

DRIVER

How Glenn McKay and Michael Smith got Medical Rescue flying

DESPATCHES

Finding the authentic Morocco amidst the madness

PLATE

Lucky Bao emerges from the street food scene with new restaurant

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WELCOME



In August, we welcomed Steven Smith, Captain of the Australian cricket team, as a Mercedes-Benz Gold Coast ambassador. Steve is an impressive human being, and his focus on hard work and commitment to excellence are the same things we strive for here at our Robina dealership.

Steve visited us at the dealership where we had photos taken with his car of choice, the Mercedes-Benz GLE 43 AMG. He also sat down for an interview, which will appear in the Summer issue of MBGC, just as we settle in to enjoy the Ashes. Steve was very generous with his answers, so it will be a great read.

In this issue we meet the directors of Medical Rescue, Glenn McKay and Michael Smith, who together have grown their business to employ 100 people. As the name suggests, Medical Rescue undertakes missions to bring home Australians who have been seriously injured overseas, either at work or play. But the business is so much more than that. Find out more on page 10.

We also visited Lucky Bao, one of the Gold Coast's newest and most popular restaurants, which is run by husband-and-wife team Daud and Emmi Kendall and backed by a consortium of investors, including one of our regular Mercedes-Benz Gold Coast customers, Selasi Berdie.

Elsewhere in the magazine we tell the story of how three girls who worked together at the Gold Coast Airport have turned their passion for creating stunning platters into a business, and Louise Roche from Villa Styling takes us on a tour of one of her latest interior fit outs in Byron Bay.

Finally, I need to clear up an error made in the previous issue of MBGC. The article about Rob White's 30-year love affair with Mercedes-Benz (p14) described Gold Coast eye surgeon Daryl Gregor as "retired". This is not the case; Daryl is still repairing eyes on the Gold Coast with great effect and we're sorry for any confusion caused by this mistake.

Robin Mainali

*Dealer Principal
Mercedes-Benz Gold Coast*

Tasting Success

What your event catering is telling your clients about your brand.

You arrive, you greet some people, exchange a laugh with an old friend. There's a drink in your hand, acoustics swirling through the air and then here it comes- the food. Surprisingly beautiful, delicate on the platter- it almost looks too good to eat, but you can't resist. Then with the first mouthful, a symphony of flavour explodes on your palate; satisfying and sumptuous.

You know you're in good hands. It's going to be a great night.

The power of thoughtful and exquisite catering at your next event should not be underestimated. Whether it's a product launch, a business conference, or a celebration- the overall success of your event is a result of a number of key elements all coming together well. Of these elements, one of the most crucial ones, is the food you serve.

Traditionally, when two people date, they get to know each other over food. Your event, whether it's a small gathering or a feast, is an opportunity for your guests to get to know you better too.

So what does your food say about you or your business? Are you intuitive and exciting? Are you loyal to the classics? Are you fresh and vibrant? Are you experimental and exotic? The food you serve is a subtle, but powerful opportunity to give your guests a taste of your company's personality, your attention to detail and level of service. Conversely, poor catering selection can leave your guests with a bad taste in their mouths, wondering about the overall quality of your standards and consumer care.

With those points considered, it is imperative to partner with an experienced catering company like **Progressive Catering & Events** who will take the time to understand your goals and values, and who will work closely with you to ensure that every aspect of your special occasion or event is well planned and perfectly executed.

Progressive Catering & Events understand that a successful menu should be memorable, surprising, fearless and diverse. It should be anchored on the classics, whilst boldly exploring the latest trends. Their expert chefs understand the importance of presentation and impeccable food delivery. As a premier catering team, **Progressive Catering & Events** understand the level of trust that you and your company have placed in their hands; and will offer you the peace of mind to relax and enjoy your function.

Food is such a central link in the chain of relationship building. We celebrate with food, we gather our families around tables, we show love through our cooking. We nourish, we comfort, we communicate. Food breaks down borders and boundaries. It brings people together. Gifting your guests with a supreme culinary experience is not only thoughtful, but with **Progressive Catering & Events**, it might even be magical.

*Gifting your guests with a supreme culinary experience is not only thoughtful, but with **Progressive Catering & Events**, it might even be magical*



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TO THE RESCUE

WORDS James Perkins
PHOTOGRAPHY Lincoln Williams



When disaster strikes at remote work sites and at distant holiday destinations, Medical Rescue flies into action to connect the injured with life-saving treatment. But there is much more to this fast-growing Gold Coast-based business than rescues.

In April, 10 months after a fatal bus crash in Vanuatu, two people who were critically injured in the collision walked into the Medical Rescue office to offer their personal thanks.

Without the Medical Rescue system and capabilities in place, there was no way they would have survived.

It took just seven hours for the Gold Coast-based business to get paramedics on the ground on the Pacific Island nation to bring the patients home for treatment.

The cruise ship tour bus had collided with a local bus and three people were killed, 12 injured. Some were treated in Vanuatu, but some had to be flown back to Brisbane.

“That is my most memorable moment of the past five or six years,” says Medical Rescue Director Michael Smith, an intensive care paramedic.

“To have them walk through our door was a true mark of our success.”

As Managing Director and founder, Dr Glenn McKay, explains, the question asked first in all reviews is, “did we do everything we could in the best interest of the patient?”

“If we did, then we can hold our hands over our hearts and say that we are doing a good job and we should keep doing what we are doing.”

What Medical Rescue does is send planes and helicopters to rescue sick and injured people in locations such as the

Pacific Island nations, South East Asia, oil rigs that are hundreds of kilometres out to sea, and to cruise ships in the Pacific and Indian oceans.

As businesses expand their range to remote areas, and more and more people explore far-flung destinations, it is the service provided by Medical Rescue that is an insurance policy for the health of workers and tourists.

Dr McKay founded the business in 2003, but it has been in the past five to seven years, after he and Michael began their partnership, that Medical Rescue stepped up the pace of growth.

When Michael came on board, he and Glenn would fly the rescue missions themselves. While they have maintained their medical registrations, both men have now stepped back into management roles to guide the business as it has diversified and grown to employ 100 staff.

In addition to medical rescues, the business operates field hospitals at four ski fields in Queenstown, where 45 staff treat around 3,000 patients over a three-month snow season each year; it transports injured soldiers for the Australian Defence Force; it designs and manufactures medical equipment; and it runs training in disciplines such as driving and underwater helicopter escape.

