

Globe Review

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Life L5

THE CITY » A BIWEEKLY LOOK AT LIFE IN VANCOUVER

A provocative picture of the past

Our young city doesn't have many historic images clichéd from overuse. Now a photo exhibit puts our story in a new light



TIMOTHY TAYLOR

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Vancouver has an interesting relationship with images of its own history: Having little exposure to them, we get quite excited to see them gathered together in one place.

The Fred Herzog exhibit at the Vancouver Art Gallery almost two years ago gripped the popular imagination in such an extraordinary way that Herzog's name came up over beers at my not-very-art-sy local.

Stand by for the most recent Presentation House Gallery exhibition to have a similar effect. It's called *Juliette and Friends*, the title referring to a local television personality and the name of her popular program. It's the joint showing of images drawn from three different archives: CBC Vancouver, commercial photographer Dick Oulton and the Penthouse Cabaret Night Club.

The CBC images show the abstract sets and shagadelic personages of the vibrant local television scene of the late 1950s to the mid-1970s.

Mr. Oulton's commercial portraits show our citizenry with much glamping and dolling up.

The Penthouse photos, meanwhile, depict the club's showgirls and an impressive range of celebrities posed with one or the other of the Filippone brothers, who owned the place. Harry Belafonte and Gary Cooper are perhaps the biggest names. But Victor Borge and Max Baer are in there, too.

The likely popularity of the show (the opening last weekend was hugely attended) will stem from the relative rarity of the really famous historical

image in Vancouver. (Close your eyes and you can probably come up with more famous images of New York, even if you've never been there.)

As a result, unlike older cities, we don't have a lot of historic images clichéd from overuse. And hence the buzz when collections such as *Juliette and Friends* come along. The photographers really are taking us to places we haven't seen before.

It only adds to the sense of discovery in this case to know that two of the collections were salvaged from likely destruction. The Penthouse photos were found in boxes sealed in a wall.

The Oulton photos, meanwhile, were saved by local photographer Lincoln Clarkes, who deserves significant credit for this show being mounted at all. When his friend Dick Oulton was hospitalized after a fall, the building housing his studio was taken over by meth addicts and squatters. Mr. Clarkes bribed them with booze and hash and saved boxes and boxes of photos.

"The squatters had moved in and looted Dick's life," Mr. Clarkes tells me. "There were photos and negatives and slides eight inches deep on the floor."

Equally provocative is the juxtaposition of the different archives: Taken together, they offer a social portrait that is significantly greater than its parts. The Penthouse-CBC-Oulton triangle illustrates brilliantly – in accessible, vernacular images – the mimetic and contagious nature of desire.

In these photos, aspirations to glamour may be seen to cycle from the celebrity classes through the prism of television and on into the public sphere, where they are copied and reshaped and passed back to celebrities in the form of the Filippone's glad-handing adulation. A cycle is completed in the gallery that reverberates up through the



The *Juliette and Friends* exhibition showcases vintage Vancouver life, such as this publicity photo from the Penthouse Cabaret Night Club. THE PENTHOUSE COLLECTION

years. Only the hairdos and smoking bylaws have changed.

Interestingly, single portraits within each of the three archival groupings stand out. And these triangulate as well, seeming ultimately to preside, a trinity of mugs at the Olympian pinnacle of the collection.

The CBC's honorary chief is surely a very young Terry David Mulligan, who stares rather straight-faced out of an intensely groovy set hung with women's dresses.

The Penthouse boss shot is clearly a 1947 portrait of co-owner Joe Filippone, narrow shouldered, head the size of a caricature, propped against his own bar in a glistening smoking jacket.

And then there is Dick Oulton, who anchors his own collection, standing with an umbrella in the snow, looking up through the long-ago lens and into the gallery. He seems to be taking in the show, although I will not presume to read his reaction. Let it be known, however, that this shot was taken by Lincoln Clarkes just days before Mr. Oulton slipped on ice and fell. That is, days before his entire collection (and probably the show itself) might have disappeared over the event horizon.

Of course, in Vancouver, where the future seems to loom permanently, anything that hasn't materialized in the present sits equivalently close to being realized or forgotten. We hold a lot of ideas about the possibility of tomorrow in our heads here, just as we hold few images about the past. There is, no doubt, a kind of freedom in this. And it certainly makes the images we have all that much more precious.

Or, as Lincoln Clarkes has it: "It means photos here age way better than wine."

» Timothy Taylor is a novelist and journalist based in Vancouver. His latest book is the novel *Story House*.



AVENUE

Questions & Artists

British Columbia is often thought to be more granola than glamourpuss. But as *Juliette and Friends*, a new exhibit about Vancouver in the '50s, '60s and '70s, aims to show, the West has long had a more interesting underbelly. Here, show co-curator Helga Pakasaar tells Leah Sandals how to find the luxe and the louche in Left Coast history.

