



Contributors

December 2011

1. "The people managing the future of the Dallas arts community taught me that it's not just money that gets things done. It's a lot of money and even more tenacity." So says writer **Jason Sheeler**, who tracked down eight busy people who put the arts in Dallas at the top of their to-do lists. "My iPhone contact list is beefed up with eight VIP additions after interviewing the Arts and Power players," he quips. "Frank Risch (of the Dallas Theater Center) and I aren't texting yet, but it's nice to see his name between my stepfather's and a girl I went to high school with."

2. Photographer **Justin Clemons'** assignment from the *Modern Luxury Dallas* photo editor was "moody, dramatic, with a noir feel." Heck yeah, he thought, right up his alley. And the entire experience of shooting this month's feature story, "Art & Soul," was off and running. In addition to the stunning architecture of the Winspear Opera House and the Dee and Charles Wyly Theatre as locations, Clemons had an "absolute blast" with the eight subjects. "John Eagle even started coming up with his own poses and looks that I never would have asked him to do. The shot that was picked (standing on a chair) was his own idea."

3. "Public art, talking Christmas with Dallas Symphony Chorus director, and 10 on-the-way-up artists on the horizon—it's been a busy month for me," enthuses music and arts writer **Steve Carter** on his December assignments. Carter takes a look at three recent installations in the Cityplace "Superblock"—heads will be turning. New DSO Chorus Director Joshua Habermann recalls some favorite musical memories of Christmases past. Finally, Carter casts his ears and eyes on 10 breakout artists. "It's a bumper crop of talent this winter."

4. In this issue, contributing editor **Rebecca Sherman** writes about a slew of fashionable and fascinating folks, including party man Todd Fiscus, who put his stamp on the Romo-Crawford nuptials; designer, editor and new Dallas resident Lisa Fine, who just launched an e-commerce website with former *Vogue* editor Carolina Irving; and winemaker and anthropologist Michael Thomas, who splits his time between digs in Italy and grape vineyards in northern California. "I'm always impressed by the smart and stylish entrepreneurs that Dallas produces," says Sherman.

5. Contributor **Kim Pierce** makes an impassioned case for pink Champagne as the champion sparkler, tapping beauties from three of the region's oldest, best houses. "There's a lot of brand promotion at this level, but it doesn't matter: These are gorgeous bubbly." She also sets her sights on new Texas spirits—every bit as much fun, but totally different. "I especially like the Dripping Springs orange-flavored vodka," she says. "The oranges come from the Rio Grande Valley, and it tastes like the citrus oils were just twisted from the rind. It's so good."

6. Writer **Holly Haber** has something in common with designer Thakoon Panichgul, who she interviewed for this issue. "We shot paintball guns for the first time at Two x Two's First Look party," she said. "We both liked it way more than we thought we would." The pair were among many guests who couldn't resist targeting the billboard-size tarp that artist Rob Pruitt erected to create a monumental abstract painting. Holly was one of the last people to shoot: She found a blank spot near the top and blasted away. Splat! "There's something very cathartic about it," she said. "I got so into it that finally they asked me to stop."



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Prep for culture shock downtown, a fresh take on holiday tunes, skin care kits that promise pretty and pass airport security, designer Thakoon Panichgul chats Dallas and Cityplace's spiffy arts corner. . . . 28

IN THE 'HOOD

Street SmArts

The installation dust is still settling, but visitors to the Cityplace "Superblock," (North Central Expressway to the east, McKinney Avenue to the west, Blackburn Street on the north, Lemmon Avenue on the south), are soaking up a trio of emerging new public art works that are spiffing up the corner that's been a work in progress since the '80s. Cityplace President Neal Sleeper first imagined the possibilities 20 years ago. "In a walkable urban neighborhood such as Cityplace, it's important to make sure that public art is part of the plan." The Uptown Public Improvement District and McKinney Avenue Transit Authority are also involved in bringing the young neighborhood's first public art to fruition. —SC

"Tower II"

MATERIALS Steel structure, LED lighting
HEIGHT 35 feet
LOCATION Gateway Plaza, corner of Oak Grove Avenue and Blackburn Street
ARTIST Cliff Garten



"With 'Tower II,' my hope is that it will connect people to Cityplace by acting as a landmark for this important new area of Dallas."



"Watertable"

MATERIALS Black granite, water, lighting
DIAMETER 8 feet
LOCATION Junction of McKinney Avenue and Blackburn Street
ARTIST Brad Goldberg

"Water clings to the rippled surfaces of the vessel which, in conjunction with the up-lighting, creates a pattern of water and light. 'Watertable' takes on a distinctly different atmosphere by day and night."



"Synchronicity of Color Receptors 2011"

MATERIALS Laminated, 3- and 4-foot acrylic and acrylic film multicolor cubes
LOCATION Station Square, corner of Howell Street and Cityplace West
ARTIST Margo Sawyer

"'Synchronicity of Color Receptors 2011' commands space, drawing people into its presence through color, materiality, and lush surfaces. The piece responds to the site creating a moment of tranquility and reflectivity."