

N°266 - January 24, 2013

WEEKLY

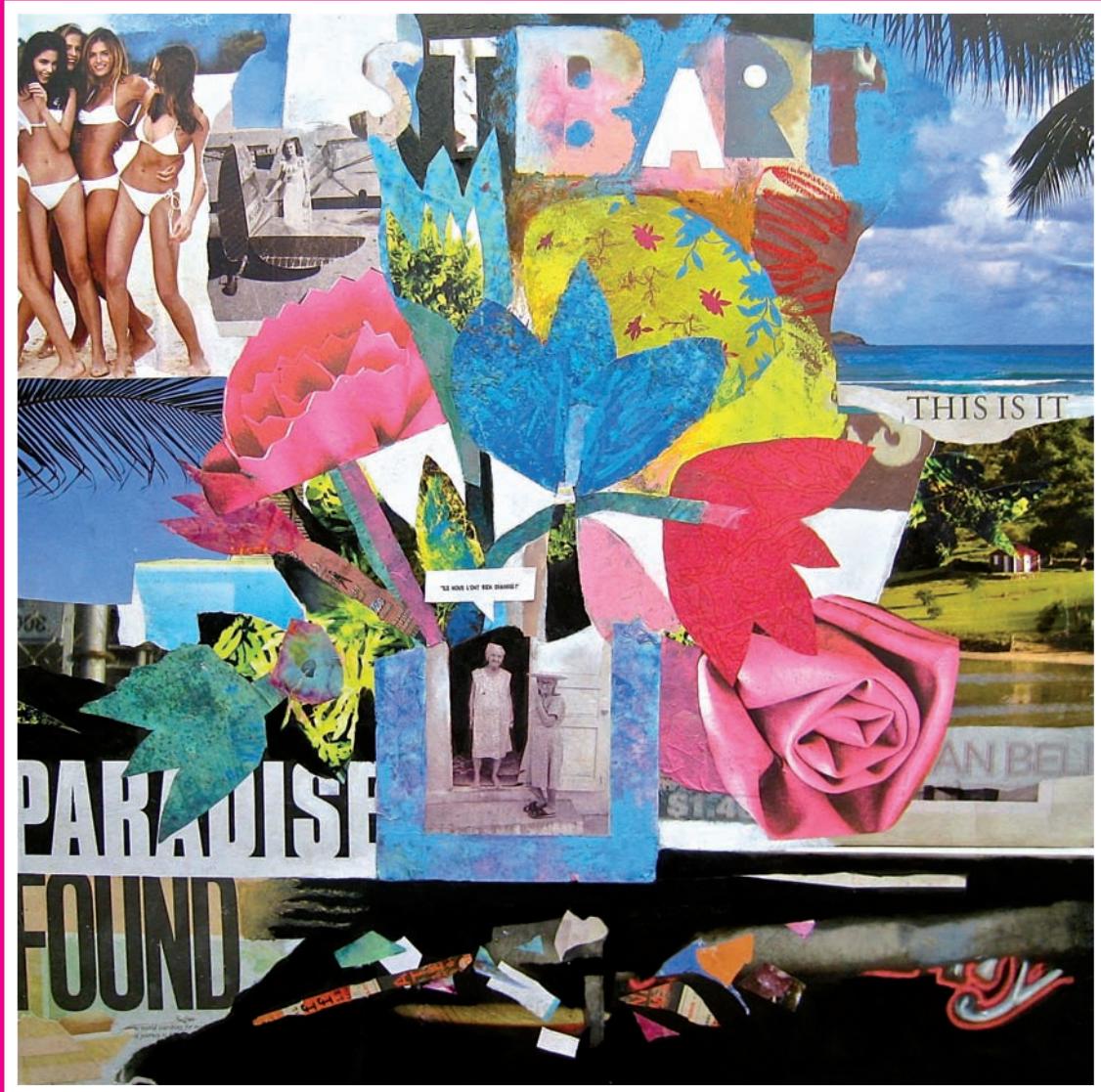
St-Barth

WEEKLY

FREE

Local News
in English

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05 90 27 65 19 - stbarthweekly@wanadoo.fr