Q *This show is filled with great, campy retro photos. What ties them all together?*

A The general theme is Vancouver history from the '50s through to the mid '70s, particularly looking at nightlife. These are not photographs of the streets of Vancouver, which is commonly the case with city-themed shows. Instead, we're focusing on interiors, on people dressing up for the camera, on how people imagined glamour. The photos come from three collections: the CBC archives, the Penthouse nightclub's collection and the life's work of commercial photographer Dick Oulton. Overall, it's a view of how Vancouver society presented itself at the time.

ed so much discussion about what the city is. Is it global, or is it Canadian? What kind of growth is needed? Do we need this rapid transit line? Where is the Olympic money being invested?

The '50s to '70s were another time the city imagined itself in a certain way. And this show explores just how societies do that. It's not only in building monuments and grand structures, but also putting ourselves in environments — in the way we decorate a supper club, in what kind of fantasy we demonstrate to ourselves. Vancouver as an idea is very much on the table right now.

Q *You're having a lecture during this exhibit about the history of burlesque in Vancouver.*

It was once *Las Vancouver*



Q *Why the title Juliette and Friends?*

A We titled the show after a TV program that everyone watched in those days. Its star, Juliette, kind of summarizes that era in terms of cultural memory — a strong, feisty personality who started working as an entertainer when she was 13.

Q *This presents a different view of Vancouver than the nature-oriented "Super, Natural British Columbia" stuff, doesn't it?*

A Well, outdoor recreation is certainly a part of the image of this place. But I don't think it has fully represented what the city is about. It's also about people needing to be entertained, and being very insular and indoors.

The scenes in the Penthouse nightclub, the parties, the dining rooms, the very lively jazz scene, even scenes of nightlife on the local CBC station at the time — they're not often thought of, but they're very important to the city's history.

In other words, I don't think that every Vancouverite is a hiker. The great outdoors doesn't always beckon. It's like any other city in that sense. And overall, this is a portrait of the city with its ambitions to be cosmopolitan, at a time when the city was imagining itself as more than a small town.

Q *Right now Vancouver is imagining itself again — this time focused around the Olympics. Did that influence this show?*

A We absolutely do see the Olympics as a link; it's prompt-

Were there really many burlesque clubs around town in '60s?

A Quite a few, all in different parts of town with different kinds of clientele. There are certain clues we've gotten from these photographs. For example, we have a 1950s image of someone called The Great Pretender who was an early transsexual entertainer. And Vancouver had very strong links with Las Vegas. Often the same entertainers came here as performed there. It was a pretty lively, interesting place.

Q *Is it true that many of these photographs have just been discovered?*

A Yes. The CBC material has just been sitting in their basement; they've occasionally put them up in the hallways, but there has never been an exhibition of this scope. Some negatives have never come out of their envelopes before. The Penthouse collection was discovered just when the club was renovating recently; they were stuck in boxes behind a wall. And commercial photographer Dick Oulton's material was donated to us in a large archive. It's really just the tip of the iceberg.

■ Juliette and Friends has a free public launch tomorrow (Nov. 21) at 8 p.m. and continues to Jan. 11 at Vancouver's Presentation House Gallery. For more information, visit presentationhousegall.com.

National Post

Two publicity photographs uncovered by the Penthouse nightclub in Vancouver during recent renovations.

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ARTS & LIFE

BREAKING NEWS » VANCOUVERSUN.COM

VIEWFINDER

Beehive hairdos, McIntosh apples and a dapper downtown dandy

Photo exhibit offers a peek at city's one-time entertainment scene

JULIETTE AND FRIENDS

Presentation House Gallery
Opens today, runs until Jan. 11

BY JOHN MACKIE

VANCOUVER SUN

Winter, 1994. The historic Innis-Thompson building at 518 West Hastings St. is about to be torn down, and junkies have moved into the vacant building to squat. Not a pleasant place to be, but Lincoln Clarkes is on a mission — to try and save the photographs of his friend Dick Oulton.

Oulton had a commercial photography studio at the Innis-Thompson building for 40 years, and quietly lived there. But his health had declined, and after he had a fall on some ice — "he was always wearing patent leather shoes and nylon socks in the middle of winter" — Oulton went into a seniors' home, leaving tens of thousands of photos behind in his office.

The junkies quickly moved in and trashed the place. So Clarkes and a friend went in to try and salvage what they could.

"I remember when I went in there, it was this freezing cold winter's day, snow and ice on the ground," recalls Clarkes, who once had a photo studio beside Oulton.

"The place was like a meat packer freezer. I took Herald Nix in and we went and filled up a truck, just saved as much as we could. It was a really heavy-duty dramatic crystal meth squatter scene. I gave them money and gave them pot and whiskey or whatever it was... I think it was a huge 40 ounce of vodka. They just left us alone for a while, and we managed to get as much as we could."

Clarkes estimates 60 to 80 per cent of Oulton's archive was lost. "When I finally got into his studio, his photographs were eight inches thick on the floor." But what he did save turned out to be one of the coolest photo archives in Vancouver.

Dick Oulton was a working photographer who took shots of most everything



Above, Four women in front of automobile (Easter Parade), 1958, from exhibit of photos by Dick Oulton at Presentation House Gallery. Left, Woman on apples, circa 1961. Right, Woman in crocheted dress, circa 1968.

hives lined up on a ladder and a colourful CBC shot of the set from the *Juliette and Friends* TV show from 1965.

