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Aerodynamic Art CLASSIC MOTORING MASTERPIECES AT AUCTION



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let it shine. Now, with a screening room on the premises—one that includes a 138-inch screen in CinemaScope format, a DLP cinema projector, and Klipsch surround sound—those executives can get that same experience in a more intimate environment.

Of course, residents of AKA Beverly Hills need not be Hollywood executives to enjoy the screening room. Korman estimates that two-thirds of the time, the oversize leather recliners are occupied by residents watching Monday Night Football, a feature film, or—in some cases—an early release of an upcoming blockbuster. Regardless, Korman regularly surveys his residents to make sure the room meets their expectations. “They made recommendations, we listened, and we took it to the next level,” Korman says, referencing recent upgrades that include a blackout shade, increased sound insulation panels, and ancillary lighting that dims when the movie begins. “We’re always trying to stay ahead of the curve in terms of where movies are headed.”

OLYMPIC ENDEAVORS

Robert Siegel learned to ski when he was 2 years old, and his passion for the sport led him to attend the Green Mountain Valley School (GMVS), a private boarding school and world-class ski academy in Waitsfield, Vt. “It’s like a military school, except you’re training for skiing and not war,” he says. At least one GMVS graduate has competed in every Winter Olympic Games since 1980, and over the last 34 years, almost three dozen GMVS alumni have represented their native countries in a quest for Olympic gold. Dave Gavett, the school’s headmaster, began coaching at GMVS in 1978 and coached the U.S. Olympic team during the Calgary games in 1988.

Siegel graduated in 1979 and continued to race into the early 1980s. While he remains an avid skier today, up until last year his career never involved the skiing industry. That changed once he strapped on a pair of skis made by



Among the many Bomber ski styles and motifs is the Basquiat Crown, a ski accented with images painted by the late graffiti artist Jean-Michel Basquiat.

Bomber (www.bomberski.com). In fact, after a couple of years carving turns in the slalom-specific B-1 Bombers, Siegel was so impressed that he bought a majority stake in the young company. “To be able to carve turns to the best of your ability on the best ski in the world . . . that all came together for me,” Siegel explains. “The company’s sole focus is creating the best skis that man, modern technology, and the best materials are capable of building.”

That may sound like traditional PR hyperbole, but it’s not. Bomber serves as an official supplier to the U.S. and Canadian Olympic teams, and Travis Cloud, one of the two founders of the company—and a fellow GMVS alumnus—once competed on the U.S. ski team. The company produces eight styles, from mogul skis to those designed specifically for the giant slalom, super-G, and downhill events, and they range in price from \$1,450 to \$2,500. All are constructed by hand in a small Italian race lab, and according to Siegel, that handcrafted approach produces the skis’ unparalleled stability.

Minimalist designs and wood veneers are standard options, but the company recently partnered with the estates of the late graffiti artists Jean-Michel Basquiat and Keith Haring to produce avant-garde motifs. A custom ski option also exists, which allows customers to design their own ski tops. For a single pair, that custom service (limited to 100 orders per season) costs \$7,500, though the cost per pair decreases with the number of pairs ordered.

According to Siegel, there’s no limit to the options available for a customer who wants a bespoke pair of skis. Inlays of precious metals, like rose gold, also are options, though for such extravagance, customers should anticipate a six-figure price tag. Still, the greatest advantage that Bomber skis provide is performance. “I was on a Bomber ski on icy conditions and carving turns with very little effort,” Siegel says. “If you’re an intermediate skier, that really makes a difference.” □