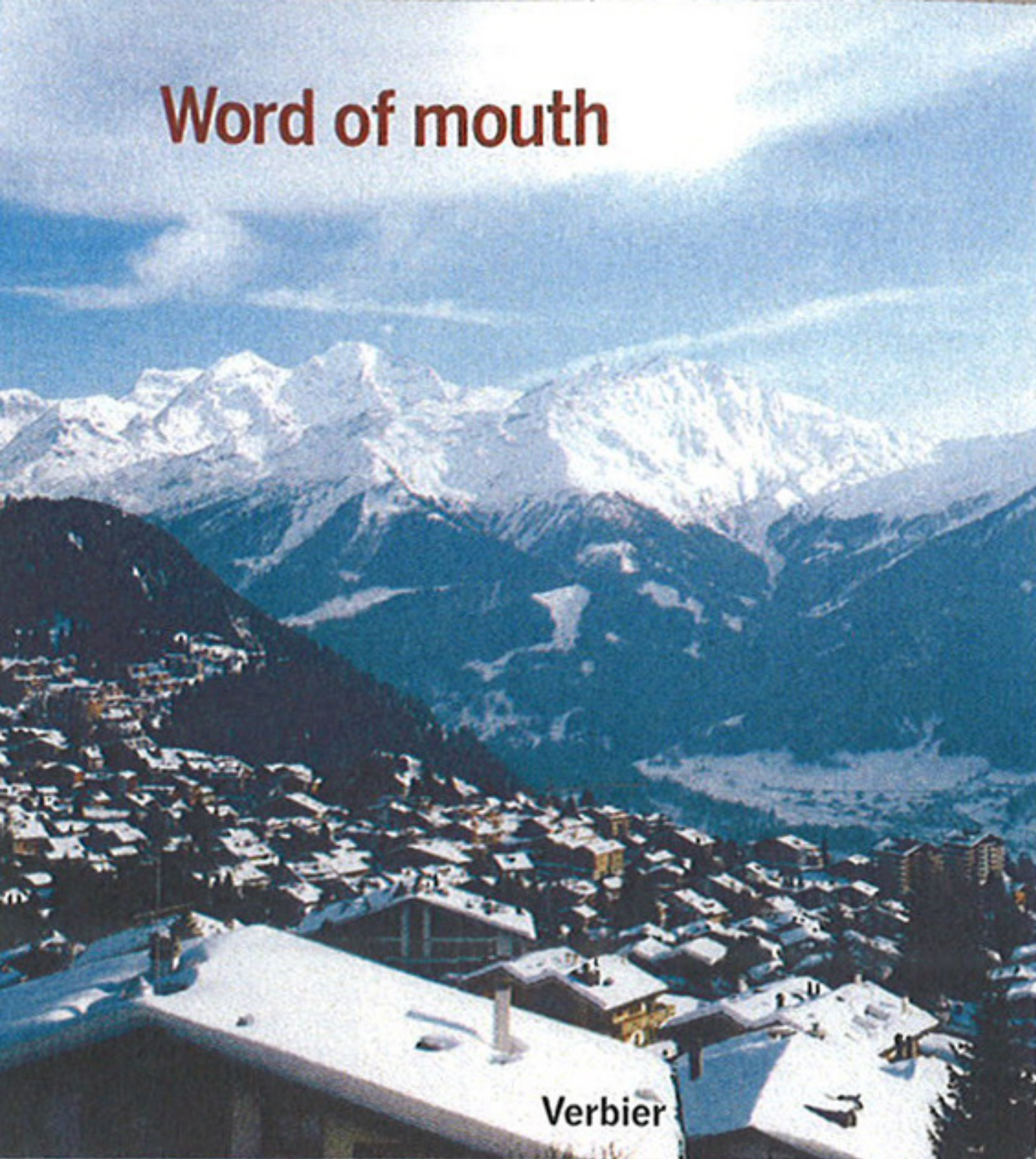
