

ART HOTELS



21C MUSEUM HOTEL
ACE HOTEL PORTLAND
ART HOTEL ATELIER SUL MARE
ART HOTEL BOSTON
ARTE LUISE KUNSTHOTEL
BYBLOS ART HOTEL
COTSWOLDS88HOTEL
DADDY LONG LEGS
DOMAINE DES ANDÉOLS
GLADSTONE HOTEL
HOTEL BASICO
HÔTEL DES ACADÉMIES ET DES ARTS
HOTEL DU PETIT MOULIN
HOTEL FOX
HOTEL MAX SEATTLE
HOTEL PUERTA AMÉRICA
HOTEL TOMO
HOTEL WINDSOR NICE
ICEHOTEL
LE BELLECHASSE
LLOYD HOTEL
NEW MAJESTIC HOTEL
OSTEL
PROPELLER ISLAND CITY LODGE
REFLECTIONS ROOMS
ROOM MATE MARIO
SIXTY HOTEL
SOHO HOTEL
THE G
THE HOTEL

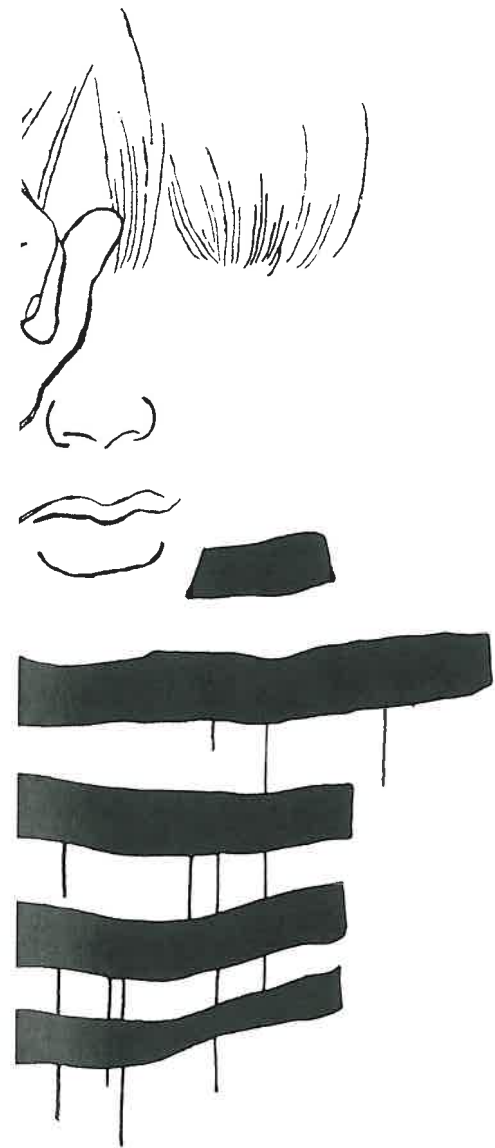
Introduction

A new breed of hotels is emerging. Hailed as the Art Hotel, art is no longer just the occasional painting along the corridor, but has taken over hotel spaces including bedrooms, lobbies, restaurants and even toilets to redefine the traditional hotel experience. These hotels are reclaiming a spirit of authenticity and playfulness, revealing the tastes of a new generation of travellers seeking hotels with character and soul.

Art Hotels showcases 30 establishments from around the world which have artistically-recreated public and private spaces, from fresh illustrative murals, edgy street art, designer furniture, contemporary art pieces to theatrical in-room installations.

