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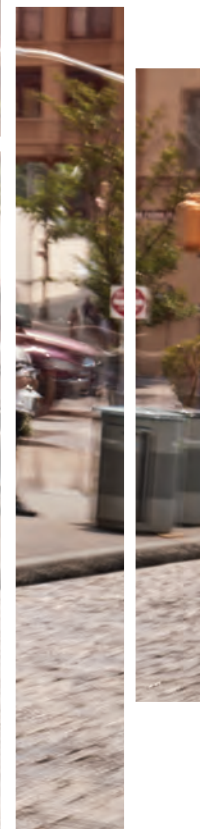
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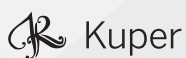
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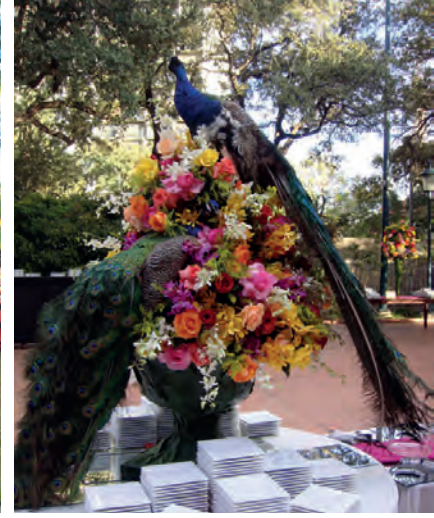


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package, Josh.ai can work at any level with a strong home network. Installation is quick, clean and painless with Bjorn's custom installation service. Let us do the strategic planning, heavy lifting, and programming of your entire home automation system, Bjorn's' helpful and friendly Home Technology Experts will work with you to find the best smart home solutions for just about any situation and budget. So, come experience Josh.ai today at Bjorn's, just Bjorn's.





Josh.ai is Ready to Serve You

There's no denying the panache and refinement of having an expertly trained butler. He frees up your time and makes sure everything is just right and efficiently arranged. He knows exactly what you like, and when you want it. You reign as king and queen of the castle. No doubt, life runs smoothly with a butler.

One big problem. That wonderful person requires a salary, living accommodations, and employment taxes. Don't forget all the documentation you'll file for his immigration if he comes from the talent-rich schools in Europe! Josh.ai is the perfect alternative for those not quite ready to welcome a new member into the household. He's sleek, small, blends in, and yes, he can be European. "He" can also be a "she," understand several languages, and respond to a name of your choosing. You won't find that flexibility with a butler!

This little multi-tasker can follow a string of commands, like opening the garage door, setting the thermostat and turning on Pandora to welcome you to your private oasis from the pressures of daily life. It's all controlled with advanced speech recognition, and it will even understand your unique accent. Imagine walking in to perfection, every night!

Date nights and romance are so much easier with a little assistance from Josh.ai. He'll dim the lights and set the mood with a movie or music while you light the candles. He can even lower the thermostat for optimal canoodling conditions. Kids came home early? Turn on the lights and turn off the music with a quick tap on a smart device.

Josh.ai is not your mass-market device that connects a slew of other after-market applications, like cameras, doorbells, outdoor lights and home security. It's above that. It's beyond. It's better. It makes everything else on the mass consumer market look like a cute little chew toy.

You have options for whole-home automation. Before Josh.ai you could invest hundreds of thousands of dollars on a custom integrated system. Or, you had the option of using 20 different applications to manage each piece of technology. There is a better way to talk to your home, with simple and modern elegance, and it's Josh.ai.

Fair warning, if you want to bring home Josh.ai anytime soon, you'll need to contact Bjorn's right away. Only 100 systems are produced each year, and whole-home artificial intelligence is only available to an elite few.

Scalable for entry-level functionality all the way to a premiere whole-home package, Josh.ai is practically plug and play with an existing home network. Time constraints, social obligations, or lack of confidence and know-how might make the addition of Josh.ai to your home seem a little overwhelming. Bjorn's is happy to help! Installation is quick, clean and painless with Bjorn's custom installation service. Let us do the strategic planning, heavy lifting, and programming of your entire home automation system.



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TSD JAN•FEB 2018

106. WHY PARIS IS STILL SEXY

Did someone say *Let's Go To Paris*? We're always game for a jaunt to the fabled city that retains its history, yet evokes a fiery passion within most of us. It is, after all, called *The City of Love* for a reason.

By Dee Covey

114. READY TO ROCK

If there's music in the scene, we're there. We love the mystique behind the rock persona and no one evokes it better these days than Amy Edwards and her new book, *#RockYourLife: 5 Days to New Habits*.

Photography by Ben Porter

Styling by Bijou Finney

Dress by Trina Turk, \$278 at Julian Gold. Coat by Bitte Kai Rand, \$334 at The Garden Room. Shoes by Gucci, \$940 at Neiman Marcus.



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34. CONTRIBUTE

It takes a village to create this magazine and our digital media platform at TheSocietyDiaries.com. Here's a look at some of the many talented dynamos who make it happen as we start the new annum.

38. EDIT

Editor-in-Chief and Creative Director Lance Avery Morgan is mighty grateful, as always, for the 2018 upon us.

40. CURATE

Looking for more culture as winter gets cooler? Take a look here at some of our state's finest museums in the country, according to our active arts arbiter Jonathan Spindel.

44. SEEK

This great big fabulous world, according to on-the-go guy Jonathan Spindel, has all the international happenings that we recommend you enjoy starting now.

46. DISCOVER

Our editorial style setters Jake Gaines and Jason Grosgrain (Austin), Cynthia Smoot (Dallas) and Eleanor Leeper Morrison (Houston and San Antonio) are always on the scene with their favorite new finds across the state.

50. BEHAVE

We love that our Ms. Modern Manners Sharon Schweitzer, JD has all the answers to 2018's new conundrums...as we all seek continued social success.

52. BEAUTIFY

You've never looked more beautiful in winter. Our beauty insider Ana Bribiesca chooses the cool and glam looks we love the most now.

54. REVEAL

Dallas style legend Jan Strimple is always living the fashionable life. Here our Lance Avery Morgan learns about a few of her favorite things...including her secrets of a couture modeling career.

