

THE BIG PICTURE SHOW



Celebrity Rx Services
Michele Thistle

It was 7:30 a.m. on October 19, when her phone rang; *Vanity Fair* was in town for a photo shoot, the magazine needed a white parachute.

Also: two photographers had been flown in from Denmark for the shoot, along with the model, Sir Ranulph Fiennes; all were on tight deadlines. The photo shoot had to be finished by 10:45 a.m., because Fiennes was booked for another engagement. *Vanity Fair's* staff was in a panic; cancelling was not an option. Superman was not available, Batman was booked, but Vancouver's own wonder woman Michele Thistle was up for the job. It's what she does.

Celebrity Rx Services was born in 1999, the offspring of Thistle's outgoing personality and passion for entertaining. The company was designed to assist and provide services to business people and those in the entertainment industry.

But back to October 19: Thistle had a taxi pick up the parachute from an Abbotsford props company. It was on location by 10:25 a.m. The photos were taken, and *Vanity Fair's* May issue featured Fiennes and the white parachute in a story headlined *The Explorer's Heart*.

Vanity Fair's Ron Veinner whipped off a

the BIG Picture

City Shopper earns a buck by spending one

"You truly saved the day" e-mail to Celebrity Rx

Saving the day, acting as a personal concierge or merely taking care of the countless tasks that her clients don't have the time or experience to do themselves is what Thistle's company is all about.

"It is such a great service for people who don't know Vancouver," says Thistle. "The possibilities of what we can do are endless."

So what has Thistle accomplished?

- Created personalized gifts for Halle Berry, Rebecca DeMornay, and Diana Krall
- Worked with casts and crews from such films as *The Butterfly Effect*, *Final Destination 2*, *L.A. Law*, *Dead Zone* and *X-Men 2*,
- Entertained the families and friends of celebrities and business executives by taking them on personal tours, shopping or even skiing.

"My favourite thing is meeting new people," Thistle says. "I think my best attribute is making people feel comfortable. People think Vancouver is a sleepy hollow, but it really has a lot to offer."

Showing what the city has to offer and giving back to the city are two components integral to Celebrity Rx. Thistle is currently putting together city packages to help new arrivals. She also offers her time, anytime, to show people around. Hers is not a 9-to-5 grind; Thistle is a free agent.

"I am not a routine person, the less routine the better," she says. "I couldn't have made a better job for myself."

For information: www.celebrityrx.com

- Julia Smith