



Clockwise from top left: Victoria Revay and Erin Cebula at Stripped Vol. 13; Washington Capitals' Shaone Morrisonn, Glowbal Group's Peter Girges and Minnesota Wild's Aaron Voros at the Italian Kitchen opening; Jennifer Tse and Chris Samba at "the list" at The Opus; Betsy Johnson's Raven, Natalie Lapierre and Tessa McIntosh at Italian Kitchen; Amanda Giles at Italian Kitchen; Chambar's Paul Grunberg, Eleanor Chow and Dave Roberson at Passions.

ITALIAN KITCHEN OPENS, TEAM H2V RIDES

STORY AND PHOTOS BY RAJ TANEJA

08.24.07 TANYA SLINGSBY | ANTHONY REDPATH

On Aug. 24 TRUNK Gallery, which is housed in high-end auto dealership auto/ONE, hosted an opening reception for the beautiful abstract paintings of **Tanya Slingsby** and the alluring still-life photographs of **Anthony Redpath**. Alongside both artists, curator and gallery owner **Cecilia Jette** welcomed guests with smiles and complimentary martinis. The works were visible by either gazing at the walls in the gallery or by gawking at their reflections on the various Aston Martins, Ferraris and the occasional tweaked-out 700-horsepower Porsche 911. TRUNK Gallery is holding their next opening featuring the works of Ottawa-based **Heidi Conrod** on Nov. 8, in conjunction with an evening cocktail party and fundraiser for UNICEF's Unite for Children, Unite Against AIDS campaign held by **Urban Mixer**. Festivities start at 7pm and the artist has agreed to generously donate 20 per cent of art sales that evening to the charity.

08.29.07 ITALIAN KITCHEN GRAND OPENING

Italian Kitchen, the newest of Glowbal Group's fine restaurants, opened its doors Aug. 29, adorning Alberni Street with Maseratis and Ferraris and a red carpet fit for a star-studded crowd. Attendees including owners **Emad Yacoub** and wife **Shannon Bosa**, Canucks star **Trevor Linden** and, decked out in clothing by Basquiat, wife **Cristina Linden**, Canuck **Mattias Ohlund**, Washington Capitals' **Shaone Morrisonn** and Minnesota Wild's **Aaron Voros**. Over 800 took in the new surroundings, while the kitchen and bar served up priceless creations expressing the restaurant's "Art of Sharing" theme throughout the night.

08.30.07 STRIPPED VOLUME 13

On Aug. 30, Arc2 Entertainment hosted the 13th instalment of their Stripped Concert Series featuring fashion and music, while fundraising for the Make Poverty History campaign. Attendees enjoyed a runway show presenting Jolie Couture's fall '07 collection, spring '08 collection and '08 Casual Lux Wear, while performers **Rebecca Ramone**, **Camille Miller** and **Rev Squad** set the mood with musical selections to match the fashion on the runway. ET Canada's **Erin Cebula** emceed, while **Victoria Revay**, of the online citizen journalism startup **NowPublic**, hosted a portion of the event that was broadcast over the Internet.

08.30.07 THE LIST W/CHRIS SAMBA AT OPUS BAR

Also on Aug. 30, **Chris Samba**, resident DJ at Dragon-1 in Hong Kong and Mint Bar in Thailand, made a stop at Vancouver's OPUS Bar to play a set as part of promoter **Savio's** invite-only small room, big DJ series called "the list." The series, which has brought the likes of **Hed Kandi**, **DJ Sneak**, and **Tall Paul** to the ultra-modern OPUS Bar, attracted notable guest and Samba's close friend **Jennifer Tse**, little sister of Hong Kong bad boy, pop sensation and actor **Nicholas Tse**.

