

# the Commuter

business • lifestyle • travel

February/March 2004

## *It's Always Summer Somewhere*

*Done Design's  
Fashion Maxim*

Sydney's Brash  
Charm

The Hunt for  
Diamonds

Ken Done: An  
Aussie Original



## PLUS!

The 2004 MINI:  
Designed for Fun

Artist Miranda  
Jones draws You  
into Her World



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BUSINESS AND LIFESTYLE FOR A CULTURE ON THE MOVE

## From the editor ...

One of the things publishing Commuter magazine has allowed me to do is meet interesting and creative people from all walks of life. When you travel, you meet people from around the world who open your mind to different attitudes and ways of thinking.

On this trip, I was fortunate enough to meet a man who has accomplished great things in his career and life – Ken Done. The way this man has achieved both creative and financial success is fantastic, he didn't even have to die! Spending time talking to someone like Ken gives you the attitude that if you put your mind to it, you can make your dreams happen. To me, this was very inspiring.

Looking at the world around us can provide the inspiration to be creative, and not stuck in a box in the ways we think and live. By sharing stories of international and local people & places, I hope to give readers a positive attitude about the things we can all accomplish.

As Ken said to me, it is at home that we are most criticized and find it hardest to be successful. Perhaps by looking closer at others around the world, we can appreciate what we have at home. In Saskatchewan, there's a feeling that if something is from here, it can't be any good. We have many great things but we tend to overlook our own people and resources.

I hope by profiling successful businesses and interesting people, our magazine can contribute to changing attitudes and opinions about our own province, our country and the world. Enjoy this issue of Commuter, and please email us your comments – we would appreciate hearing what you think.

Sean Martin



## IT'S ALWAYS SUMMER SOMEWHERE

Bikinis, tanks, tees and more – when it comes to fashion, Done Design is what's hot Down Under.

## 5 2004 MINI

BMW's redo of the British icon combines a sense of fun with more room and lots of spunk.



## 9 SYDNEY

Experience the easy-going charm of Australia's largest city.



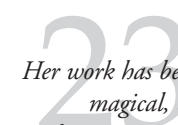
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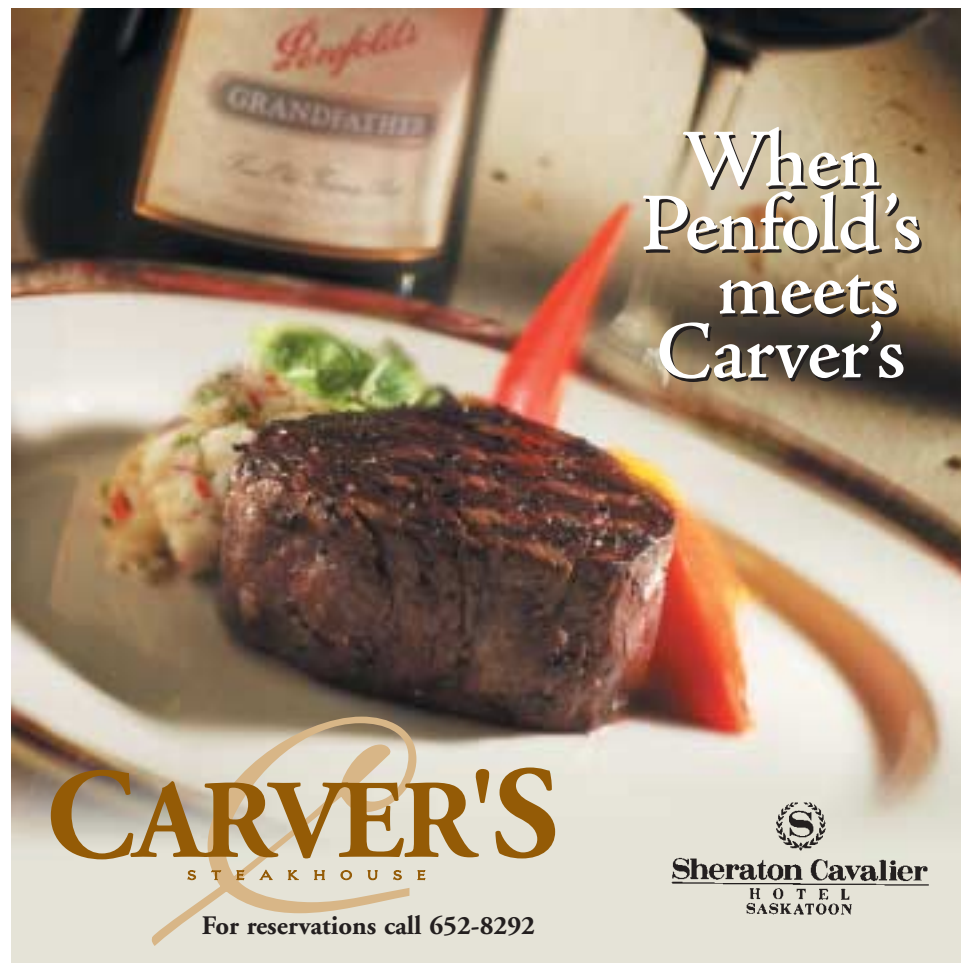
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**On the Cover:** Model Kerry Doyle wearing  
White Flower Graphic Bandeau Bikini Top,  
Rose Bikini Pant by Ken Done.

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## M A R K E T P L A C E

# As the Bear Market Recedes, What's Hot for 2004?

WITH THE THREE-YEAR BEAR MARKET finally receding into the distance, now is a good time to ask ourselves what we learned from the experience. And how do we take advantage of some of today's hottest trends?

First let's take stock of the past. Many investors got a real appreciation for the volatility of the market. They were encouraged by advisors and financial experts to be patient, the market would recover. Well, it took three depressing years before we finally saw the market rally in 2003. The Dow Jones Index in early 2004 is hovering around 10,500, a situation many did not expect when it was around the 8000 level.

This positive comeback is an ideal time to reflect on investment practices. When you made your New Year's resolutions, did you take stock of your 2003 investing habits? Were you able to pay off debt? Decrease the amount of tax you pay by more efficient investing? Refinance your mortgage? Take pride in the financial milestones you did achieve but also set new ones for the year ahead.

The experience of the past three years showed many investors that the current level of risk in their portfolios was unsuitable. If you're one of them, you may want to think seriously about moving your money into more secure investments. Re-tooling your portfolio to avoid exposing yourself to that kind of anxiety again is important to peace of mind.

Moving forward, what are some of the hottest trends? China's explosive economic growth has focussed a great deal of investor interest on that country, making it one of the hottest investment regions. Asian investments need to be watched with a careful eye, however, as key risks include an intricate mix of political, financial and economic factors.

