



**BIG SHOES TO FILL**  
Walking in Dad's Guccis

**PAPA PRESENTS**  
Gifts *for the* World's Greatest

**HOT SHOPS**  
Gemstones,  
Glasses *and* Goop

**K-BEAUTY KIOSK**  
Racinne Opens in Richmond

**PAPER TRAILS**  
Wallcoverings' Comeback

**POP A BOTTLE**  
Due Props *to the*  
Grand Daddies of Drink



# EDITOR'S DESK

# T

This year, in compiling our annual gift guide (see opposite, plus our Hot Shops section), I decided to skip the guesswork and go straight to the source. I asked my husband to have a long, hard think and tell me what he wanted most for Father's Day. Two minutes later, I had my answer.

It seems that what dad *really* wants is precisely what you'd expect: a briefcase, a tie, shades, a cool watch ... and, yes, new socks and underwear. While we left the latter two out of our roundup (they're easy enough to pick up), we did check off every other item on this practical, pop-approved list—and snuck in a few off-hubby's-radar goodies we think he'll really love.

In fact, much of this edition of *VITA* is dedicated to daddy dearest. Our cover story (4) relates our own (newly wed!) Tori Macnab's personal journey to fill her late papa's beloved **Gucci** shoes, while our wine column ist, **Chambar** sommelier Laura Starr, pays homage to some of the forefathers of drink (11).

We also report on the city's latest openings (both of the shopping (5-7) and dining (9) varieties), travel to stunning **Sonora Resort** (10) and, on 8, see wallpaper make a surprisingly stylish comeback (so, a new DIY project for dad—or mom—to get started on). Happy June, happy Father's Day, and enjoy!

*Noa Nichol*  
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF



## FROM OUR READERS

*After reading (and enjoying!) the May issue, I wanted to take the opportunity to tell you how much I loved the beautiful pictures of you and your daughter. Just lovely! VITA is such a beautiful publication. I always look forward to the next issue, since my passions are food, wine, dining out, fashion, fine jewelry and lifestyle—and you cover it all. Great work!*

ROSANA WEDENIG, VANCOUVER

# VITA

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## MARC CAIN ON THE MONOCHROMATIC LOOK

Bold hues combined with polka-dot prints came together on the catwalks of Berlin Fashion Week. Announcing the beginning of Fall/Winter 2017, collections are showing a laid-back, easy-to-wear style with a couture touch.

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# FASHION & SHOPPING

## What Dad Really Wants

GIFTS FOR THE NO. 1 GUY IN YOUR LIFE



### TALL DRINK

Keep dad rainforest-cool with this 25-ounce water bottle (\$45) from S'well's wood collection. [Swellbottle.com](http://Swellbottle.com)



### SHOE IN

Our cover story (4) ought to convince you: Gucci footwear makes the perfect Father's Day gift. These classic horsebit leather loafers (\$765 at Holt Renfrew) are the very pair Tori's dad coveted, and feature a 1953 collection 60th anniversary tag. 737 Dunsmuir St., 604-681-3121. [Holtrenfrew.com](http://Holtrenfrew.com)



### TIED UP

Whether or not dad is as obsessed with wallpaper as we are (see 8) we're betting he'll love this silk tie in GG Wallpaper motif (\$240)—a vintage Gucci print reintroduced for spring/summer 2017 (i.e., just in time for Father's Day gifting). [Gucci.com](http://Gucci.com)



### CUT ABOVE

Even if he never chops a stick of wood or roughs out a carving with it, dad will surely appreciate the gleaming beauty of this McGowan Manufacturing Co. FireStone belt axe (\$209 at Lee Valley Tools). 1180 S.E. Marine Dr., 604-261-2262. [Leevalley.com](http://Leevalley.com)



### TABLE TURN

Vancouver's Quake Furniture's limited-edition Juan de Fuca table mimics the fault line near our coast to create décor dad will adore. [Quakefurniture.com](http://Quakefurniture.com)



### CASE CLOSED

Dad deserves a business bag as hardworking as he is. New from Coach 1941, the Rogue brief has two suede-lined outer pockets and a centre zip laptop compartment (\$800). 2-755 Burrard St., 604-694-1772. [Coach.com](http://Coach.com)

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*Concepto for Casochon 1/1*



# Walking in Dad's Shoes

A DAUGHTER'S QUEST TO FILL  
HER FATHER'S (DESIGNER) FOOTWEAR  
BY TORI MACNAB



“Even as a toddler I recognized their magnificence. Italian craftsmanship at its finest: soft leather topped with gold horsebit detailing. Perfection”



**F**

From the moment I set eyes on my father's Gucci loafers, it was love. Even as a toddler I recognized their magnificence. Italian craftsmanship at its finest: soft leather topped with gold horsebit detailing. Perfection.

As the years went by I would observe, mesmerized, the ritualistic way in which Dad would meticulously polish, brush and clean his Guccis before setting them in a row. Black leather, brown suede, patent, navy. At least 10 pairs, each one well loved and worn but beautifully maintained.