The people in the Oulton photos usually weren't as famous as Juliette, or even the Penthouse dancers. But few movie stars have ever looked as glamorous as a quartet of women in their best dresses and hats posing on Granville Street in 1958, or as attractive as a young redhead in a very, very short crocheted dress in 1968.

Many of Oulton's photos have been published in a new book, *Meet Dick Oulton*, that Presentation House has produced with Bywater Brothers Editions for the exhibit.

Oulton died in 2000.

"He was a bit of a gem," says Clarkes, who met Oulton when Dick came over to complain about a wild party Clarkes had at his studio in 1980.

"He was one of the only ones left of that generation that didn't get married. He was bachelor up to the very end. You know those old guys who wore hats until the '70s or the '80s? He was one of those guys. You never see them anymore. Those guys are completely gone."

"He was a small, dapper downtown dandy. He was a working guy, just a man."

Presentation House now owns the Oulton archive, having purchased it for the princely price of \$350 from Clarkes. He had originally tried to donate it to the Vancouver Archives, and then the Vancouver Public Library, but to no avail.

"The archives and the library didn't want them," he says.

"I went down and took them samples

and they went 'Oh these are interesting, but we're not really interested in all that old '50s stuff.' In the '90s there wasn't a lot of people who were interested in that historical work... but I think Fred Herzog has made people really realize how precious the '50s were photographically."

There will be a panel discussion of the *Juliette and Friends*

exhibition at Presentation House Nov. 29 with Juliette, Danny Filippone of the Penthouse, Colin Preston of the CBC archives, singer Eleanor Collins and John Mackie of the Vancouver Sun.

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orous image of themselves. And Mr. Oulton was the man who would do that."

Indeed. Whether it was a Gidget lookalike with a beehive hairdo smiling as she took off her high heels or a dark-haired beauty posing on a bed of McIntosh apples, Oulton had the knack of making a simple cheesecake photo into unselfconscious art.

You can see for yourself at Presentation House in North Vancouver, where dozens of Oulton's photos are part of a wonderful new exhibition, *Juliette and*

Friends, which opens today and runs to Jan. 11.

The exhibit also contains gems culled from the CBC archives and the Penthouse nightclub. It's a fascinating glimpse back at the Vancouver entertainment world from the '50s to the '70s, the heyday of the CBC's iconic singer Juliette Cavazzi, who the show is named after.

There are all sorts of classic '50s and '60s images, such as a Penthouse photo of five exotic dancers in bikinis and bee-

ONLINE

See a photo gallery on the exhibit at vancouver.sun.com/entertainment

THE VANCOUVER SUN
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Doodlehops



Juliette and Friends at Presentation House Gallery

Cosmopolitan ambitions

■ Juliette and Friends at Presentation House Gallery. Opening reception tonight at 8 p.m. Exhibit runs until Jan. 11, 2009.

Manisha Krishnan

mkrishman@nsnews.com

THOSE who remember Vancouver from the 1950s to the '70s — and those who don't — will be fascinated to catch a glimpse of the city's more glamorous side at Juliette and Friends, a new photography exhibition at Presentation House Gallery.

The show, which opens with a reception tonight at 8 p.m., will feature archived photos from three sources — commercial photographer Dick Oulton, CBC Vancouver and the Penthouse Cabaret — gathered together to paint a social history.

"A lot of them are nightlife scenes, interiors, portraits. They're not so much about Vancouver as a built environment, but more like the entertainment world and interior world," says Helga Pakasaar, curator of the show.

Oulton's collection includes formal and advertising portraiture, wedding shots, hairdressing competitions and even a picture of Diana Ross and The Supremes in Stanley Park.

"(They are) different kinds of photos that kind of offer clues to what it was like to live in Vancouver at that time. It seemed to be a place of very cosmopolitan ambitions," says Pakasaar, adding the pictures selected are only the tip of the iceberg.

"There are thousands of negatives that are yet to be aired."

The gallery had been aware of Oulton's collection for quite a while and was interested in bringing it to life. They began to see an opportunity when they were shown the CBC archives depicting lavish sets for variety shows produced in Vancouver.

"Again, they have this amazing material that hasn't really been exhibited," says Pakasaar.

"Fabulous colour photographs of sets and different kinds of images that refer to the production of TV shows during that time."

The final piece of the puzzle was found more recently, when boxes of photos were discovered hidden behind a wall in the



photo courtesy Dick Oulton Estate

AN untitled portrait of a woman by photographer Dick Oulton (circa 1960s) is part of the new exhibit, Juliette



Juliette and Friends a hip and happening bunch

Photography exhibit shines new light on Vancouver history

By Manisha Krishnan

THOSE WHO REMEMBER Vancouver from the 1950s to the '70s—and those who don't—will be fascinated to catch a glimpse of the city's more glamorous side at *Juliette and Friends*, a new photography exhibition at North Van's Presentation House Gallery.

The show features archived photos from three sources—commercial photographer Dick Oulton, CBC Vancouver and the Penthouse Cabaret—gathered together to paint a social history of Vancouver.

