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TRAVEL FOR THE CONNOISSEUR

ART *Express*

MINNEAPOLIS MINNEAPOLIS

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▼ Unless you love sub-zero temperatures, you probably haven't been thinking much about visiting **Minneapolis** the last few months. But soon the ice-fishing season will be over and spring will offer glorious days to enjoy the Twin Cities cultural riches. On *ARTexpress*' last visit, we were on hand to celebrate the opening of the **Walker Art Center**'s landmark building by **Herzog & de Meuron**, but in the barely three years since, virtually all of the exciting projects that we noted were on line have blossomed into important new attractions. At the top of the list is the new **Guthrie Theater**, which presented its first production in its stunning **Jean Nouvel** building in July 2006. Arguably the most prominent resident theater in America — founded in 1963 by **Sir Tyrone Guthrie** — the Guthrie has long been a patron of avant-garde architecture in Minneapolis. The 1963 building was designed by **Ralph Rapson** — a leading figure in Modernism who had come to Minnesota in the late 1950s to head the architecture program at the university — and it remained a destination location until its demolition to provide room for the Walker expansion in 2006. In the same year, the new theater building, situated in the heart of the old flour-milling district downtown on the Mississippi River, was completed. The French architect, **Jean Nouvel**, who was just named the 2008 Pritzker Architecture Prize winner, has said, "At the heart of the city, the Guthrie is a machine for capturing and radiating the enveloping vistas. It condenses the landscapes that unfold around it." Perhaps Nouvel was thinking of all the elements of early industrial modernity seen in the milling industry, which are preserved in the adjacent **Washburn-Crosby Mill** complex (the forerunner of General Mills), and the way the great mills and silos inform his theatrical building, with its cantilevered bridge overhanging the riverfront and the balcony opening onto the **Saint Anthony Falls**. The metal and glass exterior — with windows bluer than the Mississippi — also echoes the industrial neighborhood and reinforces Nouvel's reputation for creating magic with these materials. Within the multi-leveled structure are three theaters (a 1110-seat thrust stage, a 700-seat proscenium stage, and a black-box studio), various lobbies, rehearsal rooms, classrooms, support facilities, and **Cue**, a luxurious glass-walled restaurant with dazzling views, a thirteen-foot-high wine tower and an exhibition kitchen. Chef **Lenny Russo** whips up classic Midwestern cuisine, showcasing local and regional ingredients and artisanal suppliers. Cue has been compared to such other signature theater restaurants as **Patina at Disney Hall** in **Los Angeles** — another site where ground-breaking architecture and fine food meet. Beyond dining at the Guthrie or attending a performance, book a tour of the building — Nouvel's first in America — and get acquainted with this remarkable architect, known for the exquisite glass **Cartier Fondation** and **Musée du**

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quai Branly in **Paris**, who has a tower under construction in **Century City** California, and just unveiled plans for a glittering 75-story, needle-like glass skyscraper adjacent to the **Museum of Modern Art** in **New York**.

When the bold, blue Guthrie opened, it brought a shot of adrenaline to the Minneapolis riverfront — specifically what is known as the Mill District, which incorporates the historic **West Bank** industrial structures that made Minneapolis the world's leading grain miller in the late 19th century. The elegant **Washburn Lofts**, in a 1914 grain processing facility (home to a number of the city's avant-garde collectors), have been joined by a number of other architecturally distinctive projects — whether focused on preservation or new construction. The **MacPhail Center for Music** and **The Portland** (condo project) are both by young local star **James Dayton** (yes, that Dayton), who spent his early career in **Frank Gehry's** office. The MacPhail is a six-story metal-clad tower with a Cor-Ten cube jutting out to house the school's 225-seat performance hall; while the Portland is honey-colored resin and steel with punctured nooks and balconies extending from the façade. Beyond dozens of other residential projects, the area is also home to the **Mill City Museum**, plus numerous coffee shops, restaurants, pubs and shops. It's a lively mix not to be missed.

Within walking distance (across the **Stone Arch Bridge** or down **Washington**) is the **University of Minnesota**, where one of our favorite university museums has become the architectural emblem of the city. Its iconic Frank Gehry building graces the typical Minneapolis postcard. Nothing in the Twin Cities experience is, in fact, grander than approaching Gehry's early masterpiece (1990-93) from the heart of downtown Minneapolis, crossing the great Mississippi, and coming upon its silver cascades of form reflected in the rushing water beneath the historic **Washington Avenue Bridge**. The **Frederick R. Weisman Art Museum** — his jewel — was Gehry's first commission for a public art museum and remains his only one in America (he continues to work on a museum for the pottery of **George Ohr** in **Biloxi**). And to the great relief of the art and architecture community, it is Gehry himself who is designing the museum's expansion. In March 2007, the Weisman unveiled plans which will add about 11,000 square feet to the museum, to include a dynamic new space for collaborative programs and a collection wing with new galleries, plus an intimate café. Because the museum is able to show less than one percent of its distinguished collection of American Modernism, ceramics, works on paper and photography, the added space is eagerly anticipated. With the realization of this project, each of the three major art museums will have completed adventuresome

Focus Minneapolis

Chambers Minneapolis, 901 Hennepin Avenue, Minneapolis, Tel. 612-767-6900, www.chambersminneapolis.com. Chambers, "the Luxury Art Hotel," is a boutique property with 60 high-design David Rockwell rooms in two landmark buildings. The fabulous contemporary art collection of co-owner Ralph Burnet and his wife Peggy (or at least a significant portion of it) is spread from the lobby, to the hallways, to the public rooms and last, but by no means least, to the signature Chambers Kitchen restaurant by über chef, Jean-Georges Vongerichten.

