

# ARTS & LIFE

PAGE A16 | THE GAZETTE | MONTREAL | SUNDAY, MAY 2, 2010 | EDITOR: MICHAEL SHENKER 514 987 2560 | [artslife@thegazette.canwest.com](mailto:artslife@thegazette.canwest.com)  
A17 Camilli A19 Movie Listings A21 Puzzles A22 Comics

## ONE ARABIAN NIGHT

ALADDIN'S LAMP CASTS \$1.5-MILLION GLOW OVER DAFFODIL BALL'S CANCER FUNDRAISER



PHOTOS BY VINCENZO D'ALTO THE GAZETTE

**INITIATING THE BOOGIE** Bruce R. Richmond (left), and Guy C. Hachey, co-chairpersons of the Daffodil Ball, kick off the dancing with members of Artmistic.



**ALADDIN AND MAIDENS** Dancers animate cocktails at the 2010 Daffodil Ball in Windsor Station.



**APPETIZER HEAVEN** Nathalie Schwartz (centre) introduces husband Charles Décarie to some of the evening's epicurean delights.



**PLEASE DON'T TRY THIS AT HOME** Snake charming was one of the many surprises awaiting guests at this year's Daffodil Ball.



**WALK LIKE AN EGYPTIAN** Talented dance troupe Artmistic shakes things up.



**THE 1945 EFFECT** Guests flock to the floor as generous sponsor Paul Chacra and his 1945 orchestra create magic.

## SOCIAL NOTES



JENNIFER CAMPBELL

On May 27, **Carrie Bradshaw** heads to Abu Dhabi in the movie sequel, *Sex and the City 2*. Well today, your own **"Jenny Bradshaw"** one-ups her celluloid idol with a romp to an exotic dreamscape that Carrie, Miranda, Samantha and Charlotte can only fantasize about; the Daffodil Ball, 1001 Arabian Nights, benefitting the Canadian Cancer Society.

Top sponsors included Bombardier Aerospace, CAE, McCall MacBain Foundation, Pfizer Oncology, RBC, Samson Bélair/Deloitte & Touche, Sanofi-Aventis and Yellow Pages Group.

The Ali-alluring Baba-beautiful 17th edition, chaired with old world charm (and new world blaze) by corporate kings, **Guy Hachey**, president/CEO of Bombardier Aerospace, (attending with wife **Christiane**); **Marc Tellier**, president/CEO of Yellow Pages, (with wife **Mylène Downs**); and **Bruce Richmond**, deputy chief executive (retired) of Deloitte (with wife **Sylvia**), was a feast for the senses. So pack your bags, Noties; this is gonna be good ...

**A Golden Voyage:** The magic carpet ride to Windsor Station (so vibrantly saturated in this year's theme) bore the wildly imaginative markings of the masters at Decor & More and Yves Chénier florists. Both enterprises worked closely with award-winning Daffodil enchantress **Alison Silcoff** (Scheherazade-chic in vintage Thea Porter) to conjure an ambience that perfectly evoked the mystique of the Orient. Of note, an authentic welcome souk replete with snake charmer and real mini donkey; elaborate cocktail tents awash in Persian rugs, Moroccan poufs, fortune-tellers, henna artists; and 21 antique iron Moroccan lanterns that cast Aladdin's seductive glow over the tangerine, fuchsia and gold-domed magnificence that was this year's Daffodil dining experience.

**Sultans and sultanas of style abounded; Meet some standouts:** Spunky new Montrealer **Juliet Angus** (attending with hub **Gregor** ("Jude Law")) **Angus**, executive VP of Cossette) is already a trend-setter in a Dior sizzler seemingly sewn on to her sleekness by Galliano himself.

**Claudia Cytrynbaum** (with hub **Brian**, co-owner of Majestic Mills) the goddess standard in a nude Theia gown that spoke volumes to spring's pale aesthetic.

"Sheikh for the Night" **Benoît Brière** (with wife **Jennifer Roman-Brière**) costumed to perfection!

Please see SOCIAL NOTES, Page A18

## CONCERT REVIEW

# Knopfler delivers high-kicking performance in a pinch

BERNARD PERUSSE  
THE GAZETTE

The relief was obvious on Mark Knopfler's face Friday night as he and his band put the finishing touches on the Dire Straits favourite *So Far Away*, the penultimate song of his two-hour concert at Salle Wilfrid-Pelletier of Place des Arts. Two hours in occasionally visible discomfort couldn't have been easy.