"A lot of them are nightlife scenes, interiors, portraits. They're not so much about Vancouver as a built environment, but more like the entertainment world and interior world," says Helga Pakasaar, curator of the show.

Oulton's collection includes formal and advertising portraiture, wedding shots, hairdressing competitions, even a picture of Diana Ross and The Supremes in Stanley Park.

"[They are] different kinds of photos that kind of offer clues to what it was like to live in Vancouver at that time. It seemed to be a place of very cosmopolitan ambitions," says Pakasaar, adding the pictures selected are only the tip of the iceberg. "There are thousands of negatives that are yet to be aired."

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Terry David Mulligan on the set of *A Second Look* by Alvin Armstrong.

photo courtesy CBC Vancouver Media & Archives

colour photographs of sets and different kinds of images that refer to the production of TV shows during that time."

The final piece of the puzzle was found more recently, when boxes of photos were discovered hidden behind a wall in the Penthouse Cabaret. "There's a lot of publicity shots of the entertainers that were performing at the Penthouse as well as group shots of dinner parties and [owner] Joe Filippone with special celebrity guests," says Pakasaar, citing names like Billie Holiday, Gary Cooper, Sugar Ray Robinson and Victor Borge.

Deciding that the photos all sit within a certain era, the gallery

staff started thinking of ways to display them.

What they've done combines old and new technology, and varies from previous exhibits, according to Pakasaar. "We've tried to treat the photographs as objects, so keeping the originals even if they're not in good shape, just to show them as what they are."

But they've also displayed large blow ups to create a sense of environment, along with monitors playing television clips from that time period, and stereographic slide sets made by Oulton showing 3D images through a viewer.

Pakasaar is interested to see people's reactions to the set-up as well



Diana Ross and the Supremes in Stanley Park circa 1966, by Dick Oulton.

photo courtesy The Dick Oulton Collection

as the content itself.

"Just the historical part of it is, I think, what will be full of surprises and will be very rich. People haven't really written about the night club scene here and this aspect of Vancouver's history so I think there will be lots of stories that emerge from it," she says. The exhibit is named after a popular CBC variety show in the '70s that will hopefully stir up memories, she adds. "It's not literally about that particular television show, but it kind of evokes that time."

The show's host Juliette Cavazzi, who still lives in Vancouver, took part

in a panel discussion for the exhibit's opening. "She was one of the first Canadian variety TV show hosts with a very strong personality. People every Sunday night would watch her," says Pakasaar, who encourages members of the public to see the exhibit and examine Vancouver in a new light.

"That's part of what we do here is we kind of present these versions of history through photography," she says. "That to me is really the exciting part."

Juliette and Friends is at Presentation House until Jan. 11. For info, go to www.presentationhousegall.com.



With 1960s shots like *Woman Wearing Hat*, late Vancouver photographer Dick Oulton captured a social scene that might otherwise have been forgotten.

Retro portraits evoke Vancouver's glam past

> BY ROBIN LAURENCE

One day in 1980, Vancouver photographer Lincoln Clarkes answered a knock on his door. It was Dick Oulton, a senior commercial photographer whose career in this city spanned the 1940s to the 1980s. Both were living (illegally) in studios they rented in a 19th-century building at 518 West Hastings Street.

"Dick came over to complain about a party I had the previous night," Clarkes recounts. There was an immediate rapport; the younger man adopted the older as his honorary grandfather.

"Dick was a character, like a '50s relic," Clarkes continues, speaking to the *Straight* in his Strathcona home. "He was a bit of a dandy—he wore a blue velvet jacket and patent-leather shoes. He stood out in the '80s and early '90s, when I knew him the best, because he was one of the last of that generation." Then he adds, "The '50s had a huge appetite for photography and Dick was feeding that."

Oulton, who died in 2000 at the age of 82, was a dedicated journeyman photographer, shooting everything from weddings to widgets. "He was a lensman for hire," Clarkes says. In addition to producing studio portraits, Oulton documented Easter parades, industrial sites, restaurant interiors, and beauty contests. His models included performers, bodybuilders, and a roster of young women. In one of his works, a dancer poses coyly in leotard, fishnet stockings, and pointe shoes. In another, a girl in a tartan costume lounges on a bed of McIntosh apples.

As official photographer for the International Hairdressing Association, Oulton also shot a selection of astonishing hairdos in the '60s. Some of these platinum-blond bouffant creations rivalled St. Honoré cakes in their height and complexity.

In 1994, Clarkes was instrumental in rescuing part of Oulton's vast collection of prints, slides, and negatives. The unmarried and childless older man had been institutionalized with Alzheimer's disease and his studio was being trashed by squatters. "I knew that Dick's work was an important piece of the history of Vancouver," Clarkes says.

Oulton's slice of history was the starting point for the exhibition that opens at Presentation House Gallery this Saturday (November 22) and runs till January 11. Titled *Juliette and Friends* and curated by Helga Pakasaar and Reid Shier, the show captures something of Vancouver's social and entertainment life from the mid-1950s to the mid-1970s. "It's a 20-year period of fairly robust economic

growth when the city starts to emerge and develop a sense of itself," Shier says as he and Pakasaar sift through a selection of prints and stereoscopic slides at the North Shore gallery. Rather than review the now-familiar genre of Vancouver street photography, the show shifts our focus indoors.

