

ocean

MAGAZINE

Slipstream

Australian owner's international style



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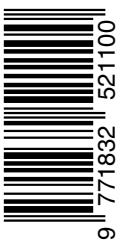
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Slipstream

Cultured Opulence

With a tasteful blend of indigenous artworks from Pacific Rim tribal artists and sophisticated modern living spaces, the 60-metre *Slipstream* from CMN is already winning awards for her Australian owner.

words: Frances and Michael Howorth



Entry via the traditional starboard-side door allows the visitor to get the full impact of the stunning set-of-three totem poles.



The convivial main saloon looking forward to the dining room (below right).

Each year, one single yacht from the 100 or so exhibited at the Monaco Yacht Show wins the Prix du Design, an award reserved for the most innovative and distinguished design, capable of rising above a field of truly world-class contenders. This year the award went to the proud Australian owner of the brand new 60-metre *Slipstream*, presented by Prince Albert at a ceremony onboard the yacht in Monaco Harbour.

Slipstream is the culmination of a three-year Anglo-French-Australian alliance between UK-based designer Andrew Winch Designs, the French shipyard CMN Yachts (now renamed Abu Dhabi Mar following its takeover) and the yacht's Australian owners.

She was the second yacht in this line, arriving after the slightly shorter *Netanya VIII*, which was delivered late last year, and just after the third hull *Cloud 9*, which was launched in June of this year.

The sweeping lines of this yacht and those of her sisterships came from the pen of Andrew Winch, who developed the overall concept working closely with the owner and builder seeking to link the exterior and interior of the boat into one seamless design. The idea was to create a yacht pleasing to the eye from the outside and full of surprises inside. He has succeeded.

The spacious aft decks have traditional large-scale marine teak furnishings with off white and dark blue nautical upholstery to match the Alexseal black hull and Sikens silver superstructure that has become the trademark of yachts to bear the name *Slipstream* (her forerunner has now been renamed *Silver Dream*).

Externally, the yacht offers masses of leisure space. The enormous sun deck includes a forward facing Jacuzzi, sunbed areas, bar, barbecue and shaded and non-shaded dining locations. It provides a great stage



for entertaining guests, sunbathing, soaking in the pool, dining in comfort or simply relaxing at the bar. Removable posts fit into sockets in the bulwarks that allow awnings to be attached to provide shade when required. Rather cleverly the designer has included a glass partition door that can be closed so that guests can dine on this deck when under way without being windblown.

“The full-beam formal living and dining area is divided by fixed screen bulkheads of rich woven leather framed in high-gloss macassar ebony, veneered columns conceal sliding jalousie-styled louvered privacy doors.”

Wide sweeping staircases provide full external access to all decks for guests. On the bridge deck there are loose sofas and tables for relaxation, a sunbed forward of the bridge and a private balcony with glass balustrade accessed from the VIP cabin. On

the main deck there is a built in sofa and adjustable tables for casual sitting or dining for 12. Aft and forward, there is a massive sofa accessed from Owner's observation lounge. Right aft and on the lower deck, a



More like a stunning apartment, the owner's suite is forward on the main deck.



"The informal area on this yacht is the upper deck saloon, which has an indoor/outdoor feel. This huge panoramic room doubles as a cinema lounge with a vast four-metre plasma screen with surround sound that appears as if by magic from a piece of furniture."

An observation lounge gives panoramic views while cruising.



"The high interior volume allows for a spacious club-like owner's suite forward, which stretches the full breadth of the main deck. It features an office, a sleeping cabin, two bathrooms, a walk-in closet and a private observation lounge with stunning panoramic views over the bow."

large fixed swim platform is a noticeable difference to *Netanya VIII* whose transom features a drop-down door.

The yacht's interior has been influenced by a blend of styles including modern urban living and the ethnic crafts from Pacific tribes. Almost all of the artwork comes from the Pacific Rim with much of it of Canadian origin, the country of birth for the owner and his wife. Using natural woods such as walnut and the exotic West African wenge, the overall effect is that of cultured opulence.

Entry via the traditional starboard-side door allows the visitor to get the full impact of the stunning set-of-three totem poles, hand carved in the traditional style of North West Canada. Standing in a circle of black marble laced with fossils, this amazing piece of artwork rises up to the decks above. All three are custom-made by Stanley Clifford Hunt, a Kwagwiltz artist whose work can also be seen at The Castle of Mey, the former Scottish home of the Queen Mother. The artwork is stunningly complemented by the black fossil marble and a sweeping staircase with its frameless glass balustrade capped with oval section polished stainless steel handrail. The stair has open risers and treads wrapped in hand-woven, wool loop-pile carpet in anthracite to match the black fossil marble.

