

UMBRIA UMBRIA UMBRIA

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Upcoming in October

Volume Ten, Number Four 1999

Boston

The Berkshires, Cologne,
Pittsburgh... more

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Suzanne Paulson & Constance Glenn.

Known as the "Green Heart of Italy," **Umbria**, nestled next to and often intertwined with its somewhat more romantic cousin, Tuscany, has often been called "Tuscany's little sister," as they share many of the same classic pastoral landscapes, medieval hill towns, lovely frescoes, and delicious wines and olive oils. But unlike her neighbor, Umbria's simple life has been attracting the art crowd in droves. Art historian **Barbara Rose**, painter **Al Held**, sculptor **Beverly Pepper**, writer **Brian O'Doherty**, (aka artist Patrick Ireland), museum curator **Janie C. Lee**, and Italy's "national treasure," artist **Piero Dorazio**, have all gravitated to the region, settling in and around the delightful medieval city of Todi.

The ideal Umbrian summer includes a sampling of one of Europe's leading art festivals, the **Festival of Two Worlds**, held in the loveliest of Umbrian hill towns — **Spoletto**. Opening June 19th in the Piazza Duomo with a gala concert featuring *Aleksander Nevsky* by Sergei Prokofiev, the festival continues through July 11th and features opera (this year's choice is *War and Peace*), ballet (*Cool Heat Urban Beat* — U.S.A. and others), and jazz, as well as extraordinary concerts (*Facade* by William Turner Walton), drama, and a special program called *Music in Hidden Umbria*, a program of organized picnics complete with concerts and guided tours of local Romanesque churches. Of special interest to art lovers are the exhibits, including *Picasso and His World of Theater*, and works by *Matta*. For information, call 39-0743-44700, Fax 39-0743-220321, or order e-mail tickets @spoletofestival.net. Spoleto's contemporary art can be seen at the **Galleria d'Arte Moderna e Contemporanea** on Corso Mazzini, which showcases works by Italy's top contemporary masters. An excellent hotel choice is the newly restored, four-star **Hotel San Luca**, and, for lunch or dinner, reserve ahead at the historic **Trattoria Pecchiarda**.

Another venue for contemporary art is just up the road in the dramatic (nearly vertical) village of **Trevi**. Here you will find **Trevi Flash Art Museum**, housed in the Renaissance Palazzo Lucarini. This joint endeavor of *Flash Art* magazine and the community of Trevi offers a permanent collection of contemporary Umbrian, Italian, and foreign contemporary art, as well as interesting changing exhibitions. Just outside Trevi, is the **Taverna del Pescatore**, sited along the banks of the Clitunno river. Reserve a riverside table and enjoy delicious food and a stunning view of a fourth-century temple — an excellent respite for contemplating art!

Moving west, you will find **Todi** — one of the quintessential Italian hill towns that oozes medieval charm. Visit the new **Museo Pinacoteca di Todi** in the Piazza del Popolo. It has just reopened after 20 years and occupies the fourth floor of the **Palazzo del Popolo** and **Palazzo del Capitano** — connected by a grand Gothic stairway forming a fascinating architectural centerpiece, and itself worth seeing. Just off the piazza is the **Restaurant Umbria**, recommended by the

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Umbria...more

O'Doherty's. The view from the terrace is magnificent. Nearby is their painted house — a work of art — which will one day be a museum — and a most extraordinary one at that. For now, explore its beauty in Victoria Newhouse's *Towards a New Museum*.

Another ideal base for an Umbrian idyll is the medieval town of **Orvieto**. Choose either **La Badia**, a restored monastery set in the hills to the south of town, or **Palazzo Piccolomini**, a superbly restored palace in the historic center of town. Crowned by a stupendous cathedral with an elegant Gothic facade, polychrome mosaics, and marble-relief sculpture, Orvieto's greatest treasure is the recently restored **Capella di San Brizio**, with one of the finest fresco cycles of the Renaissance: Luca Signorelli's *Last Judgment*. Be sure, too, to save time for a visit next door, where the **Claudio Faina Archeological Museum**, containing Etruscan and Greek treasures, has recently been restored.

Traveling north, stop in **Deruta**, since the 14th century Italy's most famous ceramic production center. It is loaded with ceramic factories, but by far the most interesting is **U. Grazia**, (Via Tiberina, 181, Tel. 39-075-9710201, Fax 39-075-972018). Dr. Ubaldo Grazia brings contemporary artists such as **John Okulick** and **Carolyn Brady** to his 500-year-old Maioliche studio to create unique and wonderful pottery. Traditional Renaissance patterns are also still produced here by the craftsmen-heirs to these family-controlled designs. Call ahead for a special tour by Dr. Grazia and put aside extra lire to purchase a plate or two. To explore a world-class collection of ceramics, also see the **Regional Museum of Deruta Ceramics**, located in the former **Convent of San Francesco**. A few kilometers up the road is **Torgiano**, where it is possible to book a room at **Le Tre Vaselle**, a beautifully restored country inn owned by the Lungarotti family. Next door is the famous **Lungarotti Wine Museum** offering a global vision of wine. It is adjacent to the wine cellar where you can stop and taste the fabulous Lungarotti wines (including the famous *Vin Santo*) as well as delicious olive oils and unique balsamic sauce.

