

The magazine dedicated to women who have chosen to make Nevada their home!

NEVADA

WOMAN

THE

Yin Yang

AND

of Aesthetic and
Reconstructive Dentistry

DR. JOSEPH WILLARDSSEN

*creates classic smiles
closely guided by distinct
physical gender diversities*

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DR. JOSEPH WILLARDSEN is the founder of **TRUE DENTISTRY OF LAS VEGAS**

– a center dedicated to cosmetic and reconstructive dentistry

JOSEPH G. WILLARDSSEN, DDS, PC

The Yin and Yang of Aesthetic and Reconstructive Dentistry

Aesthetic and reconstructive dentistry is a true art form — a delicate process, exclusively fashioned for each individual, beginning with clear, defining smile designs according to gender. Yes, women's and men's teeth — and smiles — are as different as the sexes themselves. ☯ ☯ ☯

BY GINGER TAFOYA

PHOTOGRAPH: RICHARD FAVERTY/BECKETT STUDIOS

The True Female Smile Design

Anatomy and Teeth

Preliminary smile design is as crucial as is the actual aesthetic and reconstructive procedure. Gender and face shape are the primary points to consider in the design. The female smile will tend to be softer and rounder than males in many instances. And generally, women do not have flat, square and worn-looking teeth. When designing the female smile, it is important that the dentist show the patient a smile library of various teeth shapes: the wrong tooth shape can change the patient's entire facial expression. Also, natural teeth have irregularities that give character to the smile. Therefore, the next important point to consider involves the anatomy and facial surface of the tooth, as it affects the way that light reflects off the tooth, giving it a natural look.

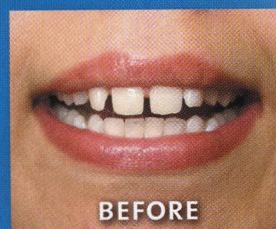
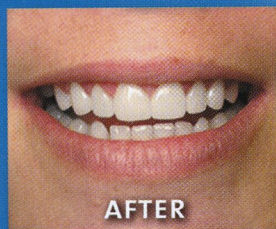
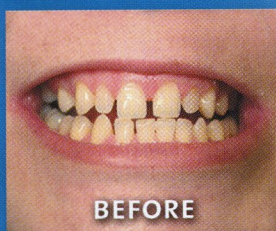
Color

Arguably the next most important characteristic in designing a smile would be the final color of the tooth. Natural teeth are not one color; fake-looking teeth are monochromatic (one color). A feminine-looking tooth often will display varying degrees of translucency at the edge. There also may be a bit of warming color at the gum line, giving the tooth a bright

appearance with some characterization. Color is what creates the difference between a nice looking smile and a crowned tooth-look. Choosing tooth color and meeting with the lab technician, as well as the dentist, is a step that should not be overlooked.

Checkpoints

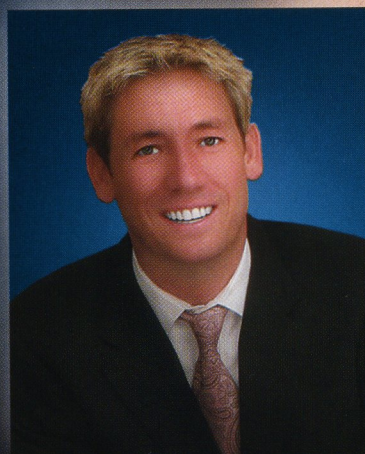
Many dentists who claim to “design the smile” are far too often applying the same smile to every patient. To be sure your dentist creates a smile uniquely your own, request that certain checkpoints be met along the way. Because the actual design process of a new smile occurs during these stages, these checkpoints will help prevent miscommunication and ensure you have the appropriate tools to visualize the final outcome. Ensure that (1) your dentist creates mock-ups or wax ups of the proposed work to provide you with an exact three-dimensional representation. And (2) patients are encouraged to take advantage of temporary crowns. Besides providing interim protection, today's temporaries so closely replicate the final product, that patients can “try out their smile” and experience firsthand the full cosmetic benefits before taking the final, permanent steps.