I also saw how he styled them. Elevating a Breton T-shirt, jeans and neck scarf with bare ankles and a loafer. Classic elegance when paired with a suit. The jingle of the horsebit buckle clinking as he walked—a sound now synonymous with my memory of him.

Since Dad passed away in 2014 he left some impossibly large shoes to fill. Metaphorically, you understand—he did not have big feet. But given that my size 35s often fall into the kids' shoe category, they were never going to fit me. Nope—if I was ever to take a walk in Dad's shoes, I was going to have to find a pair of Guccis of my own.

Recently, a few weeks before my 30th birthday, it was decided that my moment had come. *Tori, you shall go to the ball!* My then-fiancé now-husband, Jamie, said, “Meet me at the Gucci store in half an hour.”

But a Cinderella story this is not. After being informed by a shop assistant that a loafer like Dad's was waitlisted, I settled on trying a pair of Gucci backless mules, being told, “That's what's in fashion these days.”

Whether they're in style right now or not, they were not what I wanted and, quite frankly, defeated the purpose. I never saw Dad polish or, worse, wear a pair of mules! (He may have been a stylish man,

but a backless, fur-lined mule would have taken things a step too far. Literally.)

I voiced my concerns over the slip-ons. Regardless of my personal backstory, which was of seemingly no interest to the store staff, I struggled to walk in the mules without feeling like I was going to kick them off.

My worries, however, were quickly quashed by my sales friend, who said, in a thick Eastern European accent, “Of course, you don't walk in the shoes.”

“I'm sorry?”  
“You don't walk in the shoes!”  
“Oh? Well, what *do* you do in the shoes?”  
“Go from house to car. But no driving. It is too dangerous. You need chauffeur.”

Needless to say, that was a bigger investment than we had planned. We swiftly existed the store, leaving, perhaps, the dream of owning my very own pair of Gucci loafers behind ... that is, until my mother got involved.

Mum surprised me on my birthday, travelling from Florida to Vancouver. She'd come to tell me I'd have my Gucci shoes and walk in them, regardless of what I'd been told. This set in motion part deux of our Gucci mission. First stop: Nordstrom, where I tried on the black patent original 1953 loafer. Beautiful? Yes. The ones I wanted? Not quite.

By this point I had indulged myself by swooning over the collection online. And I had my eye on a particularly gorgeous floral embroidered pair. I was already imagining them with outfits—silk pajama suit plus velvet smoking jacket plus Gucci loafers equals OOTD perfection.

However, it turns out that getting through the gates of style heaven is no easy task. One small, very delicate step in a Gucci loafer, one large leap, hop, skip and a jump through numerous hoops for mama-kind to source them. (It's lucky she wasn't wearing her Guccis!)

The pair I wanted was no longer available (typical) in North America, according to Gucci's site. But then we found hope at Saks online. One pair in size 35! That was, before the site crashed, we had a power outage and then they were sold out. Back to the drawing board.

In our desperation Mum confided in an old family friend and owner of many a designer loafer. Her advice? “You are good Val. Mission possible. Gucci loafers are important, especially the first pair!” Armed with those words, Mum's determination couldn't be dampened! She was prepared to do whatever it took to source the shoes.

Two days and numerous phone calls later, I received a text from Mum: “I spoke to Alessandro in Milan. We've got the shoes.”

My knee-jerk response: “The Alessandro? Alessandro Michel, creative director of Gucci?”

“No,” she responded. “I did think about escalating it, but he's at a fashion week apparently.”

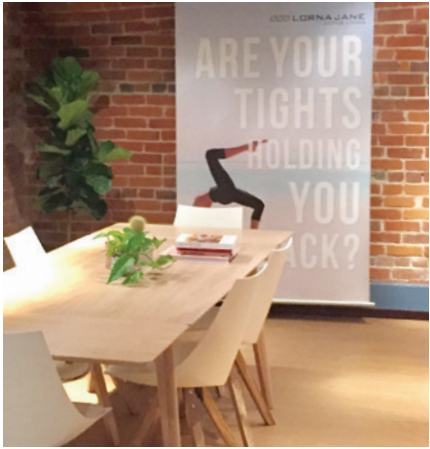
Of course, if he hadn't been so caught up, I'm sure he'd have loved to hear our story. No matter, Alessandro (the other one) did it! He found the pair, packaged them up and sent them to London, from where my Aunt Lynn would retrieve them. The payment went through on what would have been Dad's 69th birthday. I like to think they are a gift from him, too (along with his uncanny ability to find himself in ridiculous and hilarious situations).

Thanks Dad.  
If I were to describe my father as an object, it would be (what else?) a Gucci loafer. Timelessly stylish, classy and a little over the top, but loved and revered by all—especially me. And now that I've walked in his shoes (and I *have* walked in them!) I realize that he truly was always, as I suspected, one step ahead. Am I walking in his shadow? No. I'm dancing in his legacy (yes, I danced in the shoes, too!).



