



## Welcome

The year is moving along very swiftly indeed. With Valentine's Day and February almost completely past us, and Easter eggs already in stores, one can be forgiven for already feeling the need for a holiday! Naturally, we think this is a great idea, especially if you're coming down for a break and need a boutique hotel to look after you...



## Boutique is Better

People pay lip service to great design all the time, but it is just one reason they choose boutique hotels (like the Sanderson in London, pictured). Feedback by almost everyone in our survey included appreciation for intimate service, personal advice from staff and free wireless internet as just as important reasons. Thanks to everyone that responded, and the winner of the two-night stay for two is.... Liese Homan from Investec in Johannesburg!



## February Highlight

DESIGN INDABA 2009 kicks off tomorrow (25th February) with the Design Indaba Conference, where a host of international creative geniuses will share ideas and inspiration. Followed on the 27th by the Design Indaba Expo, a must for anyone with even a slight creative interest. Full details at [designindaba.com](http://designindaba.com).



## The Black Book.....where are we going to this month.

### EAT

Boo Radley's Bar & Bistro is the kind of place that's de rigueur in most hip cities but hard to find here. Done out in a classic, unpretentious design with long bar, black-and-white flooring and comfortable booth seating, it urges one to take it easy. The menu is small but well chosen, with everything a good bistro should have. And significantly, they serve a tasty burger. Brought to you by the good people behind Julep cocktail bar. 62 Hout Street, CBD. [jay@booradleys.co.za](mailto:jay@booradleys.co.za)

### SHOP

Bluecollarwhitecollar is a bespoke shirt boutique for the discerning shopper. Started by Paul van der Spuy and AD Heneke, they offer limited edition men and women's shirts in a diverse array of styles and cuts, they also have a bespoke tailoring service. Get measured, choose your style, fabric and buttons, and in two weeks a perfect-fitting shirt awaits you at their store. Vist them, look sharp. Lifestyle Centre, Kloof St, Gardens. 021 426 1921.

### DRINK

What better to do when in Cape Town than a hands-on, intensive wine course? Run by passionate former Aubergine sommelier, Jorg Pfuetzner, Under the Influence has a variety of wine courses, from one day to six months. With an emphasis on tasting not just local wines but variations from around the world, the experience is highly educational and most enjoyable. They also hosted the Riesling Festival earlier this month. The Glen, Kloof Rd, Camps Bay. 021 438 4391.

### SEE

Art gallery Salon 91 gets it right through a changing mix of highbrow, high end as well as more accessible, affordable exhibitions. Selected by owner Monique du Preez, the exhibitions in the stark yet simultaneously warm space change fast and aim to connect consumers with both the art and design worlds, so often separated. Currently on show is the print exhibition, Way Out West, a catchy, pop-style reinterpretation of the 'Wild West' era by local artist Adam Shear. 91 Kloof Street, Gardens. 082 679 3906.