

# Sister gets a surfeit of diamonds – surprise!

## ARE FOUR EARRINGS EGREGIOUS EXCESS?

Meanwhile, little Marie Péladeau takes to the ski slopes in Val d'Isère

**Duplicate diamonds:** Montreal actor and Q 92 Radio personality **Larry Day** was feeling particularly warm and fuzzy about his sister, **Sharon Illes**, this season and decided to present her with a pair of diamond stud earrings for Christmas.

"She was thrilled when she opened the gift, but her husband's face suddenly started contorting," he reported. It turns out that Sharon's hubby, **Mike**, had also bought the fortunate female a pair of – you guessed it – diamond stud earrings.

After a good laugh, Day – who plays a hit man in the just released HBO movie *One Way Out*, shot in Montreal, starring **Jim Belushi** and directed by **Allan Goldstein** – said he'd take his pair back since they were a



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smaller size.

"I didn't get my money back, if that's what you're thinking," he joked. "I traded them in for a diamond necklace."

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**First ski lesson for Péladeau heir:** Pierre-Karl Péladeau tells me he rang in the New Year with his gorgeous, 3-year-old daughter, **Marie**, at a ski resort in Val

d'Isère, France.

"Marie started skiing!" Péladeau, long a passionate skier himself, wrote in an e-mail sent from the Alps. "She is so wonderful and we're having great fun." So much fun, in fact, that the Quebecor chief said he hasn't had time to think about any resolutions he wants to make for the new year – but promises to keep us posted.

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**Speaking of New Year's resolutions:** Diana and David Nicholson – of Wednesday Night fame (they've hosted a salon every Wednesday night in their beautiful Westmount home for more than two decades) report the only thing they're thinking about changing are their jobs.

"We're thinking about attending plumbing school," Diana deadpanned. "On Christmas morning our water tank blew up and we ended up paying the plumber enough to go on a

world-wide vacation."

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**Old material – brilliant art form:** Montreal artist **Natasha St. Michael** has been busy in her loft, stringing together zillions of beads to make some of the most impressive and unusual art that's happening in the country. The 26-year-old has a solo exhibition of her work at la Maison de la Culture Rosemont-Petite Patrie, 6707 de Lormier Blvd., from Tuesday to Jan. 12.

"Some people look at my work and comment that either I'm insane or totally too sane," said the attractive blonde, who puts in about four months of 10-hour days to make just one piece. "It is crazy work because it's very repetitive and the forms are repeated a thousand times over. "But I love it because I'm not doing the same old mass-produced pieces. I'm doing an art that has largely been lost."

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RICHARD ARLESS JR. THE GAZETTE

Natasha St. Michael puts in four months of 10-hour days to make just one of her beaded sculptures.