"Many of the works are interiors at night—another aspect of how Vancouver imagined itself," Shier adds. *Juliette and Friends* also examines the role commercial and vernacular photography played in Vancouver's aspirations to big-city glamour and sophistication during the postwar era. In addition to images from the Oulton collection, which PHG acquired from Clarkes a few years ago, the show draws photos from the archives of CBC Vancouver and the Penthouse Cabaret Night Club.

The latter photos witness that nightclub's celebrity entertainers and guests in the '50s and '60s, including Billie Holiday, Sammy Davis Jr., Harry Belafonte, George Burns, and Gary Cooper. Some of the glossy black-and-white images were taken at the Penthouse; others are promotional shots of performers travelling the circuit from Las Vegas.

"The scene here was very lively," Pakasaar says, "and it wasn't only importing celebrities but also cultivating a whole entertainment scene locally. And that's where the CBC comes in." The exhibition title, *Juliette and Friends*, refers to a variety show shot in Vancouver and broadcast nationally on CBC Television from 1956 to 1966. CBC Vancouver had a brilliant set-design department—and maintained an in-house photographer to document productions. Pakasaar points to a couple of still photos of modernist sets and matching costumes, cued to the abstract art of the time. "They were very experimental and creative," she says of the local CBC team. "The glamour that was shown in television impacted on the social scene as well."

Glamour and allure are significant aspects of *Juliette and Friends*, Pakasaar says. "This idea of performing for the camera is one of the strong themes in the show." She pulls out shots of young women—a Sandra Dee-like blond in a pink sweater posed against a blooming rhododendron bush, a Sophia Loren look-alike in a lacy, low-cut dress lying on a sofa. "Dick is obviously attracted to these models, who in return are attracted to what he might provide them, which is more than just the photographs," says Shier. "It's a sense of themselves as something bigger than what they are."

Clarkes concurs: "He was the man to shoot glam in the '50s and '60s." ♦

FREE

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THE • G E O R G I A

Straight

VANCOUVER'S NEWS & ENTERTAINMENT WEEKLY

WWW.STRAIGHT.COM

"Juliette and Friends," the next exhibition at Presentation House Gallery showcases mid century photographs of Vancouver lifestyles.

**Join us for the opening reception
on the evening of November 21,
everyone welcome.**

This eclectic material produced largely for promotion, commercial purposes and paying customers was selected from the archives of CBC Vancouver, the commercial photography studio of Dick Oulton and the Penthouse Nightclub.

The title refers to the popular Canadian television personality whose show began in 1956 and later became "*Juliette and Friends*." The exhibition reveals that Vancouver at that time was a growing city of cosmopolitan ambitions with suburban roots, and had a taste for glamour. Its lively downtown scene attracted famous entertainers, as seen in the portraits of Carmen Miranda, Diana Ross, Guy Lombardo, Jerry Lee Lewis, and Sammy Davis Jr. In its heyday as a supper club, cabaret and after-hours joint, the Penthouse was promoted as "*The Rendezvous of the World's Greatest Celebrities*." The publicity portraits and interior scenes from the Penthouse collection—only recently found hidden behind a wall—offer clues to Vancouver's social life in the 1960s.



Dick Oulton, Woman in Frame, Left side of stereo transparency, 1950's Collection of Lincoln Clarkes



***"Meet Lorraine" Show, CBC, 1960s colour print,
Courtesy CBC Vancouver Media Archives***

The fashion, hairdos and poses of the aspiring starlets in the formal studio portraits of Dick Oulton give a sense of the ideals of Vancouver society, also evident in interior shots of living rooms and restaurants.

The CBC material documents an era when studio programs were locally conceived and produced in a garage and auto showroom in the West End before the opening of the new CBC building in 1975. Photographic stills of lavishly designed sets and elaborate studio productions reveal the entertainment values of local sixties television. This lively exhibition brings to light many surprises and insights into a still remembered chapter of Vancouver's social history.

