

LOVE IN THE AIR, BLOOD RED COCKTAILS IN THE BELLY

If you and your lover spent Valentine's Day at that quiet table for two in section six of the neighborhood Olive Garden, that's cool. We're not here to judge. But you missed a fine time at the Museum of Contemporary Art last night.

The Bloody Heart Party mixed art, beats, cocktails and heart-shaped sugar cookies. What do you know, those things go together quite well. Just after 7 PM (we pride ourselves on punctuality) the museum was already popping. And judging by the volume of champagne flowing, more than a few folks were going home for some V-Day loving.

Here's what we learned:

- The massive, automatic steel door that slides open upon your arrival at the MCA is freaking cool.
- The uniform of arty types is still black, but on Valentine's Day accents of red are permissible.
- "Will honey flavoured milk soften that pig fed rage?" – the title of Wangechi Mutu's installation on the second floor – is a question that bears repeating to your date at various times throughout the evening.
- Montreal artist David Altmejd's monstrous mirrored sculptures, like the automatic door, are freaking cool.
- The MCA Café, the museum's rooftop café and patio, is a place you must go.

We're slightly ashamed to say this was our first visit to the MCA's new digs on 15th and Delgany, which opened at the end of October. But better late than never. We're impressed. It's not a large museum, but thanks to architect David Adjaye's design it feels big. Do yourself a favor and grab the notebook, sneak out of the shop and get over there to do some thinking.