

ELLE AWARDS 10

The ELLE Awards 2010 made a splash last December at Klapsons, The Boutique Hotel, as 200 guests braved the year-end monsoon rains to attend ELLE's party of the year and support their favourite stars who were in the running for various awards. To spice things up, ELLE introduced, for the first time, online voting on xinmsn.com for five People award categories, leading to heightened buzz for the event.



BIG BAND FEVER

Decked out in a Big Band theme, the duplex space at Klapsons at the ELLE Awards evoked the swing era complete with a 10-piece ensemble. The Summertimes Mini Big Band churned out jazzy hits all night, with classics such as *Come Fly With Me* and *Ain't Misbehavin'*, prompting some guests to show off funky Lindy Hop moves.





TREATS GALORE

Other than delicious canapés, guests also had a taste of refreshing wines from Jacob's Creek, such as its signature Sparkling Rosé and Sparkling Chardonnay Pinot Noir, which added a touch of bubbly fun to the evening.

As the party wound down, guests were surprised with an exclusive beauty treat — a Clarins swag bag containing an organic soap, body lotion, skin renewal serum and lipstick. Gorgeous.

CAROLYN KAN OF CARRIE K

Jewellery Designer of the Year

While you'd imagine the life of a jewellery designer would be glamorous, Carolyn Kan, the woman behind Carrie K shows us otherwise when she reacted to the news of her nomination. "[I received] an SMS from someone who read [ELLE] and congratulated me. So in my very unglamorous T-shirt and shorts, I got into my car, went to the petrol station and bought a copy of ELLE," she recalls. "I was like 'Oh my God!' and for an hour, I was going 'Aaahhh!' and calling up people."

Starting out in jewellery "was an accident" she says. "I was in Florence and I met this guy who was a silversmith. I knew instantly that I wanted to do this." Since then, Kan has been designing her natural- and organic-looking pieces, inspired by "a lot of things": People, her customers, "quirky comments" uttered by those around her. Her latest collection is out now, and "look[s] like something that was stolen from a grave; somewhere from the pyramids of Egypt."



DICK LEE
Lifetime Achievement Award

LOUIS VUITTON CORE VALUES
Advertising Campaign of the Year



ALBER ELBAZ, LANVIN
Designer of the Year

VAN CLEEF & ARPELS
Jewellery Brand of the Year

SABRINA GOH OF ELOHIM

Singapore Designer of the Year



Sabrina Goh has been receiving accolades for her dark and moody fashion label Elohim — think artfully-shredded jeans and a dress that can be worn in six different ways — since 2009. When the soft-spoken designer heard about her nomination, she was pleasantly surprised. "ELLE is such a 'big', international publication, so I was very proud to be nominated. I told my friends about it, but I'm not sure if they voted." They did.

Goh finds inspiration in different things, but ultimately "I just design what I love. I think there are people who appreciate local designers and I am happy that there are more young designers cropping up, so that the industry will continue to grow and in turn, more people can support them." Goh counts the dark and edgy Balenciaga as a label she loves, but admits that sometimes when a designer "gets too artistic, the everyday person doesn't quite understand you. Finding the right balance between commercialism and art is probably the toughest part of being a designer." Goh is also business-savvy. Besides selling her label at local fashion haunts like Trove, you can find her designs in places like Pixie Market in New York and even *Byelf.com* in Greece. Her namesake store Sabrina Goh at Orchard Central, which opens this year, peddles not only her designs but accessories and bags from other designers as well.



CALVIN GAN

Hairstylist of the Year

This isn't the first year that hairstylist Calvin Gan has won an ELLE Award. And that's why he almost didn't make it in time to receive his award. "I was running late," he says. "When I arrived, I still clarified with some of my friends [about the nomination]. I was just standing around and then suddenly they announced [my name]."

Gan was the first recipient of the Hairstylist of the Year at the inaugural ELLE Awards held in 2006. But when he started his own salon-café concept with friends, called Hairloom & Caramel at Shaw Towers, he stopped doing shoots for about two years, preferring to concentrate on his business instead. And "now that it's stable", he's out and about working with magazines like ELLE and doing his take on in-season trends.