Seated in a kitchen-type swivel seat throughout the show, Knopfler quipped early that he would not be doing his "usual twirls and high kicks," because he had "pinched something." But the focus of the night, as always, was his highly distinctive voice on the guitar – and there was certainly nothing wrong with his fingers. Not a

single opportunity for a stinging vibrato or a plaintive wail from his instrument was missed. And his extraordinary seven-piece band (he refers to them, with justification, as "master musicians") kept the level of musical interplay so high that the performance felt undiminished.

The sound at the always-risky Salle Wilfrid-Pelletier, while not perfect, was considerably better than it had been when Knopfler played the same venue almost five years ago. The muddiness of the room in 2005 turned the show into sonic sludge. Friday night, even though Knopfler's delicate voice was sometimes easily lost in the mix, the balance was, at least, adequate. And since his music is largely defined by peaks-and-valleys dynamics and

subtle shading, it was important for the band to have a fighting chance.

Opening with *Border Reiver*, Knopfler immediately let his band shine: Mike McGoldrick's flute, Tim O'Brien's violin and the accordion of Matt Rollings worked in tandem, bouncing off Knopfler's casual fills and laying down the foundation for much of the musical approach that would define the evening. What It Is, Done With Bonaparte and Get Lucky also basked in Celtic glory.

But Knopfler's country blues by way of Hank B. Marvin is what inevitably keeps the crowd excited. And it's heartening to know that people can still get pumped up by such an unlikely-looking rock star doing little but picking a guitar and letting wonderful notes sail out into the hall.

The songs, a mix of Dire Straits and solo tracks, alternated between perfect, predictable and perverse. Ignoring his masterpiece *Kill To Get Crimson* entirely, Knopfler played four songs from the comparatively weak *Sailing To Philadelphia*. That's one track more than the three he selected from *Get Lucky* – the album he is on tour to promote. And with such a rich catalogue, he could stand to give a rest to some overplayed Dire Straits numbers, especially the endurance-testing *Telegraph Road*, which is a fine record, but shouldn't take up 15 minutes of valuable live real estate.

One of the night's finest moments was left for last. *Piper To the End*, a moving ballad of undying friendship, ended the night on an emotional note.

As its last notes settled in the hearts of the audience, Knopfler limped off the stage with his band, brothers in arms.

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MARK KNOPFLER  
PHOTO GALLERY

View a gallery of photos by John Kenney from Friday night's show at Place des Arts at [montrealgazette.com/photos](http://montrealgazette.com/photos)



# SOCIAL NOTES

CONTINUED FROM PAGE A16

Queen of Chicba **Julie Delaney** (with love, **Scott Satov**, CFO of MedConnex) in a flowy princess offering picked up on a recent jaunt to South Beach.

**Treasures Sinbad would readily sail for:** The raffle rocked everyone to the edges of their elaborately padded seats as they waited with bated breath to win one of the 10 super-elite packages. Topping the wish list: a beach villa on Parrot Cay in the Turks and Caicos; a week aboard luxury ocean residence *The World*; and a real-life Arabian Nights adventure. Think 11 unforgettable nights at Dubai and Abu Dhabi's poshest Fairmont and Monarch hotels, with business-class magic carpets generously supplied by Swiss International Air Lines. As for the 580 remaining guests who came up prizeless? Chanel took pampery care of the lady loot while Lou Goldberg Jewellers was all over the man swag.

**Movers and sheikhs reigned supreme:** Canada's power-brokers were so plentiful at Daff 2010, you've got to digest the following and log on to the Web gallery ([montrealgazette.com/photos](http://montrealgazette.com/photos)) to garner just a representative sample!:

On the celeb front, les grandes vedettes counted amongst their shiny ranks **Sophie Durocher**, accompanied by **Richard Martineau**; journalist/author extraordinaire **Mireille Silcoff** and über producer hub, Zone 3's **Michael Kronish**; legendary broadcaster **Dennis Trudeau** with wife **Suzanne Jobin**; talented marrieds **Charles Lafortune** and **Sophie Prigent**; **Claude Meunier** with **Marie-Claude Goodwin**; and resident radio queen **Dominique Bertrand**, caught styling alongside hub **Jacques Maurice**. On the political beat, the biggest names to drop were Finance Minister **Raymond Bachand** with wife **Micheline Brazeau**; and Minister for Social Services **Lise Thériault**.