Another trend taking centre stage is tax efficient investing. For many years, advisors and investors have focussed their attention on finding the highest quality investment. Meanwhile tax efficient investments have been steadily improving in terms of structure and variety. Now advisors can add tremendous value by educating their clients and offering them a choice of tax efficient investments.

Investors have been through unprecedented times in recent years, and volatility in markets will continue to surprise. In this complex environment of tax, product choices, market changes and geopolitical instability, I highly recommend getting professional advice from an Investment Advisor. Take a greater interest in your financial nest egg!

Todd Degelman, M.B.A. is National Sales Manager for Wellington West Capital Inc. He can be contacted at 1-866-844-4400.



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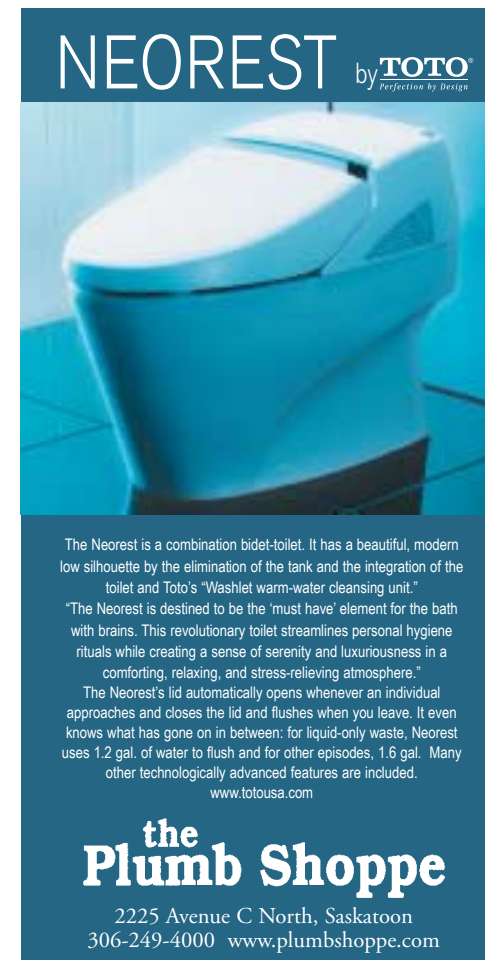
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COLOUR:  
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NOSE:  
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IN MOUTH:  
Blackberry, licorice, cherry, fruit  
driven, fairly tannic, long finish.

FOOD:  
Red meats, rare for now but in time  
medium to well done, also strong  
cheeses.

VALUE:  
Excellent value for a wine of this  
quality (one of my favourites).  
Drinkable now but will be better  
in 3-5 years.

RATING:  
4.5 grapes (0 lowest - 5 highest)  
Fantastic wine for the price.



# Vintage.

## WHAT CAUSES A CORKED WINE?

BY LEN STECKLER

I WAS AT A WINE SHOW RECENTLY and came upon two corked wines. This struck me as odd, as this was a wine and spirits show in which the wine merchants were showing off their products. One bottle was almost completely empty, which meant approximately ten people had tasted this particular wine and said nothing. The other bottle was just started. This means the tasters who preceded me either had no knowledge of what a corked wine was or they thought the wine was a horrid, mouldy product – something they would never purchase. Based on this experience, I thought now would be a good time to talk about corked wines.

Cork is made from the bark of cork trees, which are mainly grown in Portugal. Since it is a natural product, cork can be exposed to moulds in a variety of places. Mould spores can enter the cork as it sits on the ground after harvest or during processing. Cork is boiled to sterilize or treated with chlorine-based chemicals to kill the fungus. Unfortunately, these methods may trigger the mould growth they are designed to destroy because they only kill surface fungus. Moulds deeper inside the cork are untouched. This cork taint, called TCA (trichlorineanisole), is what causes a corked wine.

The smell of a corked wine is described as mouldy, musty, mildewed, like wet cardboard or wet newspaper. Approximately 5 to 8% of wines using natural cork will have a TCA level noticeable to human senses. It's a problem that knows no favourites, it can be found in wines of all quality and price levels.

If you get a corked wine in a restaurant, send it back. This is not wine snobbery. The person serving the wine should have smelled the problem and not served you the product in the first place. If you get a bottle at home, simply take it back to your place of purchase for a refund or replacement.

Solutions to the problem of corked wine are varied. Cork merchants are setting standards in acceptable levels of TCA, along with moisture content, oxidants and surface qualities. Some research has been done on using microwaves to kill micro-organisms throughout the cork and not just the surface area. Though reported to be quite successful, time will tell if it is a total solution.

Some wineries are using synthetic corks made of plastic. Most, however, are only using them in wines meant to be drunk within a year or two. The other stopper is the Stelvyn screw cap. The problem here is that most consumers associate screw caps with low quality jug wines. This quality association is changing rapidly. In California, a producer made 100,000 cases of \$100-plus wines (in US dollars) and put screw caps on them all. That's a bold statement.

Yes, there is something romantic about the pop of the wine cork during a candle lit dinner at a fine restaurant. If cork producers can solve the problem of TCA tainted wines, fantastic. If not, perhaps other bottle stopping methods will prevail. After all, it is what's in the bottle that counts, not what keeps it there. Till next time, CHEERS!

LEN STECKLER received his Cellar Masters Diploma in 1995 and is a member of the Wine Educators Society. He has visited wineries in every major wine region in the world and does wine seminars for sales groups, customer appreciation groups, and restaurants (staff training and wine list building and maintenance). If you are interested in learning more, call Len at 306-933-4393.

# 2004 MINI:

## DESIGNED FOR FUN



When BMW reintroduced the British icon a couple of years ago, it retained the original shape but grew the car by about 50% and made it even more functional. story by Charles Renny

"The MINI is about being different and about having fun," says Les Fenyes, general manger of MINI of Saskatoon. Today's MINI features 16-inch wheels and tires rather than ten. The roof is still roughly level with the door handles of a full sized car, but inside you can fit four adults in acceptable comfort.

Fenyes points out that MINIs can be ordered in three different trim levels: the entry level MINI Cooper, the supercharged MINI Cooper S and the John Cooper Works MINI. In keeping with this sense of fun, you can deck out your MINI in one of several distinctive paint schemes,



wheel types and colours, or put a Union Jack or Maple Leaf Flag on the roof a la Austin Powers and his patriotic Jaguar. Individual striping kits can be added for more personalization.