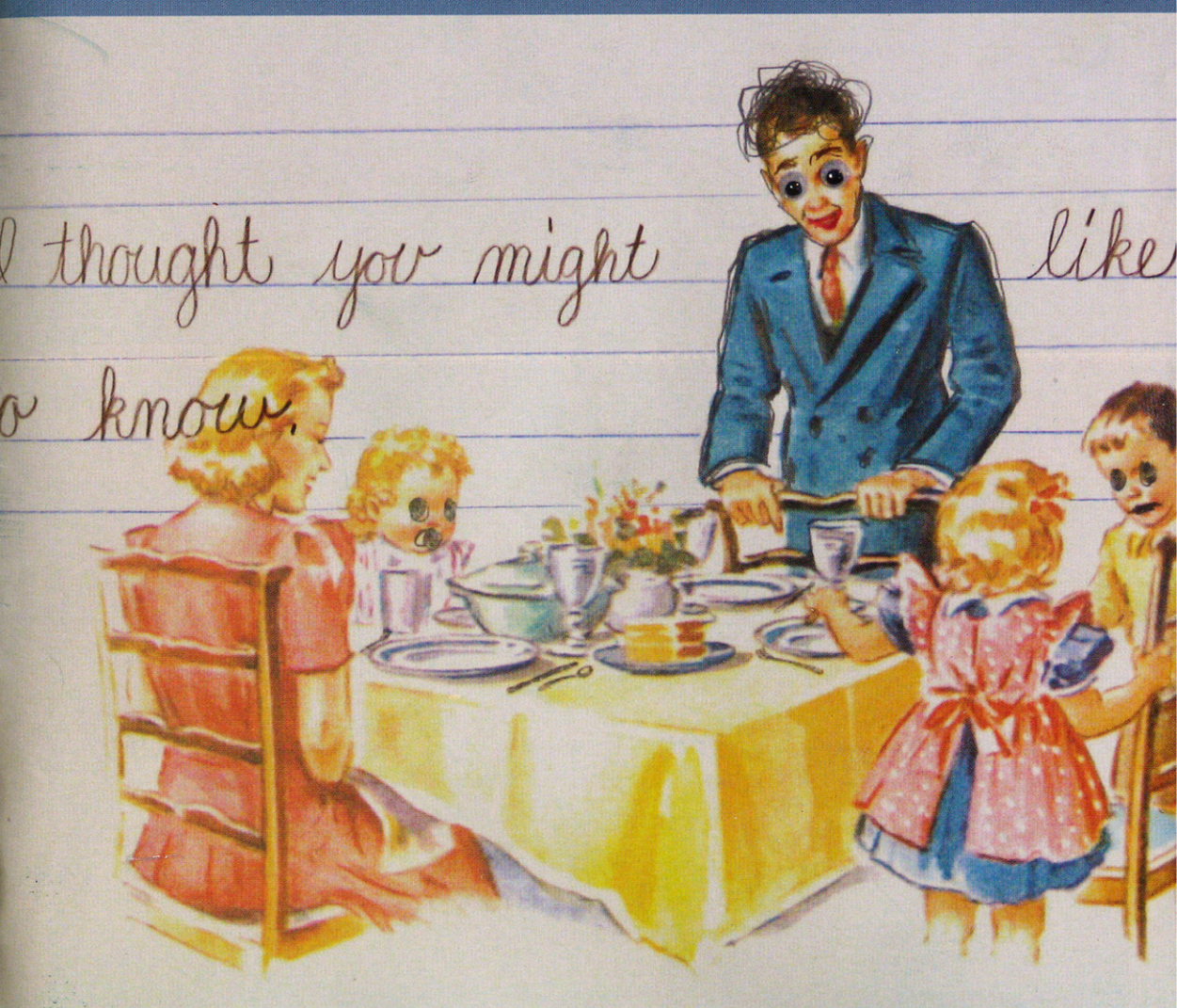
A panel discussion with key people who made the scene together with perspectives from a younger generation will take place at Presentation House Gallery on November 29, at 2 pm.

PREVIEW

THE GALLERY GUIDE

ALBERTA ■ BRITISH COLUMBIA ■ OREGON ■ WASHINGTON

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November/December/January 2008/09

www.preview-art.com

Juliette and Friends

PRESENTATION HOUSE GALLERY, NORTH VANCOUVER BC – Nov 22-Jan 11 *Juliette and Friends* is an exhibit drawn from several local photographic archives that highlights the liveliness and glamour of the Vancouver entertainment scene from the late 1950s to the mid-70s. The exhibit takes its name from a CBC production, *Juliette and Friends*. The show starred an important television personality of the time, Juliette Sysak, who was born in 1927 and made a Member of the Order of Canada in 1975.

The exhibit also features recently found photographs from the Penthouse Cabaret Night Club on Seymour Street. This important early Vancouver landmark was a late-night entertainment institution. Interior scenes of the club, performances, dining, parties and celebratory moments reveal its rich life as an after-hours club, cabaret, and music venue. Glossy promotion portraits of showgirls and celebrities as well as photos taken by its owners, Joe Filippone and his brothers, capture such famous faces as Diana Ross, Jerry Lewis, Guy Lombardo, Liberace and Sammy Davis Jr.