Not far away is **Perugia**, a bustling university town and one of Umbria's most interesting historic stops, — a true citta d'arte where splendid monuments jostle one another, and the region's finest art is housed in the remarkable **Galleria Nazionale dell'Umbria**. Be forewarned that it can be extremely frustrating trying to drive into Perugia, but please persevere! *ARTexpress* recommends contacting **Anne Robichaud** for a personalized guided tour of the city (Tel. 39-075-802334, Fax 39-075-813706). She is bright, humorous, and loaded with information that will enhance your experience. (She is also available in Assisi, Spoleto, Orvieto and Todi.) Stay at the **Hotel Brufani**, the city's best hotel, conveniently located next to the pedestrian zone, and blessed with lovely views. Anne will meet you there and begin your tour of the old city — be sure you allow time for Perugia's glorious frescoes in the **Chamber of Exchange**, located

Focus Umbria

HOTELS

Hotel San Luca, Via Interna delle Mura, Spoleto, Tel. 39-0743-223399, Fax 39-0743-223800. This 19th-century building has recently been redone and offers a sophisticated ambience.

La Badia, Bagnoregio Road, Orvieto, Tel. 39-0763-90359, Fax 39.0763-92796. A renovated 19th-century monastery 5 km south of town with a lovely pool and tennis court.

Palazzo Piccolomini, Piazza Ranieri 36, Orvieto, Tel. 39-0763-341743, Fax 39-0763-391046. Newly opened, this beautifully restored medieval palace is ideally located in the center of Orvieto.

Hotel Brufani, Piazza Italia 12, Perugia, Tel. 39-075-5732541. Fax 39-075-5720210. Regarded as the city's best hotel, and wonderfully situated adjacent to the pedestrian zone. Ask for a room with a view.

Le Tre Vaselle, Via Giuseppe Garibaldi 39, Torgiano, Tel. 39-075-9880447, Fax 39-075-9880214. An ideal base for visiting Perugia, Deruta, and Assisi, this lovely villa is owned by the famous Lungarotti family and set in their vineyards with views over the valley.

Palazzo Terranova, Ronti, Morra, Perugia, Tel. 39-075-8570083, Fax 39-075-857-0014. A beautifully restored Umbrian palazzo with each guest room named after an opera or composer and filled with lovely family heirlooms and antiques. A perfect hideaway for exploring Umbria.

Borgo di Bastia Creti, Located near Umbertide, contact Frazione Spedalichio, Tel. 39-075-9410854, Fax 39-075-94110725. Five cottages are for rent in this small, exclusive fortified hamlet that has been beautifully restored. Located near the heart of the valley, the Borgo, which originally dates back to 1433, is an excellent choice for a group of friends or family reunion.

Villa Pambuffetti, Via Della Vittoria 20, Montefalco, Tel. 39-0742-379417, Fax 39-0742-379245. A 19th-century villa set in a lovely park; owned by a local noble family that now runs it as a beautifully kept inn. Ask for room #77 at the top of the tower—the views are to die for!

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Focus Umbria

RESTAURANTS

Trattoria Pecchiarda, Vicolo San Giovanni 1, Spoleto, Tel. 39-0743-221009. The oldest trattoria in Spoleto; delicious dishes are prepared with olive oil from owner Rivoli's farm. Fun to dine under the pergola in the summer.

Taverna del Pescatore, Strada Statale Flaminia Vecchia, in Pigge near Trevi, Tel. 39-0742-780920, Fax 39-0742-381599. Serves unusual fish dishes and homemade pasta in a tranquil setting overlooking the Clitunno River.

La Mulinella, Ponte N a 29, Todi, Tel. 39-075-8944779. A reliable favorite located 3 km from the center of town; a fine view from the garden.

Restaurant Umbria, Via San Bonaventura 13, Todi, Tel. 39-075-894-2737. This restaurant offers regional and Roman dishes, but everyone comes here for the spectacular view from the terrace.

Villa Roncalli, Via Roma 25, Foligno, (near Spello), Tel. 39-0742-391091, Fax 39-0742-391001. This one-star family-owned restaurant is one of the top restaurants in the region. Put yourself in chef Sandra Scolastra's hands and enjoy the degustation menu.

Osteria del Bartolo, Via Bartolo 30, Perugia, Tel. 39-075-5731561. Fax 39-075-5735425. This very small restaurant (12 tables) is the best in town. It has been awarded a Michelin star for its creative cuisine as well as cozy ambience.

Ristorante San Francesco, Via S. Francesco 52, Assisi, Tel. 39-075-812329, Fax 39-075-8112329. Located slightly up the hill from the Basilica San Francesco, it affords a ringside view of the newly restored facade.

Trattoria Lea, via S. Florido, Città di Castello, Tel. 39-075-852-1678. Known for its excellent homemade pasta.

FOUNDATIONS, MUSEUMS AND GALLERIES

Galleria d'Arte Moderna e Contemporanea, Corso Mazzini, Spoleto. Works by Italy's top contemporary masters.

Umbria...more

in the **Palazzo dei Priori** (Piazza IV Novembre). And of course reserve ahead for dinner at the Michelin-starred **Osteria del Bartolo**. It only has 12 tables!

