



180FT VITTERS

Marie's Christening Goes off With a Bang

ANTIBES, FRANCE, was the venue for one of the most entertaining christenings of the season when the 180ft ketch *Marie* was officially given her name. The Delfeayo Marsalis Jazz Band of New Orleans, Louisiana, performed, champagne tributes were made to Neptune and the Gods of the North, South, East, and West winds, and a bottle of champagne was expertly cracked on the rail by *Marie's* namesake, Marie Bosarge of Houston, Texas. The event was enlivened by the firing of one of a pair of antique French Napoleonic-era cannons ingeniously concealed in lockers in the aft cockpit.

Designed by Andre Hoek and built by Vitters with Nigel Ingram of MCM acting as the owners' construction manager, the 180ft *Marie* is an evolution of *Adèle* and *Erica XII* in terms of her hull and underwater lines but boasts a new deck layout and interior by the New York-based designer David Easton. The pale anigre interior is embellished by the owners' collection of antique

weaponry and marine art. The upper salon opens aft to a huge guest cockpit and forward to a lower salon, equipped with a baby grand piano and a spacious dining salon. The accommodations incorporate a full-beam master suite aft that opens through an office to the stern owners' cockpit, a VIP double cabin, and two twin/double convertible cabins, as well as particularly spacious crew quarters and service areas.

Out on the water, even in light weather, *Marie's* very slippery hull form, powered by North Sails, quickly accelerated her to just under nine knots in just over nine knots of breeze, while speeds of over 16 knots are readily achievable in a blow. The rig, by Southern Spars, is of carbon and stayed with PBO rigging from Future Fibres.

— ROGER LEAN-VERCOE

<SPECS>

LOA: 179FT 1IN (54.6M)

LWL: 126FT (38.4M)

BEAM: 31FT 2IN (9.5M)

DRAFT: 15FT 9IN (4.8M)

DISPLACEMENT (HALF-LOAD): 328.5 TONS

ENGINES: 1 X CAT C32

MAIN SAIL AREA:

5,705 SQFT

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