Graves 601 Hotel, 601 First Avenue North, Minneapolis, Tel. 866-523-1100, 612-677-1100, www.graves601hotel.com. This chic hotel with a post-modern vibe is home to the very popular Cosmos Restaurant. With muted colors, sleek furnishings, and attention to detail, Graves 601 is a top destination.

Hotel Ivy, 1115 Second Avenue South, Minneapolis, Tel. 612-746-4600, www.starwoodhotels.com. A brand new Starwood Luxury Collection entry in the fine hotel category, the Ivy is in the heart of downtown, next to Orchestra Hall, the Nicollet Mall complex, and the Convention Centre. Porter & Frye is the hotel's much-anticipated restaurant, and the Ivy Spa Club is the top spot to unwind.

Marquette Hotel, 710 Marquette Avenue, Minneapolis, Tel. 612-333-4545, www.hilton.com. A comfortable, traditional hotel with generous rooms and a good location downtown near Crystal Court, the Marquette is a good-value, four-star hotel with considerable elegance.

The Grand Hotel, 615 Second Avenue South, Minneapolis, Tel. 612-288-8888, www.grandhotelminneapolis.com. The Grand combines old-world ambience with world-class accommodations in the heart of the city.

RESTAURANTS

Chambers Kitchen, 901 Hennepin Avenue, Tel. 612-767-6979. The arrival of Jean-George Vongerichten is an exclamation point on the long list of foodie destinations here. The cuisine is the chef's signature Asian fusion and the setting is an art-filled, David Rockwell-designed space with limestone walls and a very modern vibe. Try fresh Minnesota walleye pike, seasoned with salt and pepper, accompanied by basil and jalapeños.

20.21, 1750 Hennepin Avenue (Walker Art Center), Tel. 612-253-3410, www.wolfgangpuck.com/restaurants/finedining/2021/minneapolis. Designed especially for Puck and

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the Walker, 20.21 (20th- and 21st-century art) has quickly become one of the top restaurants in the city. The cuisine is modern Asian fusion and, of course, dynamite pastry chef Sherri Yard is in charge of the sweets here, too.

Fugaise, 308 East Hennepin Avenue, Tel. 612-436-0777, www.fugaise.com. Local chef Don Saunders was trained at Le Cordon Bleu in London and has played important roles in the success of several Twin Cities restaurants. Now he has his very own place from which to dazzle you with his culinary skills.

D'Amico Cucina, Butler Square, 100 North 6th Street, Tel. 612-338-2401, www.damico.com. Extravagantly delicious Italian cuisine is the hallmark here. The finest ingredients mixed with chef John Occhiato's take on classic dishes make D'Amico Cucina a local favorite. The bit-over-the-top interior décor is in contrast to the Minneapolis contemporary look, but when the light gnocchi with Maine lobster comes, you won't mind a bit.

La Belle Vie, 510 Groveland Avenue, Tel. 612-874-6440, www.labellevie.us. In an elegant residence blessed with high ceilings, extensive windows and traditional décor, chef Tim McKee presides over flawless service, an excellent wine list, and memorable dishes galore. Try sea bass presented on a saffron-orange emulsion and piqued with black olives, braised fennel and a pinch of curry.

Cue, 806 South 2nd Street, Tel. 612-225-6499, www.cueguthrie.com. In a striking glass room overlooking the riverfront — at the gorgeous blue Guthrie Theater — Cue is the culinary centerpiece of any performance. Or just drop in to enjoy the sun on a sparkling spring day.

Porter & Frye, 1115 Second Avenue South, Tel. 612-353-3500, www.porterandfrye.com. Local ingredients and haute comfort food are already bringing devotees to this brand new, up-scale restaurant in the Hotel Ivy. Chef Steven Brown has a winner!

Vincent — A Restaurant, 1100 Nicollet Mall, Tel. 612-630-1189, www.vincenta.com. Vincent Francoual has an extraordinary background, having worked with both Eric Ripert at Le Bernadin and Gray Kunz at Lespinasse, but New York's loss became Minneapolis' gain when he opened Vincent — A Restaurant in 2001. Born and raised in France, Vincent loves traditional French cooking, but he's an explorer, so expect a creative twist.

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expansions by renowned architects.

Before you leave the campus, allow time to see **Rapson Hall**, the Architecture building, by **Steven Holl** (2002) and the museum's/university's extensive collection of public art and sculpture, including works by **Siah Armajani**, **Jackie Ferrara**, **Stuart Klipper**, **Alexander Liberman** (West Bank); **Daniel Chester French**, **Andrew Leicester**, **JoAnn Verburg**, **Janet Zweig**, **Stuart Nielsen** (East Bank) and **Athena Tacha** and **Peter Woytuk** (St. Paul). Guided walking tours are scheduled May-October and may be scheduled by contacting **Jamee Young** at 612-625-9656 or wamtour@umn.edu.