# Hot Shops

MEET VANCOUVER'S NEWEST RETAILERS  
BY NOA NICHOL



## LORNA JANE

The brand is no secret—Lorna Jane, for honest-to-goodness stylish gym clothes, yoga outfits and workout gear, has been around since 1989. The Brisbane-based label's latest retail offering however, remains a bit mysterious, thanks to its gorgeous-but-not-immediately-noticeable-at-street-level showroom. Situated on the top floor of Gastown's Hudson House (an 1894-built Romanesque Revival-style structure that once served as HBC storage for furs and liquor), the glass-fronted, wood-floored space requires a quick elevator ride to access but is well worth the trip. Inside: a large selection of easy-to-co-ordinate active wear (a new collection arrives monthly, so fresh pieces are always in stock) with such in-store "shop the look" tools as posters and well-versed staff happy to book personal styling sessions. Huge arched windows let in loads of light—not to mention, sweeping harbour views that simply must be admired. There's even space in this shop for "active living" events, like yoga classes, bootcamps and nutrition seminars, that bring the brand's "move, nourish, believe" philosophy to life (and to the public). We love the attention to detail in this hidden gem—and love the fact that our new Nothing 2 C Here tights (\$111) completely hide any sign of pesky panty lines. 321 Water St., 780-994-6590. [Lornajane.com](http://Lornajane.com)



## RACINNE

Take your preconceived ideas around cosmetic stalls—tiny cluttered units on wheels manned by sales staff seemingly more interested in their smartphones than their wares—and toss 'em. Korean-beauty brand Racinne, newly opened in Richmond Centre in a bright spot by Aritzia, redefines old notions of a hastily erected mall kiosk thanks to its custom-built and, lucky for us, permanent unit, with glossy white cabinetry, sleek gold signage, fresh flowers, bowls of succulents and, of course, globally coveted skincare offerings. Among the best-of-the-best-sellers you'll find organized neatly along the gorgeous bottom-lit showcase: the Ultimate Youth Power Eye Serum (its pinky finger-like applicator gently delivers micro-stimulation to instantly revitalizes

eyes, \$32); Aqua Blanc Brightening Mask (a fave of star makeup artist Lisa Eldridge, \$36); and Lady S Home Spa Device (with two modes: "spa" for face and "fit" for body, \$229). On our visit ahead of the June 1 grand opening, Racinne Canada's Vivian Lam told us about the company's exclusive callus cultivation technology, which uses plant callus extracts to repair damaged skin and restore a youthful glow. "These products aren't just for the rich and famous—the price points are accessible to all, and they're really effective," she said. "New clients will use Racinne for just three weeks and have friends ask if they've had 'work done.' We love feedback like that; it shows that what we're doing as a brand is worth it." Say no more, we're sold. 1637-6551 No. 3 Rd., Richmond, 604-277-8931. [Racinne.ca](http://Racinne.ca)



## GUCCI SHOE BOUTIQUE

March past, we announced the new Holt Renfrew Footwear Hall, in all its sole-ful glory, had opened, but failed to zoom in on any designer in particular. Now, in honour of our feature on 4, we train our focus directly on Gucci, whose own dedicated space within the hall has since launched, distinguished by plush, pillow-like blush-pink wallcoverings, plus such wonders as rainbow leather low-top platform sneakers, three-strap studded-tiger-head-buckled brogue pumps, Venetian-courtesan-inspired velvet slippers with a removable platform sole (wear them two ways) and, of course, loafers galore. Visit, ogle, try on and purchase a pair, then wander across the way for an orange blossom or geranium macaron at the freshly opened Ladurée Tea Salon where, due to our current décor obsession (8), we couldn't help but admire the hot-air-balloon wallpaper. 737 Dunsmuir St., 604-681-3121. [Holtrenfrew.com](http://Holtrenfrew.com)

CONTINUED ON PAGE 6



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# FASHION & SHOPPING



## BAILEY NELSON

New on the city's eyewear scene: **Bailey Nelson**, which opened its Canadian flagship on Robson, on the well-trod stretch between Thurlow and Bute, early this month (a second Gastown locale will follow shortly). The company was launched in Bondi Beach, Australia, in 2012, after its trio of founders discovered they'd each, at some point, suffered the ultimate tragedy: losing a pair of pricey designer frames during a big night out (moral: they recognized a gap in the highly monopolized eyewear market for "better glasses at a fair price"). Five years later the brand is making good on its goal to "make 5 million people look different by 2025," thanks to a selection of style-spectrum-spanning optical, clip-on and sunglasses, all designed in house, latest trends in mind, using top-of-the-line materials (Italian acetate, German hinges, Japanese lenses) and a carefully monitored manufacturing process. The light, bright, clean and far-from-clinical first Vancouver boutique boasts in-store optometrists and stylist staff offering a warm transition between the eye exam (if needed) and the pursuit of finding the most attractive frames to suit your face—after all, explains community engagement director Christa Hull, the right glasses possess, much like a great blowout, the ability to make you look and feel brand new. (Our Dad's Day gift pick: a pair of pilot-style Lucius sunnies in brushed black (\$235), with slim lens rims and show-stopping flat lenses to show who's boss (it's mom, of course). **1135 Robson St., 604-909-0131. Baileynelson.com**