Each MINI drives quite a bit differently than the others. The basic MINI comes with a 1.6 litre, 115 horsepower inline four while the Cooper S gets the same engine with the addition of a supercharger and an intercooler to pump the power up to 163 horses. A six speed manual is the only gear box available for the Cooper S. With the regular Cooper, a five speed manual is standard or you can order the optional four speed automatic. The John Cooper Works MINI gets the six speed manual, but the engine gets bumped up to 210 horsepower – that will get you from 0 to 100 kph in 7.2 seconds.



"The best drive of the MINI bunch is the John Cooper Works version because no one expects such a small car to perform so well," Fenyes says.

Personally, I haven't driven the JC Works but the Cooper S I drove between Tofino and Nanaimo, B.C. sure embarrassed a Corvette driver. The roads are twisty with lots of blind corners and broken pavement. The longest straight was probably just over 300 metres, but some of the bends were minor and you could actually see what was coming. It was on one of these longer straights that I managed to get by the 'Vette before he noticed and then the quick handling of the MINI kept me out in front. I got far enough ahead in the corners that he couldn't get by me before the next set of corners came up. Talk about putting a grin on my face! Imagine this experience in the John Cooper Works, which is quicker and handles better.

Driving the regular MINI Cooper was just as fun, but in a different way. The test car I drove had the five speed manual and white stripes over a gorgeous blue exterior. Heads turned

no matter where I went. Young, old, kids with licences, kids without – it didn't matter. I knew I had hit the right combination when a crusty Commissionaire set aside his scowl, grinned and gave me a thumbs up. Best of all, the Cooper had enough power to make it fun to drive around town and on the highway, I just had to use the gear lever a bit more than in the Cooper S.

Inside, the MINI sports two comfortable bucket seats up front. The interior is wide enough so that I'm not rubbing shoulders with the front passenger. At the Cooper S level, leather trim and heated seats are optional. In the rear a split folding bench seat can hold two more. If the front seat occupants are a bit long of leg, leg room in the rear will be severely curtailed. By a light compromise in driving position, we were able to fit four in acceptable comfort (keeping in mind that my teenagers always complain about something).

Regular instrumentation is not necessarily driver friendly, as the speedometer is like the original – a

single large dial in the middle of the dash easily seen by wives and others in the car. If you order the navigation package, the speedo' and other instruments are put in two smaller, steering wheel mounted gauges.

The MINI's marketing package is fun too. In fact, this is where Fenyes hits a home run with his MINI Girls. "My MINI Girls are a flashback to a wilder, more open time. They attract attention and have to be able to promote the cars. The MINI is about being outrageous and getting noticed."

And getting noticed is something Fenyes should know. His dealership, MINI of Saskatoon, placed first in Canada and third in a worldwide dealer contest on the knowledge of MINIs.

So, for outrageous fun in a MINI, visit your local dealer and be prepared to have your socks blown off. 🍷



# Opportunity in Saskatchewan

## Record Performance in Oil & Gas Industry

Fuelled by strong commodity prices, record levels of equity and favourable royalty and tax legislation changes, the oil and gas industry in Saskatchewan enjoyed a record year in 2003.

Drilling rates for oil and gas wells increased by 19% in 2003, with 4,189 wells drilled versus 3,517 wells drilled in 2002. This activity was 6% higher than the previous drilling record set in 1997. The majority of the increase can be attributed to a more than 600% increase in the number of natural gas wells drilled over the past six years. (see graph below)

### Driving the Saskatchewan Economy

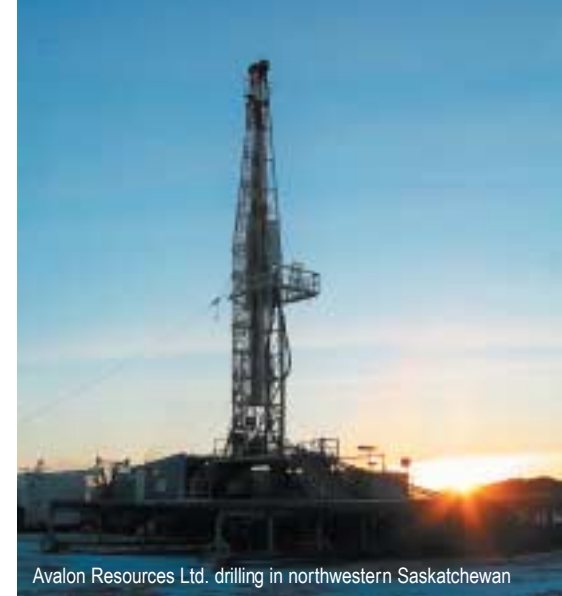
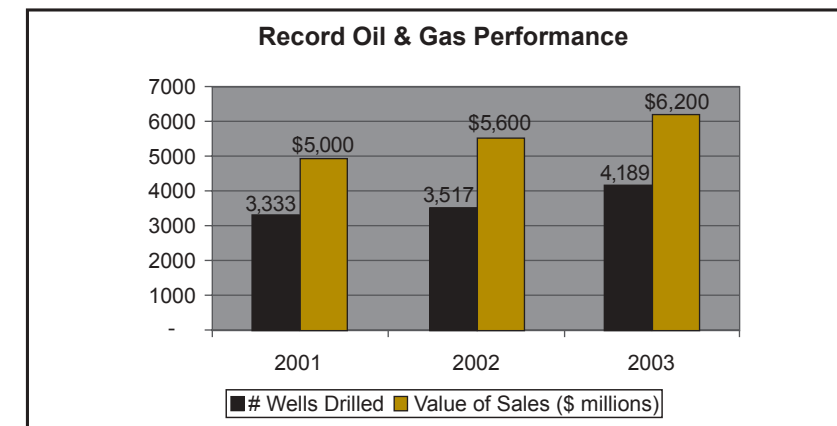
Saskatchewan is the second highest oil producing province in Canada and the third highest natural gas producing province. The oil and gas industry is a major economic driver in the province

of Saskatchewan. It is the largest contributor to the province's Gross Domestic Product, generating approximately 8% of total annual GDP.

On an annual basis, the oil-gas industry contributes between \$1.5 billion and \$2 billion to the Saskatchewan economy through investment in exploration and development. In 2002-2003, more than \$1 billion in royalties, production tax and land sale revenues were generated. Approximately 400 oil and gas companies operate in Saskatchewan, generating more than 23,000 direct and indirect jobs.

### Opportunity for Investors

From an investment perspective, the oil and gas industry offers a unique opportunity to realize capital gains and an extraordinary return on investment. It is common in the industry to build value within a company and realize that value through a merger, a sale or a public offering of shares. Many of the oil and gas companies operating in Saskatchewan are among the top performers in the industry.



