DON'T be alarmed if you hear phat beats instead of *Greensleeves* when you ride the elevator to work in October. Appearing spontaneously in lifts throughout the CBD, Random Acts of Elevator Music will enlighten the consciousness of office workers with live muzaktronica. Dressed in suits, their portable studio hidden in briefcases, who knows where these undercover sonic redesigners will strike next? Random Acts of Elevator Music will occur in office buildings in office hours as part of the Melbourne Fringe Festival (October 2-13). Details: www.akm.net.au/cityfreqs

Pictures by ARSINEH HOUSPIAN

A GOOD HAIR DAY

LAST week Australia's premiere hairdressing salons joined forces for a good cause in a spectacular event hosted by Nick Giannopoulos and model Elise May. Melbourne salons including Raymond B Hairdressing, BIBA, Mint Hair Studios and Shibui each created shows to raise money for the childrens' charity Variety. Glamorous celebrities including Katie Davenport, Nicky Whelan, Kasia Zachwieja and Leah Hudson took to the catwalk at Boutique nightclub to show off the latest and greatest hairdos.

NEWS

WINE BAR'S SERENITY BID 'OUT OF LINE'

A MELBOURNE restaurateur has failed in his legal bid to have male and female-only queues outside his "sophisticated" wine bar in the CBD. Frank van Haandel, former operator of The Stokehouse, sought exemption from equal opportunity laws to prevent groups of "raucous" men heading from the MCG to destroy the "serene" atmosphere at his new venue Comme, in Alfred Place. VCAT rejected the application.

SPY CAMERA PLAN ALARMS ACTIVISTS

MELBOURNE City Council will proceed with plans to install a camera near Parliament House to monitor political protests. However, it has withdrawn plans to erect a second camera near the Australian Stock Exchange. The council's community safety manager Colleen Lazenby told the council's committee meeting last Tuesday that following police recommendations the council planned to install cameras at the two locations because they were likely focal points for protests. But a council spokeswoman said the Stock Exchange site had proved technically unsuitable. The revelations have alarmed civil rights groups and unions. Trades Hall secretary Brian Boyd said he had strong reservations about the council weighing into political spying and Liberty Victoria feared it was "inappropriate big brotherism".

DOCKLANDS DEMOCRACY 'FARCE' – COUNCIL

THE much-vaunted return of democracy to Docklands will be a "farce" if a planned Government-dominated committee is allowed to run it, Melbourne City Council says. A Docklands co-ordination committee will take over the administration of the precinct from government development authority VicUrban. But the council has slammed the committee's structure, saying it is unfair and unbalanced. Three council and three VicUrban representatives will sit on the committee. A seventh member with a casting vote can be appointed by the Local Government Minister. Docklands and Major Projects committee chairman, Councillor Peter Clarke, a Liberal Party member, said: "There's no sense of democracy about this legislation. This is about fascist control".

Matt Welsh & Susan Conterno / Ricki-Lee Coulter, Joana Calado & Lauren Newton / Alana Downie & Carla Mollica

Pictures by ARSINEH HOUSPIAN