



Lenny Recanati

A citizen of the world, Lenny Recanati aims to see everything in it. This truly adventurous sailor blends easily in any situation he finds himself, whether at a wine tasting, a rock concert or on his yacht chatting with the village chief of a tribe in Papua New Guinea.

INTERVIEW BY **LISA OVERING**

Hometown: New York City

Age: 58

Profession: Investment banker; private equity investments

Current yacht: I have only owned one boat, my current one, sailing yacht *Vivid*, a 27-meter [88-foot] Jongert, on which I circumnavigated the globe. My dad was in the shipping business and owned many ships, but no pleasure boats.

Most memorable boating experience? Crossing the Atlantic. It was a tremendous sense of satisfaction and achievement. I did it with one of my sons.

What's your cruising life like? *Vivid* made a three-year circumnavigation of the globe from east to west. We are planning our next circumnavigation from north to south later this year. I have been to amazing places. I think it would be boring to go from Newport to the Caribbean over and over again. When I see

everything there is to see, I will go back to places I have been before. Until then, I will keep exploring.

Favorite marina/port? We never spend much time in any marina. Our boat always keeps moving. We have no base.

First job? As a student, I worked as a teller in a bank during the day and as a security guard at night in a factory.

Best job? Definitely my current job; it is my company now. My previous jobs were for other people.

Secret of your success? A lot of good luck and hard work. In my business, you need good intuition and a good feeling for people. You need a lot of common sense and luck.

Life lesson learned? To value life. When I was 19 and a soldier, I saw young friends die. After the service, I thought it would be so stupid to die now in a car accident. I used to drive like a madman, but I stopped. I tell my sons not to do stupid things.

Any hobbies? Wine, traveling and seeing wineries. For many years, I have collected wines from all over the world. I love traveling to exotic places. I love skiing and scuba diving. I love photography in

general and underwater photography. I make a lot of digital albums.

Current project? Recanati Winery. I have one winery and am building another, close to the vineyard. It is a dream come true.

Favorite sports? Basketball and soccer; I own a pro basketball team. It is both fun and frustrating.

Favorite music? I like different kinds, classical, popular. I saw Coldplay in London.

Last book read? *Child 44* by Tom Rob Smith. I love to read.

Favorite watch? I have two Rolex watches and an Omega. I usually wear the Rolex Yachtmaster II.

Favorite charity? I'm involved in quite a few and they are all equally important to me. I help the Cancer Society, there is another charity for helping poor people who need food and I provide support to a modern dance company.

Any pet peeves? Stupid politicians

Favorite quote? "Be smart, not right."

What can't you imagine life without? *Vivid!* ■



Recanati's 88-foot *Vivid* has circumnavigated the globe.

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