BIRTH OF A GIANT

The world's new largest superyacht finally emerges



Lürssen's first yacht rejuvenated by the original team



The owner whose passions influence his sailing life



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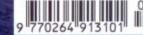
Why the innovations aboard CRN's 60m mark a step-change in superyacht design

THE GREAT ESCAPE

An owner describes her 10-year global superyacht adventure

FUNINTHE SUN

All the action from this year's Loro Piana Caribbean Superyacht Regatta







The 39.7m motor yacht Apostrophe has launched at Hakvoort, creating considerable interest within the yard and the fishing village of Monnickendam, just north of Amsterdam, where Hakvoort is located at the centre of the small port.

While the invited guests assembled inside the shed, the nearby bridges were full of those excited at the chance to see the latest custom boat built in their midst.

A Russian Orthodox priest intoned the blessing before the Champagne bottle broke against the bow and *Apostrophe* slid down the slipway, her cool synthesis of grey, white and black hues seen in natural light for the first time.

Klaas Hakvoort, one of the three members of the family running the yard, described how the order came in just prior to the economic crisis, and praised the cooperation between owner, yard and broker Moran that allowed it to proceed: 'Apostrophe has already battled her first storm here in Monnickendam, which makes everyone

especially proud of one of the finest yachts ever built at this yard."

The owner reflected on the same theme. 'After all the challenges we faced, I am truly thankful to be standing next to this masterpiece. We set out to create something exceptional and I believe we have succeeded.'

Designed by Reymond Langton, curved windows accentuate Apostrophe's long, elegant lines and make her seem larger than the spec sheet would suggest. The art deco interior is very detailed, with stained walnut, mother-of-pearl inlays and a variety of artworks.

Hakvoort's next project will be the expansion of its facilities outwards into the water, partnering with Monnickendam council, which recognises the continuing economic importance of the yard to the local community. This will allow it to build even larger yachts – timely since Hakvoort has already signed two new projects of more than 60 metres in length.

The full feature on Apostrophe will appear in a future issue of Boat International. Andrew Rogers





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