
Contributors

December 2012



Once upon a time, contributing writer **Lauren Viera** lived in New York City, land of Broadway shows, and went to work every morning in Times Square, walking past theaters and their lines of posters advertising current productions. “I remember *Urinetown*, in particular,” Viera says. “It seemed like it stayed at that theater next to my building for ages. I was fascinated by how easily something could stick if it resonated with the right audience.” She interviewed *The Book of Mormon* co-creator Robert Lopez for her story on the famous musical, which lands in Chicago this month, after selling out every night on Broadway since its debut in 2011. “Can you imagine that kind of success? Robert was cool as a cucumber. He is just enjoying the moment while it lasts.”



On our Radar Film page **Ed M. Koziarski** is pleased to report on the evolution of Chicago’s homegrown movie distributor, Music Box Films, and its auspicious new West Loop headquarters, which befit its escalating international profile. Koziarski has covered local cinema for *CS*, as well as for *Filmmaker Magazine*, *The Chicago Reader*, *Time Out Chicago*, *New City* and *Reel Chicago*. He is co-director of the in-progress documentary *Uncanny Terrain* about organic farmers facing Japan’s nuclear crisis. He teaches producing at Chicago Filmmakers in Andersonville.



Photographer **Katrina Wittkamp** loves the interesting people and things she encounters when contributing to Modern Luxury. Shooting for this issue’s Radar Health & Beauty page, Wittkamp was amazed by aesthetician Elina Fedotova’s purple-themed spa. “It was like a little science lab with all sorts of crazy ingredients for making her organic skincare line,” she says. Fedotova and Wittkamp worked as a team to create the perfect shot for the piece, but Fedotova’s smooth complexion was completely her own work. “She is a living testament to how well her products work,” says Wittkamp. “Her skin is flawless!”

Contributors

December 2012



“Somehow some of my favorite interviews end with me giving restaurant suggestions and bonding over food,” says **Jessica Radloff**, who interviewed Jimmy Smits about coming to Chicago for the Steppenwolf production of *The Motherf**ker With the Hat*. “That’s exactly what happened with Smits, who started writing down every place I was telling him to go. He was hilarious!” Radloff is *Glamour*’s West Coast Entertainment Contributor. She also appears regularly on CBS’ *The Talk* to chat about the latest in Hollywood.



For photographer **Jeff Sciortino**, who shot this month’s Arts & Power feature, working among the crème de la crème in the world of art was extremely motivational. Although Sciortino, a frequent contributor for *Modern Luxury*, has shot everyone from President Obama to LeBron James to Britney Spears, focusing on the ingenuity of his Chicago peers means just as much to him. “Their achievements make you want to push yourself to be a better artist,” he says.



Photographer **Anthony Tahlner** was busy this past month, shooting the photos for Radar Film “Art House,” Radar Nightlife “Glass Act” Food Drink Review “Asia Major!” and Food Drink Deal “Southern Comfort.” Shooting Alpana Singh of Board House for the Nightlife page was a highlight. “I’ve been watching her show [*Check, Please!*] for years,” says Tahlner. He also loved Embeya, a West Loop spot reviewed this issue by dining critic Michael Nagrant. Says Tahlner: “I was so impressed that I’m going there this Friday night for dinner.”
