

luxe loves



Man with a grill
Platinum Motorcars
Benny Black

SOURCE

Hot wheels

Benny Black has long been a driving force in Dallas' exotic-car rental market. Now his three-year-old

PLATINUM MOTORCARS is also on the move, leaving its former warehouse home for a touch-freely new showroom. "It's all about being able to walk in and enjoy the toys," says the dapper Black, gliding his hands across a rouscar-like-looking Lamborghini. "Folks just need to be able to grip the steering wheel, touch the mode trim and fire up that engine."

Platinum's client list already includes the likes of Will and Jada Pinkett Smith (they called dibs on the Escalade), Stella McCartney and Simon Doonan, whom Black says told him that his rented Mercedes was so clean, he'd be willing to eat off it. The roster of pos-bully plays is reads even larger: Black says the athletes typically

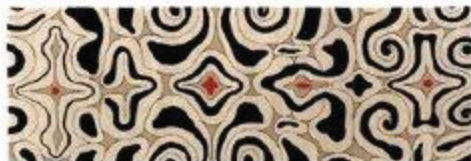
request "the blingiest thing" he's got, with chrome wheels and colors like metallic orange and purple guaranteed to stand out at the visit.

Other observations? "Different types of money ask for different cars," Black says. "Older guys usually ask for Ferraris, and younger guys go for the Lamborghinis." We'd be happy with Platinum's most popular (beloved by the wedding set) ride, Dallas' only-rentable Rolls-Royce Phantom. The one category not moving right now is convertibles. "Let's face it," says Black, "it's unbearably hot outside."

Next year when set of Platinum wheels for \$200 to \$3,000 a day.

Platinum Motorcars, 11430 N. Central Expressway, 469-374-9090.
platinummotorcars.net

Christopher Wynn



HOW OPEN

Get tactile

Talk about rolling out the hand-knit wool carpet. **ODEGARD** has moved into new digs on Glass Street across from the future Dallas Contemporary. The revamped warehouse has three times more space for the company's contemporary-from-walrus furnishings, lighting and ethically crafted rugs. "We sell beautiful things, but we're also socially responsible," says Dallas manager Michael Roagan. Find proof in the showroom's "Faces of Freedom" photo exhibit, up through Aug. 30, which documents child laborers rescued from South Asia's rug trade.

Odegard, 184 Glass St., 214-575-7644.
odegardinc.com

Christopher Wynn

On a roll: Kilimso-inspired rug (top), \$107 per square foot, and felt stripes hand-knit bed rug, \$66 per square foot



out & about

Staying up late

Downtown has a sexy new see-and-be-seen now that the Mosaic building's **AMPM** has gone from private venue to public hot spot. Nightcaps in the disco-balled lounge are a given, but lunch and dinner are equally sparkling, with former **NEIN!** Steakhouse chef Tommy Sorensen putting his spin on multi-rational dashes such as mango-mint spring rolls, lobster tails and pulled-pork sliders with leimski.

AmPro, 300 N. Akard St. in the Mosaic Building, 214-969-5550, amproindallas.com

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