Across town there is more catching up to do. Since our 2005 visit, the venerable **Minneapolis Institute of Arts** has debuted a distinguished **Michael Graves**-designed expansion. On June 11, 2006, a grand opening celebration was held for Graves' new 113,000-square-foot wing, plus a 49,000-square-foot renovation, creating thirty-four new galleries and nearly 40% new exhibition space in all. The \$100-million, **Bring-Art-to-Life** campaign for expansion, renovation and endowment was spurred by Target's contribution in excess of \$10 million and the MIA's new building for 20th-century art has been named the **Target Wing**. The MIA (founded in 1893) is now a showcase for the work of three important architects who have placed their stamps on the museum over the years: **McKim, Mead & White** (1915), **Kenzo Tange** (1974), and **Graves** (2006), who also designed the adjacent **Children's Theater Company** expansion. The grand opening saw the reinstallation of almost 100,000 works of art representing a span of 5,000 years. The Chinese and Japanese collections, occupying the largest number of dedicated galleries in the country, shine in the new environment, as do modern and contemporary art, photography, and the decorative arts. The MIA is one of only a handful of grand encyclopedic museums in America and there are treasures for every taste.

It is a rich experience to spend the day in this great facility and for those who follow Graves' association with the Twin Cities, it is a view of a singular accomplishment. Known for his long design association with Target (founded by the great collecting family: the Daytons) and for designs for numerous local arts venues, he completed the MIA after suffering a devastating infection, possibly bacterial meningitis, in 2003, which left him paralyzed from the waist down. After aggressive rehabilitation, he returned to his practice in 2004, and in 2006 — as the museum opened — received the prestigious **Design for Asia** award for **Three on the Bund**, his transformation of the historic building in Shanghai.

Upcoming MIA exhibitions to look for this spring and summer include: *Space/Surface: Contemporary Sculptors as Printmakers* (through August 31); *Paris 1900: Graphic Design in Revolt* (April 5-September 14); *Pablo Picasso: Livres d'Artistes* (May 24-November 23); *Friedlander: Photography* (June 29-September 14)

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and *Robert Rauschenberg: Prints/Editions 1962-78* (September 12-March 1, 2009) — plus dozens more to capture your art heart!

Of course, for contemporary art devotees, there is no place like the **Walker Art Center**, and this is your chance to experience, once again, the 2005 **Herzog & de Meuron** building and to catch three of the country's most cutting-edge exhibitions: *Richard Prince: Spiritual America* (through June 15), the controversial exhibit just arrived from the **Guggenheim** in New York; *Worlds Away: New Suburban Landscapes*, organized by the Walker and traveling to the **Carnegie Museum of Art** (through August 17); and *Trisha Brown: So That the Audience Does Not Know Whether I Have Stopped Dancing* (April 18-July 20), documenting the career of the artist who played a singular role in revolutionizing modern dance.

Founded in 1927, the Walker began its relationship with contemporary architecture in 1971, cutting the ribbon on an iconic building by **Edward Larrabee Barnes**. A classic, white-box design with pure, white, rectilinear galleries and few apertures to mar the opaque exterior, it was beautiful in its refined spaces, but not particularly flexible when it came to the multidisciplinary nature of late 20th-century art. With its silver, crumpled aluminum cladding and boxy forms hanging over the sidewalk, the Herzog & de Meuron building joins the Barnes structure with an expansive, risk-taking design that simply feels serendipitous. From the lobby created by the tower-form extension over the sidewalk, a narrow stairway sucks you up into the tower that the *New York Times* called a "compact vertical city that houses the majority of the museum's public zones — restaurant, performing arts theater and event spaces." From this lively social space, glass corridors draw visitors to the galleries, balancing the new and old spaces in an exquisitely detailed design. Be sure to save time for lunch at **20.21**, created for the Walker by **Wolfgang Puck** and named for the focus of the museum's collections — 20th- and 21st-century art. The views of downtown are stunning, and Puck's signature open kitchen, plus a gorgeous bronze bar, accent the contemporary cuisine experience. 20.21 has been voted one of the city's top ten restaurants, and reservations are advised at this hugely popular destination. After lunch, take a walk in the adjacent **Minneapolis Sculpture Garden**, one of America's largest urban sculpture parks, where the centerpiece is **Claes Oldenburg** and **Coosje van Bruggen's Spoonbridge and Cherry** (1985-1988).

Among the fabulous household-name museums, it would be easy to miss the eccentric, charming **Museum of Russian Art**, founded to preserve examples of 20th-century realist Russian painting, lest all the work of the Soviet era should disappear. The museum is housed in a renovated 1935 **Spanish Colonial Revival** church restored by **Julie Snow Architects**. Founded by

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MUSEUMS & GALLERIES

The Minneapolis Institute of Arts, 2400 Third Avenue South, Tel. 612-870-3131, www.artsmia.org. This very grand encyclopedic museum, which has extended its reach into a much-needed new wing by Michael Graves, has just welcomed new director Kaywin Feldman and is set for a great spring with the annual Print and Drawing Fair slated for April 26-27 and Art in Bloom, May 1-4.

