



*Clockwise from top left:
Tamara Rhodes, Patricia Raye and
Lillooet; Darrin Polischuk and Kenneth
Lum; Nicola Fairweather and Tracey
Bell; Terry Jackson and Jill Sinclair; DJ
Marvel, Rico Uno and DJ Seko.*

BUZZ '08 at MCL Motors, Market Fusion and the Empty Bowl Gala

STORY & PHOTOS BY RAJ TANEJA

BUZZ '08 AT MCL MOTOR CARS

MCL Motor Cars used a number of Land Rovers, Aston Martins and Bentleys from their Burrard and 1st Street showroom to host the Arts Club Theatre Company's seventh annual corporate appreciation event, BUZZ '08, on May 29. Local award-winning actors, designers, playwrights, directors and more than 200 supporters of the arts were on scene, including Jim Storie from Vancouver Trolley Company, Jackson Davies as keynote, and artistic director Bill Millerd. Millerd recently celebrated his 35th year with the Arts Club, which makes him the longest-serving artistic director in Canadian theatre. After cocktails, canapés and keynotes, all who attended were whisked off by trolley to Granville Island to view a special presentation of the latest Arts Club feature, *The Producers*. With the 'BUZZ' in the air, the Arts Club has recently received generous support from the RBC Foundation in the form of a \$10,000 cheque, which is supporting LEAP: Playwrighting Intensive, a program designed to encourage playwriting among high school students in the Lower Mainland.

Bill Millerd is celebrating his 35th year with the Arts Club, making him the longest-serving artistic director in Canada.

MARKET FUSION LAUNCH PARTY

Local event promoters Patrick Whibley and Neil Currie launched their new networking event, Market Fusion, at Crush Champagne Lounge on May 31. By hosting the event earlier in the evening at a local nightlife establishment, the pair hopes to connect young businesspeople and create new opportunities for all involved. Market Fusion's next instalment was set for Saltlik Restaurant on July 4.

MARTINI TASTING AT CAPRICE

On June 5, Caprice Nightclub hosted a martini tasting featuring exotic drinks, an enticing crowd and after-party with DJ Jesse James. The three-station tasting hosted by local liquor reps Tyson Villeneuve, Taylor Leboe, Willie Lum and Guy Thornhill featured samples of the Bacardi Razz and Ginger Martini, the Big Apple Martini, the Blushing Lady Martini, Simply Hpnotiq, the Melon Martini and a concoction comprising Wiser's with Sourpuss and ginger ale.

SEVENTH ALS EMPTY BOWL GALA

A Loving Spoonful, the charitable organization that provides nutritious meals to people living with HIV/AIDS in the Greater Vancouver area, hosted their seventh annual Project Empty Bowl Gala on June 12 at the Pacific Palisades Hotel on Robson. Volunteers at the \$70-a-head event provided each guest with a souvenir carved white porcelain bowl designed by local artist Rachelle Chinnery. Attendees were encouraged to visit various food stations in the room and fill the bowls with culinary fare designed by chef Richard Tyhy of Zin Restaurant as they also perused live and silent auction items. The event's MC, Global TV news anchor Deborra Hope, along with hundreds of supporters including Brian Searle and Patrick Lavoie from the Elbow Room, Wayne Deans, Mike Rogers and others, made generous donations to the cause throughout the evening totalling over \$50,000. For A Loving Spoonful, this year's event marks the most money ever raised during their gala.

LUSCIOUS MOOV AT GINGER SIXTYTWO

Luscious Moov, a seven-piece ensemble that delivers live house music, played it straight up alongside DJ Luis at ginger sixtytwo on June 12. The spiritual and sexy disco-fuelled vocals delivered by Patricia Raye, Tamara Rhodes and Lillooet were backed by percussion and a jackin' rhythm section and invoked a feeling of sexiness and love amongst those present. Some of those people chanced on the aloe vera-infused Rum Luscious cocktail for the first time, including Deborah Barnett from the Richmond Youth Service Agency, Jason Hall from Blushing Designs, chef Chop Chop and many more.