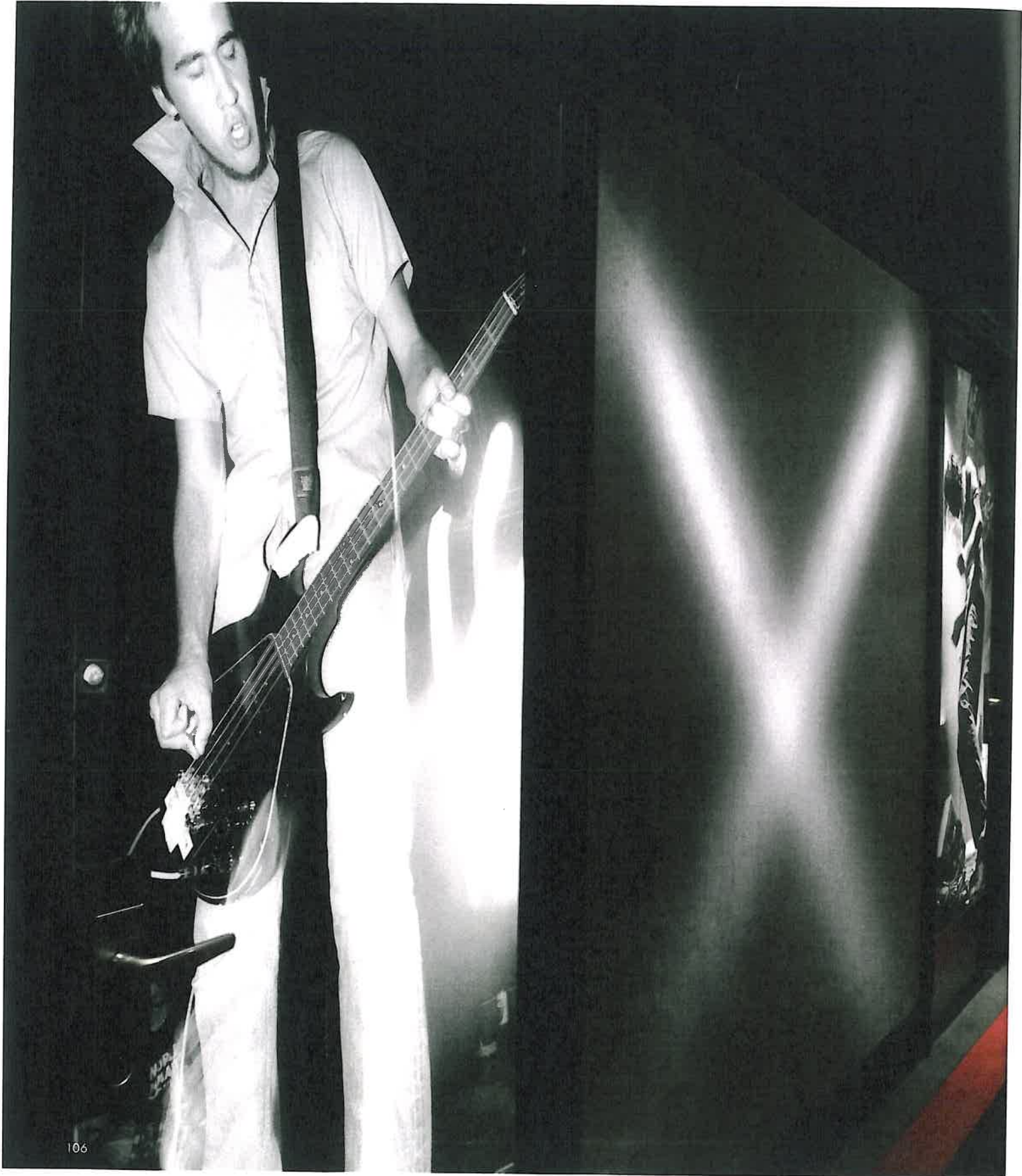
Some hotels use art to stand out to their customers (who can forget living in an upside down room?) while others build upon the concept of artistically-designed spaces to turn their hotel into a cultural institution. Some of these art hotels function like mini-galleries, with curators or owners carefully selecting or commissioning art pieces for their hotel, holding regular exhibitions and showcases of creative talent, immersing the hotel guest in a unique cultural experience.





