



**Media Contact:**  
Pamela Hunter / Ashley Teplin  
Studio-707 - 68 Coombs Street, Napa  
Tel: 707-258-1699 - Mobile: 707-738-3506  
E-Mail: admin@studio-707.com

## Seattle Powerhouses Collaborate on Napa Valley's Greenest Hotel

January 28, 2009, Napa Valley, Calif-- When the time came to form a design team for his latest eco-hotel, spa and restaurant, acclaimed developer Phil Sherburne went where many visionaries and prophets do not: home.

Fortunately, home was Seattle, Washington, a hotbed of environmental reformers eager to bring their talents and tools to Napa Valley's highly anticipated Bardessono hotel.

Sherburne, whose name has been linked to Seattle's iconic 280,000-square foot Pacific Medical Center, Woodinville's Willow's Lodge and the 600-acre Decatur Island community project, had solid convictions regarding Bardessono's purpose. He wanted to create a contemporary Platinum LEED-aspiring hotel that still felt rooted in Yountville's agricultural history, and he knew he'd need partners who were equally strong and vocal in design leadership to pull it off.

Upon careful due diligence, the clear choice was Seattle's Wimberly, Allison, Tong & Goo. A leading global architectural firm, WATG's reputation as change-makers in hospitality design appealed to Sherburne, and he instantly connected with then-WATG architect Ron Mitchell. Sensing a great match, the duo, along with staff architect Noe Perigardo, began working intimately on a design.

From the start Seattle-based MTM Luxury Lodging was integral throughout the early planning stages. James Simkins, CEO of the high-end lodging management company, attended every meeting; he contributed operational and development expertise and was immersed in the Bardessono's design and vision. For about six months, one revolutionary idea tumbled after the other. Whereas Sherburne had strong ideas regarding the interiors, Mitchell wanted private courtyards where guests could sit, shower, bathe and relax outside, and Simkins brought the perspective of the discerning traveler

Materials and style took center stage as the team aggressively worked on a design that was honest, environmentally sustainable and tucked perfectly into the walking village of Yountville. About four months into planning, Mitchell and Sherburne began showing designs to the Yountville community. Locals made suggestions. The team listened and responded.

Suddenly, it was time to abandon the drawing board and start building, and two more Washington artists wanted in on the action.

Sculptor Richard Hestekind instantly understood Sherburne's organic vision for Bardessono. He had first connected with the eco-developer at Seattle's 2006 Stonefest. Raised in Japan and a graduate of Tokyo's Sophia University, Hestekind uses elemental materials – stone, water, fire, vegetation – to create poetic sculpture. Using recycled and salvaged materials, including three large olive stone

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6526 Yount Street, Yountville, Ca., 94599  
Tel. 707.204.6000 Fax. 707.204.6099  
www.bardessono.com



grinding wheels, Hestekind created several large-scale fountains for the property. The largest brings fire and water together in an impressive display and can be seen from the Bardessono Dining Room.

Designer John Wells was another great match for Sherburne's luxury green hotel. The two had previously collaborated on Washington's Willows Lodge project. Passionate about building ecologically ethical furniture and cabinetry from what he calls the urban waste stream, Wells crafted compellingly modern end tables from steel and reclaimed wood for the Bardessono's 62 guest suites.

Thanks to the combined talents of everyone involved, from Pacific Northwest's MTM Luxury Lodging to Napa Valley contractors Cello & Maudru, Bardessono has achieved a threefold vision. It has, as Mitchell phrases it, captured the colors of Yountville and the character of a community based in working on the land. It has done so while remaining modern, luxurious and relevant for this current place in time. And it has adhered to the Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design's (LEED) highest standards.

Crafted almost solely from reclaimed and "upcycled" materials, most of which were sourced within 100- miles of Yountville, heated and cooled by 82 geothermal wells and powered by more than 900 photovoltaic solar panels, Bardessono is a green hotel unlike any of its predecessors.

The sustainability consultant for the project is based in Seattle, as well. He is James Jenkins of O'Brien and Company who believes that once the Bardessono is up and running, it will be awarded Platinum LEED Certification. Also from Seattle are: mechanical engineers, Ecotope and I.L. Gross Structural Engineers.

Bardessono opens February 2, 2009. For more information, please go to: [http://studio-707.com/news/Bardessono\\_media.php](http://studio-707.com/news/Bardessono_media.php).

About MTM Luxury Lodging [www.mtmluxurylodging.com](http://www.mtmluxurylodging.com)

MTM specializes in managing independent luxury hotels, inns and resorts which are the best in the markets they serve, are located in spectacular settings and are distinctive with an abundance of character, ambiance and a flair for exemplary regional cuisine. MTM manages the award-winning, iconic Willows Lodge, also developed by Phil Sherburne as well as the Liberty Hotel, Boston and Hotel 1000, Seattle both of which recently opened to rave review from the luxury travel media.

About Phil Sherburne [www.Bardessono.com](http://www.Bardessono.com)

Phil Sherburne's work as an eco-developer began 20 years ago with his work in Decatur Island in the San Juans where he maintains a weekend home with his wife and two daughters. As a Harvard honors graduate, Phil distinguished himself early in community and urban planning work. He is widely recognized for his: Ford Foundation work in Boston; early HUD accomplishments in Chicago and urban planning during a pivotal time in Seattle's development. He owns hotels in Woodinville, Washington and Santa Barbara, California

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