## H. MOSER & CIE

When a watch company tags itself as "very rare," it gives room for speculation. Is it the materials it uses, the designs it creates or the way in which its timepieces are manufactured? Regarding Swiss watchmaker **H. Moser & Cie**, the answer is all three—and more. Sold exclusively (in all of Canada) at **Palladio Jewellers**, we had the chance last month to find out more about the brand, which produces a maximum of 1,200 timepieces—including its Endeavour Centre Seconds Concept Cosmic Green with emerald-coloured fumé dial and Endeavour Perpetual Calendar Funky Blue with instantaneous date change—per year (so yes, rare). Among our discoveries: this is one luxury watchmaker that likes to keep things light. Case in point: poking a bit of fun at the industry's growing fear of smart-watches (plus consumers' growing fascination with them) by creating the Swiss Alp watch (\$843,900): a luxury mechanical (versus connected) timepiece that looks so much like an **Apple**, it's easy to be fooled at first glance. While it doesn't let you make calls, send texts or measure your heart rate, it does allow you to pass it to your children one day without worrying about having to upgrade. **855 W. Hastings St., 604-685-3885. Palladiocanada.com**



## TIFFANY & CO.

It's not just a second storey—it's a new chapter at the updated **Tiffany & Co.** boutique, still situated prominently where Burrard and Alberni streets meet. The spectacular reno starts outside—pass by at night when vertical bands of that "famous blue" light the exterior of the building (while you're there, look up, way up, at the nine-foot metal-and-glass figure of Atlas holding a clock, meant to mimic the Greek god that greets visitors to the brand's Fifth Avenue flagship). Inside the heavy doors, the shop's spacious main-floor fine-jewelry salon, boasting gleaming white-stone floors and flanked on either side by spiral staircases, showcases a selection of those sparkling diamonds Tiffany is oh-so famous for, under hand-leafed-and-forged chandeliers by New York artist Michele Oka Doner. We slipped into one of four private sales rooms for a dreamy dress-up session that included a seemingly sunshine-infused heart-shaped vivid yellow diamond ring (vitamin D for a mere \$522,000) before heading upstairs to view the glittering fashion and gift salons (and pay our respects at a black-and-white photo of Tiffany royalty Audrey Hepburn). Needless to say, this makeover has created a gem of a store. **723 Burrard St., 604-630-1300. Tiffany.ca**



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# FASHION & SHOPPING



## HUBLOT

Location, location, location! Those “three key elements” were top of mind for Hublot staffers as they contemplated opening the LVMH-owned fine Swiss watchmaker’s first freestanding boutique in Canada. According to American managing director Jean-Francois Sberro, “Hublot wanted to open something in Vancouver or Toronto. We had the opportunity to secure one of the best available properties on Alberni Street so, as logic follows, we moved forward and locked it in.” Opening this month, the spacious shop, featuring a stunning façade and an upstairs event space, will showcase a stunning selection of the company’s much-sought-after timepieces—a collection that includes such Father’s Day-worthy offerings as the MP-05 LaFerrari All Black (\$466,000), developed technically and esthetically in parallel with the car (and fitting, considering the fact Hublot, for the past five years, has hosted the local Diamond Rally luxury and supercar charity challenge), plus Sberro’s pick: the Big Bang Unico Titanium Ceramic (\$26,900), featuring the brand’s own in-house movement and one-click strap system for easy personalization. **1080 Alberni St. Hublot.com**



## GOOP-IN @ NORDSTROM

Love her or not, Gwyneth Paltrow is an expert curator of lifestyle goods—a seemingly goddess-given talent made manifest through her über-successful website-slash-lifestyle-brand, **Goop** (like we even need to utter the name). Now, Vancouver-based fans (and non) can shop a selection of Gwyn’s own picks at Nordstrom’s limited-edition pop-up, open til the 25th of this month (and one of only eight in all of North America). The space, situated by the department store’s artisanal café, is laid out like a lived-in apartment, with kitchen, beauty and wearable goods clustered together throughout (there’s even a comfortable “living room” at one end, where shoppers can sink into brown leather couches sourced by **Istdibs** and admire the specially selected chinoiserie wallcoverings by **Fromental** (read more about this and other fabulous

wallpapers on page 8). Our picks from a recent visit to the Goop-up: **Sangre de Fruta** Botanical Body Cream in Rose No. 1, \$64 (sweet-but-not-too-sweet-smelling and Lower Mainland made); **French Girl** Organic Rose Lip Polish, \$15 (unlike other lip treatments, safe if accidentally ingested, i.e., licked ... hey, we’ve all done it); **Meinl** Universal Singing Bowls, (\$372 for a set of four, complete with mallet); a **LoRox** Aligned Foam Roller, \$50 (tip: roll out your butt before vacation for a cellulite-busting lift); and an \$85 drawstring **Medicine Bag** containing a collection of polished stones charged by Goop’s own shamanic energy practitioner, Colleen McCann (we held the lapis lazuli in our palm for the purpose of this writeup, as it’s intended to promote the speaking of one’s truth and clear communication skills—did it work?). **799 Robson St., 604-699-2100. Nordstrom.com**