56. INDULGE

Intergalactic style isn't just for the movies. Why not bring some of the other worldly trends to your own style, asks our style maven and TheToriBook.com founder Tori Johnson.



58. DIRECT

Academy Award-nominated director Richard Linklater always has a story to tell. As award season heats up, he gets real with Rob Giardinelli on his new hit film, *Last Flag Flying*.

60. PERFORM

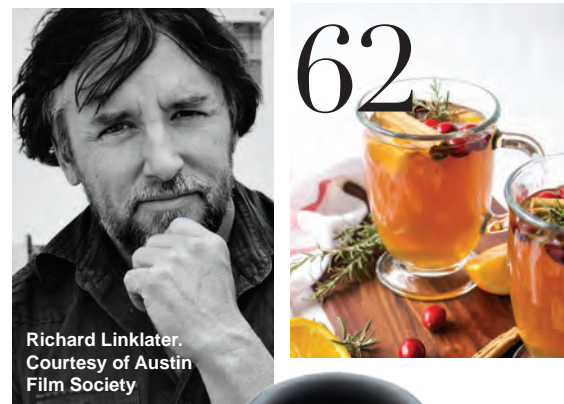
ZACH Theatre, over 85 years young, is leading the way as a performing arts powerhouse in Texas, shares Lance Avery Morgan who was a child performer there.

62. SAVOR

We say yes, please, to anything that our chic cuisine contributor Josie Rees recommends. It's time to warm up with her new wintery favorites.

64. RECALL

Country clubs have evolved over the years. Here we look back with Lori Duran who shares insight on the early years of Austin Country Club where many golf legends got their start.



68. QUEST

We've collaborated with ModXMan.com to learn about some of the hot new men's trends this season.

70. CELEBRATE

For San Antonio's Tricentennial, take a look at the upcoming events as well as Franco Mondini-Ruiz, whose illustration captures the essence of the celebration.

71. PROMOTE

A fresh look at the events, people places, and things that are happening across the state this month

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ENTRANCE · ARRIVAL



84. DALLAS, Cindy and Howard Rachofsky



87. SAN ANTONIO, Julie Johnson and Sheila Mayfield



94. HOUSTON, Laura Kim, Lynn Wyatt, and Fernando Garcia



86. DALLAS, Maxine Trowbridge, Kenny Goss, and Joyce Goss

THE VERY BEST EVENTS ACROSS TEXAS & BEYOND

80. INVITE

The landmark birthday of Ken Batchelor

82. HOST

The Fête for Becca Cason Thrash in Houston

84. REGALE

The Two X Two gala in Dallas

87. SPECTATE

The Charity Ball Assn. gala in San Antonio

ENTRANCE

92. AUSTIN

The Dancing With The Stars gala

94. HOUSTON

The Museum of Fine Arts luncheon

96. SAN ANTONIO

The San Antonio Public Library Fndn. gala

98. DALLAS

The Fashion Group Int'l gala

100. AUSTIN

The Andy Roddick Fndn. gala

102. HOUSTON

The Fashion X Houston event

98. DALLAS

The Dallas Grand Opera events

ARRIVAL

120. AUSTIN

The Rise School event

122. HOUSTON

The Houston Grand Opera gala

124. DALLAS

The Recognizing Heroes gala

126. SAN ANTONIO

The Southwest School of Art gala

128. AUSTIN

The Elizabeth Ann Seton Board gala

130. SAN ANTONIO

The Witte Game Dinner event

ARRANGE

136.

Laura Villagran-Johnson and Kevin Smothers of AustinSocialPlanner.com recommend the very best across the state for you to support.



100. AUSTIN, Andy Roddick and Brooklyn Decker



96. SAN ANTONIO, Libby Morris, Jill Giles and Roxanna Blanchette



102. HOUSTON, Joanna Marks and Hannah McNair



120. AUSTIN, Al Koehler and Amber Scanio

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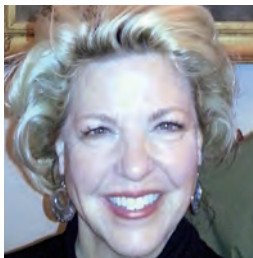


ANA BRIBIESCA

Writer and enthusiast of all things beauty, fashion, travel and healthy living-related, our *Beautify* contributor Ana Bribiesca is currently working in the higher education non-profit sector and in launching AnaBribs.com, a lifestyle blog where she plans to share her passions, experiences, tips and sneak peeks inside her life hoping to share large doses of inspiration.

DEE COVEY

Dee Covey is a The Society Diaries features contributor for fun and also serves as one of Texas's top multi-generational marketing and branding trend experts. As the head of PR/ER studios (Prernow.com), she teaches New York and Austin clients exactly how to shine in TED talks, on The Today Show, investor presentations, book tours and other high-stakes situations when she isn't writing about global cultural trends as in this month's Why Paris Is Still Sexy feature.



LORI DURAN

With a Bachelor of Arts in History and a Master's Degree, that combined Latin American Studies with Masters of Business Administration classes from the University of Texas, Lori Duran researches interesting historical stories about social changes. This has been her life-long passion and her past research has been contributed to other writer's published articles and books. Lately she is writing free-lance articles for publication and is writing a pictorial book about the history of Austin's Travis Heights neighborhood.



BIJOU FINNEY

Bringing the best of winter fashion in the feature *Ready To Rock* was a creative opportunity for stylist Bijou Finney. She has lived in the Austin area for twelve years and within that time she graduated from Texas State with a fashion merchandising degree. Finney has opened Golden Bones Boutique and the Velvet Cartel, a content creation company and is passionate about expression through style no matter how outlandish or edgy.



ROB GIARDINELLI

Certified professional life coach and branding expert by day, social commentator by night and author of his new book *Being In The Room* (available at Amazon.com) and chronicled in this issue as a feature story, *The Personification of Texas*, Senior Social Editor Rob Giardinelli is a man of many interests. What may appear seamless actually takes hours of research, interviews, and photo gathering to accurately chronicle the state's charitable event stories. Giardinelli himself is involved several philanthropies and loves sharing how Texans so generously and passionately give back to the community they love, while he weaves interesting social commentary that showcases the many who work tirelessly to raise awareness toward important issues in the state.