TRINIDAD DRILLING LTD., active in southern Saskatchewan, is an example of a company that has undertaken aggressive expansion through the acquisition of smaller complementary oil services companies. In the past year, Trinidad has completed two acquisitions totalling more than \$41 million to increase the capacity and depth of its operations. Trinidad is a publicly traded company and has one of the top performing Income Trusts in Canada.

ROMULUS EXPLORATION INC. is another example of typical investment activity within the Saskatchewan oil and gas industry. The company was founded in 2003 by an experienced management team that had built their predecessor company, Empire Energy Inc., from start-up to production of nearly 1,800 barrels of oil per day. Empire was sold for \$31 million in April 2002. Les Guzowski, President & CEO of Romulus Exploration, is confident that Romulus will be as successful as Empire. In 2003, its first year of operation, the company realized a 100% drilling success rate and secured 25,000 acres of land to ensure future exploration potential in Saskatchewan.

Due to its nature and reliance on contracted services, the oil and gas industry has had significant economic impact on many rural communities including Estevan, Swift Current, Kindersley and Lloydminster. In addition, many Saskatchewan First





Nations are able to contribute to oil and gas activity. For example, AVALON RESOURCES LTD. has been working with the Thunderchild First Nation near Turtleford, Saskatchewan to develop oil and gas reserves on Thunderchild lands. This activity generates royalty payments and potential service jobs. Financial contributions from Avalon, as well as other oil and gas companies working in the area, have helped support the development of community-based projects such as the local school and community centre.

Provided a competitive investment climate is maintained, the oil and gas industry has the potential to be a major engine of economic growth in the province for many years to come. A combination of competitive royalty rates and access to capital through Saskatchewan venture capital funds encourages oil and gas companies to explore for, develop and produce oil and gas in the province. 🐾

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Golden Opportunities Fund Inc. is Saskatchewan's First and Largest Provincial Labour-Sponsored Venture Capital Corporation. To date, the Fund has raised more than \$33 million for investment in Saskatchewan growth companies. It has invested 30% of its diversified portfolio in the oil and gas sector. These investments have provided returns of more than 53% to the Fund, more than twice industry index returns, providing yields that stabilize unit values as well as capital gains opportunities.

Golden Opportunities Fund is proud to be an investor in Trinidad Drilling Ltd., Avalon Resources Ltd., Romulus Exploration Inc., Octane Energy Services Ltd., Quartus Energy Limited and Upton Resources Inc. The Fund's first oil and gas investment in Empire Energy Inc. was sold in 2002 for a 60% capital gain.

Golden Opportunities Fund's investment in small and medium sized Saskatchewan companies focuses on long-term capital appreciation, affecting hundreds of workers, their families and communities.

# Sydney's Brash Charm

photography by Sean Francis Martin

Its graceful concrete sails soar over 200 feet above the harbour, a dazzling white against the perennially blue sky. The image is unrivalled.

Few landmarks, with the possible exception of the Eiffel Tower, Taj Mahal and Tower of Pisa, so immediately, so clearly identify where you are as the vaulted roofline of the Sydney Opera House. The facility opened in 1973. Only then did the naysayers and doubters who had dogged its tortuous 14-year construction period finally fall silent. The Opera House was, and still is, one of the world's most audacious architectural designs. It set the stage for Australia's bold claim on the world's imagination, a claim it isn't about to give up anytime soon.





Sydneysiders, as residents call themselves, are a puzzling breed. They can be friendly, easy-going, brash and uppity – all at the same time. It’s a cheeky sort of confidence that makes it tough to get a read on people or to get a sense of the ‘real’ Sydney. But after a few days in this sun-drenched upbeat city, you understand. The temperate climate, the ocean views, endless beaches, carefree lifestyle ... Sydneysiders have it all. And they know it.

The relaxed pace and easy-going charm are infectious. It’s a fun city to explore. There’s a ton of things to do and see, and most of the big-name attractions are in the south shore area, all within easy walking distance. The Sydney Opera House at Bennelong Point is usually one of the first stops for visitors, as if you have to see with your own eyes whether the postcard image is for real. It is, all 4.5 acres of it. Sign up for a tour if you don’t want to get lost.

**Left:** Aborigines have been living in the Sydney area for some 50,000 years. For a journey into Aboriginal culture, visit Sydney’s Aboriginal Art and Tribal Centre.  
**Above:** Sydney’s reputation for gorgeous beaches is well-earned.  
**Above right:** The Sydney Harbour Bridge is a centrepiece of the Sydney skyline.  
**Right:** The Metro Monorail will get you anywhere you want to go in downtown Sydney, from major tourist sites to shopping areas. It’s fast, safe and relatively cheap.







Greater Sydney encompasses two shores – north and south – divided by the harbour. Most of the action happens on the south shore. The Opera House is here, along with a cluster of sights: the Royal Botanic Gardens, Mint Museum, Art Gallery of New South Wales, Museum of Sydney, Parliament House (originally built with profits from the booming rum trade) and Hyde Park Barracks (home of Sydney’s early convicts).

The ‘old coat hanger’, the local term for the 1,650-foot long Sydney Harbour Bridge, is worth a visit because you can climb 200 steps up the Bridge Pylon lookout for a breathtaking view of city and harbour. There’s an even better view from Sydney Tower, a 1,000-foot tall, CN Tower-like structure with a 360-degree view.

Sydney is Australia’s largest city. Its nearly four million inhabitants are a multicultural mix of Anglo-Irish, Aborigine, Italian, Turkish, Greek, Lebanese, Asian and more.

A short walk along the waterfront takes you to The Rocks, the place where the British first planted the colonial flag in 1788. Sydney was originally a penal colony; the first free settlers didn’t arrive until 1793. In its early days, it was a rowdy frontier town but it grew quickly. It became a city in 1842, two years after the abolishment of convict transports, and by 1925 boasted a population of a million people. The Rocks today still has a heritage flavour. In the cobblestone streets you’ll find some of the city’s trendiest shops, restaurants, museums and galleries in restored heritage buildings, many built from locally quarried sandstone.

Sydneysiders love to shop and it shows. Pitt Street Mall is the main drag. It’s a pedestrian plaza with five distinct malls, from the popular Mid-City Centre to the futuristic Skygarden. Other shopping districts include Double Bay (posh), Castlereagh Street (upmarket), Woollahra and Surry Hills (antique markets), Victorian Strand Arcade (Australian designers), Mosman’s (north shore chic), Oxford Street (fashion with attitude), Paddington (hippie flashback), Chinatown (neon and lots of colour) and the turn-of-the-century Queen Victoria Building (180 high-end boutiques). Pace yourself, because you’re not going to hit them all in one day.



