

# City Living

MAY 2002

In association with



## Inside:

Juicy gossip: Nigel Slater discusses his latest book;

Hand of fate: How to become a croupier;

Focused on nature: Photographer David Griffiths

# Turn on the style

Shefali Oza and Suzanne Virdee model selections from the Alvin Loy collection



the view  
from beyond



## Frills and spills

Put some glamour and romance in your life by learning Flamenco.

Ana García has been holding classes throughout Birmingham and the Central region for over eight years. Her regular classes are held in Birmingham at The Custard Factory Arts Centre and Birmingham School of Speech and Drama and in Derby at Derby Dance Centre.

As well as her regular classes she also organises many workshops for Flamenco dance and singing.

For further information on classes, workshops or shows please contact Ana García on 0121 240 7828 or 070 500 41628.



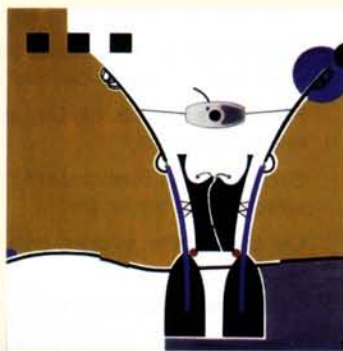
## California dreaming

Anyone in any doubt about Birmingham's cool factor need only go down the the Custard Factory.

Already home to a select band of urbanites, the epicentre of chic now also boasts its very own resident artist.

Not just any artist, either.

Albert Jackson has moved from Los Angeles



to Birmingham, bringing a clientbase that includes Tom Cruise, Diana Ross and the Supremes with him.

His first UK exhibition runs from

May 15 - 21 in the Gallery at the Custard Factory, where his studio is now based.

Go and check out his paintings and sculptures which are influenced by Greek mythology, Jungian psychology and Native America Mythology.

## One to watch

The great and the good will be out in force for the Birmingham Nightlife Awards 2002 at the NEC on May 8.

Giving last year's winners Xaymaca and Elgars at the Marriott a run for their money will be a host of newcomers and old favourites on the local scene.

Watch this space for news of winners.



## Hubble bubble.

Fancy a quick hangover fix, but with an added kick?

No, not a Bloody Mary, but a trip to Bar O2.

Plug into the oxygen bar and you can sample the delights of flavoured pure oxygen.

Yes, flavoured.

A pipe bubbles through a bottle of flavoured coloured water and you can choose from the heady delights of chamomile, chocolate, or Sex on the Beach, apparently.

Madness, coming to Millennium Point and assorted city venues soon.

## Fierce talking

Watch out for some seriously controversial performances as Fierce, the alternative arts festival gets under way.

There's raging Ron Athey skewered with arrows, a blood smeared Franco B and a host of other dancers, performers and installations to provoke debate.

Director Mark Ball has kicked things off with a dig at the council, who presumably got his goat somewhere along the line when the festival was being planned.

"It's got some great and visionary people leading it, but is staffed by too many tired and unhelpful bureaucrats," he says. Meow.