LAURA VILLAGRAN-JOHNSON AND KEVIN SMOTHERS

If there is an event or gala to attend in Texas, count on Laura Villagran-Johnson and Kevin Smothers to be on the scene. As the founders of the social guide and online calendar *Austin Social Planner*, Austin's definitive online source for society events, they know where to go, when to be there and how to dial in to the particular charity behind it. The founders have a combined an events background of almost 30 years across Texas, New York and Los Angeles. Photography by Stacey Harrell.



TORI JOHNSON

Our stylish contributor Tori Johnson is the owner of sTORIbook Public Relations and is a fashion and lifestyle blogger of The sTORIbook.com. She is also a successful commercial and editorial stylist. Johnson has also been voted San Antonio Fashion Blogger of the Year and has worked with a bevy of top names including Neiman Marcus, Nordstrom, Lancôme, Armani Exchange, and many more.



ELEANORA MORRISON

A founding contributor for *The Society Diaries*, Eleanora Leeper Morrison has been an Associate Editor and writer since the magazine's first issue covering events, culture, and travel. She is also *The Society Diaries TV's* co-creator, co-host and Digital Director. Morrison writes and manages her own life and style website OhEleanora.com that encourages and empowers women to create the lives they want to lead. This month she lends her event-attending expertise to helm most of our wedding stories.



BEN PORTER

Ben Porter, a native Austinite photographed our lifestyle feature, *Ready To Rock*, on location. He started his first job at 14 to begin funding his photography career, first a passion and is now his on-going profession. His whole life he has always imagined objects and people from a different point of view and photography has him create and share with others. His work has been seen in the *The New York Times*, Fox Sports Southwest, Sound Cloud, Whole Foods, as well as a host of regional publications.



JOSIE REES

Our newest member of the team, who will be contributing to our Savor department, is Josie Rees, a freelance food photographer based in San Antonio. She is a two-time recipient of Foodelia's International Food Photography Awards and documents her culinary journey on her blog, JosieRees.com which showcases some of her favorite recipes and spots around town.





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CONTRIBUTE

JENNIFER ROOSTH

Associate Editor Jennifer Roosth is a Houston-based writer who never ceases to be amazed by the wonderfully generous spirit of the Houston philanthropic community. "It's nice to live in a city where so many are excited about giving back," she says, "In the process, they throw some mighty fine parties."



FRANCO MONDINI-RUIZ

Franco Mondini-Ruiz, who provides artwork for our article on the 2018 San Antonio Tricentennial, lives and works in New York and San Antonio. He left a successful career as an attorney to pursue a passion for art. His talents have been included the Whitney Biennial, Museum of American Art and the Museum of Fine Arts, Houston and the Smithsonian Institution. He also won the Rome Prize awarded by the American Academy in Rome.

SHARON SCHWEITZER

Sharon Schweitzer, J.D., is a cross-cultural trainer and modern manners expert. In addition to her accreditation in intercultural management from the HOFSTEDE Centre, she serves as a Chinese Ceremonial Dining Etiquette Specialist in the documentary series Confucius was a Foodie, on Nat Geo People. She is the resident etiquette expert on two popular lifestyle shows: ABC Tampa Bay's Morning Blend and CBS Austin's We Are Austin. Her Amazon #1 Best Selling book in International Business, *Access to Asia: Your Multicultural Business Guide*, now in its third printing, was named to Kirkus Reviews' Best Books of 2015. She's a winner of the British Airways International Trade Award at the 2016 Greater Austin Business Awards. Photo by Corey Howell.



CYNTHIA SMOOT

A partner at Gangway Advertising, Cynthia Smoot creates buzz for some of Dallas' hottest brands through interactive social media strategies and public relations for the firm's lifestyle clients. She is the go-to resource for what's happening and who you need to know in Dallas. Through her popular lifestyle blog OhSoCynthia.com readers get the latest scoop and inside information on fashion, food, philanthropy, events, celebrity and reality TV news. Smoot describes her blog as "a love letter to the city of Dallas" and enjoys taking readers along for the ride as she experiences all that the city has to offer.

JONATHAN SPINDEL

Jonathan Spindel is a native Austinite with a global appetite for arts and culture. When he's not searching the world for the best trends to share with our readers, he can be found at local art galleries, music venues, and hip happenings around the capital city. He reports on all that makes us proud to be part of Texas society and is inspired by the unique individuals and organizations he engages as an Associate Editor, highlighting the happenings that bring the best to, and make the most of, our great state.



SHANNON TURNER

Our South Texas Associate Editor is a native of Los Angeles who spent most of her childhood in San Antonio. Shannon Miller Turner now divides her time between the two cities and is happy to call both of them home. With a B.A. in Communications (Magna Cum Laude), writing is and always has been her passion. Involved with numerous charitable causes, Turner is also the co-founder of San Antonio's Le Brunch, a popular non-profit event. She has been married for over 20 years and is the mother of two. Photography by J. Wilkinson Co.



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Rob Giardinelli, Amber Scario, All Koehler and Lance Avery Morgan at the Rise School Travel The Vine gala



Lance Avery Morgan and David Yurman at Neiman Marcus San Antonio



Whitney Roberts Kutch, Catherine Lowe, Lance Avery Morgan, LeeAnne Locken and Rob Giardinelli at the FGI Dallas gala



Amy Edwards and Lance Avery Morgan at the feature photo shoot
Photography by Ben Porter



Rob Giardinelli, Matt Swinney and Lance Avery Morgan at the ModXMan launch (Photography courtesy of Todd White)

OFF TO THE RACES

HAPPY NEW YEAR! IT'S THAT WONDERFUL, HOPEFUL phrase that we love saying throughout January, and often, well into February too. What a year we just finished and what an exciting year it's likely to be.