Umbria's most famous town, **Assisi**, is still reeling from the 1997 earthquake. The upper **Basilica of San Francesco** will not be ready until 2000 — in time for the great Jubilee — but the lower basilica reopened in late 1997 and, frankly, with the absence of thousands of tourists, now is a great time to visit. Unfortunately, the beautiful frescoes of Giotto and Cimabue will only be projected images on the walls, but you will be glad you made the trek (the fragments will be displayed in a museum). For a ringside view of the newly restored facade, we recommend lunch at the **Ristorante San Francesco**, followed by a traditional Umbrian pastry at **La Bottega del Pasticciere**. Finally, leaving this city of the Saint you will be drawn to the great **Basilica di Santa Maria Degli Angeli**, the beacon looming above the flatlands nearby and the site where St. Francis actually died (he is buried in the Basilica of San Francesco).

Città di Castello, the northernmost town in Umbria and home to one of Italy's best-known contemporary painters, **Alberto Burri**, is the next Umbria must. Burri donated numerous works to the city, which are housed in the **Palazzo Albizzini**, a 15th-century palace renovated as a study center and museum. The old arches provide a stunning framework for the Burri collection. His most recent large-scale works can be found in a renovated tobacco barn, **Seccatoi Tabacchi**, located south of town on Via Francesco Pierucci. Take time out for shopping — a great source for table linens of traditional Umbrian fabrics is **Laboratoria Tela Umbra**, (Piazza A Costa, Tel 39-075-855-4337), and **L'Antichita Restauro Duchi**, Zona Industriale, Tel 39-075-851-0331) specializes in superb central Italian antiques.

The town of **Umbertide** is also on Umbrian art itineraries. Visit the **Centro per l'Arte Contemporanea**, housed in the 12th-century rocca (castle), and then pause for delicious antipastos at **L'Apennina** in the Piazza Communale nearby. In the area, the **Borgo di Bastia Creti**, a tiny, fortified hamlet with five charming houses, all with beamed ceilings, plus a lovely pool, makes a wonderful venue for a family reunion. Two kilometers south, in **Villa Cappelletti** at **Garavelle** you can visit one of Umbria's best folk museums, an 18th-century farmhouse preserved with all the accouterments of daily life.

The charming towns of Umbria are a delicious litany, inviting exploration far beyond our introduction—the medieval town of **Gubbio**, with its twisting streets and terracotta-tiled houses; **Spello**, renowned for a fresco cycle by Pinturicchio; and **Montefalco**, inspirational for its sweeping views. For an exquisite base to explore all of Umbria or to end your Umbrian sojourn, **ARTexpress** recommends one of Italy's most elegant country-house retreats, **Palazzo Terranova**. Situated high in the hills of Umbria near Città di Castello, this newly restored "palazzo paradiso" will assure the joy of your sojourn in this mesmerizing landscape.

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Rome: Jubilee Year Update

Going to Rome before December 31st? Our January issue was for you, as is this update. You'll enjoy the Jubilee spit-and-polish with only the normal gridlock. The Jubilee year itself, however, is well on the way to being irresistible — if you're willing to brave the mob.

While the information available now is a bit sketchy, it's clear that the exhibitions, restorations, cultural events, and performances constitute a stunning array. The program begins officially on January 1, 2000, but previews, early openings, and project completions will continue throughout this year, so stay tuned. For a program, contact **The Jubilee and Culture**, Piazza Adriana 12, 00193 Roma, Tel. 39-06681671; Internet: www.romaquibileo.it; e-mail agenzia@romaquibileo.it. Among the fabulous exhibits, these caught our imagination:

Villa Medici, The Dream of a Cardinal, Villa Medici, November 1999-February 2000. Following the villa's restoration, the French Academy will show the most important works from the great collection of the 16th-century patron, Cardinal Ferdinando de Medici.

The Sun Palace: The Barberini Palazzo and Family in the Seventeenth Century. Palazzo Barberini (the Papal apartment), November 2000. Paintings, decorative arts, and antiquities — each work a masterpiece — returned briefly to their original palace from around the world.

Anno Domini: Two Thousand Years of Christian Art. An exhibit that will travel throughout the year, with venues in London, Paris, Boston, Washington, New Orleans, Chicago, San Francisco and Madrid, too.

Francesco Borromini: Architect 1599-1667, Palazzo delle Esposizioni, December 13, 1999-February 15, 2000. The complete works (drawings, casts, reliefs, models) of the great architect.

Roy Lichtenstein, Chiostro del Bramante, December 1999-April 2000. A retrospective featuring paintings and preparatory drawings, including works from the estate.

New architecture to debut will include **The Church of the New Millennium by Richard Meier** and the **City of Music**, the new Rome Auditorium, by **Renzo Piano**, while across the city virtually every monument is undergoing architectural restoration. Sites included are the Imperial Forums, the Coliseum, the Papal Stables, Palazzo Braschi, The Capitoline Museums, the Museum of the Baths of Diocletian, and more. New contemporary art spaces range from the **Galleria Comunale d'Arte Moderna e Contemporanea — former Peroni Brewery**, and the

Focus: Umbria and Rome

Trevi Flash Art Museum, Palazzo Lucarini, located next to Sant'Emiliano Cathedral, Trevi. A joint endeavor of the magazine and the community of Trevi, it houses a permanent collection of contemporary Umbrian, Italian, and foreign artists.

