

L.A.'s Esquire House Raises \$2M

BY ADAM TSCHORN

LOS ANGELES — When the fourth installment of *Esquire's* "Signature Space" program wrapped up earlier this month with a fundraiser for VH-1's Save the Music campaign, the 17,000-square-foot, \$30 million Italian villa perched on the hills above Los Angeles had helped kick nearly \$2 million into the coffers of various charities.

"This house has been particularly successful for us because it is such a large space," *Esquire* vice-president and publisher Kevin O'Malley told DNR. The latest iteration of the "ultimate bachelor pad"—kitted out to opulent extremes by the magazine's advertisers—was the program's largest philanthropic haul to date.

Events hosted by almost a dozen philanthropies including the above-mentioned VH-1 program, the Hollywood Entertainment Museum, the City of Hope cancer center and Oceana, a group that campaigns to restore the world's oceans, drew a constellation of A-list stars to the mansion on the mount over a three-month period. Among them were Nicolas Cage, Pierce Brosnan, Minnie Driver and Stevie Wonder, who performed several songs under the stars.

Designed and built on a three-acre hilltop spot by Dugally Oberfeld LLC, and called Esquire House 360° for its sweeping, 360-degree view of the Los Angeles basin from the Santa Monica Mountains to the Pacific, the \$25 million, Tuscan-style villa boasted roughly \$5 million in *Esquire*-esque enhancements



The Louis Vuitton den by Sami Hayek

across 14 rooms. They included a Louis Vuitton den and a Salvatore Ferragamo master bedroom, designed by Porta Bella Design. Several newcomers joined returning brands like Montblanc (in the office), Hugo Boss (in the library) and TAG Heuer (in the foyer). One was Tommy Bahama, which fittingly chose to accessorize the pool area, and Ray-Ban, which added its nameplate to wood-frame poolside cabanas. The gaming room was designed by Nolen Niu for Rocawear.

O'Malley declined to comment on the timing or location of the next signature space, saying only that planning was already under way. "This is like our Macy's Thanksgiving Day parade. As soon as it ends we start working on it again."



The Esquire House in Beverly Hills

NBA's Jackson to Launch Clothing Line



NEW YORK — Mark Jackson, the former New York Knicks point guard and current NBA television analyst for the New Jersey Nets Yes Network and ABC Sports, is adding tailored clothing to his credits.

Prompted by NBA's campaign for its players to dress up in suits when they're off the court, traveling and during appearances, Jackson decided to create a line of big & tall business suits, sport coats, dress shirts and ties under the Mark Jackson Menswear label for athletes and extra-size men who are seeking classic fashion in their size.

"It is often difficult for gentlemen my size to find high-quality suits without having them made. This line will offer just that," said Jackson. The 6-foot 3-inch ex-basketball player huddled with his friend, the rock performer Master P., who suggested his collaborating with Seventh Avenue designers Michael Stuart and Geri Gerard to create the clothing collection. Stuart and his wife, Gerard, do special custom pieces for Oscar de la Renta and Donna Karan, among others.

With a fall '07 launch date, the clothing, to be made in Italy, will go on sale in early spring, in sizes 48 and up in longs and extra-longs. The three-button single-breasted suits in dark solids and subdued stripes will retail from \$2,500, and luxury fabric sport coats from \$1,800.

A showroom is still to be determined, but a public introduction is slated for the NBA store on Fifth Avenue at 52th Street with Jackson along with his friends Reggie Miller, Allan Houston and Patrick Ewing. —STAN GELLERS

PHOTOS BY ROBERT TRACHTENBERG FOR ESQUIRE