We appreciate your bountiful and positive response to our last cover story of super socialite philanthropist Becca Cason Thrash and her vision for raising millions on the international scene (as well as her own backyard in Houston and throughout Texas). When the opportunity of fêteing La Thrash's cover story occurred, I was instantly reminded of that glamorous ad campaign, *What Becomes A Legend Most?* that profiled the world's most glamorous women. Shot by Richard Avedon in striking poses, the celebrity subjects' lush black and white images captured the essence of glamour and it became a runaway hit. So how does one fête the ultimate fêter? With glee and joy. Elizabeth and Gary Petersen's residence and largesse provided the stellar backdrop for the chic event where hundreds gathered to toast Thrash's ongoing success. It was an evening I shall never forget and of course, we provide a few photos in this issue for you to see if you couldn't make it there.

When it comes to grand slam glam, I also recall CNN's hit TV show every Saturday morning, *Style With Elsa Klensch*, where she reported on "the design worlds of fashion, beauty and decorating" with a decidedly clipped and authoritative Australian-British accent. She profiled many of the same types of high performers we do here in *The Society Diaries* and Klensch also gave a glimpse into the top fashion runway shows of the day: YSL, Yohji Yamamoto, Claude Montana and other top tier talents that wouldn't be seen elsewhere in the days before the internet brought it to our phones. That appointment TV series usually featured one Texas notable: supermodel Jan Strimple, whose cool strawberry blonde persona graced the catwalks for years as the best in her field. Dallasite Strimple has been a longtime friend and fan of the magazine (it's very mutual) and we've caught up with her here to see how she's currently conquering the fashion world.

Let's face it: Great is as great does. And the recent passing of that great Texan gossip columnist doyenne Liz Smith has been mourned by many. I recall her mentioning my former magazine, *Brilliant*, in her *New York Post* column in the early 2000s thanks to an introduction by Houstonian Carolyn Farb. It was another ah-ha moment of how the media can be wildly supportive. Smith mostly reflected the accomplishments and happenings of international social setters, reaching millions of readers before the advent of reality TV. Her column kept us in the know and there's no doubt she's reporting on the white tie ball in the sky now, as well as rock stars and potentates long passed.

When it comes to rock stars, we love it when people make their own kind of music in the world, literally and figuratively. A shining bright light example is Austinite Amy Edwards, whose new book, *#RockYourLife: 5 Days To New Habits*, and her rock star quality style will surely inspire you in her fashion feature, as much as our *Why Paris Is Still Sexy* feature helmed by Dee Covey that may reignite your love life on your next visit to the City of Light.

We also love our in-depth coverage of all the philanthropic events we've had the pleasure of supporting so that it can rouse your own events in the myriad of markets we cover. Because we know Austin can be inspired by Dallas and Houston sees creativity in San Antonio events and so on, each adds their own flair to the charitable occasion. The possibilities are endless as this great state continues to be known for being magnanimous and so influential.

So, yes, we are off to the races in our eighth successful year of publication both in print and digitally. We've seen so many things happen and change so far in nearly a decade and we look forward to being a part of your future, too. Because no matter where you go, there we are reflecting the hopes, dreams and aspirations of how Texans live today. **S**

XO Lance Avery Morgan
Editor-In-Chief
lance@thesocietydiaries.com



Photography by Megan Kyle Bennett



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ARTISTIC RENEWAL

Invalidate your New Year with an infusion of fine arts culture. Here *our intrepid arts explorer Jonathan Spindel* shares the top exhibitions recommendations throughout Texas.

AUSTIN

IN HIGH SPIRITS

The Bullock Texas State History Museum presents *American Spirits*, an immersive exhibition on the rise and fall of prohibition. Featuring over 100 rare artifacts including flapper dresses and re-created speakeasy, visitors can explore the fashion, music, and culture of the Roaring '20s. Until January 7. At TheStoryofTexas.com



ELLSWORTH EVERLASTING

The wait is over—this February, renowned artist Ellsworth Kelly's gift to the Blanton Museum of Art will be unveiled. His most monumental work, the stone building with colored glass windows will make a lasting impact on the Texas art world. Opens February 18. At BlantonMuseum.org



BELLA AND THE BEAST

The Austin Symphony starts the new year with the talented Bella Hristova performing the "beastly" Stravinsky

Violin Concerto in D Major, as well as several pieces by the great Baroque and Classical composers. You'll be in awe of Hristova's mastery of the explosively virtuosic violin arrangements. January 12 and 13. At TheLongCenter.org

DALLAS/FORT WORTH



HIGH FLYING FUN

Cirque de la Symphonie returns to the Dallas Symphony Opera with a new show featuring acrobats, contortionists, strongmen and tumblers for an evening of spectacular feats and exciting orchestral music to match. January 26 to 18. At MyDSO.org

FEARLESS FOOTWORK

When Compagnie Hervé Koubi debuted in Dallas two years ago, the dance company struck the audience speechless—until the standing ovation. The powerful choreography underscores the harmony between masculine power and graceful movement. If you enjoy contemporary dance, you won't want to miss this awe-inspiring event. January 20. At attpac.org



Photo courtesy of Jacob's Pillow



OPERATIC OVERTURES

A loving wife. A job promotion. An inheritance. With such a perfect life, how can things possibly go wrong? In *The Ring of Polykrates*, William Arndt is about to discover just how quickly the tables can turn. In this rarely performed domestic comedy by Erich Wolfgang Korngold, the stakes are high and sacrifices must be made. February 9 to 17. At DallasOpera.org

HOUSTON



EXQUISITE EXCELLENCE

For centuries, jewelry and objets d'art have been treasured by royalty to demonstrate power, status and taste. Rienzi, the MFAH museum of European decorative arts, presents *Extravagant Objects*, a dazzling eclectic array featuring examples from the 18th to the 20th centuries, including masterpieces by the House of Fabergé, Meissen Porcelain Manufactory, David Webb, and more. On view until February 4. At MFAH.org

DON'T THROW AWAY YOUR SHOT

The Broadway smash hit has finally arrived in Houston.