## OLLIE QUINN

The latest edition of this cool eyewear boutique, on funky West Fourth, includes several special touches worth mention. Envisioned by local design duo Courtney Molyneux and Matthew Nicholson, the new Kits space boasts custom wood furnishings by Main Street’s **Steidle** (like a cabinet with an ingenious built-in pop-up heater for adjusting glasses to size and an outdoor sandwich board too gorgeous to miss), wall photos starring actual bespeckled Vancouver staff, an eventual exam area in the rear of the store and, of course, row upon row of quality eyewear, both for prescription-wearers and sun-worshippers, all bearing the **Ollie Quinn** name (the Maisetti in roasted chestnut or honeycomb, with exposed rivets, a minimal hardware accent and a thin bridge between rounded lenses, is one OQ insider’s fave for summer). **2082 W. 4th Ave., 604-732-4734. Olliequinn.ca**

# DKNY



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# If These Walls Could Talk

AROUND FOR CENTURIES, WALLPAPER HAS REALLY ONLY VERY RECENTLY BECOME SYNONYMOUS WITH GREAT STYLE—NOT TO MENTION, ITS ABILITY TO TRANSFORM SPACES

BY JOHNNIE SMART



#### STATEMENT PAPER

Perfect for a feature wall, this handmade black-and-white mural by Langley-based Anewall (\$449 for a 150-by-108-inch piece) is as peony-practical as it is glamorous. [Anewall.com](http://Anewall.com)



#### GOLD SCHOOL

Decorate your palace with this gold-leaf wallpaper by Phillip Jeffries (price varies based on market price of gold per eight-yard roll) that even the royals would adore. [Crown Wallpaper & Fabrics](http://CrownWallpaper.com), 106-611 Alexander St., 604-736-4541. [Crownwallpaper.com](http://Crownwallpaper.com)

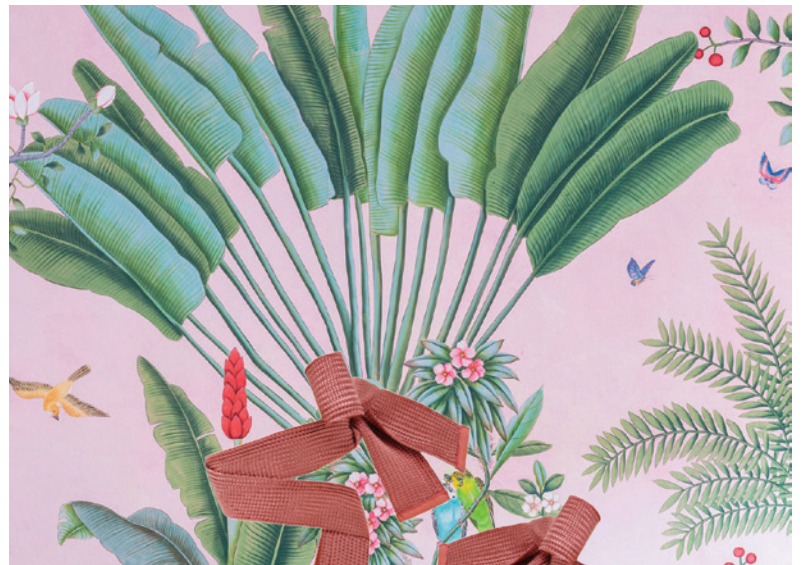
#### WALL TO WEAR

Speaking of wearable wallpaper, Gucci's SS17 women's runway show saw models hit the runway in silk twill long-sleeve shirts and skirts featuring the luxury brand's new GG Wallpaper pattern—a vintage house print, chunky and geometric, brought back to life in new colours and cuts. Try it on in sneaker, scarf, sweater or skirt (\$2,260) format, or as a backpack, bomber jacket or bellbottom pants. There's even a selection of GG Wallpaper silk ties (in rose or midnight blue, \$240 each) for fabulous Father's Day gifting. [Gucci.com](http://Gucci.com)



#### MARBLE ARTS

Polished room décor is just a stone's throw away with this elegant marble-print paper (\$132 per 10 metres) by Kemra. [Miltonandking.com](http://Miltonandking.com)



#### SHOE IN

What's better than including boldly printed and uniquely themed papers in your interior décor? Why, wearing them on your feet, of course! This gorgeous Amazonia collab between French designer De Gournay and luxury footwear label Aquazzura features jewel-toned toucans, decorative butterflies and swinging monkeys amid verdant palms and banana leaves. The shoes are available in various cuts, from slides and flats to pumps and mules, and the wallpaper is, we suspect, priced per foot. [Degournay.com](http://Degournay.com)



