

***Eat Street Melbourne celebrated 20 years of foodie philanthropy***



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE – Melbourne, 22<sup>nd</sup> May 2019:** Premier foodie fundraiser, [Eat Street Melbourne](#), last night played host to over 900 guests for an all-you-can-devour evening of hawker-style food and drink at the opulent Sofitel Melbourne on Collins.

Raising funds for [Variety – the Children’s Charity](#), the sold-out event celebrated Melbourne’s status as Australia’s culinary and party capital with top restaurants, wineries and producers dishing up an evening of gourmet indulgence and entertainment. While the total results of the evening’s fundraising efforts are still being tallied, proceeds will fund the charity’s ongoing support of Victorian children and families facing challenges through sickness, disadvantage, or living with special needs.

Guests including popular *Married At First Sight* alumni Sarah Roza, Jaggad co-Founder Michelle Green, Richmond Football Club’s Alex Rance, and *Lee Chan’s World Food Tour* host Lee Chan, indulged in delicacies including live oyster shucking, *Stracciatella with Sweet & Sour Peppers* and *Baker Bleu Sourdough* from Andrew McConnel’s renowned Flinders Lane diner [Cumulus Inc.](#), and pasta dish of the moment *Cacio e Pepe* straight off the menu at [400 Gradi](#).

[Red Spice Road](#)’s Ben McRae celebrated the event’s 20 year anniversary with a preview of never-before-seen menu items including an *Ocean Trout Crispy Taco* and a *Wagyu & Bacon Cheeseburger* *Spring roll with Tomato Relish*, while Joshua Cochrane’s talented team of pastry chefs at [Le Petit Gateau](#) skillfully interpreted the event’s birthday party theme in the form of decadent recreations of childhood party sweets.

Event culinary director and [No.35](#) Restaurant Chef, Martin Horsley said the event was a credit to the hospitality and generosity of Melbourne’s tight-knit restaurant community. “I’m immensely proud of our network of chefs who contributed their time and staff to support the Variety charity,” said Horsley.

Variety Victoria have earmarked the funds raised to provide up to three assistance dogs, one of which being a seizure alert dog, to young Victorians. Amongst the recipients is 16-year-old Sarah who suffers from over 100 seizures a week. Sarah requires constant supervision, restricting her ability to walk to school and sleep in her own bedroom. A support dog will be trained to alert Sarah to imminent seizures and will assist her into the recovery position to ensure she does not drown on her own saliva. Sarah's dog will increase Sarah's independence, allowing her to socialize and live a more 'ordinary' life.

High resolution imagery of the 2019 Eat Street event is available to download via the link below:

<https://www.dropbox.com/sh/uz078wgIndrp989/AACOYb6FJqNLHNYn369Y6hca?dl=0>

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