The high interior volume allows for a spacious club-like owner's suite forward, which stretches the full breadth of the main deck. It features an office, a sleeping cabin, two bathrooms, a walk-in closet and a private

observation lounge with stunning panoramic views over the bow. The study has a custom-made desk in high gloss macassar ebony with cream leather while natural cane is used to embellish the wardrobe door fronts. Hand-woven wool cut-pile carpet in soft taupe, with loop-pile details, is used in the sleeping cabin and the bed-head of the extra-wide bed is of red woven leather on a walnut frame. Leather features strongly in this area lending the rooms the feel of a gentleman's club, with dark brown leather venetian blinds and a circular red leather feature panel with mirror border inset into the deck head.

Located aft, the full-beam formal living and dining area is divided by fixed screen bulkheads of rich woven leather framed in the high-gloss macassar ebony, veneered columns concealing sliding jalousie-styled louvered privacy doors. The most beautiful sculpture of a polar bear just begs to be touched. The tall windows with low sills bathe this area in dappled light through Venetian blinds. A beautiful backlit stacked chipped-edge glass bar front, specially commissioned Native American artwork panels and an extendable macassar ebony and walnut dining table are among the highlights. The extension leaf – often difficult to stow – is in this case given its very own storage slot so as to avoid it getting scratched and is hidden away inside a bulkhead using what would otherwise have been dead space. Cream leather Venetian blinds can be dropped electrically and pale cream fabric between wenge beams is continuous with the window mullions. Covering the deck and a joy to walk on in bare feet is the hand-woven wool cut-pile carpet in soft cream with loop-pile feature details, complimented by a dark chocolate wenge floor border. Interestingly, the design on the carpet mirrors that used on the deckheads above.

On the deck below, four double cabins with black ebonised oak doors open off a lower lobby with crew service discretely accessed via a mirrored "secret" door. The two forward guest cabins can be easily converted into twin cabins by relocation of beds and nightstands. Each

cabin has different colour selections in the soft furnishing and window treatments. Satin-finished, straight-grained walnut joinery, pale cream satin lacquer with satin finish ripple bulkheads contrast well with bed heads of carved walnut panels within a straight grain sycamore frame. Fabric roman blinds with contrasting bottom edges cover portholes by night, while overhead, pale cream alcantara is used for the deck heads with a central feature formed by the carved walnut panels of the bed-head, which wrap continuously over the bed and down the opposite bulkhead to frame the TV. Each of the ensuite bathrooms feature statuario classico marble deck and bulkheads, with marron imperial brown architraves, borders and skirting. Carved native canoe paddles

Plenty of incentive to burn off some calories with such great views from the gym.



A spacious study adjoins the owner's suite.



A gorgeous spa helps guests cool off on the sun drenched sky deck.



The shaded portion of the sky deck has an informal dining space and a shower for rinsing off after a spa bath.

are used as decoration in the lower guest lobby to great effect.

The informal area on this yacht is the upper deck saloon, which has an indoor/outdoor feel. Limed wenge accompanied by silver and black fabrics create a perfect link between the interior and the striking black and silver exterior. This huge panoramic room doubles as a cinema lounge with a vast four-metre plasma screen with surround sound that appears as if by magic from a piece of furniture. It opens into the glazed inside outside upper dining area, which has in recent years become an easily identifiable hallmark of Winch. On the same deck a gymnasium, fully equipped with cycle and running machines and free weights, has magnificent views from panoramic windows. Complete with an ensuite shower, the room is designed to convert into an extra cabin when needed with two foldaway Pullman berths set into the bulkheads.

Through a mirror-finished door designed to match the bulkhead a discrete and rather palatial upper deck VIP suite opens onto its own spectacular private balcony with comfortable chairs from which to admire the ever-changing views. This double ensuite cabin brings the guest accommodation to 12 and is without a doubt the room with the view.

Forward on the same deck is the bridge – a commanding area finished in striking black leather giving it a mean and hungry, yet very efficient, workman-like look. Captain Stephens has been with the owner for the last eight years of his career and has over the years earned his trust to the point that he was charged with creating the design of this working area. He had a great deal of input into the way the yacht functions and it was at his suggestion that the standard layout created for the first yacht was altered and improved on. He fully joined this yacht from the previous *Slipstream* some 10 months before her launching. Prior to that, he had enjoyed a working relationship with the yard where he was able to input ideas. One such was to scrap a storage cupboard one deck below the bridge and install in its place an internal crew staircase that links the crew quarters to the bridge.

Accommodation for the crew is well laid-out and planned for ease of use. Sizable cabins and a substantial mess room ensure all can gather together, but the crew do suggest that the bathrooms are a little on the small side.

Yachts that seek to charter need plenty of deck space and chunks of informal leisure space and it is clear that with an ample amount of both *Slipstream* will charter exceedingly well (she will be available through the Burgess charter agency). Since many guests are now seeking yachts whose motion at anchor is minimised, *Slipstream* has been fitted with Quantum Zero Speed stabilisers. Other attributes that make the yacht highly desirable from a charter point of view include her double helping of seven-metre Nautica RIBs, a duo of Seadoo RXT 215 horsepower jetskis

The aft cockpit on the main deck.



along with a slew of other inflatables, fishing gear, snorkel equipment, water skis, wakeboards and even a windsurfer all discreetly stowed away in the lazarettes.