#### BLOOM ROOM

With a pattern mimicking florals found in 16th-century Dutch paintings, this paper masterpiece by Brian Yates (\$245 for 74 square feet) is just as gorgeous (perhaps even more so) in 2017. [Finestwallpaper.com](http://Finestwallpaper.com)

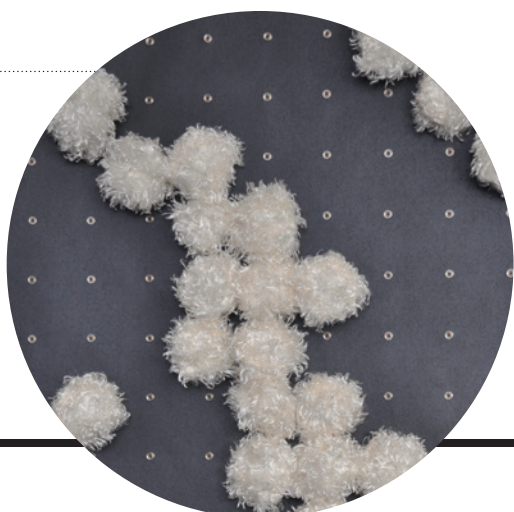
#### GOOP STUFF

Our coverage of the limited-time Goop pop-up shop at Nordstrom (page 7) makes mention of the custom chinoiserie wallcovering in the "living room" portion of the space. Specially selected by the Goop team (perhaps even by Gwyneth herself), this boldly coloured Paradiso paper adorned with bamboo, birds and butterflies can be yours, too, in a variety of hues, courtesy of Fromental. [Fromental.co.uk](http://Fromental.co.uk)



#### POM QUEEN

When 2-D wallpaper won't do, these ultra-feminine pom-poms from Petta Thompson will fulfil your elegant home décor dreams. [Crown Wallpaper & Fabrics](http://CrownWallpaper.com), 106-611 Alexander St., 604-736-4541. [Crownwallpaper.com](http://Crownwallpaper.com)





# DÉCOR & DINING

## New Noshes

A SNEAK PEEK AT SOME OF THE CITY'S  
LATEST, GREATEST EATS

### ASSEMBLI

Ah, the daily lunch-hour dilemma: do you indulge in momentarily-tasty-but-after-the-fact-regret-inducing fast food or a so-called “healthy” meal too sparse for even the birds? Ponder no longer, dear reader—**Assembli** is open on Cambie, serving up fresh, fast and, best, fully customizable plates perfect for midday. Building on the idea that people are desperate for quick and good-for-you options, health-food connoisseur and Vancouver-based entrepreneur Deanna Embury seized the opportunity to create a build-your-own pizza and salad spot in a stylishly casual setting (not going to lie—we’re delighted it’s just up the street from our office). Design your own meal (our BYO salad included a chopped spinach base, goat-feta cheese, avocado salsa, glory dressing, homestyle croutons and a hard-boiled egg) or, if you’re not in a particularly creative mood, choose from a menu of signature options (the Cauli Curry Spin pizza, with roasted cauliflower, mozzarella, spinach, green onion, cilantro, curry tomato sauce and yogurt drizzle, was calling to us). The best part? Your custom creation, salad or pizza, is one set price. **2325 Cambie St., 604-873-1253. [Assembli.ca](http://Assembli.ca)** JOHNNIE SMART



### SEN PAD THAI

You can now get **Maenam**-quality food in Granville Island’s Net Loft. Celebrated chef Angus An’s fifth city eatery, **Sen Pad Thai**, may be more of a “stall” than his usual sit-down offerings, but it packs a flavourful punch. Nestled between tourist shops and specialty boutiques, this small takeout service counter boasts an extensive list of long-noodle dishes, rice-sheet stir-fries, sides, salads, snacks and desserts. For main, don’t miss the Pad Mi Korat with crispy pork or the Khao Pad with Chinese sausage (top it with a perfectly fried egg for just \$2). There’s also an assortment of grilled meats (crispy ribs with garlic—yum) and a featured daily curry. Good prices, large portions and friendly service, we’re certain this not-your-usual-fast-food place will join the ranks of longtime Net Loft residents like **Beadworks**, **Cirele Craft**, **Paper-Ya** and the **Postcard Place**. **1666 Johnston St., 604-428-7900. [Senpadthai.com](http://Senpadthai.com)** JOHNNIE SMART



