

One WALL CENTRE

Newsletter #126

December 2011

Around the House (1) – Stairwell Doors

For security reasons, these are kept locked at all times, except on the crossover floors. However movement of the building, especially at this time of year with high winds, can cause the door locks to “pop” occasionally.



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All of these doors are checked during our patrols every night. However, if you are standing waiting for an elevator, you may want to check that the doors on your own floor are locked securely. If one of your doors keeps popping, please let us know at the desk, and we will have the catch adjusted.

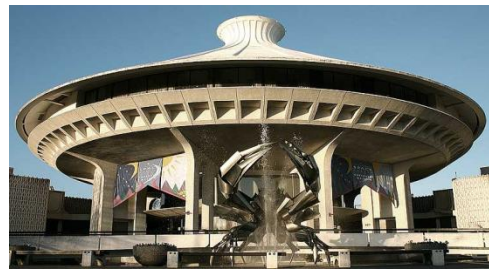
Thank you.



Around Town (1) – Winter Wander in Kitsilano

On Saturday December 3rd, the secrets of Vanier Park in Kits will be revealed, all for the cost of only \$3 per adult (youths and children enter free). Vanier Park was originally a First Nations fishing village, later becoming a Royal Canadian Air Force station. Now managed by the Parks Board, it's home to the Maritime Museum, the Museum of Vancouver, the Space Centre, Bard on the Beach, the Academy of Music and the City's Archives.

Winter wanderers will be able to enjoy food from visiting food trucks, performances by students from the Academy, and they can compete for the opportunity to win memberships to the museums.



Venues open at 10am, and close at 5pm. The park is just over the Burrard Street Bridge, on your right. Please see www.arianec.com for more information.

Around Town (2) – Santa Claus Parade

Before he heads back to you know where for the big night, Santa Claus will be parading through our local streets on Sunday December 4th. The Rogers Santa Claus Parade begins at Broughton and Georgia Streets, moves up Georgia Street, turns left on Burrard and ends at the waterfront. Bells will jingle at 1pm.

Before the parade there will be live entertainment on the main stage from 10:30am. You can write a letter to Santa, decorate a gingerbread man, and much more.



If you have to head anywhere on this day, allow yourself lots of extra time, especially if you are driving. Street closures will be announced closer to the big day.

Around Town (3) – White Christmas: The Musical

You've seen the film (oh, come on, of course you have!), now you can see it all again live in the theatre.

As the Arts Club blurb says, "Your beloved holiday favourite is back! Make your days merry and bright by warming to this unforgettable musical about love and friendship. Based on the classic holiday film, this tap-dancing delight brims with tunes—including "Blue Skies," "Sisters," and the ever-popular "White Christmas"—that will fill you with the joy of the season." Music and lyrics are both by Irving Berlin.



The show opens on December 2nd and runs until just after Christmas, on the Stanley Industrial Alliance Stage, at Granville and 13th. But book soon to avoid disappointment, as some performances are already sold out.

Around Town (4) – EU Film Festival

At this time of year, movie festivals come thick and fast. Well, considering the weather, that seems to make sense. The latest to hit town is the 14th annual European Union Film Festival, which runs at the Pacific Cinémathèque on Howe Street until December 8th.

Films being showcased include *The Artist*, Frances's black and white love letter to silent movies, *Protector*, a Czech film set during the country's Nazi occupation, and *Tilt*, which puts a communist angle on a Romeo-and-Juliet type tale of young love. Also showing is *The Runaway*, an

Irish/Luxembourg wonderfully weird film about a nine-year-old boy who befriends a Latino pilot who makes an emergency landing in a small Irish town.



Please see www.EUFilmFestival.com for all the details. The number for the Box Office is 604-688-FILM (3456).

Around Town (5) – Brahms Requiem

On December 3rd and 5th the Vancouver Symphony performs this favourite of the symphonic choral repertoire at our local venue, the Orpheum on Granville Street. The work is serious, perhaps, but deeply moving to hear in performance, for the first time by the VSO in 10 years. Soloists are the gorgeous Isabel Bayrakdarian and Hugh Russell, and both performances start at 8pm.



Buy your tickets soon, or you'll be out of luck. A local music critic describes this as "an event to savour."

Around Town (6) – The Patron Saint of Stanley Park

This is a holiday fable about a vagabond, a struggling family and a stormy Christmas Eve in Stanley Park (remind you of any other seasonal stories?)

As Colin Thomas wrote in the *Georgia Straight*, "It's a ferociously stormy Christmas Eve in

Vancouver's historic park. A scruffy vagabond, who may be more than he appears to be, helps a struggling family to see that Christmas really can illuminate the strength of the human spirit."



"Such a lovingly, eccentrically handmade Christmas gift that it will steal your heart.... So moving that I had to work hard to stifle what could have been very loud sobs."

Performances are at the Arts Club Revue Stage, which is at 1601 Johnston Street on Granville Island. They run from December 1st until Christmas Eve. Please call 604-687-1644 for tickets.

Not Too Far Away – Take your dog to Whistler

Delta Whistler Village Suites are offering their "Park Your Paws Pet Package" until the end of the year. It includes overnight accommodation for two plus your pet, pet treats, walking maps and dog bags. (Curiously, adult treats are nowhere mentioned!)



The usual pet fee of \$35 is waived, and a \$10 donation goes to the Whistler animal shelter for each reservation. Rates start at \$128 per night, and all details are at www.deltahotels.com.

Further Afield – Shania Twain in Vegas

The Canadian star has announced a 2-year residency in Las Vegas starting on December 1st. She will be performing at the Colosseum in Caesar's Palace, and tickets are already on sale.

All of the details are at www.shaniainvegas.com, or you can call 1-800-745-3000. Ticket prices start at US\$55.

Further Afield – International Jazz Festival of Havana

Yes, that Havana, the one in Cuba. Cuba Travel and Turner Music are offering a tour from December 14th until the 21st to cover the 27th iteration of the Festival.



The package includes all access passes for activities and concerts, premium seats at the opening and closing ceremonies, and more. Please see www.authenticcubatours.com for more details.

Tickets start at \$2,229, but don't include airfare. And you have to book on a Canadian travel site. US travel web sites aren't allowed to display any flights to, or packages in, Cuba, even ones departing from other countries.

Compliments of your One Wall Concierge Team:
Eleanor, Kerry & Sunny