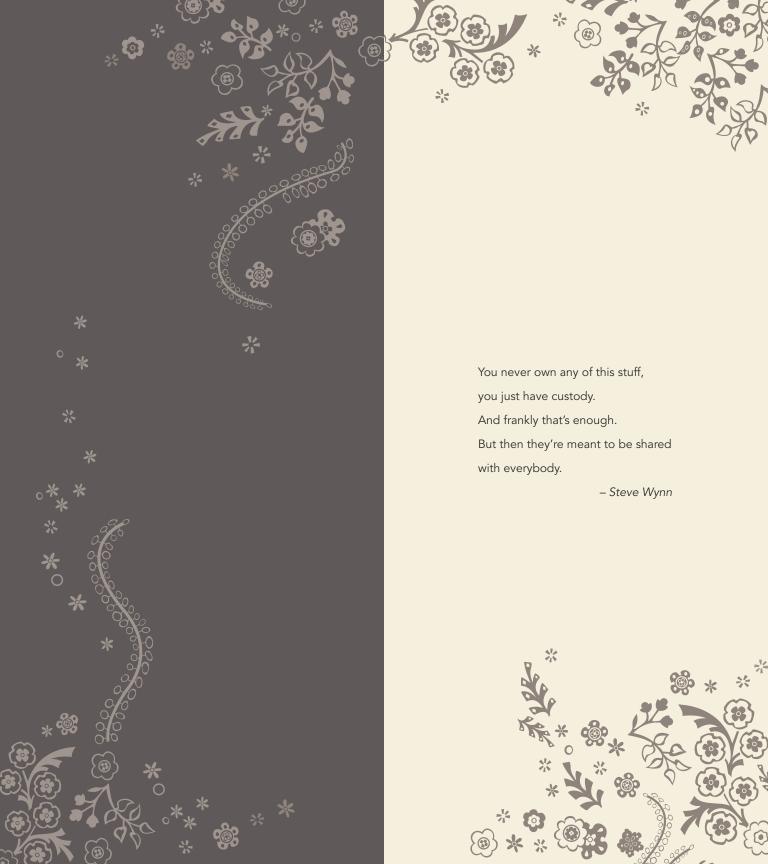


# Taste of the Arts

Fine Works on Display

Throughout

Wynn and Encore



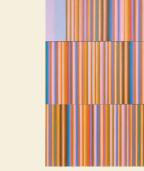


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# Untitled Silk Tapestry

Artist: Raoul Dufy

Location: Wynn, near The Country Club

Acquired: 2003

Measuring 107 inches high by 164 inches wide, this untitled silk tapestry is one of the largest Raoul Dufy works in existence. The Normandy-born Dufy brought a deft hand to depictions of open-air social events, as seen in this 1925 work, which illustrates a joyful, successful harvest.

Between 1909 and 1911 legendary couturier Paul Poiret commissioned Dufy to create textile designs and stationery for his Paris atelier, a collaboration that led to other projects, including this work, one of a series of 14 heroic tapestries Poiret used to decorate three barges he had moored on the banks of the Seine for 1925's Exposition Des Arts Decoratifs. Crafted of translucent colors on untreated silk, Dufy painted this work in one of Poiret's sewing rooms in Tournon, situated on the Rhone in the south of France.

Roger Thomas, vice president of Wynn Design & Development, believes the tapestry has ultimately come full circle and found a fitting home: "It speaks of abundance and hospitality, making it a wonderful piece to include in our collection."

### Full Fathom Five

Artist: Tim Bavington

Location: Wynn, adjacent to Terrace Pointe Cafe

Acquired: 2009

Born in London, painter Tim Bavington now resides in Las Vegas, where he creates visually stunning canvases based on music. To accomplish this, Bavington aligns the 12 notes on the musical scale with 12 tones on the color wheel, thus allowing him to "translate" a piece of music into a work of art.

Seen here, Full Fathom Five is based on 1989's "Elephant Stone" by the Stone Roses; though based on the Sylvia Plath poem of the same name, it also contains the Vegas-appropriate lyrics, "Dreaming 'til the sun goes down/and night turns into day." "A song may be an inspiration; I think it's hard to paint something you don't have a connection to," Bavington says. "I'm not reading a score as an idea of how the aural side of it reaches me; I'm looking more at the genius of the musical composition and the score as the idea for the painting."

The original work was comprised of five panels; one was removed with Bavington's approval to better fit its current space. As for that fifth panel? It didn't travel very far - a longtime fan of Bavington's work, Thomas requested to hold onto the piece, which now resides in his personal collection.



