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## Natalie Portman

**Best Bet** With the curtain about to rise on the pricey renovations of L.A.'s landmark Argyle and Roosevelt hotels, one entrepreneur has fallen for a more challenging fixer-upper: Best Western's Beverly Pavilion. Jason Pomeranc, who co-owns 60 Thompson in New York and is supervising the overhaul of the Roosevelt, has just purchased the



Plans for Thompson Beverly Hills

45-year-old relic on Wilshire Boulevard and plans to spend \$10 million bringing it up to the standards of his Manhattan flagship. Expect a hopping bar, a rooftop pool and "decadent" decor, all courtesy of nightclub designer Dodd Mitchell. "L.A. has been under-hoteled for quite some time," Pomeranc says. "That's finally changing." ●

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