“I am really proud of what the team has achieved,” says Dr McKay. “Everybody has worked so hard over the past several years to see this kind of growth and there is no hint of slowing. It is an exciting time.”



THE TAKEOFF

After working as a locum with several hospitals on the Gold Coast and with the ADF, Glenn, who hails from New Zealand and is a former Assistant Professor at Bond University for Retrieval Medicine, recognised the growing need for transport networks to bring people back to cities to access health services.

“That extends beyond state borders,” he says. “As businesses extend out into remote regions they have an obligation to staff to make sure they can get them home in an emergency.”

Additionally, baby boomers are moving into retirement and travelling internationally.

“This is an age group that has a lot of co-morbidities and medical conditions, so it is important there is a network to look after them and to move those people from remote locations back to cities to get treatment.”

Around 2013, a series of events set Medical Rescue into a period of rapid growth. First, the business picked up a contract with Racing Queensland to provide full-time paramedics at South East Queensland racetracks.

Two months later, CHC helicopters and Shell contracted the business to supply paramedics for an all-weather search and rescue helicopter based in Broome in support of numerous oilrigs off the coast of the northwest shelf.

Fortuitously, the Broome-based helicopter was in the right place at the right time to carry out one of the biggest air rescue missions seen in Australia in the past two years.

The aircraft, which is the longest-range helicopter in Australia, was able to rescue a patient with critical head injuries from a cruise ship halfway between Australia and Bali.

The rescue saved a life and also showcased the capabilities of Medical Rescue.

“It was the most complex case you could imagine,” says Michael. “The patient was unconscious and in an induced coma and the paramedic had to provide breathing for that patient as they were winched off the cruise ship.”

The recognition provided by the rescue helped Medical Rescue gain a full-time contract with the Australian Defence Force to provide airborne paramedics to transport injured soldiers all over the country.

Without good people, those contracts would never have come into place, and it is careful choice of staff members that Glenn credits as being a key driver of the business’ growth.

“We have put a lot of effort into selecting our staff to create the right balance of people – from senior clinicians who make the right clinical decisions to really good operations staff who can think on their feet,” says Glenn.

“Our company is only as good as its people. We are very fortunate that we have a committed staff that work all hours of the day and night to achieve the business’ outcomes. We are very lucky.”





THE PHILIPPINES

Michael's most memorable moment in the business may have been the return of the healthy Vanuatu patients, but his most rewarding was organising a team of medical professionals to treat patients in the Philippines following Typhoon Haiyan.

In 2013, Medical Rescue set up a foundation with a mission to provide a sophisticated medical team for natural disaster relief worldwide.

Just two months later, the Philippines was hit by the devastating typhoon and the Medical Rescue Foundation leapt into action. It sent around 80 clinicians north to South East Asia who treated 2,000 patients in a month.

The business was in the process of moving offices from Tugun to Varsity Lakes, so Glenn put his family up in Brisbane and turned his home into an office.

Bed sheets hung behind almost every window to create makeshift whiteboards, staff moved in, the house was filled with computers and the basement became the supply magazine. Medical bags spewed forth on the floor through the living room.

The team linked up with Save the Children to get the clinicians into the Philippines, and "begged and borrowed," in an effort to get the transport and supplies needed to fulfill the initial stages of the mission.

Some medical staff were able to hitch a ride on RAF Hercules aircraft, others travelled on

commercial airlines. Supplies came from local hospitals and NGOs while the foundation worked to get its supply chains in place.

"It was two weeks after the initial incident that our team got on the ground and they were treating patients who were receiving their first medical intervention since the typhoon," says Michael.

He adds that it was important the team was not a burden on the local community during the crisis, because the authorities were under so much stress.

"We had to be self sufficient, so we had to send a few of our rescue-trained firefighters who set up generators, tents, and accommodation while our people were treating patients during the day, and we had to hire our own local cook."

"It was an absolute nightmare, but at the same time probably the most rewarding thing we have done within the group."

Glenn adds, "It was a busy month. And then we moved office and it was all over. All this space, and now what? We'll need to secure more business!"

Just two months later, a Medical Rescue Foundation team went into the Solomon Islands following the devastating floods. It was the first non-government organisation on the ground providing medical support.

Today, it has a roster of hundreds of medical specialists on call, in case of another disaster.

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This is an age group that has a lot of co-morbidities and medical conditions, so it is important there is a network to look after them and to move those people from remote locations back to cities to get treatment

TRANSITION TO TECH

Two to three times per week, calls will come through to Medical Rescue from uninsured Australians desperate for help getting home.

“Not having travel insurance is one of the biggest hurdles people go through,” explains Michael. “To get from Bali to Australia on a private jet ambulance, you will not have much change left out of \$100,000.”

“We do try and give people as much advice and assistance along the way as we can, but commercially, you just can’t do freebies all the time. That’s why we push people to get travel insurance.”

It is these calls that have inspired Medical Rescue to develop a mobile application that will make travel insurance easily accessible on the go, while allowing travelers to make immediate and direct contact with the business in case of emergency for assistance and advice.

“That is the scope of the next big thing we are working towards,” says Michael. “There is that gap in the market to fill and we have created a system that is patented and protected for the next 10 - 12 years.”

We do try and give people as much advice and assistance along the way as we can, but commercially, you just can’t do freebies all the time. That’s why we push people to get travel insurance



THE PINNACLE OF SUCCESS

Sometimes, when Glenn and Michael have a meeting in Sydney, instead of flying down they will hop in their Mercedes-Benz AMGs and take a drive.

Glenn owns a C 63 S and Michael a CLA 45, and opening the AMG vehicles up on the highway gives the pair a chance to appreciate the cars.

“Usually we drive them to pick up the kids from school or drive to work, so it is good to get out there and use them,” explains Michael.

Medical Rescue has an affinity with Mercedes-Benz. It has six Sprinter vans fitted as ambulances, and it runs driver training with the Rural Fire Service in Victoria in G-Class vehicles.

And the appreciation goes beyond the cars.

“For me, Mercedes-Benz is the image of the pinnacle of success,” says Michael. “It is the class of engineering in the vehicles – everything works just how it should, the cars are so comfortable, they look good, they are designed well and they go fast.