*Clockwise from top left:
Peter Girges, Emad Yacoub,
Ryan Yacoub and Jack Lamont;
Olga Orda and Davin Garg; Shae-
lene Trester and Randall D. Trester;
David Mooney and Brian Fowke;
Neil Currie and Patrick Whibley;
Fiona Forbes and Mashiah Vaughn.*

BRAVE Art, Heineken Green Room and Munny at the Modern

STORY & PHOTOS BY RAJ TANEJA

BRAVE ART OPENING AT AYDEN GALLERY

BRAVE Art Vancouver, the touring art exhibition which has gained popularity in recent years by bringing a fresh mix of art fused around street and board sports culture, was enough reason for gallery owner Kenneth Lum to reopen the doors of Ayden Gallery in International Village on June 13. The opening event featured live painting from artists Lani Imre, Misk, Milan Basic, The Dark and Dedos, while Rico Uno provided the music. On-site, taking it all in, were Niña Mendoza from DOSE, Ivan Telem aka DJ Seko, Mike Henry aka DJ Marvel and the multi-talented Curtis Santiago. BRAVE art runs until July 13; no comment from Lum if the Ayden space will remain after the exhibition closes.

HEINEKEN GREEN ROOM SESSIONS AT OPUS BAR

The romance between Heineken and Yaletown has been a long-lasting one. In the past the liquor brand has invested in events like the high-profile Heineken Street Party. This year, Heineken is bringing Hot Fridays to Yaletown with live music, DJs and performances outdoors. If Molson, the company which imports Heineken to Canada, could paint Yaletown's streets green, they would. In similar fashion,

on June 19, OPUS Bar, lit in green, with hosts dressed in green and a little bit of greenery on the tables, hosted the inaugural Heineken Green Room Sessions, a harmonious evening featuring Skilla and DJ Corey K on the decks and Ruby Sethi as host. Also in the crowd, Mauricio Galvez, Dean Broughton, Francois Samson, Amy Chan, Sherani Volberg and Katherine S. Evans.

TRATTORIA ITALIAN KITCHEN GRAND OPENING

On June 20, Glowbal Group, which owns the ultra-popular Glowbal, Afterglow, Sanafir, Coast and Italian Kitchen, welcomed a select group of VIPs to the opening of their most recent restaurant, Trattoria Italian Kitchen. With the contemporary cucina popping cork in Kitsilano, a space where fresh design and casual dining blend Italian-style, there was much cause to celebrate for owners Emad Yacoub and Shannon Bosa-Yacoub, who hosted over 100 guests including Neil Wyles, Laura Serena, Fiona Forbes, Mashiah Vaughn, Brian Jessel and many more. With a focus on good food, reasonable pricing and good service, Trattoria will definitely give neighbouring restaurants a run for their money.

The touring exhibition BRAVE Art Vancouver brings a fresh mix of art fused around street and board culture.

METRO RESTAURANT FIRST ANNIVERSARY

On June 24, chef Brian Fowke, owner of Metro Restaurant at Waterfront Centre, invited guests to grab a cocktail and enjoy delicious canapés made of British Columbia's finest organic products. More than just another cocktail party, the event marked the one-year anniversary of the fine-dining establishment. Metro, best known for serving Metropolitan Canadian cuisine using seasonal and sustainable ingredients, is the sister restaurant to the award-winning Rare Restaurant, which is currently undergoing renovations.

MUNNY AT THE MODERN

Munny, as much a toy as a blank canvas, one of the most popular toys marketed by Kidrobot (next to the Smokin' Labbit), has been garnering mass appeal — with thousands of customizations created by artists who work in genres as diverse as graffiti, fine art, fashion, industrial design, illustration and music. On June 26, 30 local artists displayed their Munny masterpieces, a custom toy show at the Modern. With Munny devils, Munny Yoda, Munny Space Monkey, Munny Astroboy and over two dozen more creations, some recognizable, others freshly dreamt up, and fetching up to \$500 a piece, their show was definitely money.