A short hop on the monorail will deposit you at Darling Harbour, a revitalized wharf area that now houses shops, restaurants, the National Maritime Museum, Powerhouse Museum, Imax Theatre, Chinese Gardens and Sydney Aquarium. The aquarium is a must, even if you’ve been to others. From Great Barrier Reef to mango swamp to northern river systems, the displays are distinctly Australian. So are the animals, from the weird-looking platypus to the downright dangerous saltwater crocodile.

You can’t visit Sydney without visiting the beaches. To the north there’s Manly, Curl Curl, Mona Vale and Powderpuff Point. To the south, Cronulla and world famous Bondi Beach. Once the favourite haunt of legendary surfers, Bondi today is a little too mainstream for purists but its beach activities, Sunday Market and oceanside amenities ensure its popularity with locals and visitors. Remember your sunblock!. ☘

Sydney is a mix of architectural styles, from Victorian to ultra-modern. Sydney’s waterfront caters to visitors with day and evening harbour cruises, guided tours and regular ferries between north and south shores.





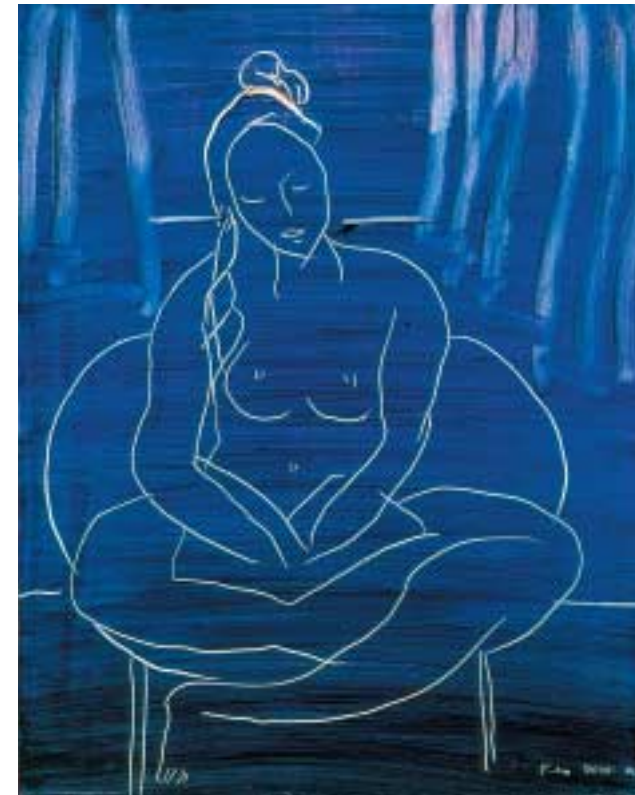
# Ken Done

One of Australia's most famous mavericks, this 63-year old artist makes no apologies for his success.

story & photography by Sean Francis Martin

In 1980, Ken Done designed silk-screened T-shirts to promote one of his first solo exhibitions. In art circles that may be considered a little gauche but it is permissible. Artists have to make a living, after all. But the T-shirt was a hit. Staffers at Vogue Australia got hold of it and gave it their enthusiastic stamp of approval. Sydneysiders clamoured for more and Done gave it to them.

In 1983, he set up Ken Done Down Under to licence his images, which began appearing on posters, greeting cards, calendars, mugs, T-shirts and more. And he did it so that he could continue to pursue his art while supporting his family.



Done has spent the last quarter century achieving artistic and financial success. Critics, meanwhile, have raked him over the coals for being, well, popular. In her 2002 book, *The Art of Ken Done*, art historian and artist Janet McKenzie says "The most common criticism of Ken Done, in the light of his remarkable business success, is that he has 'sold out' on his artistic integrity."

His seeming indifference to the lambasting is better understood once you know the backstory. Born in 1940, Done enrolled in the National Art School in East Sydney when he was 14. He was a top student who specialised in design and illustration. He worked part-time for a design studio in his senior year, and included mostly his commissioned work when he handed in his fifth year portfolio. He was failed because he didn't adhere to the set curriculum. That's a kick in the pants for a 19-year old. In hindsight, it may also have been the making of the man. He probably could have appeased his teachers, but he didn't.

Done opened his own design studio and began making a name for himself in Sydney's graphic design community. He moved to New York in 1964 and freelanced for several big-name agencies. Within a year, he had landed a plum job as art director at J.Walter Thompson in London,



The beauty of a Done is that you can wear it or hang it on your wall. Now Done products are moving into the North American market.







England. Accolades came his way as he moved quickly up the career ladder. In 1968, one of his commercials won a Gold Lion Award at Cannes and the London Designers & Art Directors Association Award for Cinema Campaign of the Year.

At the height of this success, Done moved back to Australia and took over as Creative Director at J.Walter Thompson, Sydney. As his professional star continued to shine, his personal focus began to shift. Done had married his long-time sweetheart, Judy Walker, in 1965 and by 1976 they had a six-year old daughter, Camilla, and newborn son, Oscar. Now he wanted more time for his family and his art.

Driven by his passion, Done found a way. He set up his own studio and freelanced part-time in order to leave himself time

Much of Done's inspiration comes from his home and studio on Chinamans Beach. Here, he creates work of simple but vibrant imagery that seems to capture the essence of a place or object



to paint. And paint he did. In 1975, he reintroduced himself to the Sydney art world when one of his works, Postcard from God, was exhibited in the prestigious Blake Prize. Since then, his works have been shown in the Archibald, Sulman, Wynne and Dobell Prizes.

1980 turned out to be a pivotal year. He found his muse in an old fisherman's cabin overlooking Chinamans Beach at Mosman. He'd known about the cabin for years and when by chance heard it was up for rent, was relentless in chasing down the lease. He bought it outright in 1985.

Then came his first solo exhibition at Sydney's Holdsworth Galleries, followed by his opening of the Art Directors Gallery in North Sydney with a solo exhibition. He did the T-shirts to

promote this event. Public response gave him the opening he needed. As a successful art director, he had the experience, the knowledge and the creativity to develop markets for other people's products. The turning point was deciding to use his skills to market his own art and sustain both his family and his passion.

