

BEND IT LIKE TERON
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Landscaping lowdown

OTTAWA

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ARCHITECTURE ■ DESIGN

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GUY BERUBE
La Petite Mort
306 Cumberland St
Ottawa ON K1N 7H9

210/2
24(Y)

City Select

24 HOURS WITH

Guy Bérubé

How designer Guy Bérubé, a gallery owner and porn-themed party planner, would spend the perfect day in Ottawa on an unlimited budget

Here we are, very early in the morning, and I need to work on my list of gifts for those I love—and maybe a few goodies for myself. I'm trying to decide what to give my godchild Nicholas: the huge **fibreglass hippopotamus head** (\$350) I saw at Yardley's Antiques (1240 Bank St.) or the lonely-looking **stuffed baboon** (\$225) I purchased two years ago at a New York City flea market. That city is known for its unusual art galleries, so why not throw in an **antique toy soldier** (\$1,200, including shipping) from the "anonymous objects" series at Ricco/Maresca Gallery (529 West 20th St.).

One thing I have decided is that I will definitely order beautiful bouquets of **exotic flowers** (\$35 each) from Flowers Talk (1305 Wellington St.) for both my mom and the staff of 24 very cool people at the Villa Marguerite Nursing Home (75 Bruyère St.). The staff at this full-care facility are incredible, so let's add an all-expenses-paid, **one-week trip to Cuba** for all of them from Travelocity (www.travelocity.com, \$3,800 each). My best buddy, Colette, is addicted to art and has a mighty fine collection (thanks to my expert advice). She deserves only the best: a **Pierre Molinier 1950s original self-portrait** of the Parisian photographer in full S&M gear (\$5,700, Sotheby's, New York). With that, gift shopping is taken care of, sorta.

Since I opened La Petite Mort (306 Cumberland St.), my contemporary-art and mobilier gallery, my rare days off are spent, in part, renewing gallery inventory with items such as a **1950s Charles Eames walnut chair** (\$1,450) from Founddesign (1192 Bank St.). I would also include the latest in lighting design by **Bakery Group**, featuring the **Stella**, a 12-foot-circumference ceiling light that is everything true design can be (\$2,366). I could not do without the new line of **contemporary Brazilian furniture** from Luigi Meliambro at Cappel Imports (819-827-1384). The **stainless-steel coffee table with a blood-red, high-gloss car finish** is the hottest thing and a must-have item (\$3,000).

Then I would commission artist Peter Shmelzer to do a **bigger-than-life-size portrait of my cat, Mondo** (\$2,800). Peter's paintings and many more works from contemporary artists can be seen at my gallery from Tuesday to Sunday, 11 a.m. to 7 p.m.

Next on the agenda is a **Margarita pizza** (\$10) with a glass of **Primitivo Flaio Puglia** (\$8.75) at Ventuno Café (1355 Wellington St.), where I did the interior design. This fantastic restaurant features great Italian food, a full deli counter, a multitude of imported cheeses, endless olive oils and balsamic vinegars, freshly made pasta, and delicious chocolate. For reading material, I'll take along **Geek Love** by Katherine Dunn (\$24.99, Warner Books). Then I'm off to meet my girl Sarah at Living Colour Tattoo (412 Dalhousie St.) for **tattoo number 10**, two fighting roosters placed on my back and designed by artist Beaston, which equals four hours of mind-numbing pain (\$100/hour).

Finally, I wander into Mountain Equipment Co-op (366 Richmond Rd.) to buy a matching pair of **Vela Sea Kayaks** (\$4,125 each) for my boyfriend James and me.

My dream day—what was I thinking?

Sold

\$117,859.74

