

Mid-week parties the place to be

Last week's party scene was as colourful and disparate as a patchwork quilt.

They say we're no fun here, but I'm always impressed at Vancouverites' willingness to party mid-week. It took strategic planning to hit up all of Tuesday night's fiestas.

The night began at chameleon venue sugarandsugar (99 Powell), with the latest installment of their **Colour of Life** charity cocktail celebrations. The theme was Ruby Red this time, a perfect match for the red AIDS ribbon (all proceeds went to the Dr. Peter Centre, which provides care for people living with HIV/AIDS) and for the cheeky burlesque dancers who shook their nipple tassels behind hefty rouge feathered fans. The male bartenders were dressed Clockwork Orange meets cabaret, with a kiss of red eyeshadow on one eye. Black-and-white fifties movies projecting on a huge wall created an opulent backdrop, enhanced by an exhibit of richly colored canvases by local painters

Niina Chebry and Carmen Larsen.

Not far away (Black Frog, 108 Cambie) and on the same night, CBC's ZED TV screened a new musical documentary **Burning To Shine**. Classical music and

hip hop seem diametrically opposed, but this doc finds harmony between them by bringing together Canadian hip hop legend K-OS and CBC Radio's **Symphony Orchestra** to produce a song that would melt anyone from thug rapper to head of the university Classics department. Catch it on CBC's

Opening Night this Thursday at 9 p.m., or next Tuesday at 11:25 p.m. on Zed Real.

Simultaneously, at the Hyatt Regency Hotel (655 Burrard), **Robert Mondavi and Friends** held a **Canaccord Capital Wine Experience**, where a fashionable constellation of wine connoisseurs shook, sniffed, studied and sipped vino from some of the best wine regions in the world to raise money for the Heart & Stroke Foundation of BC & Yukon.

SOCIAL EYES



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ABOVE: Denise Meade (manager of fund development for the Dr. Peter Centre) with emcee for the night and social columnist Fred Lee (The Courier, CBC Radio One) at sugarandsugar's Ruby Red cocktail charity soiree last Tuesday.

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