Since then, Done has become a household name in Australia. A growing number of Done Stores market Done Designs and other products to a receptive public: swimwear and clothing for women, men and kids, accessories, housewares and more. He was the first non-Swede to be commissioned to design glassware for the 300-year old Kosta Boda company. BMW commissioned him to paint an ArtCar, putting him in the ranks of Andy Warhol, Frank Stella and Roy Lichtenstein. He painted







the Garden Restaurant in Sydney's Powerhouse Museum, and created the Opening and Closing Ceremonies programmes for the Sydney 2000 Olympic Games. He's used his distinctive style to benefit Canteen, the Australian Teenage Cancer Patients Society, and he's been Australia's honorary Goodwill Ambassador to UNICEF since 1988. In 1992, he was named a Member of the Order of Australia (AM) for services to Art, Design and Tourism.

So the real rub, for critics, is that instead of waiting for his genius to be discovered post-mortem, Done grabbed hold of the opportunity and has run with it all the way to the bank. He's unrepentant. In fact, he thinks art should be more and not less accessible. Art is still art when it's appreciated and enjoyed by the masses.



Over the past thirty years, Done has been producing a solid body of work and this, perhaps more than anything, has helped calm the critics. The ones who can't get past the commercial success are growing fewer and fainter. Meanwhile, praise for his energetic, distinctive style is growing.

The superb Ken Done Gallery in Sydney is the main showcase for his art. He has had exhibits in Australia, Japan, Korea, France, Philippines, Sweden, the USA and UK, and his pieces hang in private collections in Europe, the Far East, Middle East and North America. In 2000, he broke into the US and UK markets with shows in Los Angeles, California and London, England. The London exhibit was so popular they had to ship over more artworks to meet buyer demand.



Today, Done Art and Design has evolved into a family enterprise. Ken shares the credit for its remarkable success with Judy, who also designs the clothing lines, with Camilla, now creative director, and Oscar, business development manager. Take a virtual tour of Done's gallery work at [www.kendone.com](http://www.kendone.com), or check out the latest fashions and stores at [www.done.com.au](http://www.done.com.au). 🐾

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# The Hunt for Diamonds

story by Beverly Fast



Shore Gold is making steady progress exploring the diamond potential of central Saskatchewan's Star kimberlite body.

A few years back, the news that a vast kimberlite body had been discovered in the Fort a la Corne area of central Saskatchewan sent a ripple of excitement across the media airwaves. Kimberlite – geological herald of that most alluring of gems, the diamond! Canada had already proven itself a diamond resource with rich discoveries in the North West Territories, could Saskatchewan be next?

The early reports were all good. The kimberlite discovery was big, bigger than any in Africa, the biggest found to date in the world. Next came the painstaking process of drilling test holes to evaluate the resource. It's slow, scientific work that doesn't command too many headlines. When it became clear that a working diamond mine in Saskatchewan was still years away, and still might not be a sure thing, the news fell off the radar.



So what's out there? Is Saskatchewan Canada's next big diamond region?

"We don't know yet," says Ken MacNeill, President & CEO of Saskatoon-based Shore Gold Inc. He smiles, settles himself more comfortably in a chair, and adds, "We're not just being careful, we don't have the numbers yet. That's what our Star Diamond Project is all about. Getting the numbers."

The Star Diamond Project is Shore Gold's ambitious bulk sampling program on its Star kimberlite property in the Fort a la Corne area. Begun in early 2003, its goal is to recover a parcel of at least 3,000 carats of diamonds to enable an accurate valuation of the stones. To do this, Shore Gold contracted Regina's Thyssen Mining Construction to sink a 4.5 metre diameter vertical shaft 250 metres below the surface to collect up to 25,000 tons of kimberlite. An on-site modular processing plant, which Shore contracted Bateman Engineering of



South Africa to build, was commissioned in February.

"In diamond mining, it's not the grade that counts as much as the dollar value per carat," MacNeill says. "That's the key for us. You need to know the average dollar value per carat, because each diamond-bearing kimberlite body or pipe contains a different average. Around the world, no two are going to be absolutely identical. But you have to have a significant enough parcel to give you enough confidence in your calculation. In the industry, the standard acceptable parcel is north of 1,000 carats and certainly in the 2,000 to 3,000 carat range. That's why we're looking to recover 3,000 to 5,000 carats worth of diamonds."

A second generation Saskatchewan miner, MacNeill is confident of positive results but too experienced to shoot from the hip. Mining is a high stakes game in which patience is essential. From the time

of discovery, it takes an average of 10 to 15 years to bring a resource into production. And less than two per cent of discoveries actually become viable mines.

"Most mine projects never get to the stage we're at," he says.

"This is a mammoth kimberlite body. We know its diamondiferous."

"Each drill hole has intersected both micro and macro stones. We know that we have enough tonnage in the area, we also know there are larger diamonds there through the fragments we've recovered. On all the holes we've drilled, the results have been improvements. There have been no stops for us in the process."

That's important. Shore Gold's progress is being watched with increasing interest by other players in the field, notably the joint venture between De Beers,





Kensington Resources and Cameco Corporation known as the FALC JV, which owns the neighbouring claim.

By early 2004, with the Shore Gold shaft below the 175 metre mark and beginning to drift horizontally, and with the plant in the final stages of commissioning, there was a palpable sense of excitement at the Saskatoon head office. They were just weeks away from beginning to run kimberlite through the mill, mere months from finally getting that all-important average dollar value per carat number.

"Once kimberlite starts running through our processing plant, there will be a 60 to 120 day period before the results start to come back. This is our first time, so we're going to double-pick our samples to ensure we've recovered all of the diamonds and to make sure we have a statistically accurate sample. We expect to have all of our sample run prior to June of this year, and hopefully all of our results will be out shortly thereafter," MacNeill says.

Even when the numbers are in, there's more work to be done. Shore Gold will record all the kimberlite processed through the plant, so they'll know how the dollar value per carat refers to each geological interval. This information will be fed into a pre-feasibility study to calculate the costs of mining and milling. If the numbers look good, it paves the way for a bankable feasibility study – one of the last steps in the long road to a working mine.



With the Star Diamond Project moving steadily forward, Shore Gold made some moves to build its experience base in 2003. George Read, new vice-president of exploration, and George Sanders, new vice-president of corporate development, are both veterans of the mining industry. Their knowledge adds depth to Shore's core team, which includes chief financial officer Harvey Bay, exploration manager Kirsten Marcia and Wade MacBain in corporate development.

"Once you get to the stage we're at, you start to attract more experienced people who know how to take a project to the next level," MacNeill says. "I'm very proud of our people. We're a junior exploration company with great heart." 🐼

# Drawing You In

Her work has been called luminous and magical, but it's the emotional undercurrent that pulls you in.

story by Lal Ingram

Australian-born artist Miranda Jones is giving me an informal tour of the Saskatoon home she shares with her husband and children. The house is everything you expect an artist's home to be – eclectic, colourful and filled with interesting things. The artist herself is wearing a vibrant summer shirt in defiance of the bleak mid-winter chill outside and talking easily about her work.