Walker Art Center, 1750 Hennepin Avenue, Tel. 612-375-7600, www.walkerart.org. The Walker was the first public gallery (1927) in the Upper Midwest and has focused on modern and contemporary art since the 1940s. Under Martin Friedman and his successor, Kathy Halbreich, it became one of the most admired centers for contemporary art in the world. In January, Olga Viso arrived from the Hirshhorn to carry on the venerable tradition and to bring the stunning 2005 Herzog & de Meuron building into a new era. Most expect that, under her, the Walker will remain one of the country's most responsive, risk-taking, multidisciplinary venues for artists and audiences.

Frederick R. Weisman Art Museum, 333 East River Parkway, Tel. 612-625-9494, www.weisman.umn.edu. The Weisman Museum is generally thought of as the Gehry design that subsequently made the Guggenheim Bilbao possible. It represents a stunning breakthrough in Gehry's work. The museum itself is renowned for its collection of American Modernist works, especially those by Marsden Hartley. Under the guidance of long-time director Lyndel King, the Weisman is presently planning an expansion by Gehry himself.

The Museum of Russian Art, 5500 Stevens Avenue South, Tel. 612-821-9045, www.tmora.org. Please note: The Museum of Russian Art is closed on Sundays. TMORA opened to the public in 2005 and is located in the former Mayflower Church. This is the only museum in America where it is possible to view Russian art created during the Soviet era (1921-1991) in any depth or breadth. Founded by collector/dealer Raymond Johnson and his wife Susan, who have contributed from their personal collection as well, it is a remarkable snapshot of the little known period of Russian Realism.

Mill City Museum, 704 South 2nd Street, Tel. 612-341-7555, www.millcitymuseum.org. The Mill City Museum, in the heart of the riverfront redevelopment area, chronicles the history of the local flour-milling industry that dominated world flour production for more than half a century. The history is also the story of

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the growth of Minneapolis, which is explored through exhibits, hands-on experiences and multi-media presentations. The old mill buildings (many now lofts) are a captivating study in early Minneapolis architecture as well.

NEW MUSIC VENUE

MacPhail Center for Music, 501 South 2nd Street, Tel. 612-321-0010, www.macphail.org. The MacPhail Center, just opened in January 2008, is a prestigious music school founded in 1907 by William S. MacPhail, then a violinist with the Minneapolis Symphony (now the Minnesota Orchestra). It is housed in a fabulous new \$25-million home designed by Minneapolis architect James Dayton, and, with the Guthrie Theater, is part of the growing riverfront revival. The building's centerpiece is a rust-colored, Cor-Ten steel cube, which houses the Antonello Concert Hall. The interior, in warm wood paneling with curved acoustical "clouds" hanging from the ceiling, also features an 18-foot-tall window overlooking the river. Unique as Antonello Hall is, there are faint echoes of Disney Hall surfaces and wood tones in this exquisite setting — not surprising, as Dayton worked with Gehry and was on the team that designed Walt Disney Concert Hall in Los Angeles.

MINNEAPOLIS ARCHITECTURE

In addition to the above-mentioned buildings, add to your itinerary:

Christ Church Lutheran, 3244 34th Avenue South, Minneapolis: Eliel Saarinen, 1949.

College of Architecture & Landscape Architecture, University of Minnesota, Minneapolis: Steven Hall Architects, 1996.

Winton Guest House, Wayzata, Minnesota. Frank O. Gehry, 1983-87 (private).

Children's Theater Company, 2400 3rd Avenue South, Minneapolis: Michael Graves & Associates, 2005.

Minneapolis Central Library, 300 Nicollet Mall, Minneapolis: Cesar Pelli & Associates, 2006.

Wells Fargo Center, 90 South 7th Street, Minneapolis: Cesar Pelli & Associates, 1988.

IDS Center, 800 South 8th Street, Minneapolis: Philip Johnson/Johnson/Burgee, 1972.

U.S. Bank Place, 601 Second Avenue South, Minneapolis: I. M. Pei/Pei, Cobb, Freed & Partners, 1992.

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collector/dealer **Raymond E. Johnson**, it is dedicated to painting from the Czarist period (late 19th century) through the dissolution of the Soviet Union in 1991. The redesigned interior of the **Mayflower Church** provides a startlingly lovely environment for unusual art you are simply not likely to see here or abroad!

Now before you crash at one of Minneapolis' very cosmopolitan hotels, or take off to enjoy top Midwestern cuisine, make one more stop at the new **Minneapolis Central Library**, downtown between Hennepin Avenue and Nicollet Mall. Designed by world-renowned architect **Cesar Pelli**, the eye-catching building is a combination of transparent and translucent glass punctuated by seasonal Minnesota imagery — water, snow, prairie grass — and a "green" roof planted with low-growing ground cover. Among the artists commissioned for public library projects are **Lita Albuquerque**, **Donald Lipski**, **Jackie Chang**, and **Beverly Pepper**.