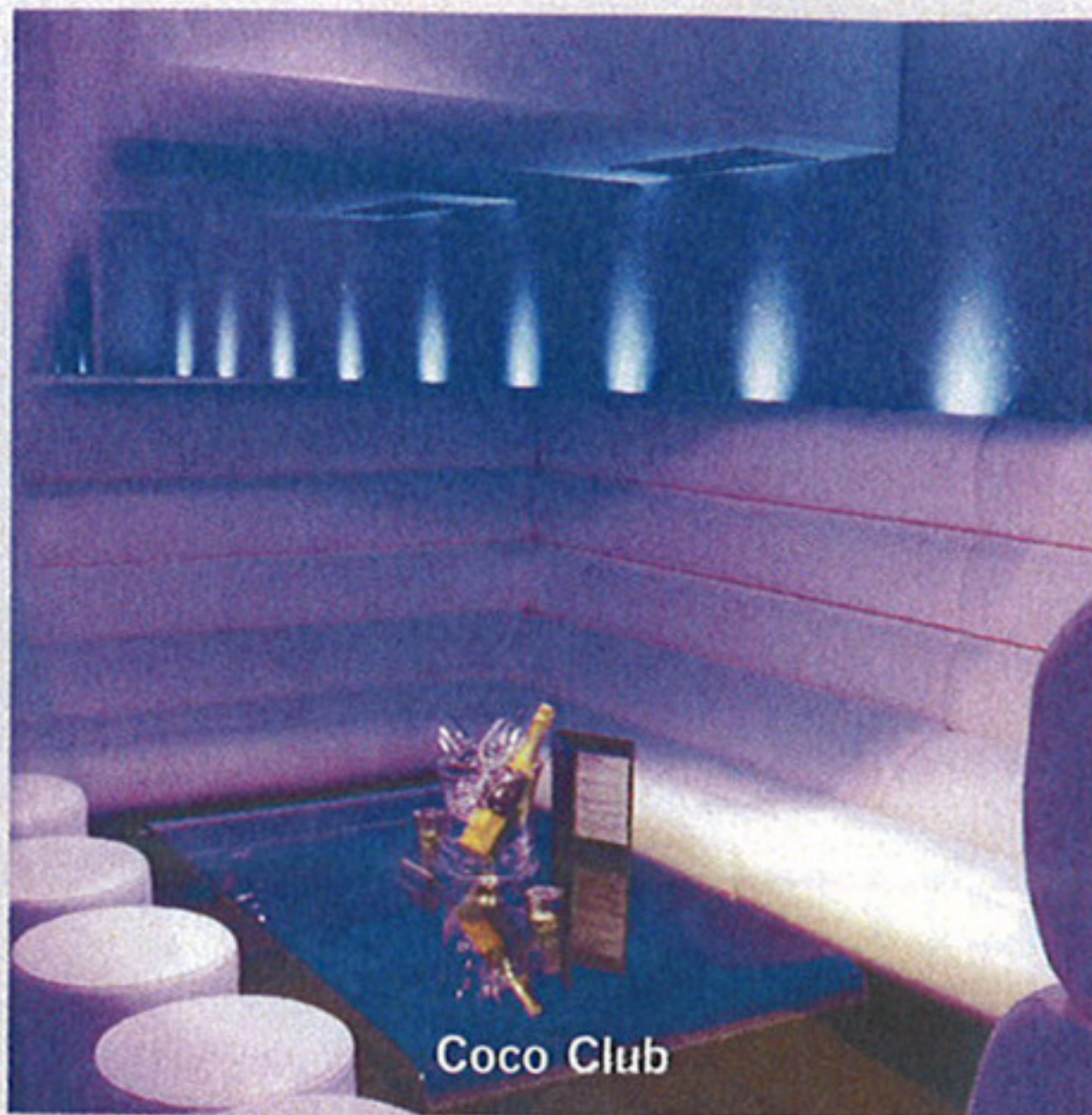