"This one?" she asks, as we stop at a canvas that depicts a penguin seemingly lost in lush greenery. "I painted this after coming to Canada. In retrospect, I realized I was dealing with being an immigrant. I'd lived in Portugal when I was 17 so I knew about culture clash. I just didn't expect to find it when I moved here."

Jones' paintings have been called luminous, imaginative, highly decorative. To someone like me, innocent of school, form or style, they are compelling. I like the penguin in the garden, it makes me smile. The emotional undercurrent – that sense of being the outsider – only occurs to me after.

**This ability to draw you into her art – whether a painting, drawing or sculpture – gives Jones' work both its power and its popularity.**

"Miranda fans are fanatics," says Susan Whitney, director of the Susan Whitney Gallery in Regina, which has represented Jones for close to 20 years. "What makes her distinctively different, and what she is known for, is the way she uses metallic leaf in her paintings."

The effect is work that seems to generate its own heat. "There's something about living with her work that brings warmth and light into a home," Whitney says. "One of the things I love is how it will change with the different light in the gallery through the day. The word that comes to mind is magical."

Jones takes praise in stride, largely because she's also had her fair share of criticism. While taking her Masters of Fine Art in the late 1980s, she was "studying under mostly modernist teachers who were into minimalism, simplifying and abstraction. It wasn't me. After being very confused and not getting a lot of positive feedback, I decided I would reject everything that my teachers were telling me and try to pack as much pattern and colour and form onto one piece of paper that I could."

We're standing in front of a painting in the family room. It's different than her later works, though just as rich in colour, pattern and detail. This outburst of expression was her response to minimalism. "I was so excited by this," she says, "it was the starting off point for me. I realized that I was very interested in decorative work, in frames within frames, and certain shapes and forms that were part of my background."







**Above:** A Question of Reverence, photo by Grant Kernan  
**Below:** The Bird Meeting, mixed media on paper, photo by Grant Kernan



Jones began to throw off the influence of her teachers. In an artistic community where simplicity was in, she went the other way. "The nice thing about doing your masters is that you're with your peers more, less with your professors. And you're at a point in your work when you're really trying to find your own voice. You're becoming your own self as an artist."

Her growing sense of self was reinforced during a visit home. "When I stepped off the plane to the heat of Sydney, I just knew I was home. I remember looking out at the orchard and seeing all the fruit trees and thinking, this isn't Saskatchewan. This is the part of me that they will never understand. I can't be them. I wasn't brought up on the prairie. I was brought up in a very flat, open, spacious environment, but it wasn't the prairie."

Jones grew up in Waikerie, a pretty town not far from Adelaide in the heart of South Australia's citrus growing area. It was love that brought her to Saskatchewan. Actually, love and a bit of wanderlust. "I had itchy feet," she smiles, "I wanted adventure." After meeting her future husband in Canberra, she came to Canada with him in 1980. They spent several years in Newfoundland before career opportunities brought them west.

Her career has grown steadily during her years here. She's had nine solo and ten group exhibitions. Her resume includes commissioned works for Parks Canada, illustrating two children's books, *The Floating Orchard* and *Kate Can't Wait* by Tundra Books, and covers for several editions of *Herstory Women's Collective Calendar*. Her work hangs in Canada's Australian Embassy in Sydney, as well as in the collections of the Provincial Government of Newfoundland and Labrador, Memorial University in St. John's, Nfld., University of Saskatchewan Department of Agricultural Science, Saskatchewan Arts Board, Mendel Art Galley, City of Regina, Queen Elizabeth II Hospital in Grande Prairie Alberta and more.

Jones has never been afraid to go beyond safe, familiar boundaries, in fact, she considers it essential. "One thing that happens when you show at galleries

is that you tend to build up expectations in your clientele. They see a sort of work they like and keep wanting that sort of thing. But as an artist, you get bored.

You need to break away and change." Change is evident in her work. She works in several mediums, including fabric, painting, drawing and metal. In recent years, metal sculpture has claimed a growing hold on her imagination. "I'm moving from soft to hard," she laughs. "Years ago, I was working in fabric making one-of-a-kind clothing. Now some of the imagery from that time is coming back in my sculpture."



Whatever the medium, her work seems to evoke a response from viewers. Her imagery combines with colour, pattern and shape to convey a sense of movement. When you view her paintings, there's something that catches you like a current and takes you on a journey. Maybe it just makes you smile, maybe it makes you think. But for a few moments, you're somewhere else.

"Art is very powerful. As an artist, you're often working in isolation, struggling to make ends meet and not getting recognized. But there's a more important reason for making art in a society that doesn't always regard it as important, and that's what's in it. The creative process isn't finished once it's in the piece. It's vicarious, it touches something in the viewer."

Jones' work is on display from March 28 to April 10, 2004 at the Darrell Bell Gallery in Saskatoon, and at the Susan Whitney Gallery in Regina. See more online at: [www.susanwhitneygallery.com](http://www.susanwhitneygallery.com)



**Right:** Chair, photo by Trent Watts  
**Below Left:** Sedna, oil and metallic leaf on paper, photo by Grant Kernan

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# It's Always Summer Somewhere

Done Designs swimwear is inspired by the work of Ken Done, one of Australia's most prominent artists. The look is colourful and lush, tailor made for life at the beach. Now the line that's been turning heads Down Under is set to come north with vibrant patterns full of free-spirited sex appeal.

photography by Sean Francis Martin



Retro Hibiscus Green Underwire Bikini Top, Retro Hibiscus Green Swim Skirt





Retro Hibiscus White Underwire Bikini Top, Retro Hibiscus White Swim Skirt



One Frangipani String Bikini Top, Tropical Frangipani Mesh Shorts



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fitnessfile By Andrea Michaud

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Try these simple Yoga stretches when you're travelling.

**The Neck Stretch.** With hands on your waist, sitting or standing tall, gently lower your chin. After holding 2-3 breaths, return upright then lower your right ear towards your right shoulder. Relax the left side of your neck, hold through 2-3 breaths. Return upright and repeat on the other side. Rotate your neck as far around right as feels comfortable, hold for 2-3 breaths, then return to center and repeat on left side.

**The Shoulder Shrug.** With hands at your sides, lift shoulders up towards your ears as you inhale, then release back down as you exhale. Repeat 4-6 times.