“Both Glenn and I have AMGs and we love them, they’re great.”

As well as the shared passion for Mercedes-Benz, Glenn and Michael also enjoy snowboarding the slopes of Queenstown when they can, so it is convenient that they operate medical services for patients injured on the mountain.

Glenn says that since starting the business, he has never watched the clock during work hours, or willed the hours to go faster, because running Medical Rescue is so much fun.

But amidst the fun is a steely focus on continuing to take the business from strength to strength.

“We have got to stay focused on delivering a professional service that meets the needs of our patients and our clients,” says Glenn.

“As long as we are doing that, the business will continue to grow and continue to be a fun thing to be a part of.”



IS A SELF-MANAGED SUPER FUND *right for you?*

Taking control of your superannuation fund comes with several risks and potential rewards. MWM Advisory Director Melanie Wear explains the pros and cons.

WORDS Melanie Wear, MWM Advisory Director



Have you ever looked at the annual return from your retail or industry superannuation fund with disappointment, and the feeling you could have done better yourself?

Evidently, many Australians have felt the same way in recent years, as self-managed super funds (SMSFs) have continued to grow in popularity.

More than 1.1 million Australians were members of self-managed super funds at the end of March this year, as part of 590,742 SMSFs,

while in 2012, there were 473,274 SMSFs with 899,024 members.

Roy Morgan recently found that SMSF trustees report significantly higher satisfaction with their fund's financial performance than those with public sector, industry, or retail funds.

In July 2017, satisfaction with SMSFs was 73.8%, ahead of retail funds (58.7%) and industry funds (58.2%).

Those are broad-brush statistics, and the satisfaction rate varies depending on the size of the fund – unsurprisingly, the satisfaction rates with SMSFs were the highest at funds worth \$700,000 or more. Nevertheless, SMSFs have maintained a clear lead in the Roy Morgan poll since it began in 2012.

The decision to move your superannuation into a self-managed fund is one that should be carefully considered. On the next page are several pros and cons to contemplate before making the switch.



PROS

CONTROL

SMSFs give trustees control over investment choices relating to their retirement funds, and decisions can be made and executed instantly.

FLEXIBILITY

Self-managed funds provide flexible estate planning and investment options, including direct property, unlisted shares, artwork and other alternative investments.

POTENTIAL TO INCREASE RETURNS

By managing your own superannuation you may outperform retail and industry super funds.

POTENTIAL TO LOWER FEES

SMSF administration fees are generally fixed, regardless of balance size, offering those with a large balance the potential to reduce their fees compared to a retail or industry fund.

TAX ADVANTAGES

Powerful planning tools within the SMSF framework provide many strategies for tax minimisation. For example, assets that have significantly increased in value can be held until the fund enters pension phase at which point the gains are free of capital gains tax (up to the new \$1.6 million limit).

PURCHASE EXPENSIVE ASSETS

A maximum of four people can be trustees of a single SMSF, allowing balances to be pooled to purchase expensive assets. Member balances can also be used as deposits when borrowing money to purchase investments.

OWN COMMERCIAL PROPERTY

Commercial property offers secure tenancy and asset protection, is cost effective and can assist with succession planning. You can also rent the commercial property from your own business, at market value.



CONS

EXPENSE

It is often recommended that you have a balance of at least \$200,000 prior to establishing an SMSF, which is the point ASIC has found the most benefit for SMSFs over retail or super funds. Small funds may not be cost effective.

TIME CONSUMING

You must allow additional time to manage your SMSF. Even with retained advisors, trustees of the fund must take an active interest in its management.

KNOWLEDGE REQUIRED

At a minimum, a basic understanding of sound investment practices is required, including fundamental financial tenets such as diversification, risk and return. Trustees should also understand that superannuation is to accumulate for your retirement, and cannot be accessed early (some exceptions apply).

RESPONSIBILITY

Your fund must comply with Australian rules and regulations, and it is the trustees' responsibility to ensure this is the case. You cannot leave all decisions to one dominant trustee, or to advisers.

RISKS

Lack of diversity within a SMSF is a key risk for the trustees. For example, if the fund owns just a single property. Poor investment knowledge can put the fund at risk, as can a lack of understanding of legal requirements, which can lead to breaches. The personal relationships between trustees is also a risk, as people can lose interest, or fall out with their peers.

NON-COMPLIANCE PENALTIES

It is important to remember that the tax, financial and legal consequences for the trustees of a non-compliant SMSF can be severe. That is why it is essential for SMSF trustees to receive independent advice on the management of their fund.

Ultimately, making the switch from an industry or retail fund to an SMSF relies on your personal financial situation and the effort you're willing to put into managing your finances.

Establishing an SMSF, like any financial decision, needs to rely on a sound understanding of your financial and tax position to determine if it will benefit you in the long term.

If you think an SMSF could be right for you, talk to MWM Advisory today. Visit mwmadvisory.com.au or call 07 5596 9070.

Get Lucky

Husband and wife team Daud and Emmi Kendall have made their own.
luck with Lucky Bao

WORDS James Perkins PHOTOGRAPHY Grace Mackay and Jacob Ritchie





Daud Kendall has a simple philosophy when it comes to food: “What matters is that it tastes great,” says the Lucky Bao chef and co-founder, “and that it has an immediate impact”.

Together, Daud and Emmi Kendall have created a concept that has achieved that goal, first at the Miami Marketta and now at their 90 Markeri Street restaurant.

The restaurant, which opened 23 December 2016, creates an impact with carefully prepared food, and a timeless interior design.

The menu showcases Daud’s 30 years’ experience at hatted restaurants in Sydney, at Park Hyatt hotels in the Middle East, and also at Byron Beach Café and Social Eating House, Broadbeach, where he was head chef.

The tender morsels of beef, pork belly, lamb rib, and fried chicken found in the bao is emblematic of the rest of the menu. The simplicity of the dishes belies the mix of technique and time required to get the desired impact.

The pork belly is salted and roasted whole overnight, then the salt is washed off so the pork can spend a second night in a duck fat confit, before being pressed and cut.

The lamb is cooked in a mix of Chinese stock, soy sauce, rice wine, ginger and cinnamon, again for four hours overnight and is then glazed with a Sichuan black vinegar sauce.