### Eiffel Chandelier

Artist: Gustave Eiffel

Location: Wynn, Terrace Pointe Café Entrance

Acquired: 2003

Before walking into Terrace Pointe Café, take a moment to look up—the chandelier above the flower-bedecked marble table might look familiar: It was created in 1918 by Gustave Eiffel, who 29 years earlier would design a tower for Paris's 1889 World's Fair and which today still bears his name.

But unlike the Eiffel Tower, which was constructed of iron, this chandelier is crafted of wood and given its age is highly fragile. As an engineer, Eiffel enjoyed the design of and mechanics behind such works, and conceptualized the chandelier to decorate a Paris apartment building. Purchased at auction at Christie's in Paris prior to Wynn's 2005 opening, the chandelier is also notable for featuring the original shades crafted of Favrile glass, known for both delicacy and iridescent shine.

Gustave Eiffel once said, "Can one not think that because we are engineers, beauty does not preoccupy us or that we do not try to build beautiful, as well as solid and long-lasting structures?" It's a thought one could apply equally to a famed Paris monument and a fanciful wood and glass chandelier.



# Untitled Sculpture

Artist: Viola Frey

Location: Wynn, Terrace Pointe Cafe

Acquired: 2002

Hailing from the San Francisco Bay area, the late sculptress Viola Frey today is recognized as a leading figure in the contemporary ceramic-art movement of mid-20th century America. Here we see a terrific example of Frey's talent, as it speaks to her ability to create cacophony and harmony in a single piece. While this work, inspired by Frey's love of found objects acquired from local flea markets and garage sales, appears to be crafted from actual decorative items and figurines, that's merely an illusion, as she chose objects and then cast them in ceramic, which allowed her to both shape the work as a whole and paint each piece to create a unified color palette.

Frey's work has been the subject of numerous exhibitions around the globe and, not unlike Wynn, is included in major public and private collections worldwide. "I have attempted to make a permanent whole of the transitory fragments I have seen around me," Frey said in 1970. "Clay has the quality of right now! It is able to seize this very moment under hand and eye."







# Threaders: Topaz and Lapis

Artist: Frank Owen

Location: Wynn, La Cave Wine & Food Hideaway

Acquired: 2004

"Extravagant deployment" is how Frank Owen describes a series of paintings he has created using the "in verso" technique he invented, in which he builds a multilayered skin of paint onto a canvas. The name is derived from his reverse, or inside-out, method: Using thin plastic sheets, Owen creates individual layers of paint and then brings the elements together starting with what will become the top or surface layer of the finished painting, working his way to the final layer, which touches the canvas.

Owen's Threaders: Topaz and Lapis, seen here, was created in 2001; the 84x84-inch acrylic-on-canvas work was crafted utilizing encaustic, or hot-wax painting, in which colored pigments are added to heated beeswax, the result of which adds an undeniable depth and sense of both color and texture to the finished work.

### Cixi and Miranda

Artist: Timothy Horn

Location: Wynn Baccarat Salon

Acquired: 2010

When Roger Thomas was seeking pieces to suit the sophisticated elegance of Wynn's baccarat rooms, he turned to Vermont-based sculptor Timothy Horn. In 2007 Horn began a series he called "Pearl Works," based on the beauty and artistry of a 17th-century earring, but created in a far more heroic size. "I had an idea of working with patterns of jewelry, but on a monumental scale," Horn explains. "The intent was to keep the decorative and feminine associations in the works, but put them on an oversized, masculine scale."

Horn works in both metal and cast and blown glass; to create the pearl effect, he applies a small amount of opal white color to glass that, when blown, stretches the white tone to an ultra-thin layer. When the piece is mirrored on the inside, the opal coloring subdues the mirrored layer and creates the pearlescent effect.

Cixi, with her round pearls, is named for the last Chinese empress, while Miranda, featuring darker, more baroque pearls, takes her name from the character in Shakespeare's The Tempest.



### Popeye

Artist: Jeff Koons

Location: Wynn Esplanade, near

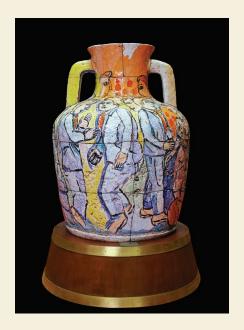
Bartolotta Ristorante di Mare

Acquired: 2014

The latest work to join the Wynn collection is another by Jeff Koons, a result of Steve Wynn's love of his previous acquisition, the grand-scale *Tulips* (page 15). Popeye was installed at Wynn in late May 2014 after being acquired at a Sotheby's auction in New York.

