## PRESS RELEASE



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## Billy Joel's new "Shelter Island Commuter" - "VENDETTA"

MARBLEHEAD, MA - Fast on the heels of singer/songwriter Billy Joel's acclaimed **Shelter Island Runabout**, yacht designer Doug Zurn, Billy Joel, and Coecles Harbor Marine unveil their newest collaboration, the **Shelter Island Commuter**. This big sister to **The Runabout** keeps with Zurn's blend of classic styling in a fifty-knot package, while offering a much larger platform from which to enjoy Long Island Sound and quick jaunts to other coastal destinations.

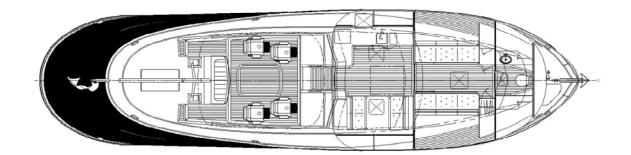
In the wake of his highly successful 38' Runabout with 36 hulls built to date, Joel again consulted with Zurn on creating an upscale 57' Commuter Style Yacht. The end result, the **Shelter Island Commuter**, boasts ample cockpit space and interior appointments, yet is lean enough to roar down Long Island Sound leaving other yachts in her wake.

Billy's recent completion of his Oyster Bay, Long Island house and his frequent trips to NYC was the driving force in deciding to proceed with the design and construction of a commuter style yacht. "Her appearance harks back to a bygone era of Long Island Sound commuter boats, combined with the performance and speed of *The Shelter Island Runabout*," Zurn said. "She will provide a quick, smooth ride in the often short chop of Long Island Sound and the menacing Hell Gate"

Weighing only 40,000 pounds, the **Shelter Island Commuter** glides atop the open ocean with speeds in excess of fifty knots, while twin 1300 horsepower *MAN* diesels coupled to *POWER-VENT Marine Drive System* quietly drone under a well-insulated engine room. A relatively narrow, modified-V hull, with plumb bow, slight rocker forward and straight sections aft, makes for an admirable performer, whether ambling in the calm of a secluded cove or piercing wind-whipped swells on an open sea.

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Production of the "Shelter Island Commuter" began last spring on the tooling at North End Composites in Rockland, Maine. The hull was built using the SCRIMP advanced resin infusion technique, incorporating vinylester resin infused into a Dupont Kevlar hybrid cloth with Core Cell foam core. The goal was to keep the boat's strength to weight ratio as high as possible. The hull, deck and small parts were then delivered to Coecles Harbor Marine last fall for final assembly.



The enclosed cockpit easily accommodates a group of six, in four individual *Stidd 500 Series* Low Back Chairs and a twin bench seat. She will be navigated with a custom *Raymarine* electronics package. Down below is decidedly open, with only one personal door providing privacy to the head compartment. There is a raised galley area aft with small dining table. Forward are two settee/bunks with day bag storage just above and outboard. Overhead hatches, portlights and dorade vents offer excellent natural illumination and ventilation while airconditioning and 24vdc lighting provide additional creature comforts.

Peter Needham and his team at Coecles Harbor are planning to commission the boat in early fall. CH Marine will be represented at the *Newport International Boat Show* with the *Shelter Island Runabout*.



For more information contact Doug Zurn (dz@zurnyachts.com) or Peter Needham (chmarine@optonline.net)