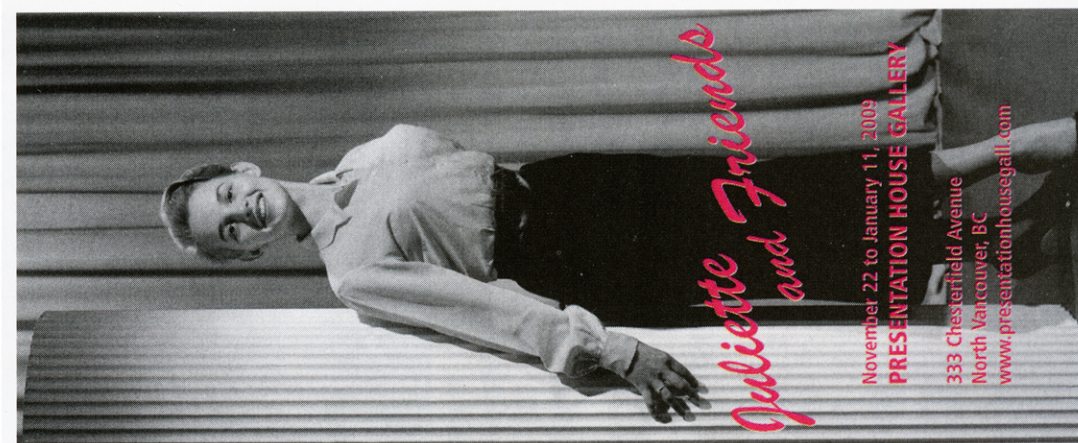
Balancing the intoxicating mix of celebrities and stars are portraits by commercial photographer Dick Oulton. Oulton's photographs documented weddings, building sites, nightclubs, wrestling matches, hairdressing championships and promotions. The exhibition emphasizes his studio processes with a series of stereographic slides and portraits of female models who were likely his friends. *Mia Johnson*

www.presentationhousegall.com



COLLECTION: LINCOLN CLARKES

Dick Oulton, *Woman on Lawn* (c. 1954), left side of of stereo transparency [Presentation House Gallery, North Vancouver BC, Nov 22-Jan 11]



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ART LISTINGS

■ GALLERIES AND MUSEUMS

VANCOUVER

Artspeak Gallery 233 Carrall 604-688-0051. » PERSISTENCE: An Archive of Feminist Practices in Vancouver: To Jan. 31.

Buschlen Mowatt Gallery 1445 W. Georgia 604-682-1234 » MEMORIES: Bernard Cathelin, paintings, lithographs, and tapestries, Nov. 26-Jan. 15.

Catriona Jeffries Gallery 274 E. 1st, 604-736-1554. » Jin-me Yoon: New video works, to Nov. 29.

Centre A 2 W. Hastings, 604-683-8326. » Louise Noguchi, multi-video installation; to Dec. 20.

Contemporary Art Gallery 555 Nelson 604-681-2700. » SUMMERLAND: Shannon Oksanen, film and paintings inspired by 1965 film *Viva Las Vegas*, opens Nov. 20, 6 pm; to Jan. 18 » KEEP THE IS IN FEMINISM: New feminist slogans in the gallery's windows.

CSA Space #5-2414 Main, csaspace.ca » SAVE NOW: Kelly Lycan's sculpture addresses consumption, opens Nov. 21, 7 pm, to Jan. 10.

Elliott Louis Gallery 258 E. 1st, 604-736-3282. » SILENCE: Abstract artist Scott Pattinson, opens Nov. 20, 6:30 pm; to Dec. 6.

Havana Gallery 1212 Commercial 604-253-9120. » COLLECTED VIEWS: Leonard Brett, Stuart Fairly, Gordon Hughes, Gillian Richards, Jude Varga,

Inuit Gallery 206 Cambie, 604-688-7323. » NORTHWEST COAST TREASURES: Andrew Williams, Chris Cook, Jane Marston, Joe David, Ian Reid, Gary Minaker Russ, Nov. 22-Dec. 12.

Lawrence Eng 1531 W. 4th, 604-730-2870. » Iain Forsyth and Jane Pollard, to Jan. 10.

Monte Clark Gallery 2339 Granville 604-730-5000. » VALLEY OF THE HEART'S DELIGHT: Karin Bubas, photographs, opens Nov. 20, 6 pm; to Dec. 31.

Morris and Helen Belkin Art Gallery 1826 Main Mall, UBC 604-822-2759. » David Claerbout, video installation, to Dec. 7.

Pendulum Gallery 885 W. Georgia, HSBC, 604-879-7714. » PARK: Marko Simcic's public art project consisting of two car-size movable sculptures for Ontario St. Greenway, to Nov. 29.

Teck Gallery SFU Vancouver Campus, 515 W. Hastings. » BLAIR AT WAR: Nick Danziger's photographs of Tony Blair's 50th birthday for The Times magazine, Nov. 24-Feb. 14.

Vancouver Art Gallery 750 Hornby 604-662-4700. » WACK! ART AND THE FEMINIST REVOLUTION: Explores art and feminist thought in 1960s and '70s, with works by Louise Bourgeois, Judy Chicago, Kate Craig, Gathie Falk, Liz Magor, Yoko Ono, and others to Jan. 11. » JEFF WALL: Vancouver Art Gallery Collection: to Jan. 29 » KAI ALTHOFF: Major works by the German artist, to Feb. 15.

Vancouver Maritime Museum 1905 Ogden, 604-257-8300. » MELTDOWN: Focuses on changing marine ecosystems, ocean acidifica-

tion, ocean warming, sea level rise and the uncertain future of Pacific salmon stocks. ongoing.

Vancouver Museum 1100 Chestnut 604-736-4431. » THE UNNATURAL HISTORY OF STANLEY PARK: Showcases behind-the-scenes stories of the park's plants, animals, people and landmarks, and a selection of proposals to "improve" Stanley Park, to Feb. 15.