One of a series of three, *Popeye* weighs 2,000 lbs. and stands at 6-1/2-feet tall; like *Tulips*, he is crafted in stainless steel with colorful, mirror-finish surfaces. This isn't Koons's first exploration of the cartoon character: He began a series of Popeye-inspired paintings and sculptures in 2002, but it would be another seven years before he would begin to create this oversized version, which was completed in 2011.

"I became drawn to the Popeye image in a very intuitive way," says Koons. "I wanted to have a dialogue with art history and with Pop art, and also a dialogue with technology and to deal with the aspect of acceptance. Popeye, to me, is a symbol [...] that dealt with self-acceptance."



# Amphora III

Artist: Viola Frey

Location: Wynn Esplanade, near Dior

Acquired: 2013

This colorful, impressive clay vessel is another work crafted by ceramicist Viola Frey. While Frey excelled at producing colorful clay sculptures of the human figure, she also favored working with urn-like amphorae. She employed them not only as canvases to showcase her love for and whimsical portrayal of the human form, but also because she enjoyed the idea of the figures walking around the vessel, a modern interpretation of the figures often seen in procession around Greek urns.

This work was crafted between 1996 and 1997, taking almost a full year to produce. Frey's love of primary colors is evident in this piece, which depicts both men and women in energetic movement and an undeniable glamour, the men in blue power suits, the women in dresses reminiscent of the 1940s. Both modes of dress are signatures of the Viola Frey style.







# Gallops 2 and Monster

Artist: Nellie King Solomon
Location: Wynn, SW Steakhouse

Acquired: 2002

"My paintings are spaces where energy moves matter," says San Francisco-based painter Nellie King Solomon, and upon viewing the pair of works in Wynn's collection—the two-panel Gallops 2 and the single-panel *Monster*—you have to agree. There's an undeniable fluidity to Solomon's work, which also addresses issues of space and control.

Using ink, acrylic and carbide, Solomon paints on Mylar sheets she positions flat on a 9x9-foot table. The Mylar "tilts like a landscape," she says, and creates pools of color, while the oval shapes enhance a sense of movement. Nature and the environment, subjects Solomon explores often, also inspire the large-scale abstracts.

Wildly popular in her native San Francisco, Solomon's work also has been exhibited in both solo and group shows in Los Angeles, Chicago, New York and Barcelona.



# Falling Angels

Artist: Charley Brown and Mark Evans
Location: Wynn, Lakeside restaurant

Acquired: 2010

When Roger Thomas was designing the distinctive, effervescent color palette of Wynn's Lakeside restaurant, he wanted the private dining area to likewise feel steeped in notions of romance and temptation. Thus he enlisted San Francisco artists Charley Brown and Mark Evans to create a pair of murals depicting fallen angels, inspired by John Milton's epic poem *Paradise Lost*. Titled *Falling Angels*, the pieces takes their artistic inspiration from the work of painters William-Adolphe Bouguereau, Alexandre Cabonel and Paul Delaroche, each a key member of the Paris Salon during the mid-19th century.

While their inspiration is highly classical, the technique used to create them was wholly modern. Brown and Evans painted the full-scale murals on canvas before digitally reproducing the images on clear, iron-free glass panels, which were then mirrored to create an effect of *verre églomisé*, a technique that dates back to pre-Roman eras, in which the back side of glass is gilded with gold or metal leaf.



### Large Explorer

Artist: Unknown

Location: Wynn, Lakeside restaurant

Acquired: 2010

At 52 inches tall, Large Explorer lives up to its name as among the largest of a group of sculptures in Wynn's Lakeside restaurant. Like many of the smaller 18th-century sculptures surrounding it, this piece was acquired in a Paris boutique. Crafted of white plaster, Large Explorer was originally created as a maquette, a small-scale model of a bronze monument erected in France in the early 20th century.





### Music Room and Untitled

Artist: Lari Pittman

Location: Wynn, Registration Desk

Acquired: 2010

Los Angeles-based artist Lari Pittman is an abstract painter whose work is both highly decorative and figurative. Pittman creates meticulously layered paintings, employing a variety of techniques and mediums, with the finished result always colorful and exceedingly detailed, which often results in a feeling of controlled frenzy (one critic calls Pittman's work "overload with restraint"). Desire, life, love and joy are among the themes expressed in Pittman's works, which have been exhibited in more than 40 solo and group shows in the US and abroad.