The story of America's founders told like never before, Lin Manuel Miranda's revolutionary musical blends myriad musical styles into a musical masterpiece that is distinctly American. *Hamilton* is the story of America then, as told by America now. Don't miss this. April 20 to May 20. At TheHobbyCenter.org



TERRA INFIRMA

The work of London-based artist Mona Hatoum addresses the ever-expanding world as it becomes technologically networked yet politically fractured. The artist's first major solo exhibition in the United States in twenty years, this show transforms the everyday through nuanced and playful interventions. On view until February 25. At Menil.org



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CURATE

SAN ANTONIO



COMPLEXIONS & REFLECTIONS

Directed by former members of the legendary Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater, the company continually evolves, incorporating a mix of styles from ballet to hip hop. Frequent stars of the hit show *So You Think You Can Dance*, Complexions' proves that dance should remove boundaries, not reinforce them. March 1. At TobinCenter.org




CENTURIES OF SAN ANTONIO

Just in time for San Antonio's grand tri-centennial, *San Antonio 1718: Art from Viceregal Mexico* tells the story of the city's first century through over 100 landscapes, portraits, sculptures, and devotional

and decorative objects, many which have never been exhibited in the United States. Be inspired by portraits of political and economic power, Spanish viceroys and military leaders who helped shape the destiny of the city. February 16 to May 13. At SAMuseum.org



AUDACIOUSLY AMERICAN

Featuring selections from the Rubell Family Collection in Miami, *30 Americans* showcases works by many of the most important African American artists of the last three decades, exploring the powerful influence of social artistic legacy across decades. This heavyweight collection features art by icons including Mark Bradford, Nick Cave, Robert Colescott, Glenn Ligon, Kerry James Marshall, Mickalene Thomas, and Kehinde Wiley. February 8 to May 6. At McNayArt.org 

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Jet to the Four Seasons Kuda Huraa in the Maldives, where you can enjoy prime tropical luxury with an additional twist – chartered seaplane surfing. Let the pilots drop you off in the midst of the perfect waves, then come back to unwind in the Four Season's signature luxury. At FourSeasons.com/Maldiveskh

DINING WITH THE STARS

San Francisco's Coi restaurant is the country's newest eatery to be bestowed cuisine's finest honor, three Michelin stars. Featuring a local seafood-focused tasting menu, chef Matthew Kirkley's kitchen offers a truly superlative dining experience. At CoiRestaurant.com



FOODIE PHARMACY

Great restaurants make an art out of cuisine, but Pharmacy 2 in London takes it to a new level. A collaboration between restaurateur Mark Hix and world-renowned artist Damien Hirst, the dining room features many of Hirst's works. The menu features extraordinary dishes influenced by global flavors, which are indeed pieces of art in their own right. At PharmacyRestaurant.com



WAXING CRESCENT

Redefining luxury, Dallas' Hotel Crescent Court unveiled its \$30 million renovations just in time for the new year. Featuring gorgeously redesigned guest rooms and suites, and a brand new 22,000 sq. ft. spa and fitness center, the new Hotel Crescent Court offers exquisite hospitality, dining, wellness amenities, and event hosting venues. At CrescentCourt.com

ALL ABOARD!

The new five-day London Boat Show is a re-defined and re-imagined celebration of the luxury lifestyle on the open sea. Set to be better than ever, the show offers opportunities to climb aboard classic boats and modern yachts, see the latest from boutique brands, and meet international sailing legends. January 10-14. At LondonBoatShow.com



Photo courtesy of Tim Evanson

PAINT ME A PICTURE

The Smithsonian's National Portrait Gallery presents the annual "Recent Acquisitions" exhibition, displaying the newest portraits to enter the museum's renowned collection, joining over 22,000 defining portraits of influential figures in areas such as medicine, music, literature, art and social justice, represented in paintings, sculpture, prints, drawings, photographs and new media. Until November 4, 2018. At NPG.SI.edu **S**



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WINTER WONDERS

Across our great big state is a host of fun winter possibilities. Here *our editors on the scene* Jake Gaines, Jason Grosgrain, Ellie Morrison, Jennifer Roosth and Cynthia Smoot have captured some lively options to warm up these chilly days and nights.

AUSTIN

POOLSIDE PICK-ME-UP

From McGuire Moorman Hospitality, the group that brought us Jeffrey's, Lambert's, Perla's and other favorite local dining spots, Pool Burger is a new tiki-themed snack bar with elevated takes on classic favorites, and a chic neighborhood vibe that's located adjacent to the beloved dive Deep Eddy Cabaret. At PoolBurger.com



Photo courtesy of Chad Wadsworth via Eater



OFF THE WALL

Add a contemporary touch to your home with a new piece from Twyla, the Austin-based art curator, dealer and gallery. Twyla's roster of over 130 artists create limited-edition works, produced as archival prints and shipped all over the world. Their limited art pieces make a fantastic gift, too. At Twyla.com



Photo courtesy of Lake Flato

BOOKS' NEW LOOK

Austin's lakeshore skyline has a new crown feature. The new Central Library; featuring incredible architecture, public art, and myriad interactive surprises; offers much more to check out than books. The building's soaring atrium, on-site café, and outdoor amphitheater reflect Austin's eclectic energy. At Library. AustinTexas.gov

DALLAS

NEW VINTAGE STYLE

Originally opened in 1956 as one of Conrad Hilton's first convention properties, The Statler, more than 60 years later, has reopened the property as The Statler, Curio Collection by Hilton following a \$255 million redevelopment. The 19-story hotel and mixed-use development features 219 residences, restaurants and nightlife (with restaurants by local chef Graham Dodds including Overeasy, Bourbon & Banter, Fine China, Scout.) Waterproof, a poolside roof deck bar and lounge, is slated to open soon. At TheStatlerDallas.com



LIVING ART

Urban Spikes was generated out of desperation for warmth and color in founder Courtney Goldberg's very white, angular home. Without the budget to purchase art she needed alternative, less costly options to add color and dimension to her home. She wanted to create indoor conversation pieces, not an outdoor terra cotta garden. Her designs are created using succulent cuttings - think of it as a cut flower arrangement that lasts for months. When it's time for new succulents, contact them to order replacement cuttings. They offer delivery or pickup and styling for a nominal fee. At UrbanSpikes.com



LIVING LA VIDA VERDE

Lala's Mexican Café, the new fast-casual concept in Preston Center, offers diners health-conscious Mexican food. Michelle Mireles, the owner of Jorge's TexMex Café, created this new concept in tribute to her grandmother and believes that what you eat matters. While Lala's focus is on health, nothing is short on flavor in their organic, non-GMO cuisine. Be prepared to experience a drool-worthy menu at brunch, lunch and dinner. They even offer organic tequila for happy hour. At LalasMexicanCafeDallas.us.