The lamb rib can be tasted in a bao or plated and on the bone with slaw and chilli mayonnaise – a true highlight of the Lucky Bao menu.

Each of the items on the Lucky Bao menu shows that same type of care and attention as the pork belly and lamb.

The tempura battered Parmesan broccoli will redefine your relationship with the green bushy

vegetable. The beef tatakis with kohlrabi, spring onion, kimchi, Korean soy sauce and gochujang mayonnaise melts in the mouth.

Daud’s expertise is obvious in the quality of the food, but he retains an unpretentious approach at Lucky Bao, which he describes as “tasty casualness”.

“It is not prissy. Just come in, enjoy good music and tap beer or some nice wine and have a good experience with the food.”

The experience is just as described. Emmi, who is the restaurant manager and creative director, has created a welcoming and casual space at Lucky Bao.

“I wanted to create something that would grow with us – a blank canvas. Keeping it simple was my focus with the concrete bench top and Scandinavian lighting,” she explains.

Bartenders create cocktails over the natural limestone bench, and the food and saké is served in distinctive Made of Australia ceramics.

The venue works both at lunch and dinner, when the diners spill out onto the exterior decking, and the drinks and music flow. An Asian brunch experience is also in the plans. And the bar is growing.

“At the moment, we have started off quite basic really, and but we have extended into boutique gin and whiskey labels,” says Emmi.

“We recently put on a degustation with Cork and Co, who supply us with Applewood products including wines, gins, whiskeys, and seasonal things that are quite difficult to get your hands on.”

Given the theme of the restaurant, yuzushu and saké is also a focus.

“Our drinks menu is morphing and changing all the time,” says Emmi. “We are trending towards natural wines – organic minimal intervention styles.”

WHERE IT ALL STARTED

Luck is a meeting of preparation and opportunity, and Lucky Bao is the result of 30 years' work – Daud in kitchens and Emmi managing restaurants.

The concept began at a golf course degustation in the Middle East, where Daud was tasked with cooking for the second hole.

Inspired by David Chang's take on bao at his New York restaurant Momofuku, Daud developed his own recipe, and it was such a hit on the golf course that it was permanently added to the Park Hyatt menu in Abu Dhabi.

The couple returned to Australia with their children, where the concept continued its development.

It immediately impressed the Miami Marketta management, and on the same day the concept was presented, it was offered a pop-up at Cambus Wallace in Nobby Beach.

At the Nobby Beach bar that night in 2015 was BSKT co-owner Selasi Berdie, who, upon tasting the food, walked into the kitchen with an offer to financially back Lucky Bao as a restaurant.

Selasi wasn't the only investor impressed by Lucky Bao, but the small consortium of partners he led ended up being the right fit. Selasi brought on board his friends Ryan Milligan, Bridget and Anthony Bartolo, and Brock Hunter.

After almost a year searching for the perfect venue, Emmi found the current spot at 90 Markeri Street, and, in the meantime, Lucky Bao grew a cult following at the Marketta, and the buzz is only building at the new venue.



Lucky Bao

6/90 Markeri St, Mermaid Waters QLD 4218

To book call 07 5679 6517 or visit

luckybao.com.au

It is not prissy. Just come in, enjoy good music and tap beer or some nice wine and have a good experience with the food

From the streets of Taiwan to global phenomenon

Gua bao originated from the bustling street markets of Taiwan and is the equivalent of a mini burger slider.

It is distinctive to traditional Chinese bao in that the protein is folded in a flat sticky bun, rather than being completely encased in the carbohydrate.



Simple, Elegant, Understated

Take a closer look at Louise Roche's work to understand its beauty.

WORDS James Perkins PHOTOGRAPHY Louise Roche



Louise Roche
Interior Designer

The interiors created by Louise Roche are clean and simple, yet this description betrays the intricate patterns, colours and textures that are subtly inserted into her work.

Hours spent searching for homewares allows Louise to find the pieces that subtly set each room apart.

The Villa Styling founder searches wholesalers, retailers, social media, blogs, and websites, all to find that understated pattern or small item hidden at the back of the room that add texture to each project.

“It is a huge part of the job, but an exciting part. Not only do I spend hours online, but I also spend hours driving here, there and everywhere collecting items,” she says.

When the search is finished, the items are laid out at Louise’s house, and it is there that she begins to see her plans materialise. “That’s when it starts to get even more exciting.”

“As I work I can see the look coming together and everything falling into place and when the design is done, it is a satisfying and rewarding.”

The inspiration for her designs come from everyday observations, whether that is at her home in Byron Bay, or travelling the world.

“Every time I go to a new house there are little details, small things that I notice in the detailing that have been done to add to the overall picture and those things stick with me,” she explains.

What is important is not to overcomplicate things.

“If I am styling a space, or working on the accents of a home, I work to enhance those accents by picking up the homeliness of the space and draw that out in the photography.”

Photography completes Louise’s creative process, which starts with sourcing, comes to life in her design and placement and then is captured on camera and placed on Instagram, where she has amassed more than 92,000 followers.

A close look at the photos that Louise captures of her designs brings home the effect of her hard work, as with each view a new shape, pattern or colour is revealed. They are clean and simple, elegant and enticing - designs that feel and look like the beach.

From Drab to Fab

Villa Styling founder, Louise Roche, explains her latest Byron Bay interior makeover.

To transform the tired and outdated interior of a two-bedroom holiday unit on Belongil Beach, just outside of central Byron Bay, was my brief, and in its place create a tropical haven with a sophisticated take on coastal living.

Using accents of tropical and tribal luxe, we wanted to create an interior that was in-synch with the laid back, yet vibrant Byron Bay lifestyle.

Because there was minimal natural light through the main living space, it was important to keep both furnishings and walls as light as possible to brighten the apartment.

I had the interior freshly painted in Dulux - White on White, and the colour scheme was kept fresh with layers of neutral textures and tones in luxe greens and midnight blues inspired by the gardens and ocean beyond.

The addition of two large and stunning mirrors bounced more valuable daylight around the unit, and reflected the luscious greenery found outside back into the apartment.

Old-fashioned frosted windows in the kitchen and second bedroom were further restricting the flow of natural light, so they were replaced with clear glass.

When choosing the furniture, I looked for a mix of white and natural rattan, earthy timber tones in oak, and natural blondes – elements that are synonymous with coastal interiors.