09.01.07 C TURNS X

On Saturday, Sept. 1, the contemporary fish restaurant C marked their 10-year anniversary with their C Turns X party. Executive chef **Robert Clark**, the authority on the Ocean Wise program — a partnership with the Vancouver Aquarium and now a worldwide sustainable oceans initiative — along with owner **Harry Kambolis**, welcomed guests including mega-talent manager **Bruce Allen**, freelance food writer **Jason McRobbie**, celebrity impersonator **Tracey Bell** and model **Todd Shymko**. They were entertained by local performers including **Mrs. Spiderlady** and comedians **Dianna David** and **Ben Garner** from the group — not to be mistaken with the restaurant — known as C is for Comedy.

09.06.07 EXOTIC WINES OF THE WORLD TASTING

It was only a couple years ago that wine enthusiasts **Betina Shonberger** and **Philippa Green** met in Cuba at the wedding of one of Vancouver's best-known wine reps, **Flame Rodriguez**. That meeting and their love of wine recently translated into an extravagant Wines of the World Tasting at McQueens Upstairs on Sept. 6, to raise funds for the world's largest endurance sports training and marathon fundraiser program, the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society's Team in Training (TNT). The evening tasting featured a delectable selection of 19 wines, a lucky draw, silent auction and live auction, which together raised a not-too-shabby \$8,500 for blood-related cancers. Ten days later, the pair ran the Sept. 16 Maui Marathon, and finished the journey in less than five and a half hours. The 24-member delegation from Vancouver's TNT scored big with a collective \$174,000 contribution to the cause.

09.06.07 TEAM H2V — A NIGHT OF PROMISE

On Sept. 6, five heroic riders from the North Shore set off to travel coast to coast from Halifax to Vancouver and crush the Guinness World Record for such a feat, while raising funds to eradicate juvenile diabetes. The Team H2V send-off party in Gastown at So.Cial at Le Magasin, led by cyclist **Kyle Balagno**, had team members **Willie Cromack**, **Richard Alm**, **Matt Young** and **Keith Nicoll** receive accolades over libations from attendees including Premier **Gordon Campbell**, retired hockey great **Bob McCammon**, CFL tackle **Chris Burns** and former Canucks goalie **Kirk McLean**. In the end, the group raised over \$726,000 for the cause and beat their initial nine-day goal by completing the historic journey in eight days.

PASSIONS, KOMAKINO, MICHAEL KORS

09.13.07 COLOUR FIELD OPENING RECEPTION

On Sept. 13, the Buschlen Mowatt Gallery on Georgia Street opened their doors to present the Colour Field art exhibition, featuring works by virtuosos **Helen Frankenthaler**, **Kenneth Noland** and **Jules Olitski**. The world-renowned artist, critic, curator and author, as well as co-founder of the Triangle Artist Workshop in New York, **Terry Fenton**, was on site as the authority on the Colour Field genre of art during the reception, as were scores of art lovers including InTransit BC's **Jean-Marc Arbaud**, Komakino's **Campbell MacDougall** and jeweller **Miriam Aroeste**.

09.13.07 AMERICAN IDOL RELEASE PARTY

Vancouver-based **Josh Murray**, the author of *American Idol – The Journey to Stardom*, a book that not only covers two years on the road and behind the scenes with the hit television series but also gives helpful tips to *American Idol* hopefuls, was recently featured in a release party at Balthazar's Bordello in Vancouver's West End. The Sept. 13 evening event, masterminded by New York-based superpublicist **Shannon Heth**, packed the room full of attendees anxious to check out the book, including **Shaun Verreault** of Wide Mouth Mason, **Karen Buder** of Sugarlime Jewellery and **Karen Khunkun** of 99.3 The Fox. The book is now available for sale at Chapters and Indigo throughout Canada.

