

"I WON'T QUIT"
A DEDICATED SMOKER
FUMES

FRENCH FRIES *of the* FUTURE
Missions of a Quantum Kitchen

HOOF DREAMS
On the Run in Horse Country

TOWN & COUNTRY

MEET THE
MILLIONAIRES
of
OCCUPY
WALL STREET

ART WORLD IT GIRL
THE NEW YEAR'S
NEW
FACE

You May Not
Know Shala Monroque
But You Should

PLUS

WHERE NO
ONE GETS OLD
OR SICK

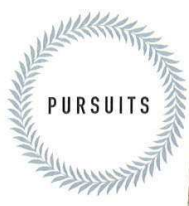
A JOURNEY TO
INDIA'S GROVES *of*
ETERNAL YOUTH

COCKTAILS
& KISSES

THE
GREATEST
DRINK RECIPES
TO RING IN
2012

AND T&C'S
STAFF-TESTED
HANGOVER
CURES

QUIT & A QUIT



ART

The Collector's Shortcut

PEOPLE WHO COLLECT ARE DRIVEN BY VERY particular passions, for all sorts of objects, from stamps to Stradivariuses. Most delight in the hunt, fixing their crosshairs on each prized item in turn, seeking out one find after another. But a minority, out of expedience, or sentimentality, or to make headlines, prefer their quarry to arrive in bulk. That is, they collect collections.



WHEN JET-SETTING shipping tycoon Stavros Niarchos decided he wanted an art collection, he didn't buy one painting; he bought 58, plus a Degas sculpture, from Hollywood heavy Edward G. Robinson, spending more than \$2.5 million in 1957. (Robinson's collecting bug started with cigar bands before advancing, over the years, to French Impressionists.)

NEARLY FROM THE day it opened its doors, in 1877, art dealer Duveen Brothers counted Andrew Mellon, Henry Clay Frick, and John D. Rockefeller among its loyal art-buying clientele. But in 1964 ketchup king Norton Simon bought the gallery's five-story townhouse on E. 79th Street along with its entire contents—including 146 paintings from the Renaissance through the Rococo era—for upward of \$15 million, making Simon a major collector overnight.



FOLLOWING THE SUICIDE of Isabella Blow, her incomparable collection of couture, including her 50 custom-made Philip Treacy hats (the hot pink burka was another standout), was set to go to auction last year, until heiress, muse, model, and catsuit enthusiast Daphne Guinness bought every lot from Christie's in advance of the sale. Guinness, a close friend of Blow's, was determined to keep the collection intact and the "souvenir seekers" at bay.

BOUNTY HUNTERS
From left: Art lovers Stavros Niarchos and Edward G. Robinson; the Duveen Brothers townhouse, which housed Gerard David's *Coronation of the Virgin*; Isabella Blow and Daphne Guinness; three of the world's 50 Fabergé Imperial Easter eggs; Abraham Lincoln.

OF JUST 50 FABERGÉ Imperial Easter eggs in existence, the Forbes family owned nine until 2004, when they decided to sell them at Sotheby's. But the auction never took place, because oil and aluminum baron Viktor Vekselsberg snapped them all up for an undisclosed—but presumably stratospheric—sum, returning the largest private collection of the eggs to Russian hands.



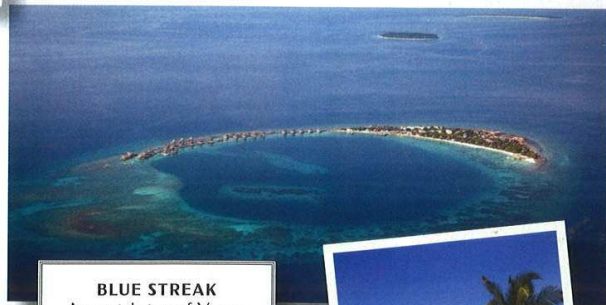
HENRY HUNTINGTON, NEPHEW of one of the "Big Four" who built the Transcontinental Railroad, was not one of the "Big Five" collectors of Lincoln memorabilia (Lincolniana, to the initiate). At least not until he bought two of the Big Five's collections, between 1914 and 1922, reuniting a prized copy of the president's first inaugural speech with a rare copy of the 13th Amendment bearing Lincoln's signature. (They remain together in the Huntington Library in California.) **A.C.**

TRAVEL

ISLAND IN THE SUN

LIKE THE FOUR SEASONS, WALDORF ASTORIA, AND Banyan Tree before it, the new Viceroy resort in the Maldives will be located on its own private island: Vagaru, in the Shaviyani Atoll, a short flight north of the main island of Malé. Canadian design team Yabu Pushelberg, who did the modernist interiors at such places as the St. Regis in San Francisco and Paris's Printemps department store, drew inspiration from the local culture, outfitting the roofs with swooping wooden slats so that the resort's bungalows look like upside-down versions of the island's dhoni fishing boats beached for the night. The hotel, which opens this month, has five full restaurants—a big number for a resort with just 61 bungalows—ranging from a poolside grill to the East African Treehouse. There are also private pools and large sun decks for each and every guest. *From \$1,670 per night; viceroyhotelsandresorts.com/maldives*

STEPHANIE WU



BLUE STREAK

An aerial view of Vagaru Island, where the Viceroy Maldives is located. Right: Each of the resort's beach bungalows has a private sun deck, where guests can look out at the turquoise waters.

