



Clockwise from top left: TV producer Dana Johl, HGTV's Kelly Deck, and Ballet BC's Noel Z. Golden at the Ballet BC Home & Garden Tour. Katrina Carroll-Foster, DJ Tall Paul, and Trust's Savio at the Opus Hotel. Blushing Design partners Jason Hall, Shelley Klassen, and Ian McLean at their grand opening. David Usher at Richard's on Richards. Renowned economist Ross McKittrick with Fraser Institute's Leah Costello at Fraser@The Opus. Urban Mixer's Raj Taneja with Van. International Bhangra's Sukhi Ghuman and Mo Dhaliwal at This is Aphrodisias at Coast. Dace's Adele Tetango, Tenille Clothing's Paul Higgins and BYOB's Elizabeth Clark at the alife release party. So.Cial at Le Magasin owner/executive chef Sean Cousins and So.Cial partner Kirk McLean at their grand opening. Photos by Geoff Howard, Marc Andrew, and Raj Taneja

04/4/07 SO.CIAL AT LE MAGASIN OPENING

Gastown's newest restaurant, **So.Cial at Le Magasin**, opened their doors April 4th to an exclusive crowd of Vancouver media and VIPs. The restaurant's staff served up the canapés, cocktails and more cocktails to attendees including Canucks assistant captain Trevor Linden, who congratulated former colleagues and now So.Cial restaurateurs **Bob McCammon** and **Kirk McLean** on getting off the ice and into the restaurant business. Numerous local personalities were seen having way more fun than they usually do at these events, including award-winning bluesman **Jim Byrnes**, TV personalities **Squire Barnes** and **Gloria Macarenko**, and radio personalities **Fred Lee** and **Joe Leary**. *Raj Taneja*

04/5/07 ALIFE RELEASE PARTY

Once again packed with fresh kids and fresh gear, April 5th saw upscale streetwear boutique **alife** host an invite-only party to showcase this season's new footwear line and limited-edition skate decks. The Vancouver location of alife mirrors its Lower East Side NYC origins; just replace NY's overabundance of streetwear-savvy hipsters with Vancouver's skaters, sprinkle liberally with fashionistas and artists, mix with alcohol and voilà – Gastown is the L.E.S. Good tunes, drinks on the house, good times. *Peanut Brown*

04/14/07 DAVID USHER

Saturday the 14th marked **David Usher's** second packed show of a two-night stint at **Richard's on Richards**. Playing new material as well as classics dating back to his Moist days, by the end of the show he'd lost his voice, but was eager to point out his upcoming visit with his daughter. Kudos to David for singing his heart and lungs out two nights in a row to earn a one-way ticket back to Montreal. *RT*

04/14/07 KOMAKINO 3.0 OPENING

Campbell MacDougall launched version 3 of his guerrilla menswear store **Komakino** Apr. 14th at 18 Water St., the former location of The London School of Hairdressing and Esthetics. Serving up ultra-high-end but still hard to find lines like Yohji Yamamoto, Raf Simons and Costume National, Komakino also lived at 882 Homer and 1 Alexander, which is now home to **Chill Winston**.

04/18/07 A WAKE FOR JAGUAR

On April 18th the folks from the **Vancouver Sculpture Biennale** held a wake for that big red piece of art known only as **Jaguar**, which adorned **Devonian Park** on the corner of

Georgia and Denman streets. Mourners and media dressed in black or red watched as artist **John Henry** and his crew from Chattanooga, Tennessee dismantled the 85-foot-tall, 60,000-lb. beast to make it ready for transport to its owner stateside. The Vancouver Sculpture Biennale is set to bring more sculptural masterpieces and various other works of art to Vancouver's public space in 2009.

