



PHOTOS (CLOCKWISE FROM TOP L): BURT WARD AS BATMAN, LOU FERRIGNO AS THE HULK, KEVIN SORBO AS HERCULES

Calling All Fanboys

What do Burt Ward (*Batman*), Adam West (*Batman*), Kevin Sorbo (*Hercules: The Legendary Journeys*) and Lou Ferrigno (*The Incredible Hulk*) have in common? They're all coming to town Apr. 21 and 22 for Fan Expo Vancouver (page 30), along with Kristen Bauer (*True Blood*), Jeremy Bulloch (*Star Wars*), Nicholas Brendon (*Buffy the Vampire Slayer*), Michael Dorn (*Star Trek: The Next Generation*)—and scores of other pop-culture favourites from film, TV, games, comics and anime. Don your geekiest costume and head to the Vancouver Convention Centre for celebrity autographs and photo ops, workshops and seminars with industry professionals, and panel discussions with sci-fi, fantasy and horror authors. Be sure to check out the sketching duels, in which comic artists go pen to pen to produce original art that immediately goes up for auction. And may the force be with you.

AN EARNEST COMEDY

The tone is anything *but* earnest in Oscar Wilde's beloved farce that examines the theme of triviality and **skewers Victorian social conventions**. *The Importance of Being Earnest* runs until Apr. 15 at the Stanley Industrial Alliance Stage (page 50).



PHOTOS: (TOP L) BY DAVID COOPER, (TOP R) BY TOM RYAN, COURTESY TOURISM BC



Spring Has Sprung

Snow may be falling elsewhere in Canada, but here on the West Coast only **cherry blossom petals** are falling. In the 1930s, Japan gave Vancouver more than 37,000 ornamental cherry trees. An additional 3,000 trees were planted last year for the city's quasiquintennial (125th birthday). The annual Vancouver Cherry Blossom Festival (Apr. 5 to 28; page 30) **celebrates the delicate pink blooms** with a bouquet of special events, everything from zen yoga to heritage walks to bike tours.



"Pump It Up"

At 57 years old, Declan Patrick MacManus—better known to the world as Elvis Costello—shows no signs of sitting back and taking it easy. The English punk/new wave singer, who was banned from *Saturday Night Live* for 12 years after his infamous unplanned performance of "Radio Radio," is still shaking up the status quo decades later. During his Spinning Songbook Tour, which kicks off Apr. 10 at the Orpheum Theatre (page 31), **no two concerts are alike**: fans come on stage to spin a wheel that determines the evening's set. Bonus track: keep an eye out for Costello and his wife, jazz singer Diana Krall, out and about in Vancouver, as the musical pair keeps a home here.