Loren, Ingrid Bergman, Grace Kelly, Isabella Rossellini, Gina Lollobrigida, Anna Magnani, Juliette Binoche, Milla Jovovich, Jennifer Aniston, Claudia Schiffer, Elizabeth Hurley, Rachel Weisz, Meryl Streep** and **Julianne Moore**, all of whom have personal pieces in the exhibition. The local impact of the Italian master is demonstrated in loans from two incomparable Houston donnas: **Lynn Wyatt**, who lends her circa-1975 white gold, yellow sapphire, lapis lazuli and diamond necklace, and **Joanne King Herring**, whose circa-1970 sautoir necklace in gold with diamonds was worn in the presence of six U.S. presidents. Both will be resplendently revealed. Adding to the allure are the evocative portraits, sketches and other archival materials in the exhibition. Standout jewels include intricate coiled Serpente bracelet-watches with gleaming enamel skins and diamond adornments (circa 1965) and a remarkable curb-link gourmette sautoir necklace (circa 1975), its chain punctuated by Byzantine coins: six *soilidi* of Heraclius and successor Heraclius Constantinus (616-625 AD). hmns.org. Megan Pruitt Winder

Fringe Benefits



Gucci creative director **Frida Giannini** looked to the archives of the storied Italian fashion house to come up with Gucci's latest collection of intricately crafted handbags, called **Nouveau**. The four styles (shoulder bag, clutch, hobo and shopper) are fluid with tassels and fringe, calling to mind a late-'40s bohemian moment — no surprise, as that's the decade that inspired Giannini. It was during those difficult years of a fascist dictatorship, when luxurious materials were in short supply and the house was experimenting with fabrics such as hemp, linen and jute, that an innovative Gucci artisan created the burnished bamboo handle. An iconic symbol of European fashion was born. Each of the new bag styles has bamboo hardware with leather, suede or exotic skins, the latter in glossy, bleached and metalized, and all in rich berry, bright blue and popping red. *From \$1,150, at the Gucci boutique.* Kate Stukenberg

Best Buds

Like he needs an introduction ... **Tom Brady** — three-time Super Bowl champion, quarterback for the New England Patriots — is in Houston **Tuesday, May 13**, for a dinner in a private home, benefitting Best Buddies. The evening is chaired by **Becca Cason Thrash**, someone else who doesn't need an introduction. **Anthony Kennedy Shriver** — founder of Best Buddies, a mentoring program for persons with intellectual and learning disabilities that creates one-on-one friendships and assists in finding integrated employment — will also be on hand. Brady and his wife, supermodel **Gisele Bündchen**, are long-time ambassadors of Best Buddies; no word on whether Gisele will keep her husband company on this trip. Tickets are \$2,500 for the seated dinner; cocktail attire, 7 pm. *Information and reservations, charlesgonzalez@gmail.com.*



Tom Brady and Gisele Bündchen at the Costume Institute Met Ball, 2013