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HOUSTON



GAMES PEOPLE PLAY

It's big with the hipsters. The retro arcade dealer Joystix has *Pac-Man Fever* Fridays on the first and last Friday of every month. For \$15 you get gaming with over 200 classics, including pinball machines, air hockey, and 80s hits like *Centipede* and *Moonwalker*. Extra points if you wear a scrunchie. At JoystixMusements.com



BUTTERFLIES FLY FREE

The Cockrell Butterfly Center and Brown Hall of Entomology at the Houston Museum of Natural Science offers visitors a fascinating insight into the world of butterflies and insects. The Rainforest Conservancy, a spectacular three-story glass structure with a 50-foot waterfall filled with exotic plants and living butterflies is especially popular, so what are you waiting for? At HMNS.org

CAN YOU HUM A FEW BARS?

Among the city's Chinatown treasures is a karaoke bar you won't soon forget. In fact, it might feel like a 90s flashback. Yes KTV has private rooms for rent for special occasions and you can choose from over 10,000 songs to croon. Perfect for your next *Friends* reunion. At YesKTV.net



SAN ANTONIO

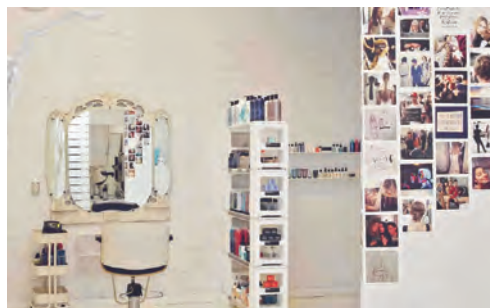
LET'S TAKE THIS DOWNSTAIRS

Descend to a new level. Literally. The recently opened Downstairs at the Esquire Tavern is directly on the Riverwalk. The unpretentiously high-quality, intimate riverside lounge and hangout dishes out top cocktails, small-scale eats and unconventional inclinations. Downstairs should be next on your "night out" list. At EsquireTavern-SA.com



TWIRL IN

Whether you're simply in need of a touch-up or you're ready for a totally new you, this modern-day beauty shop in Southtown's trendy Blue Star Arts Complex has you covered. Twirl Salon,



led by globally known hairstylist Lisa Weller, offers the best in the beauty business: from hair to make-up to skincare. Themed galas coming up in the new year? Don't sweat it - the Twirl Girls will transform you for any event on your social calendar. At TwirlHair.com

MAKING THE SCENE

At Monty + Ivy Hall you can orchestrate a show, host a shindig, or rendezvous in a secret garden while nestled in one of San Antonio's most unique neighborhoods. Whether you're planning an event for 30 or 300, this chic renovated venue has a range of spaces and configurations to fit a variety of functions and festivities. From weddings to workshops, food to film, reunions to revelry - The Monty + Ivy Hall can host it all. At MontyAndIvy.com **S**





JACKIE WILLOME PHOTOGRAPHY



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ROOM FOR GROWTH

As we start the New Year, now is the best time to renew our appreciation of gentility in all situations, and place our best foot forward, according to *our* Ms. Modern Manners Sharon Schweitzer, JD.

Dear Ms. Modern Manners,
I RECEIVED A TEXT WHILE WAITING ALONE TO MEET A friend for dinner: Hey. There in 20 min. Is it okay that my friend did that, and what is the appropriate amount of time to wait for someone to show up before leaving?

Waiting At Dinner

Dear Dinner Partner,

It depends. What caused your friend's delay – was it an emergency? Is this a pattern? It's important to be prompt for any event, whether meeting family, friends, or business colleagues. In time-conscious Western cultures like the U.S., the acceptable waiting time may be shorter than in more flexible cultures like Latin America and Eastern regions, for example. Even subcultures within the U.S. have differing standards for waiting; 10 minutes may be the norm in New York, while it may be 20 minutes in Texas. In the U.S., after waiting 30 minutes, it's fine to depart without apology. Best practices include fully charging your cell phone and exchanging cell numbers, and confirming the appointment the day prior.

Dear Ms. Modern Manners,
What's your policy on lending a favorite book or a similar item? I love sharing things, but wonder if they will ever be it returned.

Book Lover

Dear Terrific Tome,

As William Shakespeare noted, *neither a borrower nor a lender be*. Sharing books or personal items with friends can be a great way to form a connection and follow up afterward. However, it's important to be transparent and clarify that the item is for *borrowing* and not *keeping*. When a friend or colleague asks to borrow something, it may cause feelings of discomfort. If you have a cherished item, family heirloom, author signed book, or brand new unworn item, that you don't wish to lend, say no. If you do lend, use these tips for a borrowing-lending agreement to clarify the terms and to increase the likelihood of the item being returned:

1. A specific use for the item (the other person agrees how the item will be used and not abused.)
2. A specified time frame the item will be in their possession and then returned; if not returned by that day and time, ask for its return.

3. If lending money or a high value item, draft an agreement with your signatures.

Dear Ms. Modern Manners,
My wife and I love our pets, as well as others', too. Lately, I've noticed some individuals taking liberty with pets being brought to restaurant patios, stores, and other public venues. Do I find the manager to have the errant pet curbed, or should I mention it to the owner myself?

Loves Dogs & Cats

In restaurant patios, stores and other public venues, it is the professional staff's responsibility to maintain the establishment's decorum. In that light, the manager is in the position to diplomatically request that the pet owner tame their miscreant. If you find yourself in this position again, quietly ask a higher power at the establishment to speak with the pet owner. Social graces include knowing it is inappropriate to correct a pet owner's lack of manners—unless you are being paid to do so. That being said, it's crucial for pet owners to know and follow the establishment's pet policies, properly train and maintain their pets in public spaces, and clean up after them.

Dear Ms. Modern Manners,
I have a dear friend who posts sensitive and personal issues on Facebook. So much so that it seems like he would be embarrassed by such a public forum. Should I let him know it may be going too far, or ignore it and let him air his dirty laundry?

