



## by EWA STACHURSKA

Passionate about sailing for years, Jean-Louis Cosentino has just started the most beautiful adventure of his life, a round the world trip with wife Michelle. For the next couple of years, they will share this big happiness, which is a direct translation of the word *Herenui* in Polynesian.

URING all the time we chat, Mr Cosentino smiles gently thinking about his future trek and all the superb places he will visit.

His fondness for the sea started many years ago and was inspired by his father-in-law Breton who, as a captain of a big four-masted merchant boat travelling often to South America, had been telling him numerous sailing stories, showing his navigation charts and discovering exciting secrets of his escapades.

Enchanted by this nautical world, Jean-Louis became a shipmate of Mark Lensky, a French sailor famous for his trip around the world. It was he who taught Jean-Louis how to sail onboard a small Finnish 34ft monohull.

He had also taken part, for four consecutive years from 1988 to 1992, in New Large regatta, a very special event gathering together all the most beautiful classic sailing boats, such as *Mariette Velsheda*. Today, the New Large regatta is known as les Voiles de Saint-Tropez.

It's been 38 years now that he sailed his own boat, the 10th unit on the list of previously owned boats. Buying a Sunreef 62 turned out to be the best choice and, at the same time, the end of long-term research of the perfect boat for his carefully planned voyage. Starting with small monohulls of 12m (Voyage 1250 Janneau), he began to think about purchasing a catamaran with open reserve judging them slower and not performing as well as monohulls.

As the owner of six monohulls, Jean-Louis has finally made up his mind after a one-day Winter trip to the south of France where he had a chance to take part in the sea trials of a catamaran.

On December 26 he was invited by a French boatbuilder to try the new 40ft multihull. This day had a huge impact on Jean-Louis' future sailing Extremely surprised by the performance, speed and manoeuvrability of multihulls, he signed the contract straight away and became the owner of his first cat of 42ft. Over the years, he has been successively replacing his catamarans for bigger ones. After a 47 footer and a 52 footer, he bought his last yacht, the Sunreef 62 that he first saw at the Cannes Boat Show in September 2006.

Trigger, the superb Sunreef 62, exhibited at the show, has drawn the attention of the Cosentinos, who at the time were already considering the possible change of their 52 footer for a bigger unit. It was Michelle who fell in

love with the boat upon seeing its careful finish, tasteful interiors and spaciousness. A year later they again visited Sunreef's stand at the Cannes Show. This time, they were already proud owners of their own cat, the Sunreef 62 *Herenui*, and awaited its launching.

The decision of purchasing such a big yacht made by a recently established Polish yard was never regretted. On the contrary, the couple were happy to be able to get a fully customised yacht, made according to their own preferences.

Sunreef 62 *Herenui* is now their home. The yacht is an owner version with classic design and a meticulous finish in American Cherry. She performs well and

Jean-Louis on the boom opening lazy jack before opening mainsail. (main pic left) Heading northern coast of Corsica. (below)



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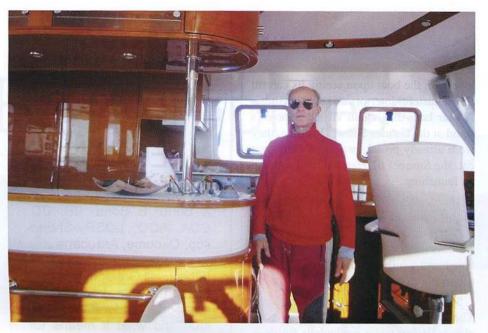
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Jean-Louis in the galley, navigation station on the right.

is a light catamaran made entirely of under vacuum infusion and equipped with standing rigging by Kevlar and has an additional navigation system AIS. In addition to that, four solar panels by Kyocera were fixed up on a flybridge in order to convert the solar energy into power (to support the generator). As the Cosentinos plan to travel to warm places, the panels seem to be the perfect solution.

Before retiring Jean-Louis didn't had much time to realise his greatest dread discovering French Polynesia aboard own yacht. He had to settle for one more of sailing with his family in the Med at two short stays in Polynesian atol During visits to the Palliser islands with magnificent Facarava and Raingora at Tuamotu islands he chartered a boat two months and realised that it was beden on earth and that he would have come back one day. Furthermore, sailed around the Grenadines and Virginalism in the Caribbean.

Nevertheless, in November 2007, wh he first went aboard *Herenui*, his vacati was about to start and never finish.

