

## About the Cover

### From dimers to random surfaces

This month's cover accompanies the short article "WHAT IS... a Dimer?" in this issue, by Richard Kenyon and Andrei Okounkov. The article discusses the figure.

Kenyon adds, "The tiling of the octagonal region on the cover with  $60^\circ$  rhombi can be seen as the projection of a three-dimensional, piecewise linear surface. In the limit of small lattice spacing, the surface arising from a randomly chosen tiling has an almost-sure shape (with facets delimited by the yellow cardioid)."

Other similar images can be seen on Kenyon's gallery page <http://www.math.ubc.ca/~kenyon/gallery/gallery.html>.

—Bill Casselman,  
Graphics Editor  
([notices-covers@ams.org](mailto:notices-covers@ams.org))

