



**Newsletter #101
November 2009**

Around the House (1) – Hotel Limousine Rides to/from YVR

As many residents know, rides to the airport in the hotel car need to be booked one week in advance. You would think that booking even earlier would guarantee you a ride, but actually it doesn't. The head bellman at the hotel staffs his positions based on the forecasts of arrivals and departures for the coming week.

Until he knows the numbers, he can't tell if he'll have any slack to allow for rides. It's a free service for our residents, of course, but for that reason it has to be subject to availability. We do the best we can to book rides.



Around the House (2) – P1 Bike Room

If you have recently added your bicycle, a bronze Fuji Monterey, to our bike storage room on P1, please let the Concierge on duty know, so that we can keep our records up to date. Thank you.

Around the House (3) – The Dreaded “One Wall Rate”

One Wall residents can book rooms at the Sheraton for family and friends at the One Wall Rate, which is 50% of the rack rate. Please contact us at the desk if you would like us to make reservations for you.

Sometimes there are room rates available through the Internet that are lower than ours. Note, though, that reservations made via the One Wall Concierge desk can be cancelled for a full refund up until 6pm of the expected night of arrival.

If you book accommodation through Expedia or Travelocity, for example, you pay when you make the booking. There are no refunds, so if your guests change their plans, you will be out of pocket.

We hope that makes the booking process clearer.

Around Town (1) – Afro Cuban All Stars

Direct from Havana to the Chan Centre stage, don't miss this opportunity to see the sizzling musicians of the Afro-Cuban All Stars in action. Led by Juan de Marcos González, the visionary behind the Buena Vista Social Club, this big band captures the exuberant spirit of Cuban music with a potent combination of musical virtuosity, driving percussion, powerhouse horn section and incomparable vocals. The last time they were here in 2006, audience members were caught up in the passion of the music and were dancing in the aisles.

González is gritty in his determination to fight for Cuban identity. The Afro-Cuban All Stars started as a group of legendary Cuban musicians—including such luminaries as Rubén González, Orlando Cachaito López, Ibrahim Ferrer, many in their 70s brought back from retirement—as well as numerous young players. His multigenerational vision became reality: "I wanted to mix the generations so there is the experience of the older guys and the energy of the younger players." The mission of the Afro-Cuban All Stars is to bring the wealth, diversity and vitality of Cuban music to the world.

Ever-evolving, the great success of the band has sparked a resurrection of Cuban music both worldwide, and on the island itself with hundreds of bands now playing traditional music that once

was overshadowed by American pop. Their shows are always a hit.

The All Stars appear at the Chan Shun Concert Hall on the UBC campus on Saturday, November 14th. Tickets are available at the usual outlets.

Around Town (2) – Lang Lang with the VSO

Classical music's most exciting superstar returns to the VSO with Maestro Bramwell Tovey, performing Beethoven's beautiful *Piano Concerto No. 2*. Beethoven wrote this concerto to further enhance his own reputation as a pianist and it is designed to show off a virtuoso in their prime. The great Lang Lang will leave you breathless with his dazzling interpretation of this work. Also on the program is Mendelssohn's famous '*Italian*' *Symphony No. 4*, one of the Classical era's most enduring works.

The concert is on Wednesday November 4th at 8pm. Buy your tickets right now, as Lang Lang's concerts in Vancouver invariably sell out.

And by the way, we wonder what his parents call him at home. Lang, or Lang, or Lang Lang?



Around Town (3) – A Chorus Line

In an empty theatre on a bare stage, casting for a new Broadway musical is almost complete. The field's been narrowed down to just 17 dancers. For these men and women, this audition is the chance of a lifetime. It's what they've worked for — with every drop of sweat, every hour of training, every day of their lives. It's the one opportunity to do what they've always dreamed of. Not to be the star, but to get the job ... to have the chance to dance and come through.



But before the final cut is made, the director Zach asks each of them to talk about themselves. He starts by asking their name, age, hometown and reason for being a dancer. But Zach wants more than just their resumes. He wants to know about their families, friends, lovers, ambitions and careers.

One by one, they come forward.

Some are shy or reluctant, while others are more than happy to reveal their innermost thoughts. From funny to heartbreaking, these 17 dancers share with us the stories of their lives. They put themselves on the line to get a job on the line. And when they're done, so is the audition. And the final chorus line of 8 dancers is chosen.

The dancing begins on Tuesday November 3rd and goes until Sunday the 8th, as the Centre for Performing Arts.

Around Town (4) – Time to Shine?

With 100 days to go until the winter Olympics kick-off (or is it slide-off?) the Mother Corporation (CBC) is hosting an evening of discussion and debate on whether it's our time to whine, or to shine.

The program hosts are Rick Cluff, host of The Early Edition, and Ian Hanomansing, co-host of CBC News Vancouver. Special guests will include Vancouver's Mayor Gregor Robertson, and Gold Medal Olympian and well known smoker Ross Rebagliati.

The comedians Charlie Demers and Graham Clark will pop in throughout the evening with their slant on the issues. The broadcast takes place in Studio One at the CBC Broadcast Centre at 700 Hamilton Street on Wednesday November 4th at 7:30pm. Please call 604-662-6611 for free tickets.

Around Town (5) - Chor Leoni's Stolen Voices

Chor Leoni's 17th Annual Remembrance Day concerts take place at The Church of the Good Shepherd, 2250 150 St in Surrey on Sunday,

November 8th at 3pm, to be repeated twice on the day itself, Wednesday, November 11, 2009 at 1pm in West Vancouver United Church, 2062

Esquimalt Ave, and of course closest to us, at Christ Church Cathedral, 690 Burrard Street, at 7:30pm.

“Their terrified, haunted expressions stare at us from television screens, newspapers, and the internet. They are children and young people caught amidst the cataclysm of war.” Stolen Voices will view war through the eyes of these innocents, with readings from diaries written by children and mothers dating from WWI through to the Iraq and Afghanistan conflicts. The concert will feature newly commissioned works by Larry Nickel, Marcus Goddard, and Ken Cormier.

Tickets are \$28 for adults, and \$23 for seniors and students. They are available through Ticketmaster. Veterans are admitted free of charge.

Not too far away – Travelling to Victoria?

Tourism Victoria recently announced that they are extending their hugely popular “free ride home” program on BC Ferries until the end of the month. All you have to do is book a two-night accommodation package through www.itsvictoria.com and you’ll receive free vouchers for your trip home with BC Ferries.

The vouchers are valid for your car, a driver and one passenger. Savings from this limited time offer amount to over \$70.

For more details or to make your booking before time runs out, visit www.itsvictoria.com or call 1-800-663-3883.



Travel deals to Victoria – Yes, folks, it’s an auction

For the 20th year, Tourism Victoria is offering all sorts of deals on travel and treats in Victoria. If you go to tourismvictoria.com/auction, you can bid on more than \$100,000 worth of trips, accommodations, tours and a variety of travel inspired goodies. Book your dream trip at a fraction of its actual value or maybe get a head start on your Christmas shopping.



Auction items will only be live until November 22nd, but don’t delay as selected items will be closing earlier. Early closing dates are November 1st, 8th and the 15th.

And Finally – Days Worth Celebrating

Are you looking for a few great reasons to skip work for a day? Well, November 15th is Clean Out Your Refrigerator Day, the 19th is Have a Bad Day Day, the 22nd is Start Your Own Country Day, and the 30th is Stay At Home because You’re Well Day. So there are 4 days off this month alone!

Your One Wall Concierge Team:
Eleanor, Kerry, Sunny and Maria.