

Portugal's best finds place in city, at last

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It was a night when art and wine connoisseurs came together to share each other's passion. Kolkata Wine Club hosted a Wine and Art party, where Gusto launched a new range of Portuguese wines as occasional painters like Chef Shaun Kenworthy and wife Pinky, and Keshav Roy and Beena Pradhan exhibited their works at Palladian Lounge on November 18.

Inaugurated by US consul general Beth Payne and commissioner of police Gautam Mohan Chakraborty, the one-day exhibition was quite a hit with the wine club members and their guests.

Gusto Imports are marketing wines from Portugal in Kolkata first and then in other cities. Kadambari Kapoor, founder and director of Gusto, said, "I started off from Kolkata, so I want to touch base here first, then move to other cities. Portugal is the world's fifth largest wine producer. But their wines are not heavily marketed and very few wines are available."

The four wines from four vineyards that have been imported are available in leading wine shops of the city. Members of the wine club

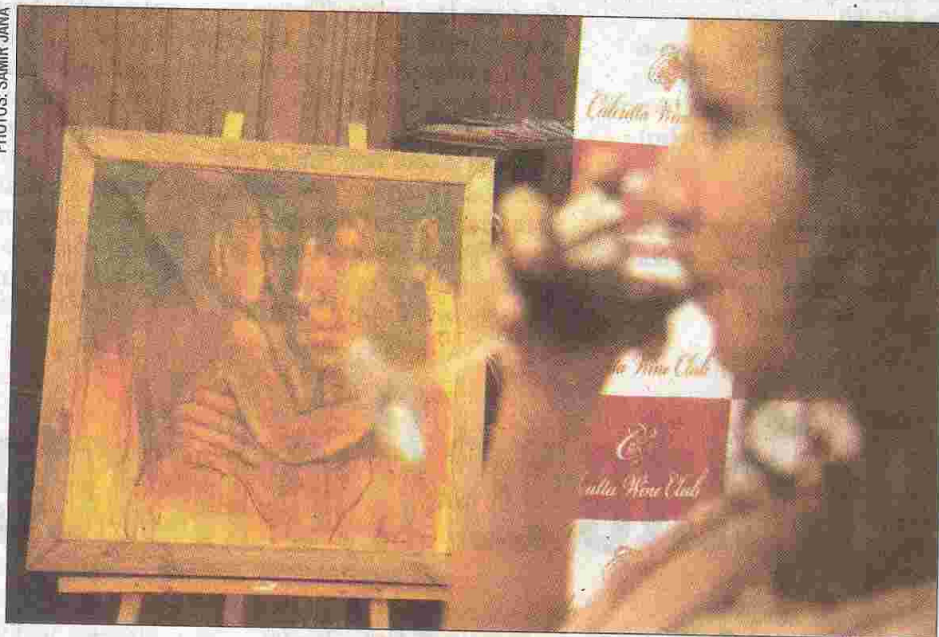


enjoyed the new world wines, most preferring the white Lancers Whites over the red Periquita.

Kenworthy rustled up a few interesting starters to go with the white. "The Portuguese brought chillies and a few spices to India, so I have prepared a few snacks based on those."

As for the works of art, there weren't too many masterpieces on view, so we concentrated on the wine and snacks instead. So, we realised, did most of the guests.

PHOTOS: SAMIR JANA



Wine and conversation flowed smoothly at the Gusto launch. The art on view was another story.