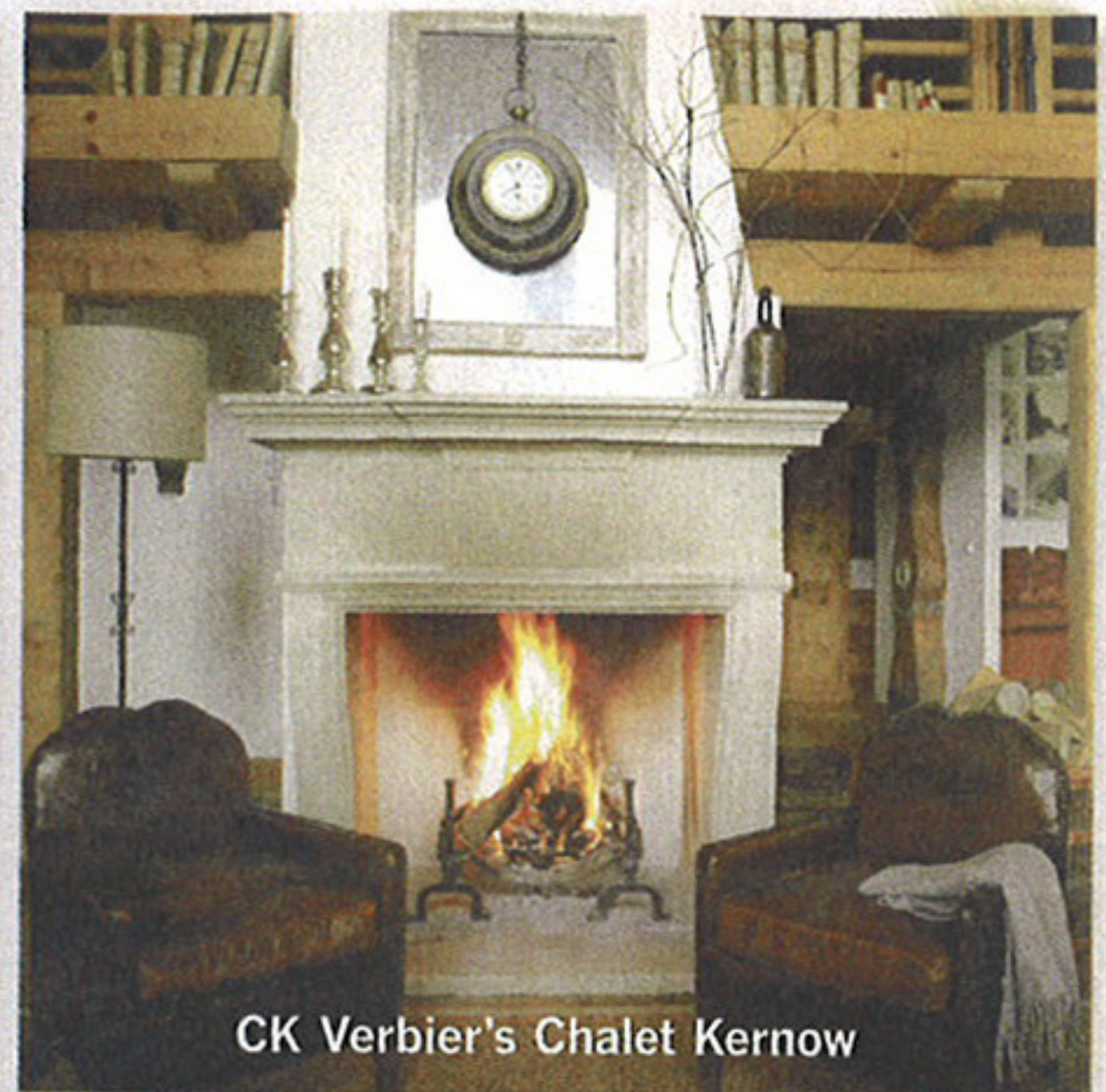
Word of mouth



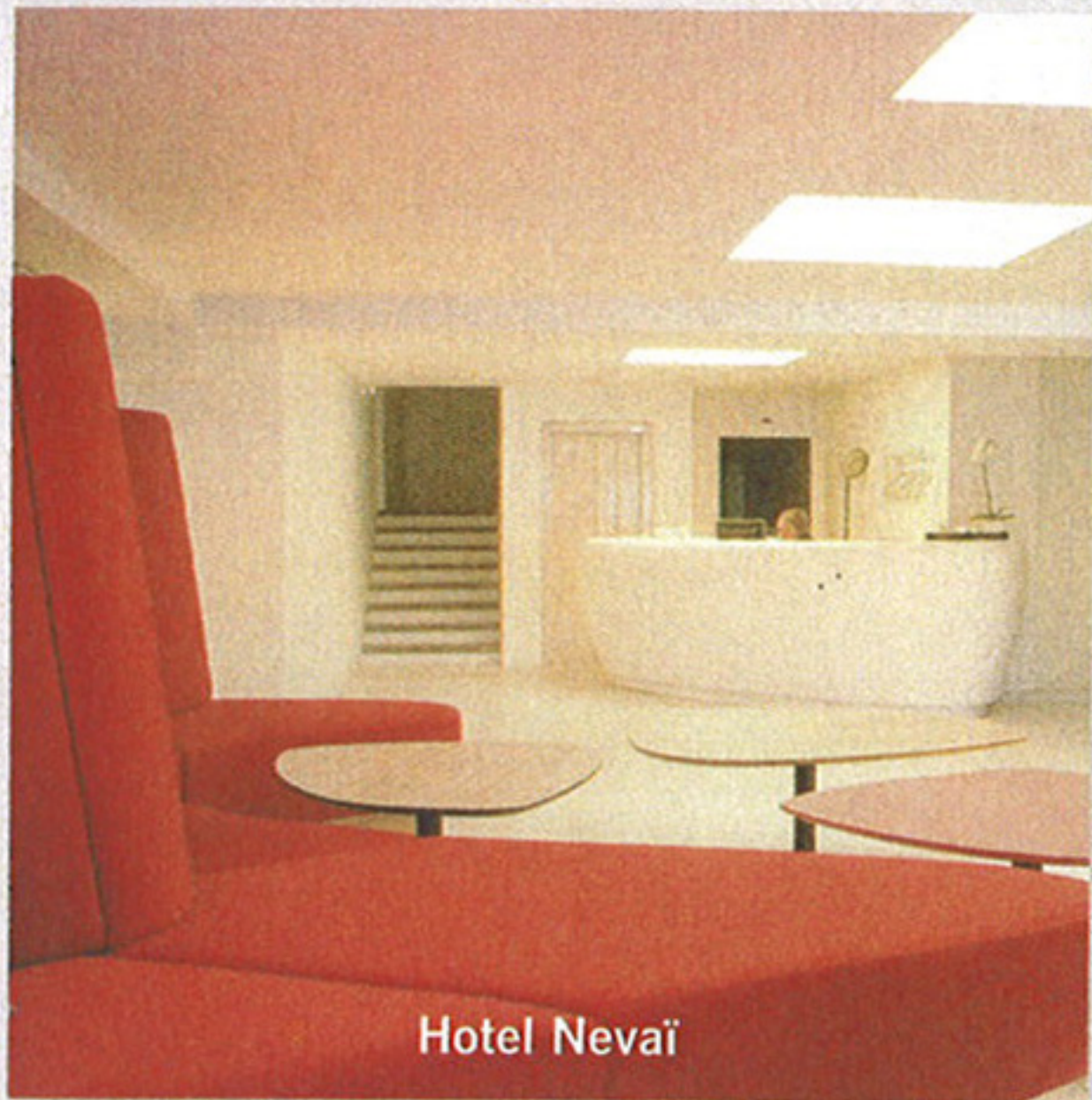
Verbier



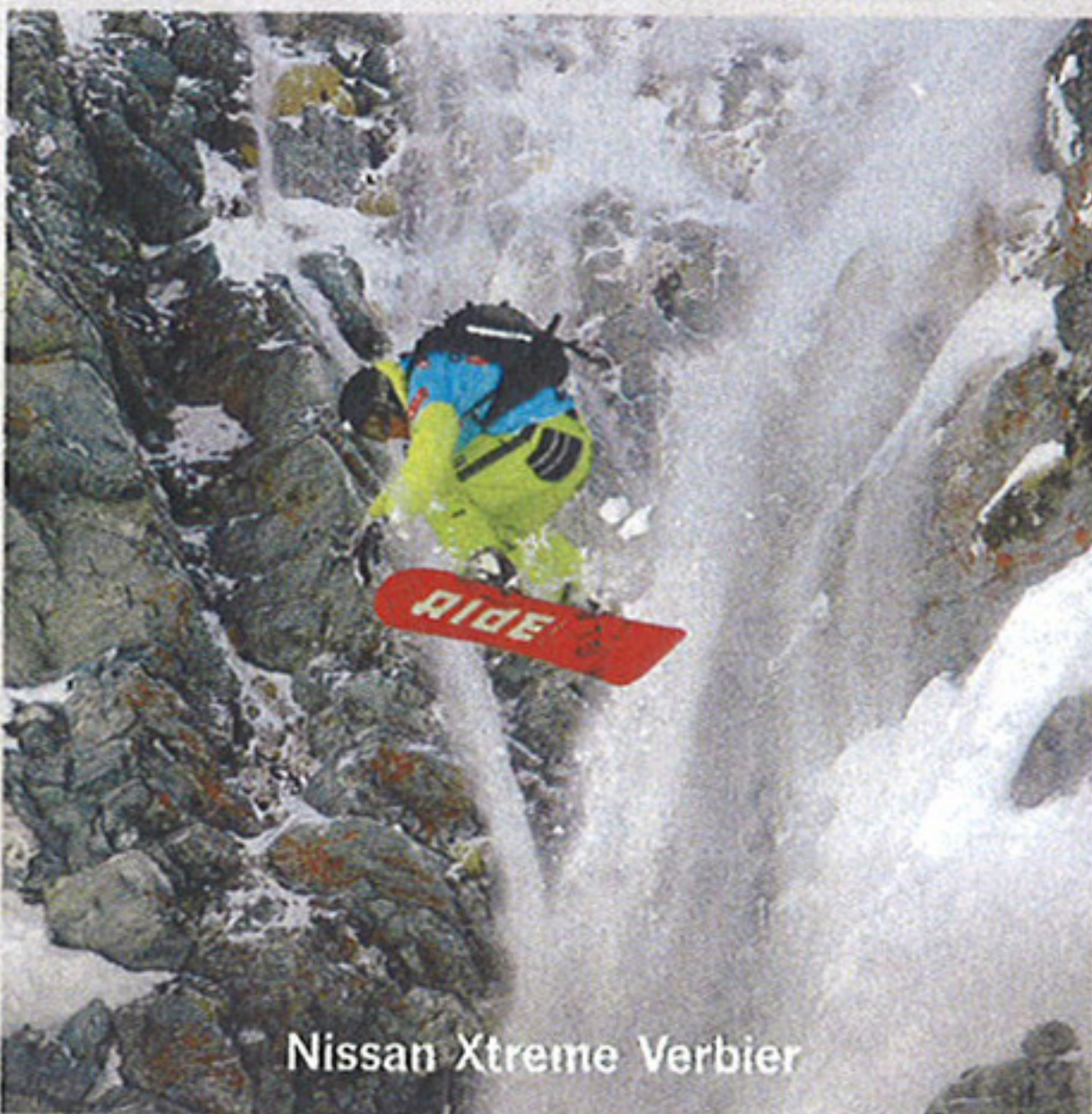
Coco Club



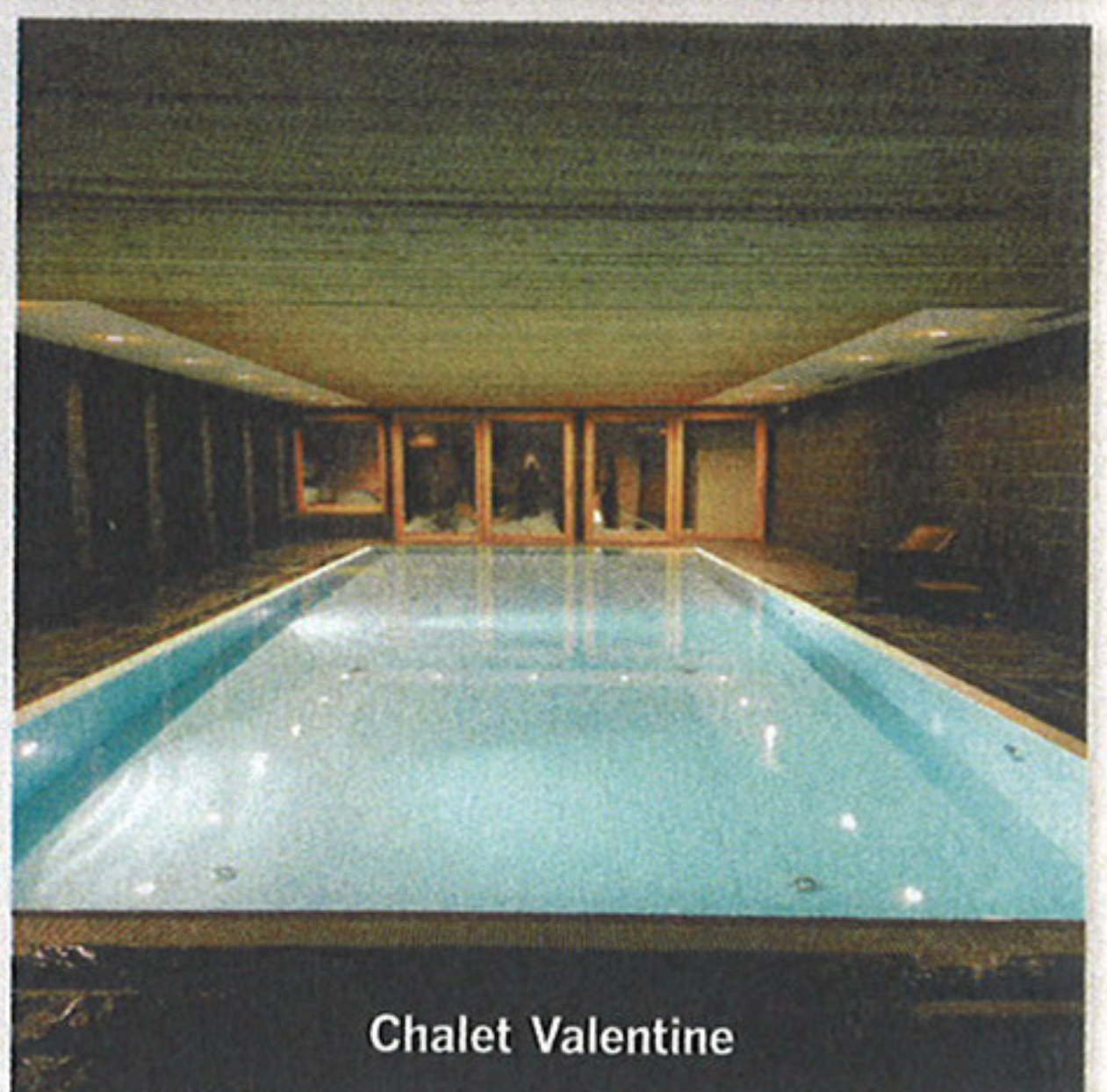
CK Verbier's Chalet Kernow



Hotel Nevai



Nissan Xtreme Verbier



Chalet Valentine

Zoned-in Verbier

This winter, anyone heading to the Swiss resort of Verbier can't fail to notice its reinvention as Europe's ski capital of cool, with an avalanche of cutting-edge properties, bars and restaurants

SLEEP New kid on the block **Chalet Valentine** is next door to the infamous Farm Club (most chalets are an uphill slog from the nightlife). It has a games room, gym and full-size (shared) indoor swimming pool on site. *Route de Verbier-Station* (0871 218 0988; www.bramble-ski.com). From £7,500 a week half board

● The **Hotel Nevai**, with its 33 minimalist rooms, plus two flashy penthouses with private