Museo Etrusco-Romano and Pinacoteca Comunale, Palazzi Comunali, Todi, Tel. 39-075-899561. The museum contains a collection of Etruscan and Roman artifacts as well as paintings, but the architecture of the two combined palazzos is worth the stop.

Museo d'Arte Moderna "Emilio Greco," Palazzo Soliano, Piazza Duomo, Orvieto, Tel. 39-0763-344605. This museum is devoted to the modern Sicilian sculptor who made the bronze doors of the Orvieto duomo (1964-70).

Regional Museum of Deruta Ceramics, (Convent of San Francesco) Piazza dei Consoli, Deruta. The best place to study ceramics (the collection includes some 8,000 pieces) before embarking on a shopping spree in Deruta.

Galleria Nazionale dell'Umbria, Palazzo dei Priori, Corso Vannucci, Perugia, Tel. 39-075-574-1257. Umbria's greatest collection of paintings—largely works by regional artists dating from the 13th-18th century. The highlights are altar pieces by Piero della Francesca and Fra Angelico.

Fondazione Palazzo Albizzini (Collezione Burri), Via Pierucci, Città di Castello, Perugia, Tel. 39-075-855-4649, Fax 39-075-855-9848. A 15th-century palazzo which houses the 100 or so works given to the city by one of Italy's best-known modern painters, Alberto Burri.

In Rome

HOTELS

Hotel Eden, Via Ludovisi 49, Tel. 39-06-478-121, Fax 39-06-482-1584. Close to the Via Veneto, the Borghese Gardens, and the Spanish Steps, with glorious views from the rooftop terrace; a celebrity favorite.

Hotel D'Inghilterra, Via Bocca di Leone 14, Tel. 39-06-69981, Fax 39-06-699-22243. A grand old dowager that pleased Mark Twain

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Focus: Rome

and still pleases discriminating travelers; in the same neighborhood as the Eden.

Hassler Villa Medici, Piazza Trinita dei Monti 6, Tel. 39-06-699-340, Tax 39-06-678-9991. Since 1885 the great Beaux-Arts hostelry has loomed over the Spanish Steps, lording its fabulous vistas of Rome over all challengers.

Hotel Carriage, Tel. 39-06-699-0124, Fax 39-06-678-8279. Intimate, near Rome's top shopping and a good buy with doubles beginning at \$194.00.

Raphaël Hotel, Largo Febo 2, Tel. 39-06-682-831, Fax 39-06-687-8993. Well located between the Pantheon and the Piazza Navona, the Raphaël has a fine restaurant with a sumptuous city panorama.

RESTAURANTS

La Tana de Noantri, Via della Paglia 1-3, Tel. 39-06-580-6404. In warm weather dine alfresco and enjoy the colorful neighborhood along with your saltimbocca.

Gusto, Piazza Augusto Imperatore 9, Tel. 39-06-322-6273, Fax 39-06-323-6363. A novel blend of Roman and "foreign" cooking results in dishes such as spaghetti sauteed in a wok with ginger and fresh vegetables.

Vecchia Roma, Tel. 39-06-686-4604. A bustling restaurant known for garden dining and excellent traditional cuisine.

Headed for the Jubilee sites? Keep your eyes open for the "Pontino," a special Swatch Access watch. It is programmed to act as a pass to Rome's museums and historic venues such as the Coliseum, the Palatine and Museo Nazionale Romano-Palazzo Massimo. "The cost of the entrance ticket(s) can be loaded into the watch at special sale points at the monuments themselves or at Centro Servizi Amendola." The microchip activates an electronic entrance system which allows the wearer to bypass the hordes waiting in line.

The cost is L70,000, and the handsome design comes complete with a presentation pack and a map of the city.

Rome: Jubilee Year Update... more

Galleria Nazionale d'Arte Moderna e Contemporanea — Contemporary Arts Centre, to **Parco di Villa Glori** — Rome's first outdoor art park which is undergoing expansion.

Then, of course, there is music and theater. The schedule includes the *Great Easter Festival*, *The Rome Opera and the Jubilee*, the *European Music Festival* and *Teatro di Roma: Events for the Year 2000*, plus a variety of single performances that is mind-boggling. Who would not like to be on hand when Renzo Piano's Citta della Musica (City of Music) is inaugurated on January 1, 2000 with a fabulous concert by the **Orchestra of the Accademia de Santa di Cecilia** conducted by Myung-Whun Chung?

To enhance your trip, save a copy of *Condé Nast Traveler*, March 1999, which features "Rome: Treasures of 20 Centuries," and make a note of the new restaurant complex devoted to fusion (unheard of in Rome) cooking called **Gusto**. Recently opened, it boasts a casual pizzeria and wine bar on the first floor and an ambitious, upscale dining salon upstairs — plus a wine shop, cigar room and cooks' store on the premises. Friends also suggest a very simple but delicious meal at **La Tana de Noantri** alongside Santa Maria in Trastevere, or try **Vecchia Roma** in the Jewish Ghetto. Its lovely garden setting will encourage you to kick back and relax Roman style.