JEAN VERRECHIA AT THE BRIGANTIN

SOPHIE & GERALD CROSS THE ATLANTIC ABOARD ALBACOR IV

Setting sail in this year's Atlantic Rally for Cruisers (ARC), 256 boats raced 2,700 nautical miles across the Atlantic from the Canary Islands to Saint Lucia. Organized by the World Cruising Club, this race is open to seasoned sailors as well as those who dream of testing their skills on the open seas. The ARC, thanks to its solid logistics, is the ideal race for first-time transatlantic sailors, which was the case for Sophie Olivaud (technical services direc-

tor for the Collectivity of Saint Barth) and Gérald Durand who sailed aboard Albacor IV, in Racing Class 2. The two skippers left Las Palmas in the Canaries on November 25, facing strenuous weather conditions. "With 35 knots of wind, and waves as high as 18 feet, we were immediately up to our elbows," recalls Olivaud. To avoid a depression, they took a southerly route seeking the trade winds. "Except a second depression caught us, with winds of



more than 30 knots. With the wind behind us, we experienced some sensational surf and experienced gusts as high as 40 knots, and even 50 knots one night. Fortunately, everything turned out okay," adds Olivaud, who is also the skipper of Les Voiles au Féminin, an all-female racing team. And even if Albacor IV suffered a torn genoa and several other small problems with its sails, the boat

reached Rodney Bay Marina in Saint Lucia on December 11, after 16 days at sea. The first boat to cross the finish line on December 7, thanks to favorable winds, was Vaquita, a Class40 with an Austrian crew. Albacor IV finished fifth in its class, which comprised 14 boats. The awards ceremony, attended by prime minister of Saint Lucia, was held on December 21.




lunch, dinner...




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LES VOILES AU FÉMININ SEEK SAILORS

Albacor IV, which sailed in Les Voiles de Saint Tropez last fall as well as the Atlantic Rally for Cruisers, is now in Saint Barth, serving as the boat for Les Voiles au Féminin, a team open to all women in Saint Barth. Since its arrival in the West Indies, Albacor IV sailed the New Year's Eve Regatta on December 31, finishing third in its class. Next up, the Heineken Regatta in Sint Maarten, at the end of February, then the 2013 edition of Les Voiles de Saint-Barth, April 8-13. "Our idea is to have a strong core team for racing, but also to introduce sailing to any women who are brave enough to get started. So if you are interested in participating in these regattas, even as a beginner, please feel free to call us," explains Olivaud. Contact Les Voiles au Féminin: 06 90 59 34 55 or 06 90 74 18 78.

HOTEL ASSOCIATION BECOMES THE HOTELS AND VILLAS ASSOCIATION OF SAINT BARTHÉLEMY

A majority of the 20 members of the association comprised of hotels and villa rental agencies voted to change the name of the organization to better reflect its diversity.

The name may have changed, but the goal remains the same: to unite hotel and villa rental professionals in the same quest, that of the developing and promoting the quality of its offerings for tourists in respecting the socio-cultural and environmental limitations that characterize Saint Barthélemy.

“Our association unites the expert-

ise and savoir-faire of its members for global reflection on the development of tourism, and collaborates closely with the local com-

Since it was created in 1984, the association has always worked toward ensuring quality tourism that meets to needs of a discerning clientele, while confronting the environmental, social, and economic challenges related to the evolution of the island.

“Cooperation among the members translates to a desire to share information, advise, and help each other in our activities,” adds Dentel, who notes it is also important to work closely with such official services as the Territorial Tourism Committee of St Barthélemy.



munity to defend the interests of our profession and contribute to the attractiveness of the island,” says Anne Dentel, president of the Hotels and Villas Association of Saint Barthélemy.