To set off the open-plan living space and create the important ‘wow factor’, I placed statement pendants around the room.

Outside, the day bed was repainted, and I created a bespoke seat pad and cushions in Warwick outdoor fabrics. All of the products were sourced locally or from interstate.

The formerly drab and outdated unit is now a picture of coastal living.



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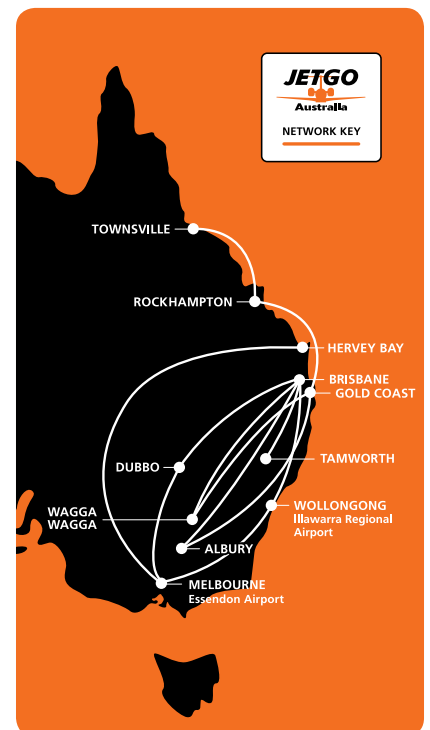


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Brisbane	↔	Wagga Wagga	From	\$259*
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Wollongong	NEW ↔	Melbourne (Essendon)	From	\$155*†
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 † Commences 30 October 2017 (subject to regulatory approval, Wollongong only).

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FEATURES INCLUDE

- AMG styling
- Panoramic sunroof
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\$50,000 - \$100,000



Km 61,700. Five-door and seven-seat wagon in Palladium Silver with beige leather interior. Stock number L10935

FEATURES INCLUDE

- Panoramic sunroof
- Luxury seats
- Keyless entry and start
- Two-year certified pre-owned warranty

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\$50,000 - \$100,000



2016 Mercedes-Benz GLC 250

\$74,900.00 Drive Away



Km 16,200. Five-door and five-seat wagon in Iridium Silver with black leather interior. Stock number L10805

FEATURES INCLUDE

- 360 camera
- Distronic Plus
- Keyless entry and start
- Two-year certified pre-owned warranty

Many more features to list.



2017 Mercedes-Benz C 200

\$74,900.00 Drive Away

\$50,000 - \$100,000



Km 2,000. Two-door and four-seat coupe in Polar White with black Artico interior. Stock number L10882

FEATURES INCLUDE

- Panoramic glass sunroof
- Heads Up display
- LED intelligent headlamps
- One-year certified pre-owned warranty

Many more features to list.

\$50,000 - \$100,000



2014 Mercedes-Benz C 250

\$54,900.00 Drive Away



Km 21,200. Four-door and five-seat sedan in Obsidian Black with black leather interior. Stock number L 10767

FEATURES INCLUDE

- Panoramic sunroof
- Heads Up display
- LED intelligent headlamps
- Including 2 Year Certified Pre-Owned Warranty

Many more features to list.



2016 Mercedes-Benz B 200

\$37,900.00 Drive Away



Km 9,061 Five-door and five-seat hatchback in Cirrus White with black Artico interior. Stock number L10945

FEATURES INCLUDE

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 - Keyless Go
 - Blind spot assistance
 - 17-inch alloy wheels
 - Reverse camera
 - One-year certified pre-owned warranty
- Many more features to list.

\$25,000 - \$50,000



2012 Mercedes-Benz C 200

\$32,900.00 Drive Away



Km 94,000. Four-door and five-seat sedan in Tenorite Grey with black Artico interior. Stock number L10960

FEATURES INCLUDE

- AMG styling
 - Sunroof
 - Bi-Xenon headlamps
 - Harman/Kardon audio
 - Two-year certified pre-owned warranty
- Many more features to list.

\$15,000 - \$50,000



2010 Mercedes-Benz C 200

\$29,900.00 Drive Away



Km 118,000. Four-door and five-seat sedan in Iridium Silver with Crystal Grey leather interior. Stock number L10888

FEATURES INCLUDE

- Keyless entry
- Sunroof
- Multi-contour seats
- Two-year certified pre-owned warranty

Many more features to list.

\$15,000 - \$50,000



2010 Mercedes-Benz E 350

\$29,900.00 Drive Away



Km 90,311. Four-door and five-seat sedan in Iridium Silver with black Artico interior. Stock number L10764

FEATURES INCLUDE

- Sunroof
- Bi-Xenon headlamps
- Harman/Kardon audio
- Two-year certified pre-owned warranty

Many more features to list.

\$15,000 - \$50,000



2012 Mercedes-Benz E 200

\$28,900.00 Drive Away



Km 117,000. Four-door and five-seat sedan in Tenorite Grey with black Artico interior. Stock number L10781

FEATURES INCLUDE

- COMAND navigation
- Glass sunroof
- Two-year certified pre-owned warranty

Many more features to list.

\$15,000 - \$50,000



2013 Mercedes-Benz A 180

\$27,900.00 Drive Away



Km 90,355km. Five-door and five-seat hatchback in Cosmos Black with black Artico interior. Stock number L10933

FEATURES INCLUDE

- Panoramic sunroof
- Bi-Xenon headlamps
- Two-year certified pre-owned warranty

Many more features to list.