Our hotels of choice remain the **Minerva**, the **Eden**, the **Hassler**, and the **D'Inghilterra** (among several), but, in the crush, it's a good idea to seek out some of the small, agreeable spots which do not cater to tour buses. Only one block from the stylish Via Condotti, **Hotel Carriage** has only 27 rooms, while the **Raphaël** has 63, plus a rooftop view restaurant.

Finally, whether you're doing Rome for the millennium or you're off to Venice this summer for the Biennale, if you need special assistance or private access to Italy's treasures, contact Andrea Sertoli or Guido Rosei, who own **Select Italy**. They can arrange advance tickets to museums such as the Uffizi in Florence or the Galleria Borghese in Rome; a private tour of the Basilica San Marco in Venice or the Sistine Chapel in Rome. Most wishes are possible, at a price, of course. Call 847-853-1661 (they're Illinois-based). P.S. Enroute to Rome and Venice, you'll no doubt fly in or out of Milan. Remember that this spring the restoration of Da Vinci's *Last Supper* was at last completed. Plan to be among the first visitors.

When it comes to Italy, *plan* is the key word today. More than 18 million celebrants will converge upon the Eternal City for the grand Jubilee!

ART AROUND THE WORLD

News

Every summer **Santa Fe**'s rich palette of cultural delights grows more tempting. The third installment of the biennial, **SITE Santa Fe, Looking for a Place**, is being organized by Spanish curator Rosa Martinez, who promises work by such cutting-edge contemporaries as Mona Hatoum, Shirin Neshat, Charlene Teters, and Ghada Amer. It's the big draw, along with **ART Santa Fe 1999 — Third Biennial Art Fair at Hotel Santa Fe**. The four-day fair will open with a vernissage on July 8th, 6-9 PM, and run through Sunday, July 11th. For information, call 505-988-8883; e-mail artsantafe@roadrunner.com. New on the visual landscape, the talk of the season, however, will no doubt be architect Ricardo Legorreta's two new buildings for the **College of Santa Fe** and the **Art Institute**. Intense red, rich azure, and deeply shadowed aggressive forms all join in the high drama we've come to expect from the brilliant Mexican star. The **Visual Arts Center** portion of the project (which opened April 29th) houses Santa Fe's most anticipated new facility, a photography center under the direction of **Jim Enyeart**, who left **Eastman House** to found the Marion-funded facility. Amid the visual delights, the five *Festival Santa Fe* partners will once again light the performing arts season: *Santa Fe Opera*, July 2-August 28; *Santa Fe Desert Choral*, June 27-August 15; *Santa Fe Stages*, June 5 - August 8; *Santa Fe Chamber Music Festival*, opening July 17; and *Maria Benitez Teatro Flamenco*, June 30-September 5. For general information, call 877-222-3022; Internet www.festivalsantafe.org.

In this summer of biennials (with Venice topping the list), don't count **Los Angeles** out. The fourth **Absolut-L.A. International** is scheduled for July and August. Over sixty venues across the county will showcase international galleries and artists from around the world, and, although arrangements are not yet complete, a gala museum (TBA) vernissage is planned for July 14th, followed by exhibition/gallery openings July 15-18. Special lectures and receptions, open houses, and more are scheduled through August 21st, when there will be a closing barbecue blow-out at **Bergamot Station**. In between, watch for panel discussions at **Sotheby's Beverly Hills** July 19th, and at **UCLA/Armand Hammer Museum of Art** August 12th, plus brunch at **MOCA** (to be confirmed) on Sunday, July 18th. Participating galleries include: Ace, Angles, Patricia Faure, Rosamund Felsen, Grant/Selwyn, Bobbie Greenfield, L.A. Louver, Pace, Manny Silverman, Tobey Moss...and many more. For further information, contact co-chairs William Turner and Robert Berman at 310-392-8399, 310-453-9195 or Fax 310-392-7348. Ultimately you can even participate via a virtual tour on the interactive website at www.LAin99.org.

On a trip to L.A., don't pass up a summer day at the beach — with art stops enroute. At the **Orange County Museum of Art in Newport Beach** through September 12th the centerpiece is *Peter*

Great Addresses

IN SANTA FE

Cafe San Estévan, 428 Agua Fria Street, Tel. 505-995-1996. Estévan Garcia, once a Franciscan monk and, in another incarnation, John Sedlar's partner in the late, lamented St. Estéphe, has come home to Santa Fe to create simple, perfect New Mexican cuisine. Don't miss his blue corn tortilla enchiladas.

Geronimo, 724 Canyon Road, Tel. 505-982-1500. Still the bistro of the moment, Geronimo is known for stunning presentations, but whether you select lobster or pasta, the cooking is classic and every dish delicious.

Dos Casas Viejas, 610 Agua Fria Street, Tel. 505-983-1636. Eight colorful casitas surrounded by desert flowers and cooling aspens provides a combination of natural beauty and Southwestern luxury carefully staged by innkeepers Susan and Michael Strijek. Susan's breakfasts sing of homemade goodies and most everyone makes it to the sherry hour beside the fireplace. Guests also have the option of a spa program.

O'Keeffe Cafe, 217 Johnson Street, Tel. 505-820-2228. Next to the O'Keeffe Museum, hop up to the counter or slip into a fire-engine red banquette and enjoy Marion Gillcrist's (resident chef allied with Deborah Madison who founded Greens in San Francisco) white corn soup with the freshest salad in town.

