

# city life

## THEIR OWN OSCAR NIGHT

De la Renta's right-hand gal wows at Holts, while philanthropists give back at the MOCCA



AMORYN ENGEL

As I stared at the bleach-blond with legs that went on for days on the second floor of Holt Renfrew, I wondered, "Who's that girl?" Think Madonna circa 1980s from the neck up! Well, it was no surprise as I walked into an intimate luncheon at the Holt Renfrew Café in honour of the Oscar PR girl, otherwise known as **Erika Bearman**, the senior vice president of global communications for Oscar de la Renta. A media maven, self-made with a bit of help from her mentor Oscar, Bearman has reached a new-gen demographic for the iconic brand with some 200,000 Twitter followers and counting!

Fashionistas lunched on a divine menu of roasted chicken supreme with vine-ripened cherry tomato, served on rosti. And the conversation was even more delicious than the meal.

"No matter what [Oscar] is doing, he's enjoying and living in that moment and that is a lesson that I'll keep with me always," Bearman shared.

After lunch and a wardrobe change the fun continued into the evening with an in-store public appearance. Guests in attendance were invited to meet the social media phenom following her public discussion on all things fashion, beauty and social with Holt Renfrew's VP fashion editor **Lisa Tant**.

An au courant crowd of artists, gallerists and collectors came together at the AGO to celebrate Partners in Art, a not-for-profit group of contemporary art supporters. The group received the Museum of Contemporary Canadian Art Award for their work promoting alliances among the arts community, business and the public, a prize that came with \$25,000.

"As MOCCA itself has been a leader in developing strategic and wide-ranging partnerships and collaborations across Toronto and Canada, we feel an affinity with the spirit of partnership that defines Partners in Art," said a fantastically edgy David Liss, artistic director and curator at MOCCA. "By donating their Award to MOCCA's institutional partner, the National Gallery of Canada, in support of **Shary Boyle** in Venice, Partners in Art demonstrates here tonight, before our very eyes, the reciprocal and exponential power of partnership."

Each guest at the gala was thrilled to walk away with a limited edition artwork created specifically for the occasion by Boyle.

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Twitter.com/amoryn

DE LA RENTA PHOTOS BY GEORGE PIMENTEL; MOCCA PHOTOGRAPHS BY AMORYN ENGEL

MOCCA in black; Oscar de la Renta in red



Pamela Kennedy and Anne Tillman-Graham.



Holt Renfrew's Brittany Barkwell and GLAM's Aya McMillan.

Czarah Galivo and Chynna Christopher.



Erika Bearman.

Holt Renfrew's VP fashion editor Lisa Tant.

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