As hoteliers increasingly tap the talents of local and international art and design communities, hotels become locales of experimentation, encouraging a spirit of creativity and inspiring guests. The process of collaboration between hoteliers and creatives is a predictably unpredictable process. The formula: give an artist or designer an empty room or space; see what happens. The results could range from a room turned into a sound studio, making guests climb up ladders to reach the bed, art objects found around unexpected areas of the hotel or restaurants doubling as exhibition areas.

In short, forget cookie cutter rooms or hotels that are simply style machines. *Art Hotels* will appeal to artists, designers and the art loving public with its selection of artistic hotels, and will be an invaluable resource for hoteliers seeking to create engaging and exciting new spaces for their own hotels.



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Images courtesy of Hotel Max Seattle

YOU'VE GOT SEATTLE AT THE MAX



ABOVE: The neon sign on the roof of this ten-storey hotel calls attention to the Hotel Max, at the edge of Seattle's downtown.

OPPOSITE PAGE: If you're lodging on the fifth level, portraits of musicians such as Courtney Love, Kurt Cobain and Eddie Vedder by photographer Charles Petersen are slicked on to the corridor-facing doors

Seattle will always be remembered for giving the world two things: grunge music and Starbucks Coffee. One of the city's coolest and most artistic hotel addresses, the Hotel Max Seattle provides the venue for visitors hitting the city for the grunge scene and to enjoy a fine cup of coffee.

The Hotel Max's history dates back to the 1920s when lumber magnate Joseph Vance inaugurated the Vance Hotel in downtown Seattle. Former Nirvana bassist Krist Novoselic took time to swing by the opening ceremony of the refurbished Vance Hotel, reintroduced as Hotel Max in the fall of 2005.

Specially-commissioned for the Hotel Max were over 350 works of arts. Pieces from internationally renowned artist, Tony Evanko, who utilises abstraction and distortion to emphasise the essence of ambiguity in communication, has a piece featuring hieroglyphic representations which hangs in the 17-foot-high lobby.

The hotel's lobby and rooms have been decorated with work by a myriad of 39 local artists. The 163 rooms are organised into Solo Art, Queen of Art, Artist King and Art of Two Beds, according to types of beds available in the room. Noticeable features here include a curious "You've Got It" button on the phone for all those outrageous requests, and a spiritual menu which offers guests a range of spiritual and religious books.



ABOVE: An image of a partially-nude model, vaguely glimpsed here in the background, offers a hint of raciness to the lobby's plush, cinematic ambience.

An array of black and white life-sized photographs on the hallway-facing doors double as photographic art galleries by local photographers. Charles Peterson, one of the city's foremost photographers and chronicler of the Seattle grunge music scene, takes an entire floor which is an exhibition of his black and white photographs of rock luminaries. His work on the fifth level showcases provocative portraits of musicians including Nirvana's Kurt Cobain, Courtney Love and Pearl Jam's Eddie Veder.