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ST BARTH MUSIC FESTIVAL WRAPS ON JANUARY 2013

It's been another wonderful year for the St Barth Music Festival, which is celebrating its 29th anniversary this year. Against all odds, I would venture to say, as it isn't always easy to get things done on an island this size. For example, when organizers Frances and Jill Debroff arrived this year they had to scramble to find a new venue for their dance concerts with the Paris Opera Ballet dancers. So the dock in Gustavia once again hosted the festival (they presented a rock concert there last year), and it was a magical

evening after all. And the challenges of housing over 75 artists, getting opera scores to and from the island, storing a baby grand piano, a vibraphone, three kettle drums, and two double basses from season to season. But somehow it all comes together and the audience is treated to some of the world's best musicians in the informal settings of the island's churches. A performance of Puccini's opera, *La Bohème*, was a real crowd pleaser last Friday night with seven fabulous singers and maestro Steven Mercurio. And the first jazz



concert of the season, featuring the John Ellis Jazz Quartet at the Anglican Church was another winner. Cool jazz played by some really cool cats, including percussionist Jason Marsalis, who gives that

vibraphone a real work out. When John Ellis performed at the festival in 2008, with his Double Wide group, one of the stars was harmonica player Grégoire Maret, who is back this year to close out the festival at

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Splendid view on Gustavia's Harbor from Sunrise to Sunset...

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JANUARY 27 WITH JAZZ



as this year's festival concludes on a high note, and we can all start wondering what's in store for next year's 30th anniversary celebration.

Ellen Lampert-Gréaux



5pm on Sunday, January 27, with his jazz quintet. Maret has toured with the Pat Methany Group and performed at numerous jazz festivals. Get there early, as there is sure to be a large crowd at the Anglican Church



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BAKING FOR HAITI AT THE ANGLICAN CHURCH

Resident priest the Canon Jeannie Loughrey, vestry member Rachel Barrett-Trangmar, and a group of determined little girls have launched the Baking For Haiti program. The idea came about as part of a kids' club that meets on Saturday afternoons at the vicarage of the Anglican Church in Gustavia. One Saturday a month, the girls now devote their time to baking such items as scones, brownies, and lemon loaf, all of which are available for donations on the second Sunday of each month, in the garden of the church, following the morning service.

"Let me tell you the back story," says nine year-old Salinne Pass-



burg, one of the young bakers, up to her elbows mixing chocolate brownie dough on the vicarage porch, along with eight year-old Isabel Bravo-Contreras, her six year-old sister Andrea Bravo-Contreras, and another little girl called Rachel. "Our goal is to raise 1,000 euros for a school in Haiti. We want them to have mon-

ey for a classroom and teachers, and so they can buy books. People can donate as much as they want," Passburg adds.

The money will be donated to four elementary schools run by the St Etienne Anglican parish, a group trusted by Loughrey as she has visited them in Haiti. The two initial Sunday bake sales, held in December and January, raised a total of 427 euros and \$35, which means the young bakers are about halfway to their goal. The next Baking For Haiti sale will be on Sunday, February 9, just in time for some Valentine's Day goodies.

*By Ellen Lampert-Gréaux
Photo: Rosemond Gréaux*

R ST BARTH

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WWW.FELICA-COLORS.COM

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JEAN VERRECHIA AT THE BRIGANTIN

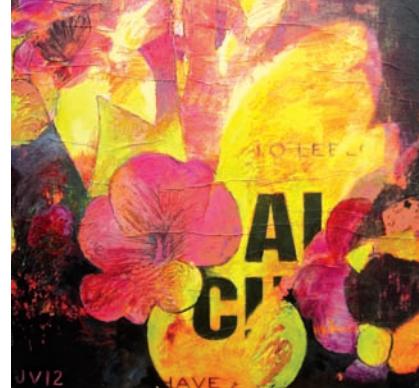
Artist Jean Verrechia invites us to discover the true nature of flowers: "A scandalous perfume for some, but for most, the obvious power of love," he says, describing the colorful paintings in his exhibit at The Brigantin as "a continuation of my bouquets of flowers theme, but these are more abstract, with a different graphic style and angle."

There is a certain sense of romanticism in these bouquets, and as the artist admits, women are his inspiration. "It's very subtle," Verrechia says. "There is not an actual presence of women, but a feeling." His palette comprises a lot of reds, pinks, and blues, with some yellow: "Pure, vibrant colors," as he calls them.

Trained in France, Verrechia worked as an art director, creative director, and film director in Paris, Los Angeles, and New York. In 2005, he started his new career as a painter, and has shown his work in the U.S., France, and St Barthélémy, with a permanent show at Alain Ducasse in Provence. His work is found in international collections around the world.