\$15,000 - \$50,000



2008 Mercedes-Benz C 200

\$19,900.00 Drive Away



Km 59,900. Four-door and five-seat sedan in Cubanite Silver with black Artico interior. Stock number L10957

FEATURES INCLUDE

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\$15,000 - \$50,000



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140 × 140 cm. B6 695 2926

2 WOMEN'S CLASSIC SCARF
Black/dark brown/gold/white.
100% silk with hand-rolled edges.
Design incorporates images of the first
Mercedes, the first Mercedes logo
and the Classic logo. Size approx.
90 × 90 cm. B6 604 3022

3 WOMEN'S CLASSIC CAP
Black. 100% cotton. Vintage star
embroidered on front, trimmed with
Swarovski® crystals. Vintage
"Mercedes" lettering embroidered
on back in gold. Metal clasp for
adjusting fit. B6 604 1517

4 SUN VISOR
White. 100% polyester. Sweat-absorbent
quick-dry design thanks to mesh panels
inside. Black logo badge with silver-coloured
3D star at back. Velcro fastening allows size
size to be adjusted. B6 695 4302



5 WOMEN'S POLO SHIRT
White. 100% cotton piqué. All-over
print on front and back. Embroidered
motifs in gloss thread on front and
on sleeves. Mock layer hem detail in
Petronas green. Sizes XS-XL.
B6 799 5167-5171

6 WOMEN'S HERITAGE CAP
White with green details. 100% cotton.
Check design on underside of peak.
Embroidered laurel wreath and
rhinestones on upper side of peak. Vintage
Mercedes lettering embroidered on
back. Adjustable fit. B6 799 5245





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CREATING EDIBLE ARTWORKS



Finely arranged spreads from Platter Up are a feast for the eyes.

WORDS James Perkins PHOTOGRAPHY Grace Mackay

.....

“We had a great response not only from our family and friends, but from the general public, who asked questions and took our business cards. It was a great launch”



The Platter Up team (left to right) - Julia, Lisa and Teneile

It almost seems rude to eat a Platter Up creation, as the selection of fruits, dips, cheeses, biscuits and foliage are arranged with such style.

As clients often tell the three founders, Lisa Dennis, Julia Rogers and Teneile Stephens: ‘this is a work of art; we don’t want to eat it!’

But eat it they do, because it would really be rude to waste all that fine produce the girls handpick for each unique platter.

“Seeing the reaction from the clients, when they see the platter for the first time, that is a nice moment,” says Lisa.

Julia adds, “We are very proud of our work, and it is always nice to see our clients really thrilled and excited with the finished piece.”

The three girls met working at Gold Coast Airport and initially created platters for their friends, who then encouraged them to consider starting a business.

“It was a series of stepping stones for us,” says Teneile. Eventually, the business had a soft launch in October 2016 with a big platter for family and friends at Burleigh Hill.

The spread got the attention that the girls hoped, as people stopped to look at their work.

“We had a great response not only from our family and friends, but from the general public, who asked questions and took our business cards. It was a great launch,” Lisa says.

The girls remain employed full-time, but perhaps not for long – the concept is gathering momentum.

Platter Up works with a variety of clients for events such as weddings, birthday parties and corporate functions, and caters for all dietary requirements.

It takes about 90 minutes for the product to come together, as the girls work in union in what Julia describes as “a free flowing construction that unveils as it is being built”.

Each platter has a centrepiece chosen for the specific event, which can be flowers, cheese, breads or foliage.

“This is an opportunity for us all to get really creative,” explains Teneile. “Being our own business, we can take creative risks, and all of our clients have been receptive to our ideas.”

Visit @platterup on Instagram for more information.





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LET'S EXPLORE

Dodge the hustlers and scammers to find the authentic Morocco.

WORDS AND PHOTOGRAPHY

James Perkins



Moroccan Addresses

It's difficult to find the authentic Morocco. I found it in the valleys of the Atlas Mountains and in a small Essaouira bar called The Hole, and in the beat of the drums in the hills above Fez.

In between, there are scammers and dealers. There are the 'friendly' locals who just have an angle, who will deliberately tell you the wrong direction in the maze of the medinas.

It can be entertaining, but it's also tiring.

Morocco tests you, because there are so many decisions to make: who to trust, who to talk to, and what price you should pay for that hand-made Berber trinket, or that "pure silver" necklace.

SUGGESTIONS

It is a rewarding country to visit if you can find the authentic Morocco.

Here are some places I found it:



Couscous on a Friday

The steam that escapes from frothing stovetop pots and then out into the street carrying the sweet smell of Moroccan spices will guide you to a couscous cookup on a Friday lunchtime. It takes hours to prepare and cook couscous, which is why it is served on prayer day – typically a day off for many muslims. You can, however, order couscous on any day of the week at most restaurants – it adds to the romance to eat just like the locals, though.



In a grand taxi

Squashed between three fellow travellers in the back seat of a Mercedes-Benz W123 sedan as it rumbles carefully through desert plains, along highways, or through mountain valleys, you gain an intimate insight into your fellow travellers and local people. For once, it is possible to strike up a conversation with some confidence that it is not a setup for a scam. As a tourist, it was refreshing to be ignored, and be able to sit back and listen to the chat. Just try to ignore the aching elbows and squashed legs. Grand taxis are distinct from petit taxis because they travel between towns and cities. Fares are sold by the seat, and can be negotiated. Outside Rabat and Casablanca, the grand taxis are almost exclusively old Mercedes-Benz W123 sedans, and are colour coded to their city of origin. Each one will carry a maximum of seven people including the driver with four on the back bench, and two on the front passenger seat.



Eating a tagine with fingers and bread

Tagines are heavy, conical-shaped earthenware pots that Moroccans use to cook just about every meal. A tagine is not a specific meal, but a method of cooking a variety of meals. The hearty, slow-cooked flavours are best soaked up with flatbread in a kind of scrunching motion between the thumb and forefingers, grabbing what meat and vegetables are available in your section of the pot. It's such a social and efficient way of eating, as it brings everyone together around the same plate. So eat it the proper way where you can, don't scoop the food onto your own plate to eat it with a knife and fork.

There are several bars in Essaouira – more than you will find almost anywhere else in the country – but Bar Le Trou, a relic from the French occupation, is the only one that feels natural.



Drinking Moroccan tea

To make Moroccan tea, take a small handful of tea leaves – the ‘gunpowder’ type is the best – and place them in the teapot. Fill it with water and bring it to the boil. Add a few sprigs of mint leaves and an obscene amount of sugar. Simmer for another couple of minutes before arranging the small tea glasses. The tea should be poured from a great height. Start pouring close to the glass, and then raise the teapot as high as you can without spilling it everywhere. The process of serving the tea is entertainment in itself. Pouring from up high generates froth, which is the sign of a well-made cuppa. Pour two cups, discard the second cup, then tip the first cup back into the teapot (the second cup apparently contains toxins that should be removed from the brew). Now you can pour tea for your guests.