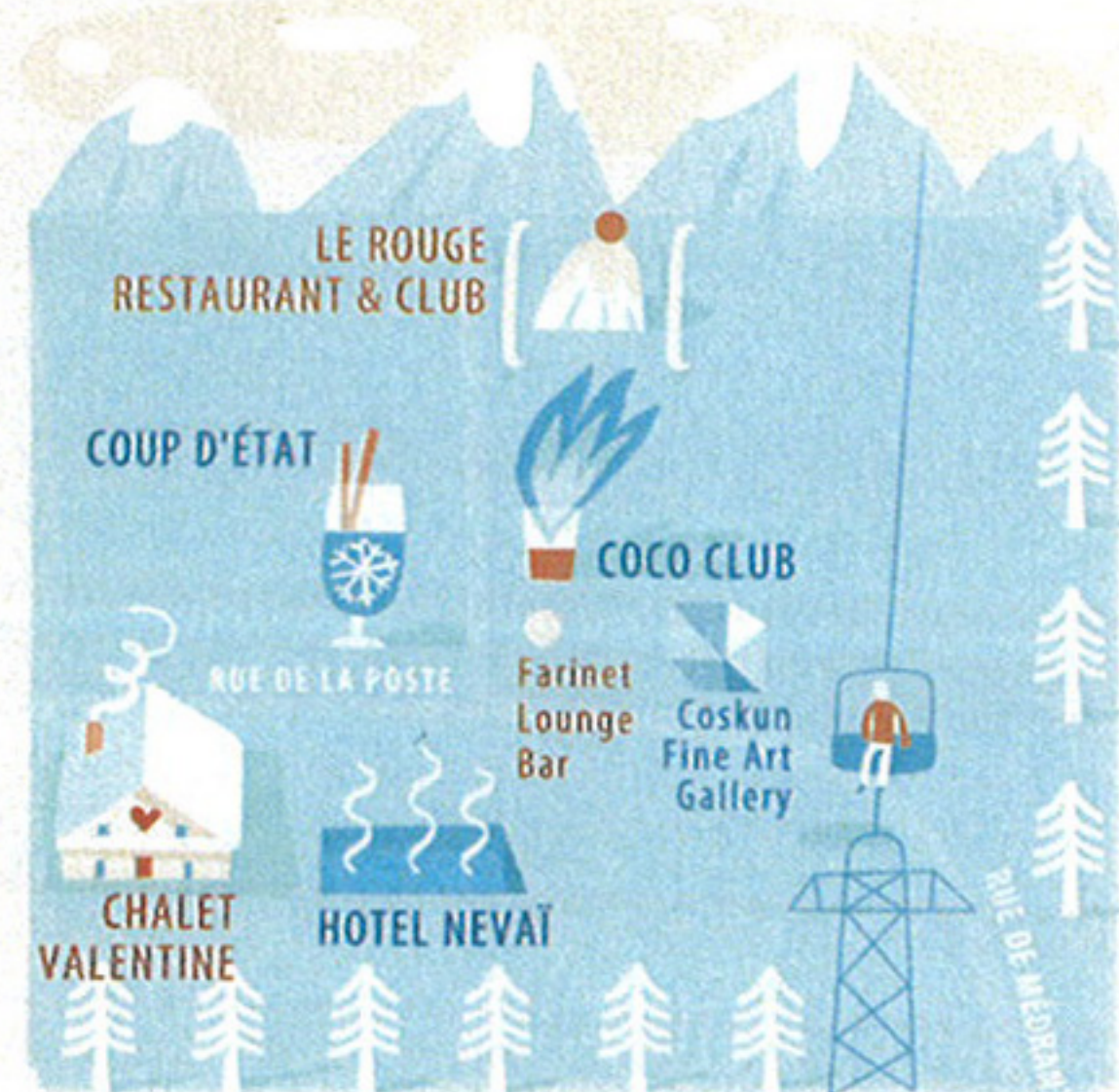
entrances and hot tubs on the balcony, was the hot hotel opening of 2007, and now its sleek restaurant and spa have become destinations for non-guests, too. *Route de Verbier-Station 55* (00 41 27 775 4000; www.nevai.ch). Doubles from CHF300 (about £150)

CHILL Elegant chalet company **CK Verbier** offers 'skilates' – an innovative take on Pilates to soothe post-ski muscles – at each of its three sumptuous but individual properties. Make friends with the people staying at one of the chalets – the newest of which is **Bella Coola** – to get in on the stretch. 00 41 79 428 0172; www.ckverbier.com

EAT Art Deco-style **Le Rouge Restaurant & Club** is the brainchild of Raphael Igelman, formerly of Banyan Tree, who'll be serving up dishes such as assorted shrimp and vegetable tempura. The three-floor restaurant will have two slope-side terraces, a club and a bistro in the wine cellar when it opens on 1 December. *Rue de Ransou 37* (00 41 79 577 2605; www.lerouge-verbier.com.) About £50 for two without drinks

DRINK From early December, those who don't want to go to pubbing and clubbing can start the night at the grown-up **Coup d'Etat** cocktail bar. *Rue de la Poste 20* (00 41 78 652 9760)

PARTY Later, head for the **Coco Club** with its gold-leaf walls, decadent white-fur curtains, lavish leather booths and the most extravagant cocktail menu in the Alps. *Place Centrale* (00 41 27 771 6666; www.cococlub.ch). Entry for non-members by reservation only **FELICE HARDY**



Don't miss

● This month's exhibition of **Warhol's 'Marilyns'** at the Swiss branch of the Knightsbridge Coskun Fine Art gallery, 21 Rue de Médran (020 7581 9056; www.coskunfineart.com)

● **Farinet Lounge Bar**, where you can catch live music after being on the slopes; last year, local resident James Blunt put on an impromptu performance (www.hotelfarinet.com)

● **Nissan Xtreme Verbier**, at which spectators can ogle freeriders tackling the seemingly unskiable north face of the Bec des Rosses. 20-29 March (www.freerideworldtour.com)