

Turner Woodard: Turnaround Artist

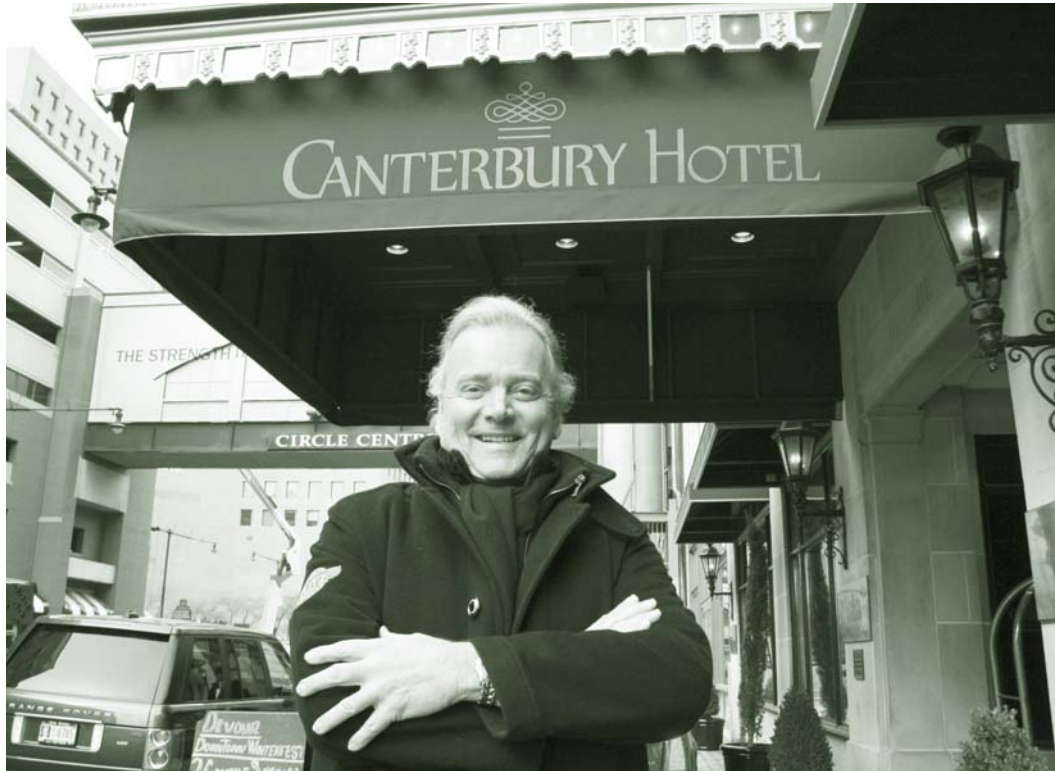
FIXER OF OLD THINGS.

Vintage auto collector. Artist. Real estate developer. Indiana Landmarks longtime supporter Turner Woodard, serving his second stint on our board of directors, combines his enthusiasms and his profession in creative and enviable ways.

Woodard's love of old things started with history and cars, an interest evident at his Stutz Business Center. The historic automobile factory in Indianapolis fills a city block. Woodard rehabbed and adapted "The Stutz" in the '90s, leasing space to furniture makers, architects, violin makers, lawyers and artists. It's also the perfect place to store and display his car collection.

"I've always loved fixing things, improving them, and turning them around," he says, crediting his mother Edna Woodard-Van Riper—a former Indiana Landmarks board member—and our former president Reid Williamson with fueling his interest in historic buildings. In 1994, Williamson took him to see several dilapidated buildings we were working to save in the city's St. Joseph district. "I remember saying, 'Reid, why are we saving these?' and he explained in his beguiling way, and I was hooked," recalls Woodard. "He encouraged me to look at the Stutz."

Last spring, Woodard expanded his portfolio of historic buildings. He bought Indianapolis's Canterbury Hotel, a National Register-listed landmark built in 1928 that was for many years the city's high-end hotel of choice. He aims to return it to top-drawer status by updating



PAIGE WASSEL

the amenities, with the first phase of guest room updates ready for Super Bowl visitors in 2012.

In addition to contributing generously to the organization, Woodard is offering a gift to all Indiana Landmarks members. Through the end of 2011, our members can stay in a standard king room at the Canterbury for \$129/night, a \$70 discount from the regular rate. To receive the benefit, mention the Indiana Landmarks discount when making reservations (www.canterburyhotel.com or 800-538-8186).

In 2007 at the ball we staged for the West Baden Springs Hotel opening, Turner and his mother offered a challenge: they would contribute \$25,000 from their family foundation if we could raise an equal amount

Turner Woodard advances Indiana Landmarks' mission as a board member and donor, and also as the owner of significant historic buildings in Indianapolis, including his most recent acquisition, the Canterbury Hotel.

from the audience. It was a great pump primer: we raised \$140,000 for our Endangered Places Grants.

The April opening of Indiana Landmarks Center is our next fundraiser for the Endangered Places program. Woodard and his wife Diann are honorary patron chairs of the steering committee for the weekend. "It's a natural progression that will take the organization into its next fifty years," says Turner of our new headquarters.