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*Evening wear with a classic flavour.
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FROM THE EDITOR

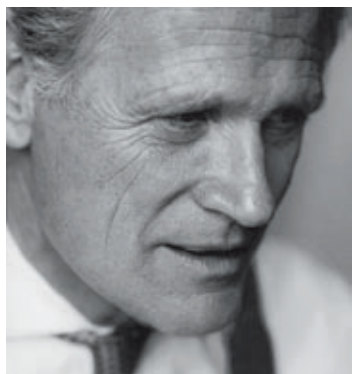
Classic style

This summer's issue of *PrivatAir the Magazine* celebrates the idea of the contemporary classic. All around are signs of what has been called 'the flight to quality'. Recent auctions show works by Monet, Degas and Renoir are more than holding their value against a more nervous market in contemporary art. When it comes to wine and food, Romanée-Conti, a Burgundy produced in minute quantities, can still command extraordinary prices, while the most exciting and successful new restaurants are no longer to be found in areas where taxi-drivers fear to head, but in London's Mayfair or on New York's Upper East Side. Hi-fi nuts are returning to vinyl, while car manufacturer Aston Martin has revived the Lagonda name. You will find all these subjects in this issue of the magazine.

At a time when people may have been cutting back on routine travel, extraordinary destinations come into their own. But the extraordinary all too soon becomes the commonplace, and many should be visited soon while they maintain their special qualities. We look at three remarkable destinations: Namibia in South-West Africa with its thriving population of black rhino; the seas of West Papua – an unspoilt paradise for divers and home to as yet rarely visited tribes; and tiny Montenegro, set to be the Mediterranean's next big thing, which is already attracting discerning yachties and luxury hotel groups. But time moves apace and with it, developers. Get there now before things change.

CELESTRIA NOEL

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PHILIP HOOK
AUCTIONEER AND AUTHOR
Philip is senior director of Sotheby's Impressionist and Modern Art department. He has worked in the art world for 30 years, during which time he has also been a director of Christie's and an international dealer, and appeared regularly on television. He is author of *The Ultimate Trophy: How the Impressionist Painting Conquered the World*; his other books include *Optical Illusions*, a satire on the art world, plus four successful thrillers published by Hodder and Stoughton. He lives in London.



ANDY BIGGS
PHOTOGRAPHER
Andy found a passion for nature photography when he bought his first camera in 2000. He left a career in software to go pro in 2003 and was a BBC Wildlife Photographer of the Year by 2008. Based in Houston, Texas, he works mainly in Africa, travelling regularly to Tanzania, Botswana, South Africa and Namibia. He has recently led trips to the Galapagos and Alaska and shot polar bears in Canada; Antarctica is on his list for 2011. His goal is 'to convey three things in my images: hope, timelessness and remoteness'.



JENNIFER SHARP
RESTAURANT CRITIC
Jennifer writes about food and restaurants for magazines in London, Los Angeles and Hong Kong and is a regular broadcaster for BBC radio and television. An intrepid diner, she's sampled menus in more than 50 countries but observes that there's more to restaurants than just food. The best times will be a happy mix of ambiance, the crowd, location, talent in the kitchen and those magicians on the floor and at the door. 'You can find a great restaurant in a palace or a roadside shack,' she says. 'I never get tired of looking.'

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