"I don't necessarily view the making of the painting as a sequence of solving problems," says Pittman. "I see it more as a sequence of responses. It's all very low-tech, there's no sleight of hand. You know the way it's made, it's borrowed heavily from the decorative arts, there are no hidden secrets. But you know all of that ... and yet you're able to have some sort of experience of transport." In addition to his work, Pittman is a tenured professor of painting and drawing at UCLA.



### Sunflower Fabric Panels

Artist: Rubelli Group, Venice

Location: Wynn Resort Tower Elevator Lobby

Acquired: 2004

From Venice's Gritti Palace to Moscow's Bolshoi Theater, any space seeking the ultimate in sumptuous fabrics looks to the Rubelli Group. With its roots in an 18th-century weaving house, the Venice textile firm gained the name it still uses today when it was purchased in 1889 by former diplomat Lorenzo Rubelli, who grew the business into a globally recognized resource for high-end fabrics (among its latest projects: a collaboration with Giorgio Armani's Casa line).

The sunflower panels found in Wynn's Resort Tower elevator lobby were not originally intended as artwork, but rather were woven in the late 20th century to showcase the textile group's exceptional attention to detail and handcraft. But these samples were ultimately deemed too expensive to produce; rather than the panels languishing in a storage room, Roger Thomas saw their potential as artwork in their own right, and had them framed for installation at Wynn prior to its 2005 opening.



# 18th-Century Italian Carvings

Artist: Unknown

Location: Wynn Resort Elevator Alcove

Acquired: 2002

Discovered in the corner of an exceedingly small antique shop in Florence, this pair of oversized gilt carvings arrived at their decidedly more glamorous destination, one might say, by fate.

While not much is known about the origin of the carvings, Roger Thomas calls them "amazing examples of Italian Baroque workmanship," and notes that the level of their design and craft indicates they were once housed in a palace or public building in the 18th century. No one knows the road they traveled from there to that Florence antique shop, but the moment Thomas saw them, he knew they would be an ideal fit someplace within Wynn, which was still in its design and construction phases. Two weeks prior to Wynn's April 2005 opening, their home revealed itself: in the space between the Resort Tower elevators. "It's turned out to be the perfect home," Thomas adds, "because everyone stops to marvel at them."





Artist: Jeff Koons

Location: Wynn Theater Rotunda

Acquired: 2012

Since it debuted at the Wynn Theater Rotunda in 2012, Tulips has become one of the most highprofile works in the Wynn collection. Is the steady stream of viewers drawn to the 3-ton sculpture's massive size, its brilliant colors and shimmering surfaces, or the joyful vibe it exudes? The answer is likely all of the above. Koons created Tulips between 1995 and 2004 as part of his widely publicized Celebration series, which the artist first conceived in 1994. This piece is one of only five unique versions (another resides at the Guggenheim Museum in Bilbao, Spain). Works in the Celebration series are meant to evoke ideas of childlike innocence; Tulips communicates the theme via its bouquet of twisted balloon flowers, which were created in cast stainless steel and then polished to a high-mirror finish in a vivid rainbow of translucent colors. Including Tulips in the Wynn collection "has profound meaning to me," Koons says, calling the sculpture "a symbol of hope and the strength of life's energy. It reflects the viewer to affirm the viewer's existence."







## Circus Series

Artist: Fernando Botero

Location: Encore, Botero restaurant

Acquired: 2009

The refined cream and black hues of Encore's Botero restaurant serve as the ideal framework for some of the most colorful work ever created by Fernando Botero: His Circus series, which the Colombian artist debuted in 2008. The three works seen here—Circus Woman with Tiger, Clown in His Trailer, and Tiger and Trainer—are part of a grouping inspired by Botero's remembrances of a traveling circus he encountered while visiting a town on Mexico's Pacific coast in 2006. He would spend the next two years sketching and painting non-stop.

In retrospect the experience proved ideal for Botero's aesthetic, with the spectacle of the circus proving an ideal marriage with his exuberant style and penchant for fanciful characters. Indeed, Botero found himself wondering why he hadn't before thought of the circus as a theme and backdrop for his work. Yet had it not been for that chance encounter in 2006, one of the world's most celebrated artists might not have entered this prolific period, once which imbued him with a newfound liberty, he said, in color, movement and theme, allowing him to create some of his most memorable works to date.



