

Travel news

Globetrotting ideas, events and travel must-haves.

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Outstanding in the Field, Seattle, Washington, 2005

USA

LAND OF PLENTY

Chef and artist Jim Denevan is the founder of Outstanding in the Field, a series of pop-up dinners that take place across the US to educate people about farm to table. Diners gather, often in a field or a barn, to eat a four-course meal of seasonal food prepared by local chefs. The North American tour of this restaurant without walls is currently on the road, including a stop at Devil's Gulch Ranch in Nicasio, California, on May 26-27. outstandinginthefield.com



For her TV series, Maeve O'Meara must travel the world eating food from some of its best cooks. She spills a few of their secrets in *French Food Safari* (Hardie Grant, \$55) written with chef Guillaume Brahimi. It's part travelogue, part recipe book, part food musing.

OUTSTANDING IN THE FIELD & CASTLE PHOTOGRAPHY: GETTY IMAGES; PATRICK WHITE: GELATIN SILVER PRINT; UNIVERSITY OF NEW ENGLAND & REGIONAL ARCHIVES

SYDNEY

Work it, Gucci style

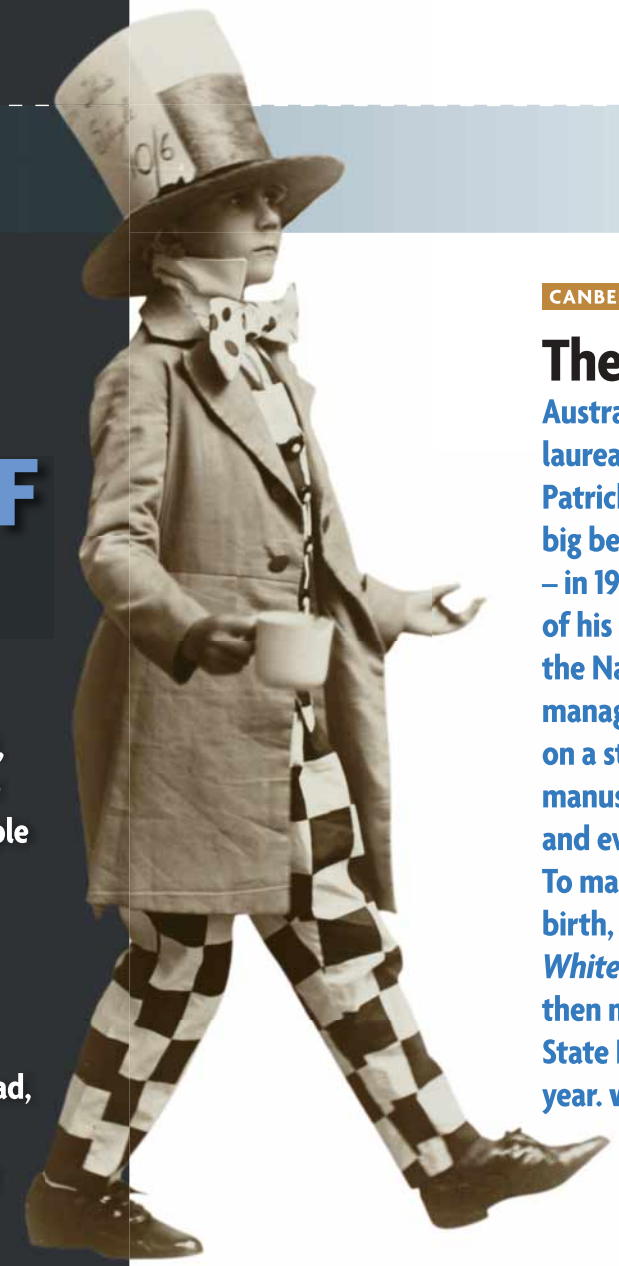
Gucci's Florentine artisans are coming to Australia for masterclasses in making the New Bamboo, Stirrup, Soho and Gucci 1970 handbags. Pictured is the Diana shoulder bag in red leather with bamboo handle, \$1575. Watch the artisans at work in the Sydney flagship store May 15-17, The Star May 20-22, and Melbourne Chadstone May 27-29. www.gucci.com



CANBERRA

The White stuff

Australia's only Nobel laureate of literature, Patrick White wasn't a big believer in possessions – in 1964 he set fire to many of his own. Nevertheless, the National Library has managed to get its hands on a stack of stuff, including manuscripts, photos, letters and even favourite recipes. To mark 100 years since his birth, *The Life Of Patrick White* runs until July 8. It then moves to Sydney's State Library later this year. www.nla.gov.au



Patrick White dressed as the Mad Hatter for a charity ball, c1920

ENGLAND

To the manor born

There's no promise that a Mr Darcy will leap out of the lake on cue, but there are plenty of other things to swoon over, such as turrets, tapestries and tea taken on rolling lawns, in the English Castles programs offered by Great British Tours. On offer are two new tours (privately chauffeured, no less) of Windsor, Arundel and, of course, Highclere, the setting of TV drama *Downton Abbey*. www.greatbritishtours.com