PHOTO BY MILK CREATIVE



PHOTO BY ELLEN HONG

### STARBUCKS RESERVE

Yoga and killer views aside, if there’s one thing Vancouver’s famous for it’s our love for a good (read: fancy) cuppa. Arguably, this infatuation began 30 years ago, when **Starbucks** first came to town (prior to that, we were hard-pressed to find a place that could fill our order for a double-tall extra-hot skinny vanilla latté with five pumps and extra foam). Clearly, the feeling is mutual: Starbucks recently opened its first Western Canada store featuring an experiential Reserve coffee bar in the heart of Mount Pleasant. With seating ‘round a six-foot-long oak “experience” bar, customers have a front-row view to the theatrics of such up-level brewing techniques as Siphon and Clover, plus the smooth pour of Starbucks’ new Nitro Draft. There’s also a changing roster (roaster?) of limited-edition small-batch coffees, as well as caramel-like americanos with scoops of local vanilla-bean gelato and latté works of art complete with cinnamon sugar “crust” topping. (Breaking news: you can now order wine, beer and cider during certain windows of time, plus exclusive savoury snacks, like a truffle mac ‘n’ cheese, only at this location.) Just look for the “R” on the window. **2980 Main St. [Starbucks.ca](http://Starbucks.ca)** AUREA DEMPSEY



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# TRAVEL & WINE

## *Born to be Wild*

WE FOUND PARADISE IN OUR OWN BACKYARD  
BY KELSEY KLASSEN



### STAY

Tucked away among B.C.'s remote chain of Discovery Islands, award-winning **Sonora Resort** is the destination. Surrounded by virtually uninhabited mountainous terrain, the tastefully appointed **Relais & Châteaux**-brand luxury eco-lodge—located 45 minutes by air from Vancouver—marks the moment that dense coastal rainforest meets the sea. Playing off its awe-inspiring natural bounty, the resort smartly marries a veritable buffet of outdoor adventure activities with priceless R&R. Between spirit-salving tours and hikes, take in sweeping water views from your suite or private villa, pamper yourself with the in-house spa and mineral baths, test your skills on the heated indoor tennis court or watch whales, eagles, seals and sea lions dive for lunch as you dine à la carte on the terrace. Stays range from \$1,005 to \$12,680 a night during the high season.



### DO

The fast-flowing, glacier-fed waters around Sonora are renowned for their salmon fishing, and experts and first timers alike can try their luck from the comfort of the lodge's sleek fleet of fishing vessels. Ask the kitchen to pack a continental breakfast to go, then spend a day on the water with a private guide learning about the area's unique fjord-formed ecosystems and impressive natural features (some areas of the inlet reach 2,100 feet deep) while scouting out lavish Hollywood summer homes and awaiting that exciting first catch.



### SEE

Like a well-planned meal, the helicopter (or sea-plane) ride up to the resort presents a tantalizing first course. As you make your aerial approach, steep-walled islands erupt out of the Strait of Georgia, hinting at a destination shrouded in thick evergreen forests and kissed by licks of jade, viridian and hunter-green seas. Meanwhile, as sail boats and pleasure crafts carve across the waves below, coastal cities such as Gibsons and Powell River flow by, providing a salient reminder of the bustling world you are about to leave behind.

### SUP

Back on land, Lukas Gurtner, the lodge's confident new executive chef, is a talent you'll know well by the end of your stay. His six-course tasting menus and à la carte creations swing nimbly from Cortes Island oysters with slices of blood orange and foraged kelp to hearty handmade Fraser Valley rabbit agnolotti with wild ramps. The cuisine (included in the price of your stay) is so integral to the experience that some guests were planning their imminent returns just to see what Gurtner was cooking up next.

## When Chad the personal trainer starts to vacation with Grandma...

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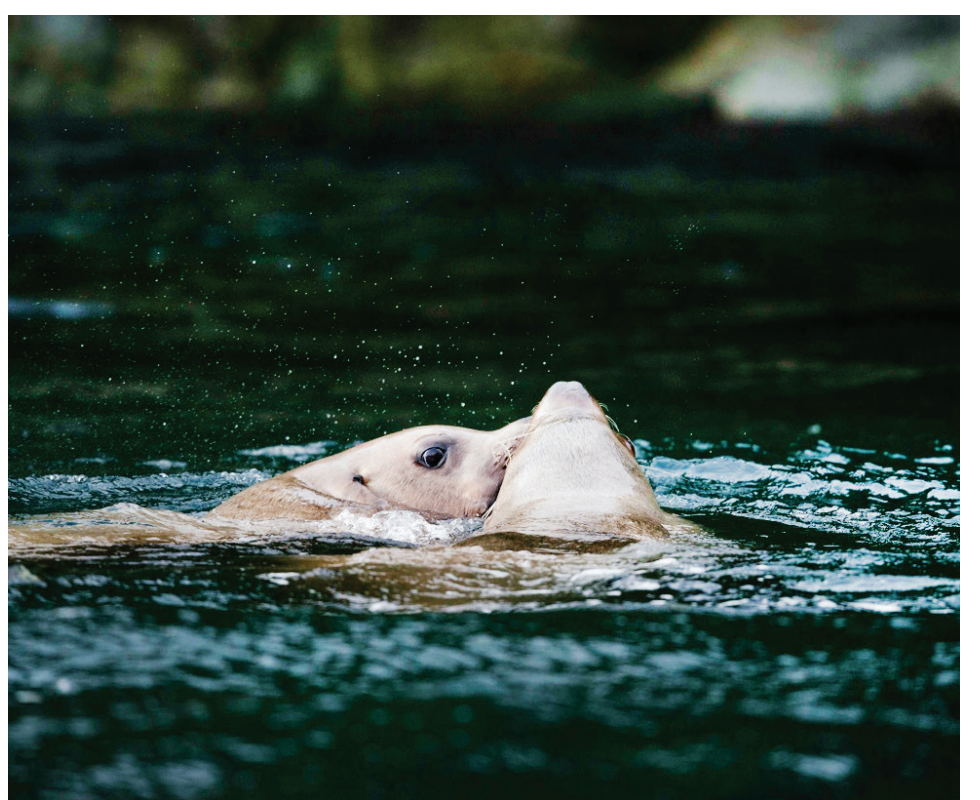


