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# Elton back on his feet

Entertainer recovers from flu and E. coli infection



**Best of health:** Stone getting a kiss from John at the AIDS Foundation's eighth annual benefit in New York on Monday. — AFP

**NEW YORK:** Elton John says he's back on his feet after being sidelined for the flu and an E. coli bacterial infection.

The entertainer spoke about his recovery before Monday's annual benefit for the Elton John AIDS Foundation, which honoured former President Bill Clinton and Sharon Stone among

others.

"The worst thing about being in the hospital was that, actually, it's the first time I've been in bed for about nine days in the whole of my life, except for maybe when I had my tonsils out," he said. "So, I was all right. I had a good rest; I didn't expect it. The worst thing was having to cancel shows.

I hate that. But I'm back on my feet and I'm bouncing around now."

The event, entitled "An Enduring Vision," honoured Clinton, Evelyn and Leonard Lauder, Lily Safra and Stone.

Stone called John "a legendary performer and ... spectacular person."

"(He's) not always easy because he's true and honest and he really is passionate and he really does care," she said. "There isn't any time that I wouldn't show up for him. He's the real thing."

The Elton John AIDS Foundation in part aims to fund innovative HIV prevention programmes and to eliminate the stigma and discrimination associated with HIV/AIDS. — AP