Rancho Manzana, in Chimayó, Tel. 505-351-2229. The rancho is a charming bed and breakfast where you can double your pleasure by enrolling in one of the summer classes of The **Santa Fe School Cooking** (505-983-4511). Classes are taught by local chefs and offer the perfect opportunity to become acquainted with the mind-boggling spectrum of Southwestern ingredients.

Rista, 548 Agua Fria Street, Tel. 505-982-8608. David Farrell (who worked at Stars and Postrio in San Francisco) and Eric Lamalle (the Parisian owner) have created a series of restful, pleasant rooms where the mixture of France and New Mexico shines in equal parts.

Joseph's Table, 4167 Highway 68, Ranchos de Taos, Tel. 505-751-4512. Funky and off the beaten track, Joseph's is, nevertheless, home to inspired cooking. Young chef-owners Joseph and Gina Wrede trained in New York and brought along a spare Italian menu with plenty of creative quirks. Don't miss the terrific pizza appetizer!

IN LOS ANGELES

The Standard, 8300 West Sunset Blvd., Tel. 323-650-9090. André Balzas' modest, hip alternative to the oh-too-chic Mondrian down the street, with its blue AstroTurf lobby and retro barbershop, will no doubt soon be drawing the Chateau Marmont crowd.

ART AROUND THE WORLD

Great Addresses...more

L'Ermitage Beverly Hills, 9291 Burton Way, Tel. 310-278-3344. L'Ermitage was always a lovely small hotel in a near-perfect location and, following the uncertain ups and downs in ownership, it has emerged on top again after a \$65 million renovation. The contemporary/Asian design is by Chhada Siembieda and Partners.

Lucques, 8474 Melrose Avenue, Tel. 323-655-6277. Lucques is, without a doubt, *the* L.A. restaurant du jour. Suzanne Goin (formerly executive chef at Campanile) and Caroline Styne (who ran Jones, the hip Hollywood spot) have created a winner. The design by Barbara Barry is sleek with a classic French Deco accent and the cuisine follows suite with Mediterranean touches. It doesn't hurt that all this takes place in Harold Lloyd's old carriage house, but it is too bad that it takes weeks to get a reservation.

Soolip Paperie & Press, 8646 Melrose Avenue, Tel. 323-360-0545. If you love handmade paper or want to design your own cards, invitations or announcements, drop in Soolip. You can even watch as your treasures are custom printed.

Jenny Armit, 8210 Melrose, Tel. 323-782-9173. In this new 4,000-square foot space, English design is in the forefront with furniture by Danny Lane and Michael Young and fabrics by Celia Birtwell (whose face appears so often in prints and paintings by David Hockney).

The Hump, 3221 Donald Douglas Loop S., Tel. 310-313-0977. Plan a sushi adventure at the Santa Monica Airport where sushi master Hiro Nishimura's fabulous creations are served in yard-long platters!

IN PARIS

Hotel Lancaster, 7 rue de Berri, Tel. 331-40-76-40-76, Fax 33-1-40-76-40-00. Built in 1889 as the home of a Spanish nobleman and renovated in 1996, the Lancaster is rich in remarkable antiques, but the bathrooms and public spaces are accented by Liaigre's contemporary touch; in all, very luxurious surroundings.

Hotel Montalembert, 3 rue de Montalembert, Tel. 33-1-45-49-68-68, Fax 33-1-45-69-49. Nine years ago owner Grace Leo-Andrieu enlisted Liaigre to refurbish the Left Bank treasure and it remains the premiere celebrity-designed hotel. From top to bottom, it is stunning.

Hotel D'Aubusson, 33 rue Dauphine, Tel. 33-1-43-29-43-43, Fax, 43-29-12-62. Forty-nine rooms in a 17th-century townhouse in St. Germain celebrate the touch of the master of French designer. The elegance is understated but just right.

Alcazar, 62 rue Mazarine, Tel. 33-1-53-10-19-99.

Spoon Food & Wine, 14 rue de Marignan, Tel. 33-1-40-76-34-44.

News... more

Alexander: In This Light, handsomely installed by guest curator Dave Hickey and artist Billy Al Bengston (850 San Clemente Drive, Tel. 949-759-1122), and in **Laguna Beach** one of the most beautiful Pictorialist photography shows is on view at **Laguna Art Museum** through July 11th: *After the Photo-Secession: American Pictorial Photography*, traveling from the **Minneapolis Arts Institute** (307 Cliff Drive, Tel. 949-494-6531). Also in Laguna, the new **Campbell-Thiebaud Gallery** (a tiny but delightful version of the main operation in San Francisco) just north of the museum is a must-visit (353 North Coast Highway, Tel. 949-494-4600).

Behind the Orange curtain, as the invisible dividing line is called, don't kid yourself; there is fabulous food to sustain your adventures. Liza and Tim Goodell have just reopened their much-touted **Aubergine** in Newport Beach (508 29th Street, Tel. 949-723-4150) with a new prix fixe format. Choose three, five, or nine courses, or the vegetarian tasting menu, and the superb California/French cuisine will arrive in profusion, showcasing Tim's legendary skills. Or make a reservation at Joachim Splichal's newest Pinot — **Pinot Provence at The Westin South Coast Plaza** (686 Anton Blvd., Tel. 714-444-5900). The ambiance is lovely, the signature Pinot food divine, and the last time we visited we were bowled over by the warm welcome and exceedingly gracious service. Joachim's other new So Cal venture is the cafe at the **Los Angeles County Museum of Art**, which, if memory serves, brings this area's Splichal wonders to seven!