09.16.07 PASSIONS

Passions, the culinary event of the year, held for the last four years at the stunning Dr. Peter Centre in Vancouver's West End, featured 14 of Vancouver's top chefs, who graciously donated their time to prepare bite-sized samplings of their finest work — which undoubtedly, when paired with wine and great people, invoked a passionate response. The event, a \$200

a-head fundraiser for Dr. Peter Aids Foundation — founded by **Dr. Peter Jepson-Young**, who himself passed away of AIDS-related illness in 1992 — had attendees including Dr. Peter's parents **Shirley** and **Bob Young**, philanthropist **Alison Lawton**, Ballet BC's **John Alleyne**, Vice-Consul of Japan **Yoshiko Onozawa**, MLA **Mike Farnworth**, Global Sports' **Jay Janower**, CBC's **Gloria Macarenko**, who also doubled as the event's MC, founder of the gala **Nathan Fong**, and Dr. Peter Centre's executive director **Maxine Davis** mingle with the hundreds who came out to support the cause. The talk of the event (outside of the most delectable food available anywhere in Vancouver that evening: **Tojo's** special stash of sushi for some of his most discerning customers, So.Cial's awe-inspiring potato chips and Chambar's tender and delicious short rib) was the live auction prize, which promised to fly the winner and a guest anywhere in Canada with WestJet, then provide a decadent three-night stay at OPUS Montreal, topped off with a Montreal tourism package fit for the royal family. The overall initial value of the silent and live auction combined for over \$20,000, part of a fund that in support of the centre.

09.22.07 KOMAKINO 4.0 OPENING PARTY

Komakino, the guerrilla men's clothing store that never stays in the same space very long, opened the fourth iteration of their concept store at 18 Water St. on Sept. 22. The opening event, which featured works by 'The Dark' scrawled on the wall and music by **Circle Square**, had attendees sip drinks and enjoy the new above-ground store location. Komakino, which got to its humble beginnings at 882 Homer Street, moved underground to 1 Alexander St. and then later 18 Water St., got its humble beginnings in April 2006 after owner **Campbell MacDougall** closed down the immense 15,000-sq.-ft Bruce on Alberni Street.

09.25.07 MICHAEL KORS STORE OPENING

On Tuesday, Sept. 25, fashionistas and socialites gathered in Oakridge Centre for the grand opening of the first **Michael Kors** flagship retail store in Western Canada. The event, catered by **Elixir Restaurant**, included guests **Debra Margles**, president of Michael Kors Canada, **David Goldman** of Boys' Co, figure skater **Emmanuel Sandhu**, television host **Michael Eckford**, socialite **Carmen Ruiz y Laza**, and Iconic Artist Agency's **Jessica Margaret** and **Jason Hadkin** to enjoy canapés and beverages while they checked out the luxurious accessories, clothing and sportswear in Michael Kors' line.

09.25.07 WINES OF CHILE FALL FESTIVAL TOUR

On Sept. 25, the Consulate General of Chile invited guests to the Rocky Mountaineer Station for the Vancouver stop of the multi-city Wines of Chile Fall Festival Tour. The event, to promote Chilean wine, food, music and culture, had over 600 attendees, 200 varietals and blends for tasting, and even live llamas in a petting zoo. Attendees **Harry Hertscheg** and **Angela Crocker** promoted the upcoming Vancouver Playhouse International Wine Festival, while **Jose Miguel Viu B.**, president of Viñedos Emiliana, poured samples from his winery. Musician **Claude Duke** took reprieve from Samba Brazilian Restaurant to attend, while the Consulate General of Chile, **Marina Cuevas**, entertained friends. Organizers **Juan Scholefield** and **Michel Bouiey S.** took copious notes of the event's successes in anticipation of the next stop of the festival tour in Edmonton.



Clockwise from top left: Tanya Slingsby and Cecilia Jette at Trunk Gallery; Top Table Restaurants' Edwin Kumar and Shelley McArthur at Passions; designer Jolie Chan and performer Rebecca Ramone at Stripped Vol. 13; G2 PR's Graham Gartside and Komakino's Campbell MacDougall at the Komakino V.4 opening party; publicist Shannon Heth with author Josh Murray at his book release party; Wines of the World co-hosts Betina Schonberger and Philippa Green.