Facebook? Fantastic

Dear Facebooker,

A scientific study conducted by Gwendolyn Seidman of Albright College, published in *Computers in Human Behavior*, reviewed how Facebook users expressed their “true selves.” First named in 2002, the “true self-concept” states we possess qualities for which we wish to be recognized; however, we can't express this wish in daily life. Later, the 2012 study found people who felt a “more true self” online were more likely to communicate on Facebook, disclose things about themselves, and post emotional updates regarding drama and frustration. What's important to understand is that true self-expression operates at the unconscious level. Unless you provide him with a copy of the study, talking to your friend about his public forum posting of his dirty laundry will most likely be met with a blank stare. **S**



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NIGHT TIME TO NIGHTTIME'S RITUAL

Consistency is key when it comes to skin care. Eve Lom Ultimate Moisture Ritual makes it easy to keep this resolution. Reveal your best self by cleaning, hydrating and revitalizing every night in three simple steps. \$195. At EveLom.com.



REDISCOVER YOUR RADIANCE

Spring can arrive early with this Chantecaille perfecting loose powder sets your fresh, natural look and blurs your pores into perfection while gorgeously highlighting your complexion. \$68. At Chantecaille.com



BEAUTY RESOLUTIONS

The beginning of the year is the perfect time to refocus, clean up our routines, experiment with new trends and purge our lives of unhealthy habits. Try these easy-to-keep beauty resolutions that will refresh and recharge your beauty routine according to *our beauty expert Ana Bribiesca.*



SIGNATURE HERE, PLEASE

A signature fragrance has the ability to magically engrave and reignite a memory. Choose a signature fragrance to help make 2018 a year to remember like Twilly d'Hermès. \$130. At Neiman Marcus.



BOLD & FEARLESS

Dare yourself to step outside your comfort zone and pledge to try new trends this year...like a statement lip. This Bobbi Brown Luxe Lip Color Set includes 10 rich and vibrant shades for bold, plump and hydrated pouts. \$150. At Neiman Marcus.



DEEP CLEANING

A deep cleanse flushes out clogged pores allowing for younger-looking skin. Incorporating a weekly Omorovicza cleansing mask session will cleanse, nourish, reenergize and brighten skin while naturally absorbing oils and impurities. \$120. At Neiman Marcus.



HEALTHIER HAIR

This year vow to ease up on blow drying and using hot tools daily with Oribe Run-Through Detangling Primer. \$37. Extend the time between washes and prevent further damage by applying Oribe Gold Lust Dry Shampoo that leaves hair instantly refreshed while adding volume. \$44. Both at Oribe.com

every smile has a story



Actual Patient

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“I always smiled on the inside but shied away from a full smile because I was self-conscious. Now I can just live my life and be who I am.”



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RAVISHING REDHEAD

Before there were supermodels, there was Dallasite Jan Strimple. In fact, she's a fashion legend who has walked for more luxe designers and produced more fashion events than just about anyone. Here, *her dear friend and our fashion follower Lance Avery Morgan* catches up for a chat and a glass of bubbly to discuss what makes her tick.



Jan Strimple at the Dallas Museum of Art's Art Ball



The Colosseum. Rome, Italy



Edith Head sketch for Shirley Maclaine in *What a Way to Go*, 1964



Marlene Dietrich, 1940s



Jan Strimple modeling for Thierry Mugler, 1980s

Best career advice I have received is...

Diana Vreeland's "Give them what they don't know they want." Those bold words empowered me and I've embraced them as both my modeling and production style.

Moment I felt I'd made it was...

In the early 80s, I stepped off the plane in Paris and was immediately driven to a casting for the Haute Couture show of Yves Saint Laurent. In the 80s the fashion world was in the habit of embracing YSL's new "it girl" of the season, as he always thought for himself and cast against the mainstream model look of the times. Being selected by Yves Saint Laurent to walk his Haute Couture runway was the equivalent of a Michelin Chef receiving his 3rd star. I knew I had made it!

First album I bought was...

Cheap Thrills by Big Brother and The Holding Company featuring Janis Joplin.

If I could live in a foreign city it would be... Anywhere in Italy. The Italian approach to life, food and family resonate with me.

What everyone/woman should try in her lifetime is...

Honesty. Everywhere. At all times. Always wrapped in love and shared with heartfelt good intention.

The beauty essential you'd have to pry out of my cold dry hands is...

Crème de la Mer original moisturizer.

My style icon is...

Currently, it's Daphne Guinness. In the past it's been Marlene Dietrich. Their styles both embody the perfect balance between male and female lines and aesthetics. They never choose garments that play the victim and instead, their choices have always been exhilarating.

My personal style signifier is...

Statement rings. A great ring makes my heart race.

A recent find is...

A jet black Issey Miyake skirt that closely resembles a lampshade, from my pal Ken Weber at Vintage Martini in Dallas.

An object I would never part with is...

My husband Dan. Does he qualify?

Classic film I feel has a very fashionable point of view...

Is the little-known *What a Way to Go* with Shirley MacLaine that is silly fun. Edith Head's costumes are over the top in it.

My perfect day would end...

With my Dan at my side, a bottle of Pianetta's 2013 Syrah, gazing out over a body of water and watching a storm approach. **S**



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3,2,1... BLAST OFF

Creative Director Karl Lagerfeld's runway shows are always an impressively dramatic experience, but Chanel's Fall/Winter 2017 Paris show was truly out of this world. Models sported space age fashions, metallic space blankets, mod glitter boots and the spectacle was concluded with a mock launch of a life-size rocket.



SPACE AGE ILLUMINATION

Want to make an impact on a room? Start with this Molten chandelier that provides the perfectly artistic highlight from above. \$1,995. Photo and availability courtesy of Citrine Home.



DON'T BUY, RENT IT

Recently launched "by appointment only" designer handbag rental company, Rent That Bag, is offering fashionistas quick and easy access to a wide selection of designer bags including Prada, Yves Saint Laurent, Chanel, Gucci and many more. Featured here is the YSL "Belle De Jour" patent leather clutch in Bleu Roy which can be rented for a week for \$60 or a month for \$130. Photo and availability courtesy of Rent That Bag.