At Bar Le Trou in Essaouira

Down a dead-end alley in the historic medina of Essaouira – a windy seaside resort and fishing town – is a hole in the wall, and inside is one of the few good bars in the entire country of Morocco. In French it is known as Bar Le Trou, or, in English, simply The Hole. It’s a smoky den with tiled walls and table service from a well-dressed waiter with a moustache, who will deliver local beers Flag or Stork. There are several bars in Essaouira – more than you will find almost anywhere else in the country – but Bar Le Trou, a relic from the French occupation, is the only one that feels natural. Sit down for a session and enjoy the regular bar snacks (beans) and appearances by Berber street musicians, and the company of your fellow clochards. As a whole, Essaouira is friendlier than Marrakech with the same types of trinkets for sale in the medina, and better local produce.

GETTING AROUND

The northern half of the country and its major cities are connected by rail, while the rest is connected by an extensive network of buses and taxis that drive long distances between cities and towns.



Speaking Moroccan Arabic to shopkeepers when buying food

Most Moroccans can speak and understand around five languages: traditional Arabic; the Moroccan dialect of Arabic; Berber; French; Spanish (mostly in the north); and either German or English. English is the least widespread of those languages. Make an effort to learn a few Moroccan words and the local people will be more likely to open up to you, and the shopkeepers may not rip you off so hard.



At Maison de la Photographie in Marrakech

The photographs at the Maison de la Photographie in Marrakech offer a glimpse into Morocco – and Marrakech in particular – from as early as the 1870s. The museum owns an exhaustive collection of prints taken in Marrakech in the early 1900s. A highlight is a documentary made by a group of French anthropologists about a trip through the Atlas Mountains to meet the Berbers. You will want to head straight there after watching.

GETTING THERE

There are no direct flights between Australia and Morocco, but the country is well connected to Europe and the United States by budget airlines. It is worth shopping around for flights – I flew direct from London to Essaouira for less than \$80 on Easyjet (flying only two days per week).



Climbing Mount Toubkal

At 4,167 metres, Jebel Toubkal is the highest mountain in North Africa. Located to the east of Marrakech, it is the dominant peak of the Atlas Mountains. A grand taxi will take you from Marrakech to Imlil, where the walk to the Toubkal summit begins. The height of the peak is daunting, but it is a moderate hike for those that feel like pushing their limits (just a little bit), and the route is well defined. There is a refuge to stay the night before tackling the summit. A slow and steady approach will allow you to take in the spectacular scenery while overcoming the effects of altitude. Some tourists take pack donkeys, but for those of moderate fitness and with a light pack, it is not necessary. The walk is popular among local people and tourists alike, and people are friendly on the trail.



In the hills above Fez

Fez is old and an intimidating city. It is the largest car-free medina remaining worldwide. Fez, in fact, has plenty of things considered the 'oldest', 'largest', 'longest continually running', etc. It is a web of living history. Although the city is considered the cultural heart of Morocco, it is not a tourist-friendly place. It is best to take a tour, which will venture to the leather tanneries of Chouara, the Qarawiyyin Mosque and University, and the Madrasa al-Attarine. Visit the Maranid Tombs overlooking the city in the late afternoon, to put the Fez medina into perspective. It provides a panoramic view of the sprawling city with enough detail to see the thousands of people in the huge courtyard of the Qarawiyyin mosque at afternoon prayer time.

MEET MISTER ZIMI

Born in Bali and now based in Byron Bay, Mister Zimi has found the perfect location for its vibrant patterns and 70s-inspired chic.

PHOTOGRAPHY Amberly Valentine | MODEL Maya Stepper |
HAIR AND MAKEUP Luciana Rose

Mister Zimi is right at home in the town that is perhaps most emblematic of that time when flares were essential and hair flowed free and long.

The brand is exotic and colourful; a blast from the past with a modern twist. And it stands out.

In 2007, Zoe Paul was in Bali and couldn't find a leather jacket to suit her style, so drew a design and took it to a tailor. The finished product was head turning, and popular with her friends and colleagues.

Inspired, Zoe continued her work in design, and Mister Zimi was born.

The brand is influenced by the 70s, but its unforgettable shift dresses, maxi skirts, harem pants, leather jackets and footwear of look timeless right now.

Zoe talked to Mercedes-Benz Gold Coast about the story of the brand, and its latest collection.

To see more of Mister Zimi, visit www.misterzimi.com



You are based in Byron Bay. What is your history with the town and has it influenced your designs at all?

My husband and business partner Jimi and I have always holidayed in Byron. Since we moved back to Australia from living in Bali for seven years, we spent more and more time in Byron. We opened a Mister Zimi store in Byron one year ago as we felt the vibe of the town was perfect for our brand. We have also purchased some houses that we renovated and turned into holiday rentals, and after spending a few months at a time in Byron, we decided to move here full time from January this year.

What are the biggest inspirations for you, as a designer? How do your experiences travelling shape the label?

The Mister Zimi style is heavily influenced by the 70s and our travel adventures, as well destinations on our bucket list. I have travelled extensively through Europe and Asia. Each time learning so much more – I love different cultures and traditions, textiles and use of colour. Africa is a huge inspiration for me, especially Morocco and traditional African textiles. I'm yet to visit, but I have a million books, its next on the list!

How did Mister Zimi come about?

Jimi and I started to holiday in Bali, and on one of our trips there in 2008, Mister Zimi was born. It was the year that leather jackets started to come back into fashion, but to me they seemed to be too biker-ish, or they all had 80s shoulder pads going on. I wanted something feminine, so I came up with an idea for the jacket I wanted made. I randomly chose a local tailor in the depths of Kuta, and ordered the jacket. I was so pleased with the result of my first leather Jacket. I took it home and started wearing it to work. Immediately the girls in the office wanted one, and when I wore it out on the weekend lots of my friends wanted one too. I decided that there might be an opportunity to do a small made-to-order production run, with the idea being that it could help pay for our next trip to Bali. Not long after, I had an order for 60 jackets.

Was a career in fashion design always on your agenda?