**Re:** the CEO/president cup, it explodeth over (there were seemingly more of them than the 30,000 daffodils incorporated into the decor!) Network nirvana boasted, among others: **Alain Lemaire**, president/CEO of Cascades; **Claire Chaillez** with hub, **Pierre Duhaime**, president/CEO of SNC-Lavalin; Transcontinental's toppest **François Olivier** and wife **Isabelle Marcoux** (in crimson Valentino); AXA president/CEO **Jean-François Blais** with elegant **Pascale Bédard**; **Claude Mongeau**, president/CEO of CN and **Guylaine Leduc**; Couche-Tard chief **Alain Bouchard** on party patrol with wife **Sandra Chartrand**; **Rupert (Dashing) Duchesne**, president/CEO of Aeroplan; **Jean-Pierre Sauriol**, president/CEO of Dessau, accompanied by wife **Anne-Marie Lenghan Sauriol**; and ultimate powergirl **Allison Dent**, CEO of Global M&A with **Pascal deGuise**.

**Spiced with love:** For your next Middle Eastern food fix, travel no further than the Fairmont Queen Elizabeth. Executive chef **Alain Pignard**'s talented team (spearheaded by a terrifically turbaned **Armando Arruda**) had this epicurean genre down. A trio of exquisitely presented Lebanese salads began the meal, followed by traditional Moroccan pastilla and a tri-sampling of lamb: carré, kebab and merguez. All courses were expertly matched with wines donated by the SAQ.

And the shawarma in pita distributed to parting guests? The sexiest send-off.

So there you have it, Notices, the best ball to date, which, drum roll please, raised a whopping \$1.5 million for the Canadian Cancer Society. The only thing missing? A camel in lieu of a cab...

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## SCENES FROM THE DAFFODIL BALL

For more great photos by Vincenzo D'Alto from the Canadian Cancer Society fundraiser at Windsor Station, go to [montrealgazette.com/photos](http://montrealgazette.com/photos).



**THE POWER OF 3** Paul Desmarais Jr. (left), chairman/co-CEO of Power Corp.; his wife Hélène Desmarais, president/CEO of Centre d'Entreprises et d'Innovation de Montréal; and Norm Steinberg, chairperson of Ogilvy Renault.

# MAGICAL NIGHT WAS NO MIRAGE



**SO GLAD THEY MOVED** New Montrealers Gregor Angus and wife Juliet make their Daffodil debut!



**MWAAA!** Marc Leroux and wife, Monique F. Leroux, president/CEO of Mouvement Desjardins.



**THE PRINTMASTERS** Alan Allnutt (left), publisher and editor-in-chief of the Gazette, with Phillip Crawley, publisher/CEO of the Globe and Mail.

PHOTOS BY  
VINCENZO D'ALTO  
THE GAZETTE



**AT THE HELM** Co-chairperson Guy Hachey (left); emcee Pénélope McQuade; co-chairpersons Bruce Richmond and Marc Tellier, and Canadian Cancer Society officials Suzanne Dubois and Pierre-Alain Rodrigue.



**I DREAM OF... LYNDA!** Jean Raymond (left), and Benoit Lauzé, both CIBC executives, flank Lynda Hudon-Lauzé.



**FOUR IS MORE** Julie Snyder (left), love Pierre Karl Péladeau, Karine Vanasse and Maxime Rémillard.



**WELCOME TO FASHIONLAND** Pota Kana-varos (left), Susan Rappaport, Constantina Knaup, Pota Nanji, Mary Tassone and Niki Nikolakakis share the spotlight.



**SITTING PRETTY** Actress Patricia Paquin (in BCBG) with boyfriend, Louis-François Marcotte, TV chef and owner of Le Local.



**COMING IN FOR A CUDDLE!** Norman Hébert Jr., SAQ chairperson, gives wife Diane Dunlop a squeeze.



**CAE IS A-OK** Marc Parent, president/CEO of CAE, and wife Sylvie Lecours.



**UP CLOSE AND FABULOUS** Charles Sirois, chairperson of CIBC, and wife Susan McPeak-Sirois (in Escada).



**LOVE IN THE AIR** Nathalie Le Prohon and hub Stéphane Boisvert heeded call to dance.



**COMMITTEE CHIC** Shirley Quantz (front), with Jeannie Saunders (from left in back row), Belle Grivakis, Alison Silcoff, Fanny Charron-Bissett, Claudia Cytrynbaum, Christiane Hachey, Pota Nanji and Hasan Al-Shawa.

	two		nine		five	
		five	eight	two		nine four
one			four		two	three
		seven		two		
				six	eight	five nine
	five		one			two
		eight	two	five	one	
five	seven		six		eight	
three			eight		nine	two five

Sudoku is easy on Sundays and gets harder during the week. Find it every day on the Puzzles Page.