

**Life was beautiful at hospital benefit; [Final Edition]**

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La Vita e Bella, Wienstein and Gavino's annual fundraiser for the Montreal Children's Hospital, did not disappoint. The spacious restaurant was packed with 500 guests for the famously fun party.

This year's theme was "Food, wine and fun Greek style!" Lovely, polite (and handsome!) young teens sold raffle tickets so convincingly that the 1,000 tickets were quickly gone.

Guests included media personalities George Goulakos from CFCF (whose daughter Christa was a volunteer), and Q92's Brian Kenemy and Aaron Rand, who graciously acted as emcee for the night. (The day was propitious for Rand. His daughter had called him from Europe, where she is studying on an exchange program with Queen's University, to wish him happy birthday.) A group of traditional Greek dancers entertained guests with intricate steps performed to catchy music.

Greeting guests were the evening's hosts, Tom and Gwen Nacos (outstanding in a fabulous red blazer, by Yohji Yamamoto). Guests included Bob and Garrie Laverdure (who wore a discreet black Escada dress, accessorized with black and white seed pearls), Marie-Anne Ferguson (in a wonderful sculptural salmon-coloured coat), Sharon and Abraham Wexler, Sara and Eugene Riesman, Claire and Peter Kruyt, Baljit Chadha, Micheline Martin, Edith Javid, Lillian and Desmond Clarke, Sue Carol and Arnold Isaacson, Dora and Avrum Morrow, Lorena and Norman Cook, Evelyn Schachter, Monette Malewski, Sammy and Gerry Lutfy, and Steven Shein.

Doctors present from the Montreal Children's Hospital included Harvey Guyda, Eric Fombonne and Arlene Hagen. Other doctors present included Arthur Swift (with his wife, Rhonda), Bill Papanastasiou (with his wife, Olga Huk), Roger Tabah, and Nathan Sheiner (with his wife, Claire).

The event raised \$175,000 for the Montreal Children's Hospital Foundation, \$50,000 more than last year's event. Louise Dery- Goldberg, president of the foundation, accepted a cheque on behalf of the hospital's child and adolescent psychiatry program. Arthur Porter, CEO of the McGill University Health Centre, thanked the sponsors and guests.

The Saidye Bronfman Centre held a stylish and unique fundraising evening, with its first-ever masquerade ball.

Israeli ambassador to Canada Alan Baker was the special guest. Mireille Alvo and Steven **Erdelyi** were co-chairpersons of the fun event. Committee members were Ron Nessim, Mark Kashetsky, David Ouellette, Diana Schwartz, Doree Levine, Stacey Mouadeb, Sara Miller, Doron Sayegh and Alisa Anzarut.

Guests, age 25 to 45, celebrated in formal attire and decorative masks. Noted enjoying the party were Elsa Berdugo, Jack Edery, Judy Hagshi and Glenn Nashen, Jeremy Kornbluth, Edith Fitoussi and Eric Teboul, Aviva Miller, Sandie Sparkman, Robbie Stein, Richard Yufe, Jonathan Wilner, Adam Bultz, Abe Gonshor, Dalia Bosis, Rob Hockenstein, Danny Greenspan, Joelle Grundman, Syd Levy, Avi Satov, Nathalie and Robert Haccoun, Benjamin Rodier, Melissa Rose, Amanda Wener and Marni Steckler.

The event raised \$10,000, which goes to support the Youth Institute, the School of Fine Arts, the Liane and Danny Taran Gallery and the Leanor and Alvin Segal Theatre at the Saidye Bronfman Centre for the Arts.

**[Illustration]**

Photo: VERONICA REDGRAVE, THE GAZETTE / Tom Nacos (left), Gwen Nacos and Aaron Rand helmed the Wienstein and Gavino party. ;

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