Make a note on your calendar that **FIAC**, the **Paris** contemporary art fair, has moved from its usual dates during the first week in October to September 15-20. Neither as grand as Basel or as edgy as the German fairs, it necessarily remains a favorite — for who can resist Paris? Fair or not, reserve at the new **Alain Ducasse** sensation, **Spoon Food & Wine**. Called the restaurant of the future, the high-style contemporary dining room seats 70 and offers a new-wave mix and match menu — this dish, that sauce — this salad, that topping! Ducasse is stirring things up in more ways than one! Also new is **Sir Terence Conran's Alcazar**. Stylishly designed in red, black and white, it seats some 200 in an old Left Bank print shop. The kitchen is in the hands of Guillaume Lutard (formerly of Taillevent and Prunier) and the menu is international. For high-design sleeping, try the **D'Aubusson** by Jacques Grange; the **Lancaster**, in part, by Christian Liaigre; or the **Montalembert**, also by Liaigre — all a pleasure to behold.

In **Houston**, they're bragging about **Rienzi**, a Palladian-style mansion with extravagant interiors, which houses a truly fabulous collection of English porcelain, plus Old Master paintings and important 18th-century English furniture. It was bequeathed to the **Museum of Fine Arts**, which administers it, just as it does **Bayou Bend**, so make arrangements to go through the MFA.

ART EXPRESS ART EXPRESS

Calendar

- Through Jul. 25 The Geffen Contemporary, MOCA, Los Angeles *S. Francis: Paintings 1947-90*
Through Jul. 25 Oakland Museum of California *William T. Wiley*
Through Aug. 2 Palace of the Legion of Honor, San Francisco *Francis Bacon: Retrospective*
Through Aug. 8 Boston MFA, *May Stevens: Images of Women Near and Far*
Through Aug. 8 Wexner Center for the Arts, Columbus, Ohio *Self-Taught 20th-Cent. Artists*
Through Aug. 8 Modern Art Museum of Fort Worth *House of Sculpture*
Through Aug. 8 Kunstmuseum, Bern *Pierre Soulages: Celebration of Light*
Through Aug. 15 Metropolitan Museum of Art, New York *Cézanne to Van Gogh: Gachet Coll.*
Through Aug. 15 High Museum of Art, Atlanta *Ellsworth Kelly: The Early Drawings*
Through Aug. 15 Kunsthalle Zürich *Steve McQueen*
Through Aug. 16 Centre Georges Pompidou, Paris *R. Delaunay: Impressionism to Abstraction*
Through Aug. 22 Museum für Angewandte Kunst, Vienna *J. Kounellis: Il Sarcofago degli Sposi*
Through Aug. 22 Kunsthalle, Basel *After Image*
Through Aug. 23 LACMA, Los Angeles *Eleanor Antin*
Through Aug. 29 Galleria d'Arte Moderna, Bologna *Anselm Kiefer*
Through Aug. 29 New Orleans Museum of Art, *Degas & New Orleans: Impressionist in America*
Through Aug. 29 Albright-Knox Gallery, Buffalo, New York *Monet at Giverny: Marmottan*
Through Aug. 29 Berkeley Art Museum, University of California *Robert Colescott*
Through Aug. 30 Serpentine Gallery, London *Bridget Riley: Paintings of the 1960s & 70s*
Through Sept. 1 P.S. 1, New York *"0044"*
Through Sept. 5 Walker Art Center, Minneapolis *Edward Ruscha: Editions 1958-1999*
Through Sept. 5 Musée d'Art Contemporain de Lyon, France *Robert Morris*
Through Sept. 6 Hirshhorn Museum and Sculpture Garden, Washington, D.C. *B. Marden, 1990s Work*
Through Sept. 6 National Gallery, Washington, D.C. *Mary Cassatt: Modern Woman*
Through Sept. 12 OCMA, Newport Beach, California *Peter Alexander: In This Light*
Through Sept. 12 Galleria d'Arte Moderna, Bologna, Italy *F. Clemente: Works on Paper*
Through Sept. 12 Castello di Rivoli, Milan *Andreas Gursky*
Through Sept. 12 Art Institute of Chicago *Yasuhiro Ishimoto: A Tale of Two Cities*
Through Sept. 19 Palais des Beaux-Arts, Brussels *Andy Warhol: A Factory*
Through Sept. 19 Musée d'Art Moderne de la Ville de Paris *Painting after Abstraction 1955-75*
Through Sept. 21 SFMOMA, San Francisco *Bill Viola*
Through Sept. 26 Museum für Gegenwartskunst, Basel *White Fire — Flying Man*
Through Sept. 30 Mass MoCA, North Adams, Massachusetts *Billboard*
Through Oct. 3 Correr Museum, Venice *Claes Oldenburg and Coosje van Bruggen*
Through Oct. 3 Musée de Marseille, France *Rosemarie Trockel*
Through Oct. 10 Galleria Civica, Modena, Italy *A Look at Japan*
Through Oct. 17 Guggenheim, Bilbao *Richard Serra*
Through Oct. 17 Virginia Museum of Fine Arts, Richmond *Splendors of Ancient Egypt*
Through Nov. 7 **XLXIII Venice Biennale**
Jul. 1 - Aug. 29 Museum Moderner Kunst Stiftung Ludwig, Vienna *David Salle*
Jul. 1 - Sept. 5 Museu d'Art Contemporani de Barcelona *El Lissitzky*
Jul. 3 - Oct. 3 Corcoran Gallery of Art, Washington, D.C. *Propaganda and Dreams*
Jul. 7 - Aug. 15 **Rencontres Internationales de la Photographie (Photo Festival), Arles**
Jul. 8 - 11 **ART Santa Fe-1999 (Art Fair)**
Jul. 8 - Oct. 5 MOMA, New York *Fame after Photography*
Jul. 10 - Dec. 31 **SITE, Santa Fe, Looking for a Place (Southwestern Biennial)**
Jul. 11 - Nov. 17 MOCA, Los Angeles *In Memory of My Feelings — F. O'Hara and American Art*
Jul. 15 - Aug. 21 **Absolut L.A. International (Biennial Art International)**
Jul. 15 - Sept. 26 Tate Gallery, London *Abracadabra: International Contemporary Art*
Jul. 15 - Oct. 17 New Museum of Contemporary Art, New York *The Time of Our Lives*
Jul. 16 - Oct. 19 SFMOMA, San Francisco *Tiborocity: Design and Undesign, 1979-99*
Jul. 18 - Oct. 10 Walker Art Center, Minneapolis *Matthew Barney: Cremaster 2*
Jul. 20 - Oct. 10 J. Paul Getty Museum, Los Angeles *Nadar/Warhol: Paris/New York*
Jul. 24 - Oct. 10 MCA, Chicago *Roy Lichtenstein: Interiors*
Jul. 30 - Oct. 17 Kunsthalle, Düsseldorf *Heaven: An Exhibition That'll Break Your Heart*
Aug. 6 - Nov. 28 Louisiana Museum of Modern Art, Humlebaek, Denmark *René Magritte*
Aug. 7 - Oct. 17 Georgia O'Keeffe Museum, Santa Fe *Georgia O'Keeffe: Poetry of Things*
Aug. 27 - Nov. 7 Kunsthau Zürich *The End of the World & A Principal of Hope*
Aug. 28 - Oct. 24 Migros Museum für Gegenwartskunst, Zürich *Cady Noland/Olivier Mosset*
Sept. 2 - Nov. 1 Kunstmuseum, Bonn *Philip Guston*
Sept. 15 - 20 **FIAC'99 Paris Expo (Contemporary Art Fair)**
Sept. 17 - Nov. 8 **Sixth International Istanbul Biennial (Art Fair)**
Sept. 30 - Oct. 4 **Art Forum Berlin (International Art Fair)**
Oct. 1 - 4 **Euroart'99, Barcelona (Art Fair)**

