

Juliette and Friends

OPENING RECEPTION: November 21, 8 pm
Exhibition runs from November 22, 2008 to January 11, 2009



Dick Oulton, *Sheri Calt*, circa 1957.

Presentation House Gallery is pleased to announce *Juliette and Friends*, an exhibition culled from little known photographic archives that provides an insightful and new view on Vancouver from the late 1950s to the mid 1970s. The title refers to a popular CBC television personality at that time and her program "Juliette and Friends". Featured are photographs from the archives of CBC Vancouver, photographer Dick Oulton, and the Penthouse Cabaret Nightclub. Comprised of interior shots, and made up of images produced for commercial purposes and paying customers, the exhibition locates Vancouver at a time of cosmopolitan ambitions and North American suburban ideals.

The Dick Oulton archive is indicative of the everyday production of a mid-century working photographer, and is chiefly comprised of advertising portraiture, family portraits and weddings. However, his commercial assignments covered a wide range of subjects, and resulted in documents ranging from industrial products to body builders, hairdressing championships to celebrities including Diana Ross and the Supremes in Vancouver's own Stanley Park. One of the exhibition's highlights is a series of extraordinary stereographic slides and portraits Oulton took of female models who were likely his friends.

The materials from the CBC collection mark a lively period for local television, and will foreground the uses of photography in television production, including images of lavishly designed sets, production stills and ephemera. Largely the product of in-house photographer Alvin Armstrong and contract photographer Franz Lindner, their images document an era when studio programs were locally conceived and produced (before the opening of the new CBC building in 1975) in a garage and auto showroom in the West End.

The Penthouse collection, only recently discovered, will reveal rarely seen aspects of Vancouver's nightlife in the Penthouse's heyday as a supper club. Opened in 1947 by the Filippone family—who continue to operate it—the Penthouse Cabaret on Seymour Street is an important Vancouver landmark. The exhibition will bring this unique archive to light for the first time, celebratory moments of the Fillipone brothers with such greats as Billie Holiday, Gary Cooper, Sugar Ray Robinson and Victor Borge. Interior scenes of the club, performances, dining and parties, reveal its rich life as an after-hours joint, burlesque and strip club, fancy cabaret, and music venue.

The idiosyncratic quality of these collections reveals aspects of Vancouver history that is still little understood and exhibited. The famous faces alone that appear throughout this exhibition are indicative of a culturally complex small town society striving for glamour and good times, and of city on the verge of profound transformations of expansion and development.

Dick Oulton's photographs will also be featured in the fifth issue of our ongoing series of publications *Lynn Valley*. *Meet Dick Oulton*, *Lynn Valley* #5 will be launched at the exhibition opening.

EVENTS

EXHIBITION OPENING RECEPTION & BOOK LAUNCH

Friday, November 21 at 8pm
Opening remarks, 8:30
for Juliette and Friends
and Lynn Valley #5 "Meet Dick Oulton"

PANEL DISCUSSION

Saturday, November 29 at 230pm
with Juliette Cavazzi, "Juliette and Friends"; Eleanor Collins, CBC Entertainer;
Danny Filippone, The Penthouse; John Mackie, The Vancouver Sun; Colin
Preston, CBC Vancouver Media Archives; Malcolm Parry, The Vancouver Sun;
and other special guests

LECTURE

Saturday, January 10 at 200pm
Lecture by sociologist Becki Ross "Burlesque West: Showgirls, Sex and Sin in
Vancouver's
Nightclubs, 1945-1980"



Max Baer, Joe Filippone and Gary Cooper at the Penthouse, circa 1952.

November 22, 2008 – January 11, 2009

Juliette and Friends

OPENING RECEPTION AND BOOK LAUNCH

of Lynn Valley #5 "Meet Dick Oulton"
8 pm, Friday, November 21

PANEL DISCUSSION

2:30 pm, Saturday, November 29

Juliette Cavazzi, "Juliette and Friends"; Danny Filippone, The Penthouse; John Mackie, The Vancouver Sun; Colin Preston, CBC Vancouver Media Archives; Malcolm Parry, The Vancouver Sun & special guests

LECTURE by UBC sociologist Becki Ross

2:00 pm, Saturday, January 10

"Burlesque West: Showgirls, Sex and Sin in Vancouver's Nightclubs, 1945-1980"

ALL EVENTS AT PRESENTATION HOUSE GALLERY

333 Chesterfield Avenue North Vancouver



Images top: Dick Oulton, *Portrait*, circa 1960s. Dick Oulton, *Four Women*, left side of stereo transparency, circa 1954. Alvin Armstrong, Studio set for "Juliette and Friends", CBC Vancouver Media Archives, 1955.



Images bottom: Alvin Armstrong, Studio set for "Festival", CBC Vancouver Media Archives, 1955. Dick Oulton, *Diana Ross and The Supremes in Stanley Park*, circa 1966. Dick Oulton, *Woman on Lawn*, left side of stereo transparency, circa 1954.



Images clockwise from top: Joe Filippone, Penthouse Collection. Miss Lovie, Penthouse Collection. 5 Dames, Penthouse Collection. Alvin Armstrong, Terry David Mulligan: *A Second Look*, CBC Vancouver Media & Archives.