

STEVE JOBS:
SECRET PHILANTHROPIST?

I DON'T FEEL TARDY!
TIMELY ADVICE *for the* NON-PUNCTUAL

**SPECIAL
HOLIDAY
ISSUE**

TOWN & COUNTRY

DECEMBER 2011

**NAUGHTY,
NOT NICE**

*A Gallery of
Ill-Gotten Gains,
Shameful Fortunes, and
Greedy Grinches*

KEITH RICHARDS' ANGELS

*The Rock Solid Life
of a Model American Family*

PLUS

T&C CELEBRATES THE SEASON

- » THE *COMPLETE* GIFT GUIDE
- » THE *GREATEST* HOLIDAY FEAST
- » THE *ULTIMATE* SKI ESCAPES

DECEMBER 2011 \$4.50

1 2>



0 74470 08833 2

OLIT & AROLIT

UPDATE

Tintin for Beginners

The world's most famous reporter isn't Woodward or Bernstein or Julian Assange—it's a Belgian lad with funny hair and some improbable friends.

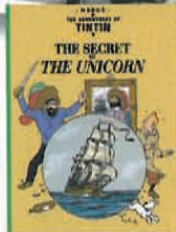
Like soccer, the comic book hero Tintin is a global obsession that never got its due in America. Until now. Steven Spielberg's *The Adventures of Tintin* is set for release this month. Here's a handy dossier to keep you from confusing Tintin with Rin Tin Tin.

CREATOR: As famous Belgians go, Georges Remi (1907–1983), a.k.a. Hergé, is at the top of the pile. His gifts as a storyteller and illustrator made Tintin a household name in more than 80 languages.

ORIGINS: The bequipped boy reporter and his faithful fox terrier Snowy first appeared in 1929. Hergé was inspired by the real-life exploits of a 15-year-old Danish clerk, Palle Huld, who had traveled around the world in 44 days. (Huld died last December, at 98.)

STYLE: Hergé viewed Tintin storybooks as movies: "No narration, no descriptions. Emphasis is given to images." His inimitable style is on display in the 23 completed adventures, and it has influenced such artists as Andy Warhol and Roy Lichtenstein.

ADVENTURE: Though not endowed with superhero powers, Tintin



always finds a way out of perilous situations. His exploits include bringing Al Capone to justice, stemming a Bolshevik uprising, and winning the race to the moon.

PROFESSION: From the beginning Hergé established his boy hero as a roving reporter. In his working life, though, Tintin is never seen writing or being held accountable by any editor.

CHARACTERISTICS: Tintin's style (down to his brown knickerbockers) is unchanging, and, as with the Peanuts gang, he seemingly has no family constraints. Tintinologists have searched for hints about his sexuality, to no avail. He remains the enigmatic everyboy.

FRIENDS: Hergé had fun creating a coterie of eccentric pals for Tintin, none more so than the whiskey-guzzling, sea-loving Captain Haddock, whose salty outbursts—"Blistering barnacles!"—play off Tintin's imperturbability.

ENEMIES: Tintin's foes are legion and often recurring. His greatest nemesis is Rastapopoulos, a Greek gangster with an enormous nose. Often accused of racial stereotyping in his work, Hergé blamed his bourgeois Belgian upbringing.

AMERICA: The author's love of the country of gangster movies and Walt Disney cartoons has never been reciprocated. (Here, Tintin remains a cult favorite of college students and precocious readers.) But perhaps that's about to change.

TOBIAS GREY

TRAVEL

ST. BART'S HITS REFRESH

This season, a slew of upgrades and openings is sprucing up the island.

TOP CHEF DEBUT The best restaurants here—apart from the perennially popular Maya's—have always been in hotels. Now Eden Rock (edenrockhotel.com) is solidifying its place at the top of the food chain by bringing the first big-name chef to the island: Jean-Georges Vongerichten, who has overhauled both of the hotel's restaurants. On the Rocks will serve Asian street food-inspired dishes, which will be paired with Alsatian wines and fresh-fruit-and-spice cocktails; the lunch-only Sand Bar will feature local seafood.

EXPANDED PAMPERING After years of guests raving about its in-room offerings, Le Sereno (lesereno.com) is finally opening a spa. Built by French designer Christian Liaigre (who helped relaunch the hotel in 2006), the spa will work with local beauty company Ligne St. Barth on exclusive treatments to revive guests' skin after a day in the sun (or a night in the clubs). Meanwhile, the secluded Isle de France (isle-de-france.com) has partnered with Barcelona skin care brand Natura Bissé to bring its cult products to the in-house spa.

BEST VIEW ON THE ISLAND Guest-room terraces at the Hôtel le Toiny (letoiny.com) are getting overhauls. The best part: private pools now lined with black volcanic stone, turning the water, in the hotel's words, "an oceanic blue." Decide for yourself—each pool also has a view of the bright Caribbean waters below. S.W.

ISLAND TIME

The palm tree-flanked pool at Le Sereno; an aerial view of Eden Rock, with its distinct red metal roofs.



HIGH FLIERS

Big names overhauling the island include Christian Liaigre, top, and Jean-Georges Vongerichten.