# Rape of Europa

Artist: Fernando Botero

Location: Encore, Botero restaurant

Acquired: 2009

Europa, a nude maiden, reclines on her side on the back of a stately bull, balancing herself with grace and agility. Fernando Botero's interpretation of the Greek myth stands in stark contrast to the decidedly more perilous original, in which Zeus, enamored of the nymph Europa, disguises himself as a white bull and hides amid her family's herd until she climbs on his back after collecting flowers, an act that allows him to seize the opportunity to kidnap and carry her off to the island of Crete.

One of a series of three pieces crafted in 2007, Botero's bronze sculpture seems languid and serene by comparison. Fold in Botero's iconic, sensuous style, and the result is a work that seems to capture the very essence of quixotic, pastoral romance.



### Seated Woman

Artist: Fernando Botero

Location: Encore, Botero restaurant

Acquired: 2005

While enjoying an evening in Botero's intimate dining room, you might find yourself wondering: How was the massive Seated Woman, the spectacular centerpiece of the elegant restaurant named for (and authorized by) the famed Colombian artist, moved into this space? She weighs 2,755 lbs., so it's a valid question. The answer: the Wynn Design & Development team devised a series of rollers on elevated platforms, starting at Encore's adjacent pool and leading into the restaurant. She was then situated on her platform atop blocks of ice, which melted as her final position was negotiated.

The result was well worth the effort, as Seated Woman dominates the room with her powerful sensuality. Fernando Botero specializes in such voluptuous figures, both dressed and undressed; indeed, the artist has created many versions of the bronze nude over the years. This Seated Woman was completed in 1976, five years after Botero took up sculpting.

Of his aesthetic, Botero says, "An artist is attracted to certain kinds of form without knowing why. You adopt a position intuitively; only later do you attempt to rationalize or even justify it."



# Daphne Tree

Artist: Roger Thomas and Mot Toonrud
Location: Encore, Lobby Bar and Café

Acquired: 2007

Conceptualized by Roger Thomas, this romantic sculpture is based on the character in Greek mythology: Daphne was a beautiful water nymph pursued by the god Apollo; to save her from Apollo's advances, Ladon, the river god and Daphne's father, turned her into a laurel tree on the riverbank. Thus she became a symbol of unrequited love. Here, executed in a golden hue, she becomes a dazzling centerpiece amid the crimson tones of Encore's Lobby Bar.

Standing at 11 feet tall, the Daphne Tree was originally designed in white plaster before the final version was cast in fiberglass to accommodate wiring for lighting. She was finished with gilding in gold leaf.



# Metropolitan

Artist: Kazumi Yoshida

Location: Encore, Lobby Bar and Café

Acquired: 2009

As a multimedia artist, Japanese-born Kazumi Yoshida is equally adept at painting, sculpture and textile design, and also excels at combining the centuries-old traditions of tapestry craft with a highly modernist point of view. The latter is particularly evident in his *Metropolitan* tapestry, a highly graphic, urban-inspired piece that evokes thoughts of the Cubist work of Pablo Picasso or Jean Metzinger.

Since the early 1980s Yoshida has served as the inhouse art director for Clarence House, the venerable New York-based fabric-design firm, a position that has enabled him be at the forefront of sophisticated decorative fabrics for more than 25 years. Pieces such as *Metropolitan*, however, with its vivid color palette, punctuated with bold black, allow Yoshida to express his singular artistic vision.





Artist: Tim Bavington

Location: Encore Concierge Desk

Acquired: 2009

The second of two Tim Bavington works on display at Wynn and Encore, *Joe Joe* is inspired by "Get Back" by The Beatles. With each stripe representing a musical note in the 1969 rock classic, Bavington creates a vibrant, highly graphic work that also challenges perceptions on the marriage between inspiration and creation.

The Las Vegas-based artist also asks the viewer to think more adventurously about a painting's form, sometimes opting for a double diamond—or, as seen here, a parallelogram-shaped canvas that, like the brilliance of the work's colors, energizes the eye.



### Eve

Artist: Joseph Andrau
Location: Encore Tower Suites

Acquired: 2007

Parisian sculptor Joseph Andrau carved *Eve* from a single piece of French limestone. More than purely a biblical reference, *Eve* takes on more contemporary French sensibilities, from the classic curvature of her body to the surprise of the snake wound sensuously around the arm she holds behind her back. It's among the reasons Andrau is credited as an integral example of the modern School of Paris, a movement during the first half of the 20th century, which inspired Pablo Picasso, Henri Matisse and Alberto Giacometti, among others.





