

HOUSTON

THE MEN'S ISSUE

*The Season's Sexiest Suits
Beer Me! Oktoberfest's Best
The Texans' Tiny Dancer
Gerard Butler: Great Scot!
Art News! Fun With Guns
& Naked Lady Chic*

INSIDE: TRAVEL SPECIAL!

*HANG ZEN IN HAWAII
MUSTIQUE MYSTIQUE
BAREFOOT IN BELIZE
HOUSTON DOES PANAMA
TOP TEXAS STAYCAYS!*

+PLUS

*Robert Earl Keen
Outlaw Artists on the Run
Bar Annie, New & Improved?
Houston High, the Movie
& all the Hot Parties!*



OCTOBER 2009 \$5.95

7 25274 04241 8

RIDES

Four Score!

Sleek and supercharged, these sexy new sedans—yes, sedans—are rocking the road



Jaguar XJ

With curvaceous lines, a panoramic glass roof and a distinctive grill, the leaping cat has jumped headlong into a new era of XJ sedans. Redesigned from front to back, the 2010 models still offer the degree of comfort and subtle styling that's drawn discerning motorists to the XJ for 40 years. But with a high-def touch screen in the console, blind spot sensors and an aircraft aluminum frame, this definitely isn't your father's Jag. *\$72,500 by order at Momentum Jaguar Southwest Houston, 10150 Southwest Frwy., 800.553.2128*

Mercedes E550

The old standby of luxury brands reinvigorated its venerable E series for 2010, giving it big, bold looks on the outside and a raft of technology within. In fact, the car can almost drive itself, with lane-drift detection, pre-crash automatic braking, parking guidance and even a system to sense if you've nodded off. Not that you could get bored with the meaty 5.5L cast-aluminum V8 at your fingertips behind the steering-wheel-mounted paddle shifters. *\$56,300 at Mercedes Benz of Houston North, 17510 I-45 N., 877.276.2556*



Porsche Panamera

Share some gut-wringing power with three of your closest friends in Porsche's first-ever sedan. Just don't expect a bench seat in the back. "Anything that we do is always focused on the driving experience," says Porsche rep Gary Fong. Which means 500 horsepower from the twin-turbocharged V8 engine slings this nimble 4,000-pound baby up to 188 miles per hour around a track. Plus, there's room for everyone's bags in the trunk. *\$89,800 to \$148,000, available after Oct. 27 at Porsche West, 11890 Katy Frwy., 800.390.4115—Peter Barnes*



DESIGN WATCH

She'll Take Manhattan!

Houston interior design veteran **Lauren Rottet** professes she's a hotel-décor newbie. Which is hard to believe because, not only does she have two big projects in the works (bungalows for the Beverly Hills Hotel and a property in Mexico City with renowned architect Richard Meier), but she also just completed the \$60 million reno of New York's **Surrey Hotel**. Rottet was in part inspired by a photo of Coco Chanel when re-doing the small lobby, lounge and 190 salon-like rooms. The décor throughout blends antique with contemporary and hard with soft, notably in the hotel's lobby where an Oriental rug lies near modern art, marble columns and quilted leather walls. "Coco was very feminine in some ways," says the designer, "but also very tough." *Rooms from \$499, thesurrey.com—AB*



From top: Inside a room at the Surrey, the hotel's lobby and interior designer Rottet



SPA OF THE MONTH

For the Boys

New **SpaNow** is *serious* about dudes. And the lounge with a flat screen trained on ESPN—and next-door restos serving wings and subs respectively—aren't the half of it. In hipster Gravitas designer Ferenc Dreef's mod-clubby space awash in warm grays, the spa *mainstreams* men. It's neither overly macho nor female-focused and fussy. Here, boys will be boys, who happen to enjoy being pampered and polished. *3651 Wesleyan St., Ste. 200, 713.888.0029—JG*



Inside the men's locker room and lounge at SpaNow