

persons *of* influence

39

Las Vegans who shape our city

This is not exactly a **power list**, what we've compiled. There are two drawbacks to a power list: One, since you already know who wields power in this city — most do it pretty openly — such a list would tell you little that's new. And two, what is more interesting to us, and, we think, more revealing, is *influence*, which can exist apart from power, is softer, contingent and available to more than just, well, the powerful. And it probably has a lot more to do with how life unfolds down at the human level, where we all live. *Why is there a bar in that location instead of something else*, you might wonder. Or, *Who made that art show possible?*

¶ Of course, the very fluidity of influence makes it tricky to capture. Charting its entirety across the multiple planes of this city would be like playing 20 simultaneous games of 3-D chess. So the 39 people on our first-ever Influence List can only be a modest sample. ¶ We've sorted them into three groups: Public Eye, for those who function with a certain visibility; The Quiet Ones, which identifies people with a sub rosa influence or, in a few cases, public figures we're noting for a different side of their resume; and Arts & Culture. ¶ They're a diverse bunch; their influence operates at various throw weights and stems from any number of sources. Some do their thing in large, socially important spheres, others in small, intimate communities. Together, they reveal a lot about how things get done in Southern Nevada, and the kind of people doing them.

MICHELE QUINN

ARTS CONSULTANT; CO-PRESIDENT, CONTEMPORARY ARTS CENTER

Her Vegas resume is impressive: corporate curating gigs at THE Hotel, the Lou Ruvo Center, Bellagio and CityCenter. (She does similar work nationally, too.) She's also helping steer the Contemporary Arts Center's latest reinvention. "Michele brings a global voice to the often insular Las Vegas arts scene," says her CAC co-president, Aurore Giguet. "Her dedication and passion for the arts make her a true community asset."