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## THIS MONTH, DON'T MISS...

**Who Leah Pinsent** in *Burnt Toast* (Bravo!, Feb. 17 and Feb. 24) and *Heyday!* (CBC, March 27). **Take 1** *Burnt Toast*, which co-stars **Paul Gross**, is an hour-long comedic opera that explores the stages of romantic love. Pinsent plays a waif who's looking for a soulmate. "Each person's experience with love is different, but everyone can relate to the wonderful and not-so-wonderful clichés about love," she explains. Real-life opera pros such as soprano **Isabel Bayrakdarian** and baritone **Russell Braun** are involved, but it's Pinsent's first singing role. "It was petrifying, but you just have to jump in and do it!" **Take 2** In *Heyday!*, Pinsent goes glam playing a '40s-era starlet. "It was fun imagining myself as a movie star—so stylish and smooth, as if I could snap my fingers and anything would come my way," she says. The movie, which is written and directed by her father, **Gordon Pinsent**, is loosely based on his experiences working as a busboy at the Airlines Hotel in Gander, Nfld., which served as a stopover for U.S. servicemen and the Hollywood stars sent to entertain them. **TAMSEN MCDONOUGH**



**HOT DVD**

**Who Keegan Connor Tracy** of *Beggars and Choosers* fame. **The flick** *The Net 2.0*. **Plot** Tracy plays a cyber-thief who steals the identity of a young computer systems analyst who has just arrived in Istanbul to start a new job. **Set tales** "We filmed on location in Istanbul. My trailer was an old caravan, and the driver's seat was divided only by a worn curtain. My driver was always in there watching TV. It was right out of *The Beverly Hillbillies!*" jokes the actress, who hails from Windsor, Ont. **Identity swap** "If I could be anyone, I'd love to be Empress Josephine, with all the pomp, ceremony and amazing dresses. And I'd get to witness the inside life of one of the most fascinating people in history—Napoleon." **Up next** Tracy's production company, Drama Queen, is pitching a food show called *Eat the Sky*. "I'm a total foodie," she says. "Life's too short not to eat French cheese!" **CORY SIMPSON**



### Mystic giver

Now Kabbalah followers can get their spiritual and physical pampering at Toronto's Pantages Spa. The therapists begin each massage session by offering you a glass of blessed water. Next, your body is massaged with oil that has been energized—using shiatsu, reiki and sound and meditation techniques. "People always leave with a sense of well-being—like they left behind some of their worries on my massage table," says therapist David Yacoub. \$150 to \$190 for 90 minutes; [www.pantagespa.com](http://www.pantagespa.com).

Blessed Kabbalah water is served before treatments at Toronto's Pantages Spa.



### EYE SPY

Forget *The Jerry Springer Show*. There's a classier way to make it big on TV. Using PlayStation2 technology, Sony's new interactive fitness system, EyeToy: Kinetic, flashes your image right onto your flat-screen TV. The system then tracks and analyzes your movements, offering instant feedback on any wild lunges or turns. If you're not quite up for the system's intense 12-week training program, head into EyeToy's Zen Garden for some relaxing mind and body moves. [www.eyetoykinetic.com](http://www.eyetoykinetic.com); for details, see Shopping Guide.

Get ready for your close-up with Sony's EyeToy: Kinetic, \$59.99.



Draw alongside an expert with Egon Schiele: *Erotic Sketchbook* (Prestel, \$34.95).



### Art lover

No wonder Picasso was such a ladies' man. A recent British study shows that the more creative a person is, the more sexual partners he or she is likely to have. The artists and poets studied had, on average, between four and 10 lovers since turning 18; the non-artistic types enjoyed just three. "Creative people tend to be charismatic," says lead author Dr. Daniel Nettle of the University of Newcastle. "It could also be that they lead a bohemian lifestyle and tend to act more on sexual impulse and opportunities." No such luck for Austrian expressionist Egon Schiele. Unlike Picasso, who died at 91, Schiele succumbed to Spanish flu at 28.

### Diamond life

Nicknamed "black diamonds," black truffles are not just a gastronomic treat. These sought-after subterranean mushrooms contain amino acids that stimulate collagen production and promote healthy nails, skin and hair. One amino acid, cysteine, is said to assist tissues damaged by alcohol abuse and cigarette smoke—just the ticket for post-Oscar party blues. Selona Signature Collection Black Diamond Truffle Whipped Body Butter (\$58.37 for 118 mL) and Exfoliating Body Scrub (\$52.50 for 118 mL), made with black truffles from Italy and France, are available at [www.selonabeauty.com](http://www.selonabeauty.com).

Selona Signature Collection Black Diamond Truffle Exfoliating Body Scrub (\$52.50 for 118 mL).



## Tasha Tilberg **MODEL**

**Assignment** Discovered at 14, this supermodel has graced the covers of *Vogue*, *Marie Claire* and *W*. Tilberg, whose family hails from Chilliwack, B.C., loved working on "Top Ten" (page 112), one of this month's fashion editorials. **Perks of being a model** "Meeting different people and travelling." **Best career advice** "To let it all happen and know that destiny has a plan." **Beauty tip** "Wash your face with cold water and use a good moisturizer."



## Iain MacMillan **WRITER**

**Assignment** This *Ski Canada Magazine* editor-in-chief had to familiarize himself with the more romantic aspects of ski resorts for "Ice Queens," page 106. "Usually my stories are about hills and powder depth; now they're about 400-thread-count duvets and spa treatments," says

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MacMillan. **Best dream** "After heli-skiing, I dreamed for days that I was falling through the air and landing on pillows of snow." **Happiness is...** "Rowing at sunrise when the mist is rising off the water."



## Veronika Aquila and Tamsen McDonough **ELLE INTERNS**

**Assignment** Aquila researched photos for celebrities who flip from good to bad (page 86), while McDonough chatted with Leah Pinsent about her new TV projects (page 78). **Aquila's dream** "Seeing behind the scenes of a fantastic magazine has confirmed my love for the industry and makes me scream 'I want to do this for the rest of my life!'" **McDonough, on how she would like to be remembered after her internship is over** "Efficient, reliable and generous with chocolate."



## Hung Vanngo **HAIR AND MAKEUP ARTIST**

**Assignment** According to the Vietnam-born, New York-based hair and makeup artist, simple and fresh is what's hot for spring. "It's all about beautiful, dewy skin and nude eyes and lips!" says Vanngo, who created model Anna W.'s look for "It Girl," page 124. "For the shoot, I kept the hair a little messy to get that natural look." Vanngo's award-winning work has also appeared in *Surface*, *Fashion* and *Flare*. **What celebrity he'd like to be** "Johnny Depp. Who doesn't love him?" **What he would take to the afterlife** "My laptop—to stay connected!"