### Verdure

Artist: Charley Brown

Location: Encore Tower Suites Lobby

Acquired: 2007

San Francisco-based painter Charley Brown created Verdure using the impasto technique, in which paint is applied to the canvas in thick strokes, allowing impressions from the brush or palette knife to become a key textural element, while the painting also achieves an overall three-dimensional quality.

Located in Encore's Tower Suites VIP Lobby, Verdure lives up to its name with its depiction of lush tropical foliage. Combining classic techniques with a contemporary approach, Brown and partner Mark Evans have created similar murals for clients all over the world, from Dubai to Maui and beyond.

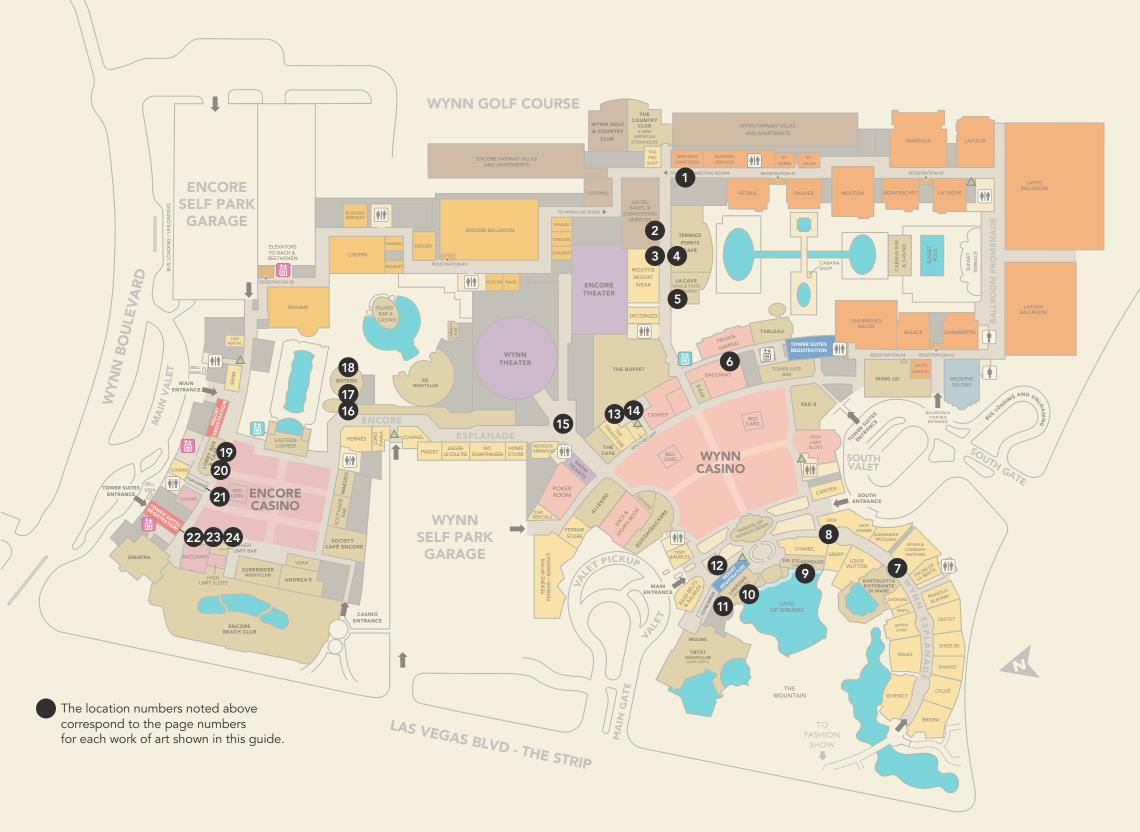
### Jembala

Artist: Kazumi Yoshida
Location: Encore Tower Suites

Acquired: 2009

Like his *Metropolitan* tapestry (page 20), Kazumi Yoshida's Jembala is crafted of lush colors, though unlike the former's more urban feel, this work is wholly inspired by nature. And yet Yoshida approaches the work in his signature graphic style: Note the whimsical depiction of the lion at the center of the canvas and the monkeys and snake hanging from the tree branches, while the scale of the flowers and leaves is also exaggerated by comparison.

The successful reception of this piece inspired Yoshida to take the artistry of this work and apply it to his fabric designs for Clarence House; today *Jembala* ranks among the favorites at the celebrated textile firm.





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