Travel Bookshelf: Umbria

Guides

- Fodor's '99 Italy.*
Eyewitness Travel Guide Italy.
Tuscany & Umbria, The Rough Guide.
Fodor's Rivages, Hotels and Country Inns of Character & Charm in Italy.
Frommer's Tuscany & Umbria.
Dana Facaros & Michael Pauls, *Cadogan Tuscany, Umbria, & the Marches.*
Chris Gill, *Charming Small Hotels: Italy.*
Kelley F. Hurst, *Italian Country Hideaways: Vacationing in Tuscany and Umbria's Private Villas, Castles, and Estates.*
Peter Kennealy, *Charming Small Hotel Guides: Tuscany & Umbria.*
Insight Guides: Umbria.

Food

- Michelin Italia: Hotels and Restaurants.*
Rizzoli's *Trattoria Italia (A Gastronomic Tour of Italy).*
Faith Heller Willinger, *Eating in Italy.*
Fred Plotkin, *Italy for the Gourmet Traveler.*
James Ladsun, *Walking and Eating in Tuscany and Umbria.*
Susan Gelmetti, *Italian Country Cooking: Recipes from Umbria & Apulia.*

Picture Books

- Richard Kauffman, Carol Field, *The Hill Towns of Italy.*

Popular Favorites

- Paul Hofmann, *Umbria: Italy's Timeless Heart.*
Paul Hofmann, *Unspoiled Umbria.*
Lisa St. Aubin De Teran, *A Valley in Italy: The Many Seasons of a Villa in Umbria.*
Peter Hobday, *In the Valley of the Fireflies: An Englishman in Umbria.*
Jacqueline LA Tourrette, *Shadows in Umbria.*
William Trevor, *Two Lives: Reading Turgenev and My House in Umbria.*

Art and Architecture

- Paul Hills, *The Light of Early Italian Painting.*
Norma Brode, *The MacChiaioli: Italian Painters of the Nineteenth Century.*
John Fisher Carroll, *Complete Guide With the Best of the Art Treasures and Hill Towns.*
Joseph A. Crowe, *History of Painting in Italy, Umbria, Florence, Siena: From the Second to the Sixteenth Century.*
Victoria Newhouse, *Towards a New Museum.*