Winsor Gallery 3025 Granville. » DREAMS AND MEMORIES: Alan Wood, to Dec. 7.

BURNABY/NORTH SHORE/SURREY

Burnaby Art Gallery 6344 Deer Lake, Burnaby 604-297-4422. » NEW ACQUISITIONS: B.C. Binning, Julie Morstad, Gordon Smith, Richard Tetrault, and others; to Jan. 18.

Ferry Building Gallery 1414 Argyle, W. Vancouver 604-925-7290. » GREAT STUFF: Sale of crafts and artwork by 40 artists, Nov. 21-Dec. 20.

Presentation House Gallery 333 Chesterfield, N Van 604-986-1351. » JULIETTE AND FRIENDS: Photographs by Dick Oulton and from collections of CBC and Penthouse Cabaret Night Club archives, opens Nov. 21, 8 pm.

Surrey Art Gallery 13750-88th Ave. 604-501-5566. » SUSTAINABLE ARCHITECTURE IN CANADA: The most comprehensive look at sustainable architecture in Canada ever presented in BC features 55 projects, to Dec. 21.



Works by the late commercial photographer Dick Oulton, like this photo entitled *Girl in the Crocheted Dress*, are the focus of an exhibition that offers insights to Vancouver history from the late 1950s to the mid 1970s, opening at Presentation House Gallery Saturday.

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Arts Notebook: Vancouver in the frame

Published: November 19, 2008 4:00 PM
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Vancouver in the frame

Helga Pakasaar and Reid Shier stand among the seeds of the exhibit Juliette and Friends. The new Presentation House Show runs Nov. 20 through to January, and the co-curators are jazzed. "This show is sort of little clues," explains Shier as photos go up and a work crew trundles away on the handsaw.

"This is a chapter of Vancouver history that hasn't really been explored much."

The exhibit, which covers the commercial photography of Dick Oulton, material from CBUT and CBC archives and, strangely but not so strangely enough, mementos from the Penthouse Cabaret Night Club. Picture women in frame, bouffants and tassels, bikinis and Jackie O suits à la CoCo Chanel. But it's no straightforward commodification of the coiffed, pre-bra-burning belle.

These pictures show TV sets and club candids, commercial shoots and station I.D.s (the little graphics that identify TV stations during the commercials) that speak to a social and cultural history of Vancouver in the '50s, '60s and '70s.

"We're fascinated by the intersection," explains Shier, "the eras bleeding across, a sense of the city as kind of emerging, its aspiration to be a metropolis."

Pakasaar sees the show as "an extraordinarily provocative new history of Vancouver."

The show opens Friday, Nov. 21 at 8 p.m. with opening remarks at 8:30 p.m. Saturday, Nov. 29 check out the panel discussion with Juliette Cavazzi of the CBC's "Juliette and Friends," Danny Filippone of the Penthouse, and representatives from local media.

Saturday, Jan. 10 catch sociologist Becki Ross in a lecture titled "Burlesque West: Showgirls, Sex and Sin in Vancouver's Nightclubs, 1945-1980."

For more info about the exhibit and gallery hours, visit www.presentationhousegall.com.

The Thing About Men

In The Thing About Men, a main character, Lucy, surmises, "When men cheat, they're usually just looking for something on the side. When women cheat, well, we usually already have one foot out the door."

The musical about the tedium or the drama of love relationships, opens this weekend at Presentation House. It's all about fidelity, or rather, the lack of it, in the marriage between Lucy and Tom. Lucy is onto her very first affair with her new lover, Sebastian. Tom, who has dabbled in secret liaisons for years, takes the revelation pretty hard. He resolves to drive a wedge in the hot new pair by becoming Sebastian's roommate so he can spy on his philandering wife. The show, steeped in dramatic intrigue and sarcastic comedy about the challenges of couplehood, also happens to be a musical.

"It's lighthearted," says director Valerie Easton, "but it gives you pause to think about yourself ... I think it speaks to anybody who's been married for more than 10 years. Life didn't quite turn out the way you thought it would ... things all people go through."

The show is the creation of writer Joe DiPietro and composer Jimmy Roberts, the team behind I Love You, You're Perfect, Now Change. With musical direction by Wendy Bross Stuart. Show runs Nov. 21-Dec. 7. For more info about tickets and showtimes, visit www.phtheatre.org.

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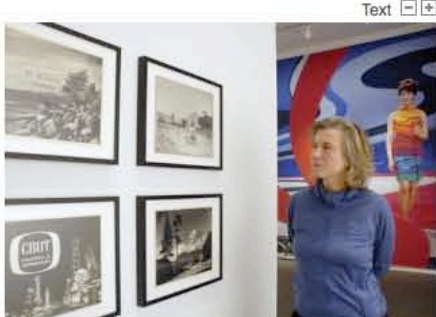
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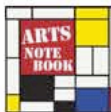


Presentation House Gallery curator Helga Pakasaar looks at a photo from the upcoming exhibit Juliette and Friends, which includes photos from the CBC archives, the Penthouse Cabaret Night Club and others documenting Vancouver from the '50s to the '70s.

Daniel Pi photo

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