

Salon Buzz

Sunday, October 18, 8:00 PM

| By Matt Lee | Photography by Clayton Hauck |

After attending this little soirée at The Bluebird, we're firmly endorsing more modern riffs on the salon—no, not a place to get your locks coiffed, but the see-and-be-seen social gatherings of the smart set dating back to the ancient Chinese, thriving with the 17th-century French and enduring through the beatniks, but, these days, rarely held. As you can see, at this gathering held to showcase the new work of Chicago painters John Coyle Steinbrunner and Mary Livoni, the conversation was anything but pretentious. Rather, the cool crowd listened to the artists discuss their work while enjoying the fine cuisine and vino from Bluebird owner Tom MacDonald. If you don't want to be left in the cold for the next gathering of the cognoscenti, visit bluebirdchicago.com. ■

Tom MacDonald,

Wicker Park

Owner, *The Bluebird and Webster's Wine Bar*

"Hmmm... 32 bottles of wine for 32 people. May need to raid the cellar..."

Tonia Kim, Bucktown

Jewelry designer, *Toki Collection*

Thinking it's still funny that otters wrap themselves in seaweed like they're a piece of sushi.

Gary Weidner, Lincoln Park

Artist

"I hope it's nice enough to play golf at Crystal Downs tomorrow. Maybe I'll give the knuckleheads from Dave's Golf Buddies a call."

Jim Lüning, Wicker Park

Photographer/Director

"Maybe my next project should be a concept film about zombie vampire unicorns."

Bladon Connor, McKinley Park

Furniture Maker

"Don't you think these paintings look like inverted rain clouds?"

John Coyle Steinbrunner,

East Lakeview, Artist

"Naturally I replied, *Réalisant mon espoir, je me lance vers la gloire*—okay?"

Mary Livoni, Bucktown

Artist

Secretly hoping for some spontaneous dancing.