**The Chest Stretch.** Standing tall, clasp hands together behind your back. Gently squeeze your shoulder blades towards the center of your back. Each time you exhale raise your arms slowly behind you, as high as feels comfortable, but not so high that your neck or shoulder posture is compromised. Relax your neck, shoulders and chest. Repeat 4-6 times.

**The Seated Hip Stretch.** Sitting in a chair, cross your right leg on top of your left so your right ankle is just above your left knee. Place your right hand on your right knee, your left hand on your right foot. Gently lean forward over your right lower leg; go as far forward as possible and hold the position through at least four breaths. Relax your back, shoulders and hips. Slowly return upright and repeat on the other side.

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ORANGE ROUGHY STUFFED WITH  
MACADAMIA NUTS

Serves 6 people

- 6 – 5 oz orange roughy fillets
- 1 – cup bread crumbs
- 1/2 cup chopped macadamia nuts
- 1/2 tsp chopped dill
- 1/2 tsp chopped parsley
- 1/4 cup chopped onion
- 1/8 cup chopped celery
- 1 tbsp canola oil
- Salt and pepper to taste

Lay fillets out and lightly season them. Place the oil in a sauce pan and place on a medium high heat for 3 minutes. Add onion and celery and sauté for about 5 minutes, stir often. Add bread

crumbs, nuts, dill, parsley, salt and pepper. Mix well and adjust texture with water to make a stuffing that holds together when you squeeze it in your hands. Place about 1 oz of stuffing on the thick end of each fillet. Roll towards the thin end and secure with a toothpick. Bake at 350°F for about 10 – 15 minutes.

- Serving suggestions
- Wasabi potato pancake
  - Garnish with BBQ'd "Mudbugs" (or langoustines or junti shii)
  - Fresh steamed rice and vegetables

This recipe courtesy Executive Chef Steve Driver and Sous Chef Rusty Penno from Boffins.

Boffins offers cooking classes to its members on a monthly basis. Classes range from themes such as Asian cuisine, East Indian cuisine and summer BBQing to bread making, soups and stews. Guests are taken through the process of preparing items from scratch with hands-on training.

Classes are both entertaining and informative, with on- and off-topic discussions featuring a wealth of knowledge and kitchen lore shared by both chefs and managers. The finale of the class comes when everyone is seated at a large table together and returns to the kitchen with plate in hand to sample the foods that have been prepared.

For schedules and costs contact Ray Dulos at 249-5344.





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# what's out west



## WINNIPEG

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## SASKATOON

**Nokia Brier 2004**  
**March 6-14, 2004 - Saskatchewan Place**

Our House: Canada's Party celebrates the 75th anniversary of the Canadian men's curling championships with nine days of fabulous entertainment, food, dancing and the very best in Canadian men's curling. Tickets: (306) 938-7800 or 1-800-970-7328 [www.nokiabrier.ca](http://www.nokiabrier.ca)

## Amati Quartet

**March 6 & May 8, 2004 - Broadway Theatre**

The University of Saskatchewan Amati Quartet in Residence presents two concerts. The March program features Haydn, Ernest MacMillan, Schubert and Ravel, the May program Mozart, Haydn and Brahms. For tickets, call (306) 652-6556 or visit [www.amatiquartet.usask.ca](http://www.amatiquartet.usask.ca)

## Flicks: International Film Festival for Youth

**March 19-21, 2004 - Broadway District**

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## REGINA

**presented by Canada's Royal Winnipeg Ballet**

**April 20, 2004 - Centennial Auditorium**

A new full-length ballet created by choreographer Mark Godden for the Royal Winnipeg Ballet' 2003-2004 season. It is a delightful blend of romance, enchantment, fantasy and extraordinary journey from darkness to light, featuring the music of Mozart and the exquisite dancers of the RWB. For tickets, call (306) 938-7800 or 1-800-970-7328. [www.saskcent.com](http://www.saskcent.com)

## Regina Highland Festival

**May 23, 2004 - Douglas Park Track**

Featuring the Saskatchewan Pipe Band Championships with competitors from the three Prairie Provinces. Enjoy the Highland Dance competition, athletic events (including the caber toss), weaponry displays, vendors and an evening ceilidh. For information, call (306) 789-6516.

## Cathedral Village Arts Festival

**May 24-29, 2004**

A six day celebration of the arts, culture and spirit of Regina's popular Cathedral area, home to artists, writers and musicians. Thousands enjoy the Saturday Streetfair, as well as live theatre, music, buskers, literary, visual arts and dance performances at various venues through the week. For information, visit [www.saskfestivals.com](http://www.saskfestivals.com).

## Habitat: Canadian Design Now

**until May 30, 2004 - MacKenzie Art Gallery**

An exhibit that looks at contemporary design in Canada. With the concept of design becoming a significant factor in the consumer market, designers are gaining greater exposure and receiving the attention they deserve. From the chairs we sit in to our personal computers, design affects every aspect of our lives. The exhibit celebrates the work of ten Canadian designers/firms. [www.mackenzieartgallery.sk.ca](http://www.mackenzieartgallery.sk.ca).

## CALGARY

**US Hot Rod Monster Jam**

**March 5-7, 2004 - Pengrowth Saddledome**

Don't miss the mud-slinging, car-trampling excitement as six US Hot Rod Monster trucks, including Grave Digger, tear through the Saddledome in three thunder-filled, heart-pounding shows. Tickets at Ticketmaster outlets, charge by phone (403) 777-0000 or [www.ticketmaster.ca](http://www.ticketmaster.ca)

## EDMONTON

**2004 JUNO Awards**

**April 4, 2004 - Rexall Place**

The 33rd annual JUNO Awards recognize the best in Canadian music, as well as live performances by some of the hottest acts in the business. Barenaked Ladies, Michael Bublé, Nelly Furtado, Avril Lavigne, Sarah McLachlan and Nickelback will all be performing and CTV will broadcast the Awards live from Rexall Place. Tickets at Ticketmaster outlets or [www.ticketmaster.ca](http://www.ticketmaster.ca)

## VANCOUVER

**Fosse**

**March 9-14, 2004 - The Centre in Vancouver for Performing Arts**

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**April 22-25, 2004 - Victoria Harbour**

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## WEST COAST

**Pacific Rim Whale Festival**

**March 13-21, 2004 - Ucluelet, Pacific Rim National Park, Tofino**

During the annual Pacific Rim Whale Festival, over 22,000 Gray Whales swim by the west coast of Vancouver Island on their annual northern migration. Whale watching is a given during the two-week festival, but you have a choice of spotting by boat, from shore or seaplane. Family-friendly activities centre in Ucluelet and Pacific Rim National Park and Tofino. For more information, visit [www.uclueletinfo.com](http://www.uclueletinfo.com).





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