Neither Jimi nor I come from a fashion or design background. When Mister Zimi started, I had to teach myself how to do patterns of styles, and just wanted everything to be basic – essentially just designing simple pieces that I wanted to wear. A big part of me really had no confidence in my own ability, so I just wanted to keep the cuts simple. I have, however, always loved interior



PREVIOUS PAGE

Dahlia Amber Cami (\$75)
Dahlia Catalina Skirt (\$180)

THIS PAGE

Padang Rosie Jumpsuit (\$180)



THIS PAGE

Tahiti Amber Cami (\$180)

Tahiti Catalina Skirt (\$75)

Gili Meno Rosie Jumpsuit (\$180)

design, and loved styling our two houses in Bali and Byron, always adding the Mister Zimi vibe!

What is your spring collection called? Can you tell me a little about it?

Our first Spring collection is called La Dolce Vita. The Good Life is all about bold prints, relaxed cuts, and having a fun filled good life!

What kind of feel were you after with this range? Were there any links to spring in the material/patterns used?

The Amalfi coast was a huge inspiration, the blues of the ocean, the fuchsia in the bougainvillea, and the vintage feel of the place – it's like time has stood still.

Do you design for any particular target market?

We design for all ages of women – someone who loves to have fun with colour, and confidence to wear something that doesn't follow trends or blend into the crowd.

Who is your ideal Mister Zimi girl?

One who loves to stand out!

You now have four boutiques; do you have plans for any more?

We are looking in Sydney and other capital cities! We would love Mister Zimi to be accessible all over Australia. Very exciting times ahead.

You have gained a large following on social media – especially Instagram. Can you describe your approach to the medium and explain the impact it can have for businesses?

Instagram has been amazing for us. It helps keeps us engaged with our customers here and overseas, which is just so amazing. Instagram is such a key aspect these days, and it's important to keep up to date with it and not fall behind. I am also really proud that we have never bought a follower! It's lovely to know that all of our customers follow us because of our brand and what we're all about.



THIS PAGE

Dahlia Indiana Jumpsuit (\$180)

Suzani Ava Dress (\$160)

Dahlia Honey One Piece (\$150)

NEXT PAGE

Tahiti Blondie Bikini (\$150)





STEVE SMITH SIGNS ON AS AN MBGC AMBASSADOR

Mercedes-Benz Gold Coast signed Australian cricket Captain Steven Smith as a Brand Ambassador in early July.

Steve visited the Robina dealership to accept the keys for his new Mercedes-AMG GLE 43 in August as part of the two-year deal that will include several promotional visits to the Gold Coast.

“Mercedes-Benz is a fantastic brand to be associated with, and the Gold Coast is a beautiful city, so I am looking forward to coming up here more often,” he said.

“The car epitomises sportiness and suits my lifestyle down to a tee.”

Mercedes-Benz Gold Coast Dealer Principal Robin Mainali said it was a real coup to secure Steve and an honour to have him as an ambassador for the brand.

“Steve’s attention to detail, hard work and meticulous preparation have allowed him to rise to the top of international cricket, and those same qualities have elevated Mercedes-Benz to the pinnacle of motoring,” he said.

“We’re not only excited to have him as a brand ambassador, but happy we’ll be able to showcase to him what other Gold Coast Mercedes-Benz drivers experience every day – our beautiful beaches, the weather and of course the world-class city that we choose to call home.”

Keep an eye out for an in-depth story about Steve in the next issue of MBGC.

LEGO BATMAN MOVIE A FLYING SUCCESS

Young and old alike attended Mercedes-Benz Gold Coast’s free school holiday screening of the highly anticipated The Lego Batman Movie at the Arts Centre Gold Coast in July.

Based on the success of the inaugural school holiday screening of Finding Dory last spring, this event was sure to be a hit. And this year’s turn out did not disappoint!

Guests enjoyed a red carpet experience, getting their photo taken in front of a Batman-themed media wall before entering the cinema with popcorn and drink in hand.

Entertainers AE Events treated guests to an energetic and prize-packed pre-show with Batman himself, before settling in to watch The Lego Batman Movie from the comfort of the plush cinema chairs.



KEVIN BEZZINA

Mercedes-Benz Gold Coast Service Manager



What is your role at Mercedes-Benz Gold Coast?

Service Manager, which is a role that I started at the end of June. It’s been great. I enjoy supporting the connection between the workshop, management, and clients.

What is your professional history?

The automotive industry has been my professional home for 30 years. I secured my first role, as an apprentice with Porsche, as a 15 year old, and I am 46 now. Over the years, I have held management positions at Porsche, Jaguar Land Rover, Jeep and Volkswagen dealerships across a range of departments, first in Sydney and now on the Gold Coast. I’ve always had a fascination for vehicles. It’s funny – I have tried to get out of the industry at times, but it has always called me back. It is what I know, but I am still learning every day. I don’t consider it a job; it is a career.

What do you hope to achieve in your role at the dealership?

Customer satisfaction is my number one priority. I want to see smiles on customers’ faces, especially when they come in with a problem – it is important that we turn negatives into positives. That is a great achievement.

We need to create a ‘wow factor’ when I clients come into the dealership – The best or nothing.

What is your favourite Mercedes-Benz model and why?

The C 63 sedan; it’s just a beast.

What does the Mercedes-Benz brand mean to you?

For me, Mercedes-Benz is the pinnacle. The brand represents qualities that everyone strives towards. We were amongst the first to create automobiles, and for more than 90 years Mercedes-Benz has maintained the same reputation for excellence, class and performance.

What are your interests outside of work?

Enjoying time with my wife, Tracey, and three children, Tiarne, Brayden, and Gianna is my priority. Gianna is just three years old, and she keeps me young at heart. Outside of my family and work, Rugby league is another passion. I have played football all my life, and I often get out to watch games live. The Roosters are my team, even though I played for St George in my younger days. I don’t mind watching the Gold Coast Titans at Robina either.

A glimpse into Mercedes-Benz marketing of yesteryear, an era of long copy, masterful commercial artistry and press advertising with panache. Curated by the team at MBGC.



The star of their longing – that is the English translation of *der stern ihrer sehnsucht*.

Sehnsucht, however, has no adequate translation in English, though plenty of authors have tried.

C.S. Lewis called it, “That unnameable something, desire for which pierces us like a rapier at the smell of bonfire, the sound of wild ducks

flying overhead... the morning cobwebs in late summer, or the noise of falling waves.”

Or perhaps the rumbling of a Mercedes-AMG CLS 63 S engine.

In this 1926 painting by Hans Neumann, the lady in the pink dress has *sehnsucht* for the stars, and one star in particular.

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