

The Last Word by Bebé Démelo

Pardon me, but was that the Gemini Awards or an industry funeral? I could count on one hand the number of people NOT wearing black. Imagine the winners' joy as they offered their thanks to a sea of mourners looking like they'd rather be anywhere else but at some tarted-up convention centre. Look, people, awards may be about art and culture, but awards nights are about fashion. So, like, get with the program: put on some make-up, see a hairstylist, and show some sparkle!

Speaking of funerals, did anyone catch the third episode of the immensely funny *Made in Canada* where Richard Strong engineers the death of a neurotic artist, played to perfection by Gordon Pinsent, then films the funeral for broadcast? Now I know I'm not usually one to fawn over anybody, but if you don't find Rick Mercer eminently talented, funny, and f-able, then you might as well be dead too.

The Vancouver Film Festival, on the other hand, is still live and kicking after another great smorgasbord of films. To bad the food at the galas doesn't live up to the credits. Hell, I've found better fare at the end of a Russian bread line. What do the chefs at the Vancouver Hotel think anyway, that we won't recognize last year's pasta and beef? At \$100 a pop we shouldn't just be getting

great food, Alan Franey should be serving it up in drag.

Lots of interesting free food and drink at the CBC bash at The Alibi Room, however (fried roots?—yes!). Peered out over my glass to see the boss crashing with the NFB's Selwyn Jacobs, then availing herself of multiple helpings of the aforementioned roots and knocking it all back with several glasses of red wine. Considered mentioning it on the night then decided what the hell, go for it sister, it's the closest you'll ever come to getting fat off the CBC.

Lastly, it is with great sadness that I must say adieu. I have been called to greater things (read: money) in Toronto, and must bid you all a fond farewell. It's been a honour writing this column, speaking out for the disenfranchised and powerless, sharing my witty insights and Bebéisms, opening my fan mail with a metal detector. I can only hope you've enjoyed reading my words as much as I did writing them, and for all I offended in the process, I say this while still under the cloak of anonymity: please take up drink. It won't make you more tolerant, just more tolerable.

(Editors' note: anyone interested in taking over this space, either as Bebé or another character of your creation, please contact Joyce or Michelle. Complete anonymity assured. Censorship rare.)



MANDATE

Women in Film and Video Vancouver (WIFVV) is a non-profit organization of professional women founded to support, advance, promote, and celebrate the professional development and achievements of women involved in the British Columbia film, video, and television industry. Vancouver Women in Film and Video is an independent entity internationally affiliated with Women in Film chapters throughout North America, Great Britain, Europe and Australia. Membership is open to all professionals in film, video and television and includes representation from creative, technical, administrative and service fields.

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