Philip Stephens tells us he is proposing to supplement these toys shortly with the addition of a laser sailing dingy and a water slide. Her interior is similarly well equipped for charter guests given that the yacht is fitted with an extensive entertainment system controlled by Kaleidoscope. VSAT communications, wireless internet throughout and even a laptop for the use of guests ensures they stay in contact with the world and if they miss the daily newspapers then these can be printed on board using a system linked to a full-size page printer.

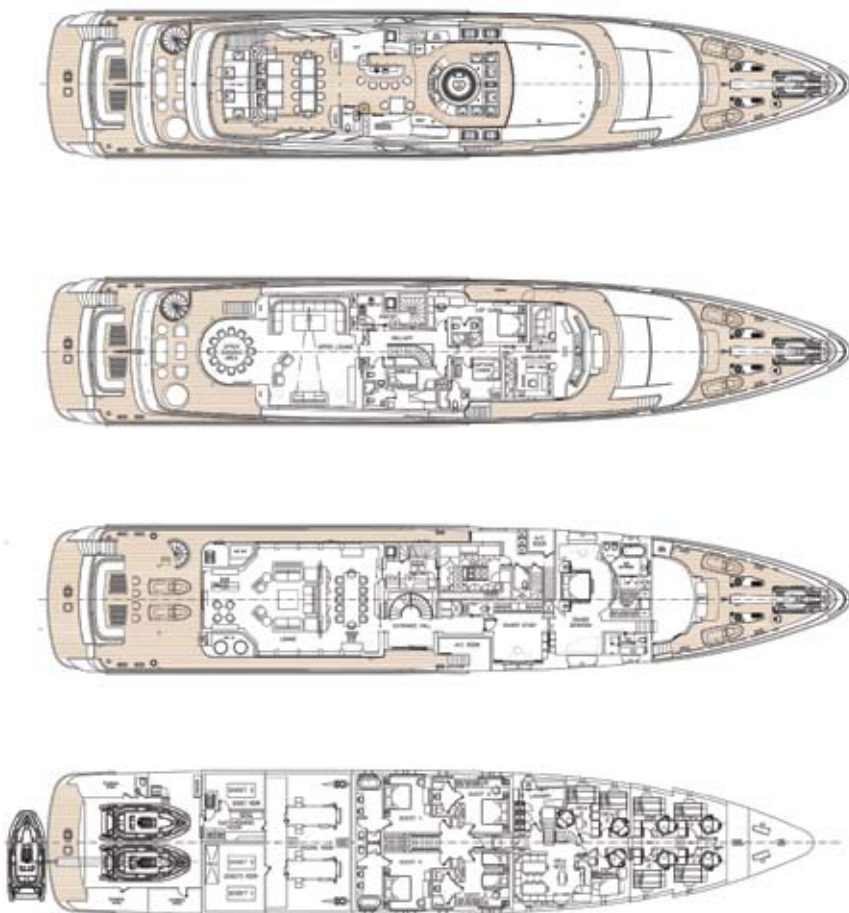
What guests seldom see is the power plant and here *Slipstream* has a wonderfully well laid out engine room equipped with twin Caterpillar 3516B engines each producing 1641 kW of power that drives twin shafts to give her a top speed of 17 knots. They will get better use out of the 140,000 litres of fuel oil the



yacht carries by cruising at 12 knots for a 6,000 nautical mile range, which in anyone's books is very respectable. ○

For further information contact Burgess
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TECHNICAL SPECIFICATIONS



60.0m (196.9ft)	LENGTH
11.2m (36.7ft)	BEAM
3.5m (11.3ft)	DRAFT
1,076 tonnes	GROSS TONNAGE
322 tonnes	NET TONNAGE
Cayman Islands	FLAG
Andrew Winch Designs	EXTERIOR STYLING
Andrew Winch Designs	INTERIOR DESIGN
Welded steel hull, aluminium alloy superstructure	CONSTRUCTION
MCA (LY2)	COMPLIANCY
2009, CMN Shipyard France	BUILT
2 x 3516B Caterpillar each of 2,201 hp	ENGINES
1,641kW at 1,600rpm	OUTPUT
17 knots	MAXIMUM SPEED
14.5 knots	CRUISING SPEED
6,000 nm	RANGE AT 12 KNOTS
3 x 152kW Caterpillar C9,	GENERATORS
Quantum Zero Speed, four blades	STABILISERS
N R Koeling	AIR CONDITIONING
SeaTel, Inmarsat, Nera	COMMUNICATION EQUIPMENT
12	GUESTS
15	CREW
Burgess	CHARTER AGENTS
Caribbean	WINTER AREA
US\$483,000 / US\$455,000	WINTER RATES