The artful hotel of choice here is **The Chambers Minneapolis**, sister to New York's **Chambers**. It's not only an elegant, postmodern, **David Rockwell**-designed property, it is liberally hung with contemporary works of art from the major collection of **Peggy** and **Ralph Burnet** (he is a co-owner) and is home to one of the city's top restaurants, **Jean-Georges Vongerichten's Chambers Kitchen**. Even if you don't stay at the Chambers (reservations are scarce), it is a must-see stop. At press time, **The Luxury Collection (Starwood)** had just announced the opening of **Hotel Ivy**, incorporating the historic **Ivy Tower Hotel** in the heart of downtown. The big selling point is the luxurious **Ivy Spa Club**. Or try **Graves 601 Hotel**, a stylish, contemporary spot that is also the site of the very popular **Cosmos Restaurant** (the Graves 601 was Le Meridien).

Beyond being a bonafide cultural oasis, Minneapolis is a foodie's town, so save special moments each day for sophisticated Midwestern cuisine — peppered with continental touches from around the world. Local favorites include **Cosmos**, with its thoroughly contemporary fare; chef **Steven Brown's Porter & Frye** at the luxurious new Hotel Ivy, where "eat fresh/eat local" is the watchword; chef **Don Sanders' Fugaise**, a version of his classic French take that brought success to **Vincent** and **La Belle Vie** before he founded his own place; the renowned **Jean-Georges Vongerichten's hot Chambers Kitchen**; **D'Amico Cucina**, the family's flagship Italian treasure under chef **John Occhiato**; and, of course, with the above-mentioned Vincent and La Belle Vie, all delight at the end of a museum-full day.

The riches — be it art, architecture or fine cuisine — are so dense in Minneapolis, and the upper-Midwest landscape so clear, blue, and engagingly beautiful, that your only problem will be shoe-horning all the best into your own memorable itinerary.

ART AROUND THE WORLD

News

Beijing is the current hot spot in China — the excitement is palpable as the city gears up for the **Summer Olympics 2008** and construction abounds in the great city. For fine art enthusiasts, one of China's first contemporary art museums, **The Ullens Center for Contemporary Art (UCCA)** opened its doors in Beijing this past November. Founded by German industrialist **Guy Ullens** and his wife **Myriam**, the museum promises to deliver a first-rate forum for contemporary art. Situated in the **798 factory district**, the museum is a redesign of Bauhaus-style factory buildings originally built by East German architects in the 1950s. The district itself has been designated a cultural quarter, with more than 100 artist's studios, galleries, bookshops and restaurants and the museum provides a wonderful addition. Noted French architect **Jean-Michel Wilmotte** (who designed the grand restaurant at the Louvre) did the redesign for the UCCA, creating a pristine, light filled space perfect for showcasing large-scale works of art.

The Ullenses began collecting antique Chinese art in 1985 and eventually moved on to contemporary works. Today the **Ullens Foundation** in Geneva includes more than 1500 works by Chinese artists. UCCA will showcase works from the Foundation in its programming, in addition to commissioning new works of art from Chinese and other international artists. The goal is to create a first-rate museum with a curatorial staff, a major exhibition program, professional publications and research facilities. Up to this point, contemporary art in China has been market-driven — the result of the interest of international collectors who have snapped up Chinese contemporary art with a fervor that has escalated prices dramatically. By supporting art criticism and expanding the dialogue, the UCCA will help validate the work of the established mid-career artists, while promoting new and emerging talent from across the country that thus far has had little or no exposure. While **MoCA Shanghai**, which was founded in 2005, has experienced growing pains and has suffered from a lack of funding, the Ullenses have funded UCCA in its entirety and will continue to support the museum until it is self-sufficient.

Pritzker Prize-winning architects **Herzog & de Meuron** have teamed up with **ArupSport** and **China Architecture Design & Research** to create the **Beijing National Stadium** for the Summer Olympics on the city's **Olympic Green**. This enormous structure, aptly nicknamed the "Bird's Nest," will house the opening and closing ceremonies, as well as the main track and field events this summer. With a capacity of 95,000 for the Olympics, and a post-games capacity of 80,000, it promises to be a highly visible landmark building for the city.

This spring, the art scene swings into high gear in the Midwest with **ART Chicago** (April 25-28), a citywide celebration

Great Addresses

IN CHICAGO

one sixtyblue, 1400 W. Randolph Street, Tel. 312-850-0303. After ten years, this Chicago gem is still shining as one of the city's most elegant restaurants. Uber designer Adam Tihany has remade the interiors of the former Schwartz Pickle Factory into a dramatic space on the outskirts of the trendy Market District. Exquisitely innovative dishes emerge from chef Martial Noguier's open kitchen, where he transforms his native French cuisine with uniquely modern twists. Try the cured baby Coho salmon on wild rice blini with lemon crème fraîche or the cranberry-bean soup with ramps, pancetta, and chestnut-Parmesan oil. Yum!

Avenues, Peninsula Hotel, 108 E. Superior Street, Tel. 312-573-6754. If classically elegant is what you desire, we love Avenues Restaurant at the always-chic Peninsula Hotel. Take in the gorgeous views of the historic Water Tower and Chicago's dramatic skyline from this serenely beautiful restaurant. Here you will enjoy five-star service from the well-trained staff and sumptuous meals from Executive chef Graham Eliot Bowles' kitchen. Nominated in 2006 as a Rising Star Chef by the James Beard Foundation, this creative chef cooks up innovative dishes like venison tartare with parsley panna cotta. Perfect for a special celebration in the Windy City!