On November 15, 2007, Jean-Lot and Michelle, in company of the people, one of which, Kris, Sunreef's i house captain supposed to assist them the very beginning, left the shipyard at sailed towards the Med. After crossis the Baltic sea and passing over Ki channel and the Dutch coast, the stopped in New Port, Belgium when



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Michelle got off the yacht and was replaced by a friend and a brother-in-law of the owner. They sailed non stop to Gibraltar. After a short call at Ibiza, they sailed up to Perpignan, in the south of France where they decided to wait until the storm came to an end. They moored at Rosaces Bay and waited for the worst. The windforce of 12 and 60kts made this time very intense but the yacht was a safe refuge for the sailors. In the morning, the storm had softened but still kept a

Year's Eve there. They chose the deserted and charming Bay of Girolata for mooring which enabled them to take advantage of the restful atmosphere and peaceful surroundings and to relax properly. The bay was hidden between beautiful and wild mountains and difficult to approach. A number of stories related to this difficulty exist nowadays in Corsica! According to one of these, the village of Girolata, situated on top of the peaks, is so isolated and without modern

and one often asked question: Why winter? They were obviously not used to seeing many luxury yachts cruising on the cold winter days.

By January 10 they called at Sardinia at the famous port of Porto Cervo in Costa Smeralda. This glamorous and trendy place is a purpose-built touristy village designed in the 1960s by Italian architect Luigi Vietti on request of multimillionaire Prince Karim Agha Khan IV.









Girolata, almost deserted village in Corsica. (top photos) Herenui moored in the Bay of Girolata. (above)

windforce of nine and 45kts. Once the sea became calmer, they sailed to La Grande Motte and called at Montpellier where the couple wanted to visit their family. Next stop Cannes, where they stayed for Christmas and spent some time with their relatives.

On December 28, Jean-Louis, Michelle and a couple of friends, Loic and Murielle, left Cannes heading for Corsica as they had decided to celebrate New infrastructure than it takes a whole day for the postman to make a return trip in order to deliver only a few letters!

Murielle was in charge of preparing a special dinner for the party and was amazed with the roomy galley and did a wonderful job. Thanks to her cooking they had fois gras au chutney for starters and lobster in coconut sauce as the main course. They went for typical Corsican Bruccio cookies for dessert and drank a toast with a glass of excellent Veuve Clicquot champagne.

After the New Year, they went down to Bonifacio where they stayed for another couple of days because of a storm. Everywhere they went the surprised locals were approaching them for a chat, Once they had enjoyed the high class surroundings of Costa Smeralda, they sailed down to Monstir where the boat stayed for couple of winter weeks. In early March the couple took the return way to Cote d'Azur, Antibes, where they decided to exhibit *Herenui* at the coming Antibes Yacht Show, the new and prestigious event in the world of luxury yachts.

On March 24 the couple started their return journey to Antibes. They called at the beautiful volcanic island of Pantelleria, daughter of the wind, famous for its hot springs and habitants, one of which is Giorgio Armani. After that stop they departed for Sardinia with great weather conditions. The yacht, with an





New Year dinner in the saloon: Jean-Louis, Michelle, Murielle and Loic. (top left)

Murielle on the top of a hill, a splendid view over *Herenui* at the Bay of Girolata. (top right)

average speed of 9.9kts, was pointing really well (even 30°) and tacking with ease according to Jean-Louis. They were amazed that *Herenui* was able to go hard on the wind and was easy to manoeuvre thanks to the flybridge and all the equipment centralised on the top. Having passed Ajaccio, they finally arrived at Antibes where they stayed for the boat show. The show was a huge success for *Herenui*, the only catamaran at the exhibition which caught the attention of all visitors. The Constantinos, welcoming and open-minded, were greeting the

visitors themselves and sharing their experiences and love for the boat.

What will happen next? Once they leave Antibes, the couple will sail towards romantic Tuscany and Argentario peninsula, then trendy and picturesque Portofino. They will go next around the Pontine Islands and visit Parmarola Island where the jet-set from neighbouring Rome spend their holidays.

The Bay of Naples and the superb, sensual Capri will be the next stop for the couple. After that, they will visit the archipelago of seven Eolian islands. Stromboli is the most famous one thanks to the active volcano, the only one along with Etna still active in Europe. In Summer an amazing phenomenon of boiling sea heated up by the lava can be observed from the shores of Stromboli.

Going east through the Messine Strait, they almost fall between Scylla and Charybdis, literally speaking. They will pass this point of dangerous and agitated waters which gave birth to the proverb: between a rock and a hard point. They will certainly assist in swordfish gig fishing, which is an unforgettable and rare thing to observe nowdays. After that, they will reach the Greek coast and visit the island of Corfu before heading to Turkey in June/July. Once they have visited Turkey with its beautiful and transparent waters they will go back to Cannes to participate at another boat show, the most prestigious International Festival de la Plaisance held in September. In October they will cross the Atlantic ocean and spend some time in the Caribbean, and from there they will continue this journey to their dream of Polynesia.

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