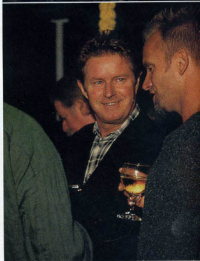


# eastern exposure

*Sting and his wife, producer Trudie Styler, toast their anniversary with a casual Indian feast*



It was a bit of Bombay in Brentwood. To celebrate Sting and wife Trudie Styler's fourth wedding anniversary, record executive Gil Friesen had his contemporary split-level house transformed for an exotic Indian banquet, complete with gold-and-green canopies, imported fabrics, incense and tuberose.

Trudie, who has just produced a film, *Gentlemen Don't Eat Poets*, featuring her husband, arrived first, wearing an ecru satin coat, matching slip dress, and—thematically in sync—a knockout Indian necklace with teardrop stones. "It's 19th century, of diamonds, emeralds and pearls," she said proudly.

"Sting gave it to me today." Making his own entrance well after the appetizers of lamb samosas and tandoori jumbo shrimp were passed around, Sting, who had been rehearsing for a concert in town, wasted no time saying, "It's been a long day. I'm starving. Let's eat." Guests strolled down moss-covered stairs to the pool level, which radiated with the glow of hundreds of flickering candles and lanterns. Incense with the scent of rainwater filled the air, in a nod to Sting and Trudie's efforts to protect the rain forest. Late arrival Don Henley congratulated his friend with a giant bear hug. "Hey, glad you could make it," said Sting. After finishing two heaping plates of food, Sting took Trudie's hand and mingled with guests. "We're both incredibly touched that Gil wanted to take time to invite our friends to celebrate our anniversary, and at a particularly wonderful time in our lives," he said. The party was an indulgent pause in a hectic schedule: "I'm doing an 18-month tour [off his *Mercury Falling* album] to the Far East and Australia," he explained. "And Trudie is going back to England to get the kids [they have four] settled in for school." The evening concluded to the tune of "Happy Anniversary to You," accompanied by sitar, after which the couple blew out candles on a cake. Sting and Trudie then transcended the boundaries of India using an internationally understood language: They shared a kiss. —Bonnie Siegler



Sting and Trudie (top) greeted Don Henley (center) and Edward James Olmos (bottom), who came with wife Lorraine Bracco and her daughter, Margaux, 16. "She just had to meet Sting," he said.