



Ben Wong, radio personality Shaun Proulx and husband Patrick Marano.

The Hon. Margaret McCain and Kelly Breadner.

Eleanor McCain.

Ryan Astley, Yoo-Mi Astley and Laura David.

Crooner Matt Dusk and wife Julita Borko.

Ann Marie Sorrenti.

Maddie, Caelan, Jeff and Claire Melanson with Graeme Watt.

Jen and Chris Willmot.

Seamus O'Regan and Jeffrey Roick.

Nicholas Mellamphy of The Room, Carly Stosic and Shinan Govani.

Power chefs Michael Bonacini, Susur Lee, Alvin Leung and Claudio Aprile.

citylife

LOVE SONGS & DIM SUM

Eleanor McCain releases her new album and Susur Lee opens his latest restaurant



AMORYN ENGEL

There was much more to celebrate as friends and family gathered to fete the fantastic Eleanor McCain and her latest CD *Runaway*. The stunning songstress also confirmed her recent engagement to arts visionary Jeff Melanson, much to the delight of the crowd! McCain launched her fifth album at the Carlu in Toronto among her closest friends, family and peers, including her producer, that most fabulous of crooners, Matt Dusk. After guests were seated, Eleanor shimmied in from the back of the room in a sleek, black Reem Acra gown, (think Michelle Pfeiffer from *The Fabulous Baker Boys*) and needless to say, all eyes were on her.

With a laugh, Eleanor admitted she absolutely loves "cheesy love songs," and proceeded to sing a few.

"My name is on the front cover of the album, but I could have not done it without my team helping me throughout the way," said a grateful McCain as she thanked Dusk and John "Beetle" Bailey.

The evening's emcee, Seamus O'Regan, a fellow East Coaster, summed it up best: "She's so radiant, elegant, beautiful, and utterly authentic. They only thing better than her voice is her laugh!"

Dim sum lovers one and all came out for the jam-packed opening of Luckee at the Soho Metropolitan Hotel in downtown Toronto. This is the latest offering from the amazing Susur Lee, best known for his upscale mix of stunning cuisine and divine decor. Luckee's "Nouvelle Chinese" menu will offer classic dishes and dim sum from the culinary traditions of Guangzhou, Hunan and Szechuan regions, updated and enhanced by Lee.

"My first memories of Chinese food are eating dim sum with my father," said Lee, who grew up in Hong Kong. "Tasting Cantonese black bean sauce for the first time — that moment has never left me. I hope that Luckee will also create an unforgettable experience for people who love Chinese food."

The party had a great mix of too-cool-for-school types, probably fans and followers of Chef's gorgeous sons as well as society darlings who have inevitably been dining at King St. staple, Lee, for years. Obviously the celebrity chef is held in the highest regard, as the turn-out from the foodie community was quite incredible including appearances by David Lee, executive chef of Nota Bene & The Carbon Bar; Massimo Capra, consultant and chef at Mistura; Michael Bonacini, of Oliver & Bonacini and Master Chef Canada; Claudio Aprile of Origin and Master Chef Canada judge and Alvin Leung of Bo London, Bo Innovation and Master Chef Canada. This party was off the hook, and the small bites were as well. No doubt, each and every guest felt Luckee to have made the cut!

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McCain at left,
Luckee at right and below

PHOTOS BY AMORYN ENGEL AND GEORGE PIMENTEL



Tanya Danyliuk, Levi Bent-Lee and Alexandra Cowie.

Suzanne Timmins of Hudson's Bay and Xiu Timmins.

Actor Peter Gallagher.

Shirley Sparaja and Matthew Davis.

Dr. Trevor Born and Brenda Bent.

Tony Aspler, a.k.a The Wine Guy, and Deborah Benoit.

Bruce Greenberg of Starwood Group, Michael Wekerle of Difference Capital and Nadine Greenberg.

Jenny Lam, Dajana Radovanovic and Kai Bent-Lee.

David Lee, executive Chef of Nota Bene and The Carbon Bar.

Alyson Kalmusky, David Chilton and Andrea Matheson.

Elena and Cosimo Mammoliti of Terroni.

Winston Sih of Breakfast Television and Jennifer Choi.

Verity Megan Curtis.