



Clockwise from top left: Amber Webster, Brian Jessel and Callie Cheveallier at Fortes; Graham Pence and Lisa Cadrain at Opus; Christain Alvarez and Bernard Skilla at Opus; Denyc and Jessica Moser at the Flo-go launch; Slurp and Swirl oyster-shucking winner Isaac Martin del Campo with Alex Pina; Tara Parker Tait and Amanda Haines at Fortes.

SLURP & SWIRL, ROUGE OVER ROBSON

STORY AND PHOTOS BY RAJ TANEJA

OPUS BAR GREEN ROOM SESSION

On Thursday, Nov. 29, OPUS Bar played host to the latest instalment of Heineken's Green Room Sessions, an invite-only, multi-sensory music event featuring some of the world's most innovative talents. DJs **Skilla** and **Christian Alvarez** hit the decks while attendees sipped on the Dutch beer and enjoyed artwork by mixed-media artist **Amir Aziz**. At the main bar, **Sherani** and **David Volberg** of Pearls Auto Spa sampled beverages with actress and friend **Kiara Hunter**, while promoters **Devon Ash** and **Zach Browman** mingled with Zeha frontman **Axel Menzler** inside the Zeha Shoes VIP Lounge. Host **Jens Marquardt** introduced the newest member of his team, **Andre Bender**, and members of Yaletown's party scene including **Naz Bhayani** and friends **Graham Pence**, **Lisa Cadrain**, **Lisa Kwong**, **Gabrielle Kam** and **Amanda Giles** savoured the music. Heineken hosts the 2007 finale of the Green Room Sessions on Dec. 8 on a secret rooftop.

SLURP & SWIRL AT JOE FORTES

Local philanthropists **Dotty** and **Bud Kanke** hosted the fifth annual Slurp & Swirl at their restaurant, Joe Fortes, on Nov. 7, highlighting dozens of great sips of bubbly and Vancouver's definitive oyster-shucking contest. The sensational event benefited the B.C. Professional Fire Fighters Association Burn Fund and attracted a first-rate contingent of firefighters in support of **Tony Burke**, the fund's executive director, as well as scores of beautiful women including singer and actress **Kiara Hunter**, CFUN's **Jennifer Thompson**, Mark Anthony Group's **Wendy DeBodt**, Italian Kitchen's **Jeannie Kwon**, Vitamin V's **Tara Parker Tait** and DJ **Callie Cheveallier**. In the end, **Isaac Martin del Campo**, formerly of Joe Fortes, now with the Glowbal Group, took home the crown of Western Canadian Oyster Shucking Champion, while the event raised over \$37,000 for charity.

URBAN MIXER GALLERY SERIES II

Urban Mixer presented the second instalment of its Gallery Series at TRUNK gallery in Kitsilano on Thursday, Nov. 8. The location, which also doubles as the luxury auto dealership auto/ONE, featured an Aston Martin Vantage coupe as the centrepiece of the room and attracted over 600 art-enthusied revellers, who enjoyed complimentary Whistler Beer, Barefoot Wine and delicious U'Luvka Vodka cocktails garnished with an edible wild hibiscus flower furnished by the Garnish Girls. The exhibiting artist, Ottawa-based **Heidi Conrod**, mingled and mixed with attendees including philanthropist and human rights activist **Alison Lawton**, auto/ONE's **Mike Wood**, TRUNK gallery's **Cecilia Jette**, mega-publicist **Pamela Groberman** and Senator **Larry Campbell**. Meanwhile, others enjoyed the art and music, unrivalled catering by master chefs **Kodai Uno** of Toratatsu Restaurant and **Connor Butler** of the restaurant bearing his own name. The event, a fundraiser for UNICEF's Unite for Children, Unite Against AIDS campaign, had artist Conrod donate 20 per cent of art sales to charity on top of net proceeds collected at the door. Planning for the next Urban Mixer event is ongoing and is tentatively scheduled for Feb. 29, 2008.

FLO-GO ENTERTAINMENT DEBUT AT GORG-O-MISH

Flo-go Entertainment, the go-go dancing and hostessing company headed by model, singer and actress **Denyc**, held their debut at after-hours club Gorg-O-Mish on Monday, Nov. 26. The event, with the Flo-go girls dressed as Santa's sexy helpers, featured Vancouver native and international sensation DJ **CB Shaw** plus **Johnny Omega** and DJ **Timeline**, all of whom set the tone for an excellent evening.

ROUGE OVER ROBSON AT THE PACIFIC PALISADES

Rouge over Robson, a benefit for the Friends For Life Society and A Loving Spoonful, raised over \$5,000 for the cause on Thursday, Nov. 29, at the Pacific Palisades Hotel. The event, described as a holiday gift show, featured live and silent auctions, wine and a taste of Spanish music all wrapped up with a red ribbon. Organized by the hotel's **Linda Chin**, the night saw Ginger 62 resident DJ **G-Luve** on the decks while sponsors **Alisa Usher**, **Curt van Ardenne** and **Rachel Davis** from Clarins Canada provided \$5 mini-makeovers for attendees. **Layla Jaffer**, owner of the Bling by Layla jewelry line, organized the Christmas buying at the event, as attendees moved between the Merengue, Flamenco and Calypso rooms of the hotel to bid on silent-auction items.

TAKE A DIP WITH R&B BREWING CO. AT ZIN

Also on Thursday, Nov. 29, R&B Brewery's **Richard Benson** and **Rick Dellow** put their heads together with Zin Restaurant's talented chef de cuisine, **Richard Tyhy**, to present a multi-course fondue and beer dinner featuring beer-infused food and beer pairings to match each course. From passed canapés, to cheddar fondue containing Red Devil Pale Ale, to the main course and the two dessert courses, attendees including **Darren K. Stolz** and **Dean Malone**, partners in Plum Living Properties, all raved about each successive pairing throughout the evening – especially the beer-infused chocolate fondue dessert. With the first beer and fondue event by R&B Brewery going off with such a bang, the company promises to bring many more in the near future.