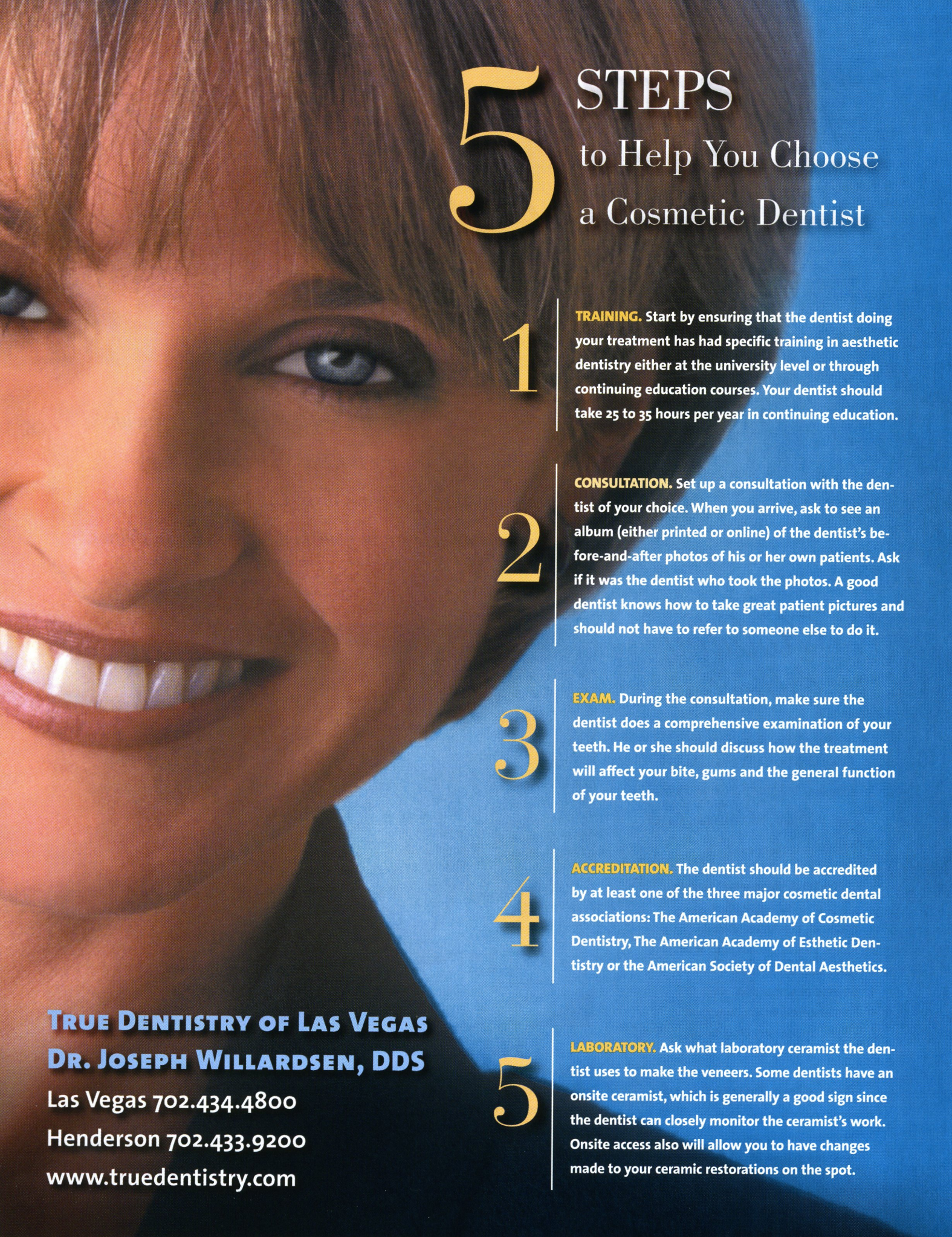


Photographs and cosmetic dentistry courtesy of Dr. Joseph Willardsen

His understanding of female and male smile design, as well as his natural artistic ability, has made the Las Vegas-based Dr. Joseph Willardsen a highly in-demand cosmetic dentist.

Dr. Willardsen is featured on UPN's *The Wellness Hour* and has appeared in such national publications as *Cosmopolitan*, *Marie Claire* and *Redbook*. In addition, Dr. Willardsen is among only 1 percent of dentists in the United States trained in neuromuscular dentistry.





5 STEPS

to Help You Choose a Cosmetic Dentist

1

TRAINING. Start by ensuring that the dentist doing your treatment has had specific training in aesthetic dentistry either at the university level or through continuing education courses. Your dentist should take 25 to 35 hours per year in continuing education.

2

CONSULTATION. Set up a consultation with the dentist of your choice. When you arrive, ask to see an album (either printed or online) of the dentist's before-and-after photos of his or her own patients. Ask if it was the dentist who took the photos. A good dentist knows how to take great patient pictures and should not have to refer to someone else to do it.

3

EXAM. During the consultation, make sure the dentist does a comprehensive examination of your teeth. He or she should discuss how the treatment will affect your bite, gums and the general function of your teeth.

4

ACCREDITATION. The dentist should be accredited by at least one of the three major cosmetic dental associations: The American Academy of Cosmetic Dentistry, The American Academy of Esthetic Dentistry or the American Society of Dental Aesthetics.

5

LABORATORY. Ask what laboratory ceramist the dentist uses to make the veneers. Some dentists have an onsite ceramist, which is generally a good sign since the dentist can closely monitor the ceramist's work. Onsite access also will allow you to have changes made to your ceramic restorations on the spot.

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