04/19/07 MINI DNA

MINI chose the **Rocky Mountaineer Station** as the venue for their MINI DNA open-bar spectacular on April 19th, where they showed one of Vancouver's sharpest crowds that the 2007 MINI Coopers were equally well-dressed. The event highlighted these unique vehicles, designed so only two in a million are alike. Those lucky enough to receive an invite enjoyed drinks, mini snacks and décor shaped like an indoor racecourse. Can't wait to test-drive them. *RT*

04/19/07 TALL PAUL SURPRISE SHOW AT OPUS

En route to his gig at the **Telus Ski and Snowboard Festival**, British DJ sensation **Tall Paul** stopped in Vancouver to play the **Opus Hotel** April 19th. The invite-only event, which delivered on its promise of a mystery international celeb DJ, was packed wall to wall with a definitively Yaletown crowd. Paul orchestrated a tight set, shook hands, posed for pictures and enjoyed the intimate setting of one of the top 100 hotels in the world (*Condé Nast Traveler*). Watch for more invite-only Opus events coming soon. *RT*

04/20/07 URBAN MIXER TOUR DU MONDE SERIES

Urban Mixer's Tour du Monde Series event 'This is Aphrodisias' took place Friday, April 20th at **Coast Restaurant** in Yaletown, where the sold-out crowd enjoyed the champagne cocktails, nearly endless canapés, and the harem girl supplied by **Turner Music and Events**. Local event promoters for **A-Town** and Vancouver's **International Indo-Canadian Bhangra Celebration**, **Mo Dhaliwal** and **Sukhi Ghuman**, as well as **Gillian Swann**, formerly of Gastown's departed art-and-party space **sugarandsugar**, came with dozens of their friends to enjoy the modern-Turkish-themed spring patio event. An eclectic mix of attendees including bankers and belly dancers mingled, while partial proceeds of admission went to **UNICEF**. The event marks the start of a year-long partnership between Urban Mixer and UNICEF where funds raised at each event will benefit the Unite for Children, Unite Against AIDS campaign. Urban Mixer presents their next

event, 'This is Sector 17,' on Thursday, May 17th. More info at www.urbanmixer.com.

04/24/07 FRASER INSTITUTE 'BEHIND THE SPIN'

The **Fraser Institute** kicked off their 'Behind the Spin' speaker series at Opus Hotel April 24th with renowned economist **Ross McKittrick** speaking on the 'Troubled Politics of Global Warming.' Guelph, Ontario-based McKittrick has received a lot of press coverage recently for his opinions on global warming, including in *The Economist*, *Wall Street Journal*, *Nature* and on NBC. Cocktails and appies during the first hour allowed members of Vancouver's business community, including **Stephen G. Dean** and **David J. Roundtree**, to mingle with McKittrick and others, and provided an enjoyable social element to the event. *RT*

04/24/07 BALLETT BC CHAMPAGNE TOAST

Ballet BC held a champagne toast April 24th for their BC Home and Garden Tour at the beautiful Shaughnessy home of **Bob Hodgkinson** and **Lori Kozub**. Hosted by HGTV's **Kelly Deck**, the Moët & Chandon-sponsored event kicked off Ballet BC's premiere fundraiser, The Fifth Annual Home & Garden Tour, featuring six of the city's most prominent homes and gardens located in Vancouver's premiere neighbourhoods. Attendees included Ballet BC's president and chairman **Noel Z. Golden**, artistic director **John Alleyne**, TV producer **Dana Johl**, and even Seattle-based concert promoter **Roy Yen**. *RT*

04/25/07 BLUSHING BOUTIQUE GRAND OPENING

Blushing Designs kicked off the opening of their flagship boutique, atelier and design studio, with a truckload of champagne, a ribbon-cutting ceremony and a fashion show masterminded by **Sharon Chan** and **Tammy Preast** of Ask a Woman Event Planners. The event, featuring a packed room comprising some of Vancouver's most stylish, showcased a sneak preview of designer **Shelley Klassen's** girly-girl fall/winter 2007 line. Talent managers **Carrie Wheeler** and **Laurie McLay** sized up the models seeking the next sensation, while Blushing Designs partners **Ian McLean** and **Jason Hall** ensured the production ran smoothly. *RT*