Moto, 945 West Fulton Market, Tel. 312-491-0058. For an out-of-this-world food and dining experience, Moto is not to be missed. Chef Homaro Cantu is known for his postmodern cuisine that stretches the "known scientific and gastronomic boundaries." The ultra minimalist dining room is a great backdrop for the creative culinary couplings. A variety of tasting menus and wine pairings are offered to adventurous diners. Take your time to enjoy this experimental cuisine.

TRU, 676 N. St. Clair Street, Tel. 312-202-0001. TRU is a contemporary art lover's dream, with masterful works by such artists as Andy Warhol, Ed Ruscha, Yves Klein, Maya Lin, Peter Halley and Gerhard Richter gracing the walls in this opulent minimalist dining room. Noted executive chef Rick Tramonto and pastry chef Gale Gand will give you a memorable culinary experience with fantastic prix-fixe and "Collections" tasting menus, including a "Luxury Prix-Fixe" menu featuring Sturgeon caviars. For all the oenophiles out there, you will have 16,000 perfectly cellared bottles to choose from. If you love to be pampered, the sublime service will not disappoint.

Alinea, 1723 North Halsted Street, Tel. 312-867-0110. All foodies take note: star chef Grant Achatz of French Laundry fame in Napa and Trio in Evanston has graced Chicago with this chic Lincoln Park Eatery. Alinea is generating the most excitement as of late with its très haute cuisine that is at once a gastronomic and visual feast for the senses. Extensive 12- and 24-course tasting menus matched with carefully paired wine-tasting progressions are luring the international crowd. Subtle neutral décor welcomes diners into the double-decker dining room filled with dark mahogany dining tables and organic floral arrangements that enhance the relaxed elegance of the interiors.

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James Chicago, 55 E. Ontario Street, Tel. 312-337-1000 or 877-526-3755. This downtown hotel is a great choice for art lovers. Eclectic contemporary art created by Chicago's up and coming artists fills the public spaces of the lobby as well as guest rooms. Stylish and luxurious all at once!

China

SHANGHAI

Shui Yuan, 1 Yanan East Road, Tel. 86-21-6330-8098. For sweeping views of the Bund, the Huangpu River and the Pudong skyline, check out Shui Yuan in downtown Shanghai. Offering a respite from the fast paced city around it, Shui Yuan, means "source of water." The restaurant's interior spaces are designed to be a refuge of tranquility from the buzz about town. Not only will you be captivated by the view, this lovely restaurant specializes in seasonal, organic vegetables grown all over China. Vegetarian dishes are plentiful, as well as traditional poultry, fish and meat dishes cooked with a light touch. The varied wine list emphasizes French and California wines.

Jean-Georges, No. 3 The Bund, 3 Zhong Shan Dong Yi Road, Tel. 8621-6321-7733 email: JGreservation@on-the-bund.com. Jean-Georges Vongerichten brings his haute cuisine to Shanghai with his eponymous restaurant on the fourth floor of Three on the Bund. Enjoy his Asian-inspired culinary innovations at this elegant restaurant with a gorgeous evening view of the Pudong skyline across the river.

BEIJING

Green T. House, Gongti Xi Lu 6, Tel. 010-6552-8310. The place to see and be seen in Beijing, Green T. House embodies the "evolving spirit" of new China. The reviews are raves — amazing setting with minimalist interiors, chairs with six-foot-tall backs and artistic presentations of delicate tea-inspired dishes. Musician, artist and masterchef Jin R. presides over this poetic place with her distinctive touch. She has been called "China's hottest young chef" and Beijing's "Queen of style." Peruse their beautiful website at www.green-t-house.com or go and see for yourself!

Tea Street Market, Maliandao Chayecheng, Xuanwo. If it's tea you desire, head to Beijing's huge indoor market filled with more than 600 tea shops selling every kind of tea imaginable. Sample teas from every province in China and experience their incredible nuances, including rare teas aged for decades.

Ullens Center for Contemporary Art, 4 Jiuxianquiao Lu, 798, Beijing, Tel. 010-6435-1444. Don't miss China's new contemporary art museum founded by Myriam and Guy Ullens, in a spectacular industrial complex that has been converted into a streamlined, light-filled exhibition space.

News...more

of arts, antiques and culture. Here art collectors, art professionals, artists and art enthusiasts can view a comprehensive survey of current and historic work from international artists in all media. Running concurrently is **Artropolis**, which offers a wide array of interactive art experiences that are open to the public and unique to Chicago. Over 80 arts institutions citywide participate in Artropolis, including major museums, galleries, world-class concert halls and lakefront parks. Dance and theater productions abound, as well as seminars and guided tours in venues throughout the Windy City. Consult the website for additional information at www.artchicago.com.

