

# Exhibitionists on Exhibition Road

Anyone who didn't manage to get a ticket to see the Olympic or Paralympic Games could still enjoy the party atmosphere around London with special events popping up everywhere. One of particular interest was the *Exhibition Road Show*, or shall we call it nine days of partying on South Kensington's Exhibition Road?

Free for all, the event saw over 60,000 visitors rendezvous on Exhibition Road to eat wonderful food, play table games, watch acrobatics, listen to music and dance.

The aptly named Exhibitionists performed almost every night. Their act was a mixture of circus performance and dance, skilfully fused to music. Their performance with giant metal hula hoops was beautiful and energetic. And while Gandini Juggling was not strictly a dance performance, their coordination and choreographies were superb. I've never seen

anything like it before.

A mobile stage on a truck had been installed, complete with LED screens and super sound system that offered music from around the world. The



styles varied from classical to contemporary, pop and folk music.

I enjoyed a silent disco with the Kidnap Kid and Woz. Passers-by must have wondered what was going on as we moved silently on the dancefloor. But to

anyone who borrowed a pair of headphones that transported you to the party it all became clear.

On Friday, August 3, there was a special garden party at the Victoria and Albert Museum (V&A) with the Shellac Sisters, four retro-chic ladies who dress in vintage clothes and DJ on their 1920s wind-up gramophones, playing jive, swing and lindy hop. The event was part of the V&A's *Utterly Elegant* exhibition, for which a lively group of dancers turned up to jazz up the garden (pictured). Dance Extreme, from London, Ontario, a group of 39 young dancers dressed in light blue, also wowed the spectators with their sleek ballroom moves.

The daily events went on until 9pm some nights and to support the party atmosphere, the Science Museum and the V&A extended their opening hours until 8pm.

## *Exhibition*

*Road Show* was commissioned by the Royal Borough of Kensington and Chelsea to celebrate the Olympics in London and it ended in spectacular fashion on Sunday, August 5, with a 120-piece marching band and Mike Westbrook Band's *Off Abbey Road* playing the event out. ●

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