### SIP

While the bar's cocktails are inventive and on point, there's something special about how somm Shane Lobsinger's B.C.-centric wine list plays with the resto's Pacific Northwest sense of place. Allow his cellar, stocked with **Calliopes**, **Blue Mountains**, **Foxtrots** and **Haywires**, to take you on a journey through our terroir, while elevating every morsel.

### DON'T MISS

Wildlife interacts with every inch of the Discovery Islands, but you won't truly see it just watching from your porch. Hop aboard a zodiac cruise to get up close and personal with the waterway's playful harbour seals, sea lions and eagles, plus shy black bears and humpback whales. Close encounters of the herd, and furred, kind. [Sonoraresort.com](http://Sonoraresort.com)



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# TRAVEL & WINE

## Pop a Bottle

PAYING HOMAGE TO THE DADDIES OF DRINK  
BY LAURA STARR

Fatherhood manifests itself in a variety of ways, leaving lasting marks on the people in its wake. Case in point: the big-dreaming men below, who carved paths of viticultural significance, impressing upon us hallmarks of winemaking and exemplifications of family values. This month, for Father's Day, pop these bottles and sip away with daddy in sight or mind—or simply in honour of the following fabulous idealists whose dedication to grapes granted us many delicious moments of celebration.



PHOTO BY VICTOR GRIGAS

### DOM PÉRIGNON

Though there is historical debate over whether Benedictine monk Dom Pérignon was the first to discover the traditional method of making sparkling wine, there is no arguing that his work as a cellar master set the extraordinary standards of one of the world's most acclaimed and prestigious Champagnes. Sip this luxuriously delightful drink, which, at \$225, is toasty and rich, with hints of honeyed lemon peel and savoury, smokey herbs, and toast to the Father of Bubbly! [Domperignon.com](http://Domperignon.com)

### DON MAXIMIANO ERRÁZURIZ VALDIVIESO

Don Maximiano, the innovative founder of *Viña Errázuriz* (1870), has passed down his passion for wine and business savvy through three generations of family. Besides being a visionary, setting a remarkable benchmark for quality Chilean wines, he was the first to plant French grapes in the Aconcagua Valley—one of the five principal wine regions of Chile. His legacy wines still lay in the museum-esque Errázuriz Historical Winery. The Errázuriz Aconcagua Alto Carmenere, \$24, is a deep, bold red, showcasing dark, ripe red-fruit characteristics and spicy layers of cocoa and mocha. [Errasuriz.com](http://Errasuriz.com)



### MORAY TAWSE

Moray Tawse's affection for Burgundian wines converted him from a financier to a trailblazing winemaker who put Ontario on the viticultural map. Unrivaled in awards, with an unmatched portfolio of organic and biodynamic wines, his Vineland-based *Tawse Winery* has extended its vinous fingers into the soils of Burgundy (Marchand-Tawse) and partnerships with the likes of Canadian music icon and Order of Canada recipient Jim Cuddy. While Tawse's personal life may remain tightly corked (though his Instagram boasts some adorable fam shots), his reputation from countless business ventures speaks volumes to his integrity. Recommended: the Cuddy by Tawse Chardonnay, \$25, which is beautifully bright and fruit forward with structured acidity and an impressively modest creamy- and toasty-ness. [Tawsewinery.ca](http://Tawsewinery.ca)



### DAVID ENNS

David Enns is the owner of *Laughing Stock Vineyards*—an exceptional B.C. winery producing benchmark Okanagans, from powerful Bordeaux-blend Portfolio (big, ripe tannins, concentrated cassis and black cherry, with sweet spice and chocolate undertones, \$45) to innovative and playful Amphora (an orange wine made in an ancient technique, \$21). A family-owned vineyard (props to his business partner and wife, Cynthia), the Enns made a risky decision to leave successful former careers to pursue winemaking. The gamble paid off: not only have they garnered global attention, they've also provided their three boys with a powerful parental lesson: don't be afraid to follow your dreams. [Laughingstock.ca](http://Laughingstock.ca)

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