Of particular interest to contemporary art collectors is **NEXT, The Invitational Show of Emerging Art** that is being held at the **Merchandise Mart** during ART Chicago. NEXT is the brainchild of **Kavi Gupta** and **Christian Viveros-Faune**, who aspire to create an art fair with a platform geared specifically to new art from around the world. While you are in town for the fair, make sure to visit **Millennium Park** (201 East Randolph Street), if you have not yet seen it. *ARTE* Express loved Barcelona artist **Jaume Plensa's** giant vertical screen with the changing images and the spontaneous water effects springing forth from the images, as well as the gardens and the large-scale sculpture. Also of interest is the **Nathan Manilow Sculpture Park** (1 University Parkway, University Park, Illinois), which features a major collection of outdoor sculpture set on more than 100 acres of naturally landscaped prairie on the campus of **Governors State University**. Featured artists include **Mark di Suvero**, **John Chamberlain**, **Joel Shapiro**, **Martin Puryear**, **Mary Miss** and **Bruce Nauman**. On another local campus, **The Illinois Institute of Technology** (35 West 33rd Street, Chicago), don't miss the architectural tours of famous campus buildings including masterworks by **Mies van der Rohe**, **Rem Koolhaas** and **Helmut Jahn**.

In other news around the globe, **San Francisco** has a stunning new **Daniel Libeskind**-designed building for the **Contemporary Jewish Museum**. Located in the heart of the downtown **Yerba Buena** cultural district, the museum is a magically transformed landmark 1907 building with Libeskind's angular addition clad in glistening blue steel panels and incorporating Jewish symbolism inspired by the phrase "L'Chaim."

Meanwhile in **London**, **Frank Gehry** has been selected to design the annual **Serpentine Gallery** folie — the Pavilion — in London's **Kensington Gardens**. The temporary structure will be open to the public for three months this summer and will no doubt be the centerpiece of the **London Festival of Architecture** (June 20-July 20.)

ART EXPRESS ART EXPRESS

Calendar

Through	Apr. 20	High Museum of Art, Atlanta	<i>Street Life: American Photos from the 1960s & 70s</i>
Through	Apr. 20	Getty Museum, Los Angeles	<i>Consuming Passions: Fragonard's Allegories of Love</i>
Through	Apr. 20	Weisman Art Museum, Minneapolis	<i>Paul Shambroom: Picturing Power</i>
Through	Apr. 20	Die Photographische Sammlung, Cologne	<i>Thomas Struth: Family Life</i>
Through	Apr. 27	Tate Modern, London	<i>Juan Muñoz: A Retrospective</i>
Through	Apr. 27	Tate Modern, London	<i>Peter Doig</i>
Through	Apr. 30	Fabric Workshop, Philadelphia	<i>Ed Ruscha: Industrial Strength</i>
Through	May 2	Fondation Beyeler, Basel-Reihen	<i>Action Painting</i>
Through	May 4	SFMOMA, San Francisco	<i>An-my Lê: Small Wars</i>
Through	May 4	MOCA, Chicago	<i>Gordon Matta-Clark: You are the Measure</i>
Through	May 4	Metropolitan Museum of Art, New York	<i>Jasper Johns: Grey</i>
Through	May 4	High Museum of Art, Atlanta	<i>Georgia O'Keeffe & the Women of the Stieglitz Circle</i>
Through	May 4	Tate Britain, London	<i>Modern Painters: the Camden Town Group</i>
Through	May 4	Castello di Rivoli, Turin	<i>The Painting of Modern Life</i>
Through	May 4	Moderna Museet, Stockholm	<i>Andy Warhol: Other Voices, Other Rooms</i>
Through	May 5	Tate Liverpool	<i>Niki de Saint Phalle</i>
Through	May 11	Art Institute of Chicago	<i>Edward Hopper</i>
Through	May 11	Art Institute of Chicago	<i>Watercolours by Winslow Homer: The Colour of Light</i>
Through	May 11	OCMA, Newport Beach	<i>Disorderly Conduct: Art in Tumultuous Times</i>
Through	May 11	Metropolitan Museum of Art, New York	<i>Poussin and Nature: Arcadian Visions</i>
Through	May 11	MCA, Cleveland	<i>Sam Taylor-Wood</i>
Through	May 12	P.S.1 Contemporary Art Center, New York	<i>Whack! Art & the Feminist Revolution</i>
Through	May 12	MOMA, New York	<i>Color Chart: Reinventing Color 1950-Today</i>
Through	May 12	MOMA, New York	<i>Design and the Elastic Mind</i>
Through	May 12	Museum Frieder Burda, Baden-Baden	<i>Gerhard Richter</i>
Through	May 12	Kunsthaus, Zurich	<i>Europop</i>
Through	May 18	Philadelphia Museum of Art	<i>Frida Kahlo</i>
Through	May 18	Walker Art Center, Minneapolis	<i>Worlds Away: New Suburban Landscapes</i>
Through	May 18	Modern Art Museum of Fort Worth	<i>Martin Puryear</i>
Through	May 18	SFMOMA, San Francisco	<i>Friedlander</i>
Through	May 18	DeYoung Museum	<i>Gilbert & George</i>
Through	May 18	Dallas Museum of Art	<i>J.M.W. Turner</i>
Through	May 18	Metropolitan Museum of Art, New York	<i>Gustave Courbet</i>
Through	May 25	Legion of Honor, San Francisco	<i>Annie Leibovitz: A Photographer's Life: 1990-2005</i>
Through	May 25	Courtauld Gallery, London	<i>Renoir at the Theatre: Looking at "La Loge"</i>
Through	May 25	Fondació Joan Miró, Barcelona	<i>Contemporary Chinese Art from the Sigg Collection</i>
Through	May 26	Tate Modern, London	<i>Duchamp, Man Ray, Picabia</i>
Through	May 26	National Portrait Gallery, London	<i>Vanity Fair Portraits: Photographs 1913-2008</i>
Through	May 31	Guggenheim Museum, New York	<i>Cai Guo-Qiang: I Want to Believe</i>
Through	June 1	Whitney Museum of American Art, New York	<i>2008 Whitney Biennial</i>
Through	June 1	Art Institute of Chicago	<i>Ed Ruscha & Photography</i>
Through	June 8	Gemeentemuseum Den Haag, Netherlands	<i>Lucian Freud</i>
Through	June 8	Getty Center, Los Angeles	<i>California Video</i>
Through	June 8	MFA, Montreal	<i>Cuba! Art and History</i>
Through	June 8	National Gallery of Art, Washington, DC	<i>In the Forest of Fontainebleau</i>
Through	June 8	Hammer Museum, Los Angeles	<i>Kara Walker: My Complement, My Enemy</i>
Through	June 8	MOCA, Chicago	<i>Karen Kilimnik</i>
Through	June 15	Walker Art Center, Minneapolis	<i>Richard Prince: Spiritual America</i>
Through	June 29	Louisiana Museum of Modern Art, Humelbaek	<i>Cézanne to Giacometti</i>
Through	June 30	MOCA Geffen Contemporary, Los Angeles	<i>Allan Kaprow: Art as Life</i>
Through	June 30	Berkeley Art Museum, Berkeley	<i>Joan Jonas: The Shape, Scent, Feel of Things</i>
Through	June 30	MCA, San Diego, Downtown	<i>Maya Lin</i>
Through	July 20	Fundació Joan Miró, Barcelona	<i>Kawaii! Japan Now</i>
Through	Sept. 14	OCMA, Newport Beach	<i>Art Since the 1960s</i>
Through	Sept. 1	LACMA, Los Angeles	<i>Phantom Sightings: Art after the Chicano Movement</i>
Apr. 16 - 20			<i>Art Cologne, Germany</i>
Apr. 18 - 20			<i>Art Brussels (26th Contemporary Art Fair)</i>
Apr. 20 - June 30			<i>P.S. 1, New York Olafur Eliasson: Take Your Time</i>
Apr. 25 - 28			<i>Art Chicago</i>
May 9 - 14			<i>The International Fine Art Fair, New York</i>
May 14 - 18			<i>Art HK 08, Hong Kong International Art Fair</i>
June 4 - 8			<i>Art 39 Basel (International Contemporary Art Fair)</i>
June 4 - July 27			<i>PHoto España, Madrid</i>