Verrechia also serves as producer for the films made by his son, director Dylan Verrechia. Their most recent feature, "Tierra Madre," has won more than 10 awards in international festivals.

A full-time resident in Saint Barth in 1984 (when there were more cactus than people around his home in



Pointe Milou), Verrechia sees the incredible natural beauty of the island as a gift that should be appreciated. "We need to learn how to see this beauty and be conscious of what nature gives us," he says, voicing his concerns for the environment and the future of the island. As Leonardo da Vinci once said, "simplicity is the ultimate sophistication," a philosophy that Verrechia embraces in life as in art.

*Jean Verrechia @ The Brigantin,
January 25-February 10. 13 rue
Jeanne d'Arc, Gustavia Opening
reception, Friday, Jan. 25, 6pm*



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Where to go dancing? See an art exhibit? Listen to live music? Time Out keeps you up to date on local happenings.
Let's party !

St Barth Music Festival

D Sunday, January 27
with the Gregoire Maret
Quintet, Anglican Church,
Gustavia, at 5pm.

Live Music

D Through February 2
- Work of Art from 9pm to
midnight, Bete A Z'Ailes

Brazilian Evening

D Every Tuesday
Live Music with Nathalie
from 6pm @ Christopher
Pointe Milou

show girls at Ti St Barth

- DJ Grégory Baker
- Deep Sound, from 8pm
@ Boucaniers, Gustavia
- Diner Cabaret with
show girls at Ti St Barth

D Friday January 25

- I Love Friday! White & Full moon Party mixed by DJ Yo-One! Cristina's Pole Dancing Show, Fire Spinning By Cyril, @ La Plage Restaurant
- Ladies Night @ Bagatelle, Gustavia
- Soley for the sunset @ Do Brazil, from 5:30pm.

- Acoustic guitar with Robb, from 7 to 9pm at Isle de France, Flamands
- DJ Maxx-C (Resident Nikki) from 9pm at Bonito, Gustavia
- Diner Cabaret with

D Saturday January 26

- Bikini Brunch, from 12pm until 5pm, with DJ Yo-One @ La Plage Restaurant, St Jean
- DJ Yo One Sutter at Bonito, Gustavia
- Lunch with Live Music with Robb, from 1pm at Mango, Christopher Hotel
- Soley & Guest from 5:30pm at Les Boucaniers,

D Sunday, January 27

Big Garden Party

D Sunday, January 27
with Bankie Banx
@ Tam Art Garden
from 1pm to 10pm

- Amazing Sunday from 1pm with Resident DJ Maxx-C and Nikki Beach dancers @ Nikki Beach,
- Diner with Dj Greg @ La Plage Restaurant, St Jean - Brunch with Robb, 11am, @ Toiny Hotel
- Live Music with Soley & Co from 8pm at Bonito,
- Pierre Nesta for the Sunset, @ Do Brazil,

D Tuesday, January 29

- DJ Yo One Sutter at Bonito, Gustavia
- Dinner Live Music with Robb from 8:30pm, Ti Zouk K'fè, Gustavia
- Soley for the sunset &

Dinner@ Do Brazil, from 5:30pm. Fire show by Fire NoMads

- Diner Cabaret with show girls at Ti St Barth

D Wednesday January 30

- DJ Yo One Sutter at Bonito, Gustavia
- Diner Cabaret with show girls at Ti St Barth
- Cabaret evening, Paris / St Barth Folies at Nikki Beach, St Jean
- Soley from 8pm at PaCri Tawana Hotel, Flamands
- Diner Cabaret with show girls at Ti St Barth

Exhibitions

D Through January 31

- Eden Rock /Gagosian Gallery - Urs Fischer - Big Bird @ Eden Rock Gallery, St Jean
- Marco Glaviano : 40 years of Photography at Space SBH, Gustavia
- Art exhibit: Peace, Love & Tamarin, Antoine Heckly, Tam Art Garden Saline (former Tamarin)

D Through February 10

- Jean Verrechia @ The Brigantin, Opening reception, Friday, January 25, 6pm
- D January 28 February 2** Félica Art Exhibition @ R St Barth, Gustavia

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