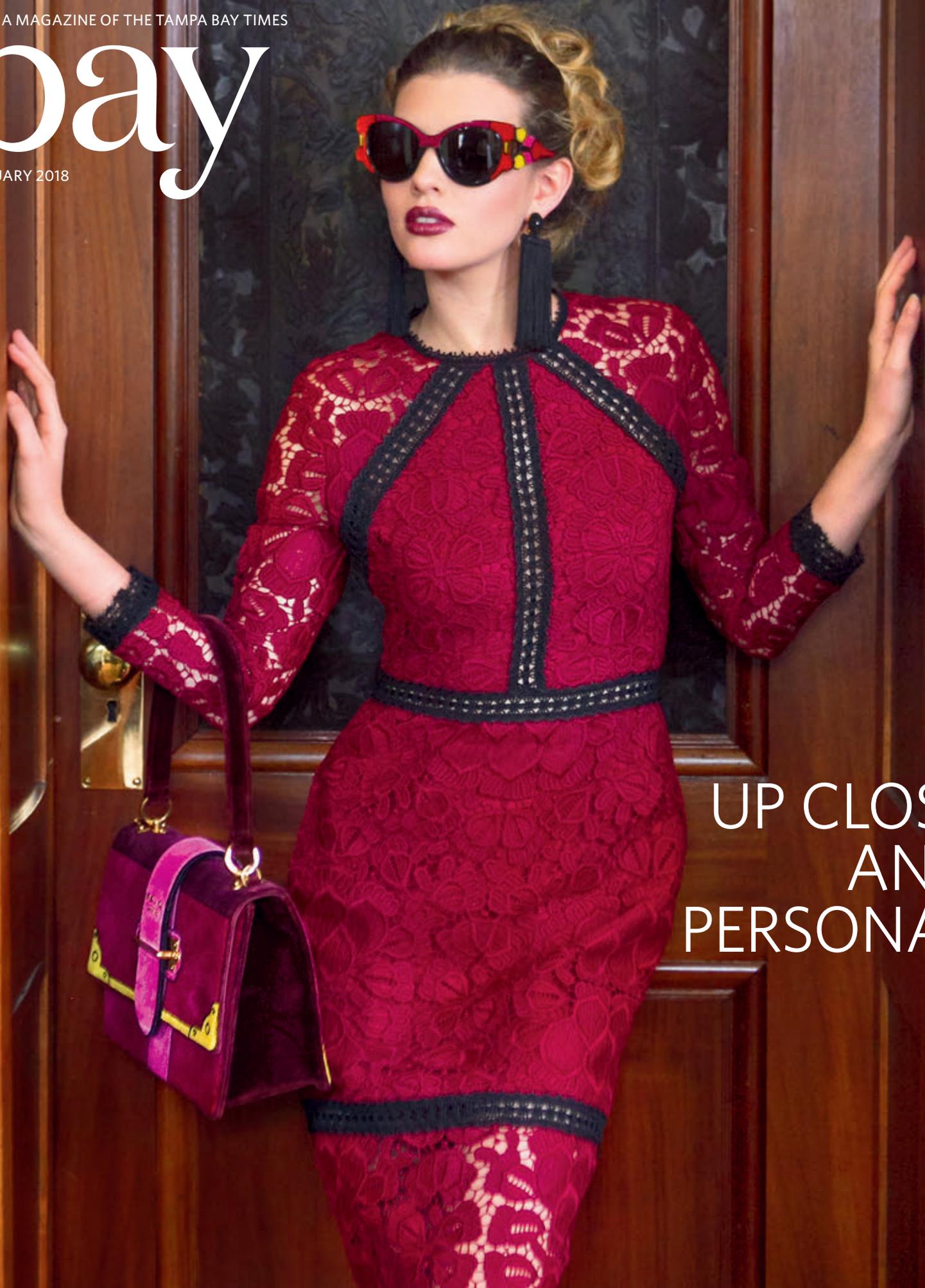


A MAGAZINE OF THE TAMPA BAY TIMES

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FEBRUARY 2018



UP CLOSE
AND
PERSONAL

art curator

As a personal art curator, Kathy Gibson helps clients collect and stage their art, while serving as a bit of a life coach along the way.

“I think sometimes people just want a hand to hold,” said Gibson, the director of Arthouse 3. “When I’m with a client, it becomes sort of a combustion of energy. I come to hang a piece of art, then we find we have to move a piece of furniture to create a better environment and it keeps going from there.”

Gibson sees art and its surroundings in a different light than her clients, but even with a familiarity of more than 100 regional artists, she doesn’t come in and dictate.

“First I sit for a moment,” she explained. “I ask, ‘What door do you come in? Where do you sit when you’re in this room? Do you ever use this piece?’” If the client says she never sits in this chair or she never really liked that wall hanging, Gibson makes sure that’s the case, then moves forward.

“I say, ‘I have my Jeep. I can haul it away right now, let’s just get it out of your sight,’” she said.

Over the past 20 years Gibson has run two galleries and become friends with many local artists, though she doesn’t represent any exclusively.

“I’d rather have the freedom to work with multiple artists. I go to a lot of art events and I know artists who introduce me to other artists,” she explained.

Favorites include painter George Anderton, photographer Selina Roman and self-taught folk artist Ruby Williams, who is nationally recognized.

“My main reason for supporting local artists is I want them to stay here,” said Gibson, who also curates the growing corporate collection of the Shumaker, Loop & Kendrick law firm.

For more information, go to arthouse3.com



Kathy Gibson helps clients curate their own art collections.

Photograph by Daniel Veintimilla

personal assistant

Be it inconspicuously transporting jewelry and fur coats across the country, planning a party or designing a backyard alligator habitat, Premiere Lifestyle Management chief executive Jodi Jacolow and a staff of seven are game for just about any task a client might request.

“Some clients never want to see us, they call us house fairies working from a ‘to-do’ email,” said Jacolow, a schoolteacher-turned-personal assistant when she started her business as Just Ask Jodi in 1999.

“Others want us 20 hours a week doing things they never want to have to do, like resurfacing the floors or flushing the plumbing lines. We make educated decisions that the homeowner would make,” she explained.

As her services grew, she rebranded to Premiere Concierge, then switched to Premiere Lifestyle Management to sandwich in homeowner services. In 2009, the company expanded to New York where a number of Tampa Bay clients maintain second homes.

“Managing people is our most valuable asset,” Jacolow said. “We don’t do drywall and hang mirrors, so my expertise is having the relationships with vendors to get the jobs done efficiently.”

Jacolow charges \$65 an hour. She doesn’t accept assignments involving children due to liability concerns.

Discreet is the byword. Jacolow won’t even hint at her client list.

“That’s why people trust us,” she said. “Clients compliment us in public, but it’s never going to come from my staff or me.”

For more information, go to www.plm.management



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