Travel Bookshelf: Minneapolis

Guides

- Bob Firth. *Minneapolis and St. Paul*, 2006.
- Rand McNally *Easyfinder Minneapolis, St. Paul & Vicinity*, 2005.
- Greg Ryan and Sally Beyer. *Minneapolis and St. Paul* (Citylife Pictorial Guides), 2001.
- Larry Millett. *AIA Guide to the Twin Cities: The Essential Source on the Architecture*.

Art and Architecture

- Bruce B. Dayton and Minneapolis Institute of Arts. *Celebrating Fifty Years a Trustee*.
- Sandra Lipshultz. *Selected Works: The Minneapolis Institute of Arts*.
- Peg Guilfoyle and Sheila Livingston. *The Guthrie Theater: Images, History and Inside Stories*, 2006.
- Jean Nouvel by Jean Nouvel: Complete Works 1970-2008*.
- Steve Dietz, et al. *Expanding the Center: Walker Art Center and Herzog & de Meuron*, 2006.
- Michael Graves. *Selected and Current Works*, 2006.
- Casey C. M. Mathewson. *Frank O. Gehry: Selected Works 1969 to Today*, 2007.
- Francesco Dal Co and Kurt W. Forster. *Frank O. Gehry: The Complete Works*, 2003.
- Cathy Madison. *Art Spaces: Waker Art Center*, 2006.
- Martin Friedman. *Walker Art Center: Painting and Sculpture from the Collection*.
- Patricia McDonnell. *Marsden Hartely: American Modern: The Lone and Hudson D. Walker Collection*, Frederick R. Weisman Art Museum, University of Minnesota, 1997.
- Weisman Art Museum; *The Collection*, 2004.
- Weisman Art Museum: Frank Gehry Designs the Building*, 2004.

History

- Nina M. Archabal, et al. *Mill City: A Visual History of the Minneapolis Mill District*, 2003.
- Charles B. Khulman. *The Development of the Flour-Milling Industry in the United States*.

And...strictly for fun

Mysteries

- Kj Erickson. *The Last Witness*, 2003; *The Dead Survivors*, 2002; *Alone at Night*, 2004 — Minneapolis police detective Mars Bahr solves all of the cases!