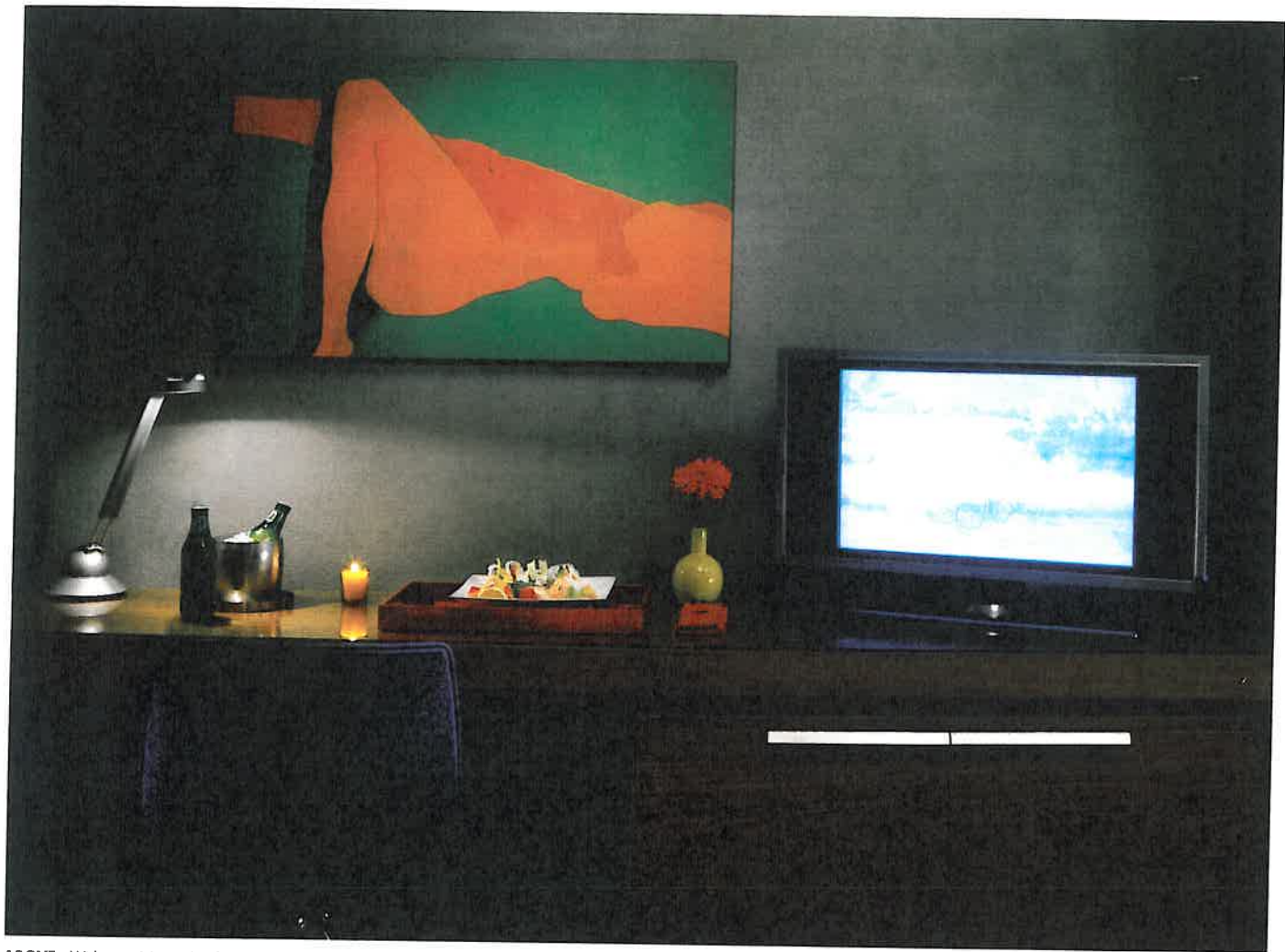
Roniq Bartanen parallels him with a softer tone on the seventh floor with sensual, full-bodied landscapes of Paris and its people. Other featured artists and photographers include Jackie Barnett, Andrée Carter, Jay Backstrand, Junko Yamamoto, Pam Baker and John Armstrong.

To capture the artistic expression of the hotel, it has published *Maximalism: Art at the Hotel Max, Seattle* available to visitors who wish to learn more about the artists and photographers featured in the hotel. In short, the Max is home to music, art and good coffee, an extension of the city's essential vibe.



ABOVE (LEFT): The hotel is not afraid to pack on intense colours, and its lobby with a red concierge, rich wood walls, and purple-hued carpets delivers a dramatic entrance

ABOVE (RIGHT): This portrait of a Parisian lady steals the show on the seventh floor featuring 19 black and white photographs by French photographer, Roniq Bartanen.



ABOVE: With over 350 works of art in the hotel, each room comes with its own unique art pieces.



ABOVE: There's no need to substitute cushy comforts for art in the Hotel Max where "only-the-most-luxurious beds" and "scrumptiously self-indulgent linens" complement the hotel's emphasis on art.