OUT OF THIS WORLD

We hope you kept your go-go boots because the 1960s Space Age trend is blasting fashionistas into outer space again. From rocket launches to astronaut and planetary motifs, *our cosmic couture style editor, Tori Johnson of TheSOCIETYDIARIES.COM* is going to take you "to infinity and beyond."

ROCKET POWER

It was the bag heard 'round the world. Fashionistas clamored for these rocket shaped minaudières that were the star of the Chanel Fall/Winter 2017 show in Paris. Price available upon request. Photo and availability courtesy of Chanel.



DISCO FEVER

The Oscar de la Renta crystal-covered spheres are elegantly party-ready. \$495. Photo and availability courtesy of Julian Gold.



UNIDENTIFIED FLYING FASHION

Christopher Kane's star print hoodie features artwork by Ionel Talpazan. \$695. Photo and availability courtesy of Christopher Kane.



SHIELD YOUR EYES

No need to worry about solar flares with these Dior "Diorizon" square sunglasses that feature 100% UVA/UVB protection. \$495. Photo and availability courtesy of Neiman Marcus.



Jane Fonda, Barbarella, 1968

READY FOR THE SILVER SCREEN

Go high shine this season with Petar Petrov's Elvia Metallic Silk Ruffle Blouse crafted in Italy. \$1,080. Photo and availability courtesy of The Modist.



SEEING STARS

Why not wish upon this star? This 14k white gold necklace features an 8-point pavé diamond star pendant set in the center of a 14" to 16" chain. \$400. Photo and availability courtesy of Lee Michaels.

WALKING ON CLOUD 9

Tabitha Simmons' ankle boots exemplify a contemporary flair in white Italian leather and "cool girl" buckles. \$1,095. Photo and availability courtesy of Tabitha Simmons.



NOW, FOR SOME COLOR PLAY

Lancome's "Midnight Rush" eyeshadow palette provides 5 different shades from neutral tones to bold pops of color. \$50. Photo and availability courtesy of Julian Gold.



PITCH IT BLACK

This limited-edition hand-draped cocktail dress in gunmetal is perfect for an evening out on the town. 20% of the proceeds benefit the Hurricane Harvey Relief Fund. \$1,600. Photo courtesy of Jack Opatrny Photography. Availability courtesy of Becky Hollands.

THE CAPTAIN'S CHAIR

Relax in this modern "elliptical chair" featuring comfortable and chic black leather and a mix of metal and wood. Classic, yet so futuristic. Pricing available upon request. Photo and availability courtesy of Stowers Furniture.



SOLAR SYSTEM FASHIONS

Gucci describes the new designs in its Pre-Fall '17 collection as "zigzagging from obscure worlds and cultures." The planet Saturn is depicted on this skirt in shimmering rainbow sequins. \$2,600. Photo and availability courtesy of Net-A-Porter.



ALIEN ACCESSORIES

A statement piece that is a bit more extraterrestrial — this Deepa Gurnani "Isha" necklace features a bib of silver scales, handcrafted moonstone, Swarovski crystals and more. \$420. Photo and availability courtesy of The Garden Room.



Dress by Paco Rabanne, 1966

CINEMA'S SCOPE

The new release that's already getting award season buzz, *Last Flag Flying*, is the latest cinematic triumph of Academy Award®-nominated director and Austin resident Richard Linklater. *Our own cinemaphile Rob Giardinelli* recently caught up with Linklater at Austin Film Studios to discuss his formative years during the Vietnam War and the complexities of it in everyday life... and how that affected the film.



Laurence Fishburne, Steve Carell and Bryan Cranston in *Last Flag Flying*

THE STORY FEATURES AN ALL-STAR cast that includes four Oscar-nominated actors in its ensemble: Steve Carell, Bryan Cranston, Laurence Fishburne and Cicely Tyson. Set in December 2003 during the second Iraq War, Steve Carell's character Larry "Doc" Shepherd's son dies in combat. Shepherd prepares to claim his son at Dover Air Force base, and enlists the help of two of his war buddies he hasn't seen in 30 years, alcoholic bar owner Sal Nealon (Bryan Cranston) and pastor Richard Mueller (Laurence Fishburne). Over the course of their journey to Dover, the three men embark on a road trip with twists and turns that are at times poignant, sad, humorous and reflective.

ROB GIARDINELLI: How did your formative years, when the Vietnam War was really happening, shape how you approached this film?

RICHARD LINKLATER: I remember as a kid that the war was the backdrop of everything. On the T.V. nightly news you would hear about how 39 soldiers had died in some place you couldn't quite pronounce. I had friends whose dads died in it and I saw some of my friends' older brothers get drafted and go off to war. A friend of mine, James, lost his older brother *and* his dad. Then there is the subject of the draft—by the time I was of draft age the war had been over for a while and there wasn't a draft anymore. The military was probably at an all-time low.



Richard Linklater.
Courtesy of Austin Film Society

RG: Those are indeed big life events and in the process of making a film about the effects of war, what was the greatest commonality that you found in them?

RL: In the film, two of these guys were drafted and Larry Jr. (Son of Steve Carell's character) signed up for it. Those relationships are the same...just with the guys with whom you know you're in the war.

Then there is also the love-hate relationship with the chain of command above you that is very common. No one gripes more about the military *than* the military—and for good reason. It's a huge bureaucracy and it's, you know, a big change. But they've earned the right, like anyone caught up in a huge bureaucracy, to feel that way. When it comes to being on field it can actually be like the main characters in the film. They can love it and then complain about it. That's very true of life when that love-hate thing never goes away.

RG: Much like the 30-year gap of time between the war buddies seeing each other in the film, how would you like *Last Flag Flying* to be remembered 30 years from now?

RL: Oh, wow. You never think about that sort of thing at the time while making a film, but I know there's probably this little genre of a war movie that is not on the battlefield...but at home. The fact that the soldiers are coming home, I'm thinking of certain movies, that don't take place in that arena. I think it will still be relevant because this relationship [with war] isn't ending anytime soon. The military, the soldiers, and the families of soldiers, sign up for the possibility of sacrifice.

RG: I keep thinking, and I don't know if this will change 30 years from now, but there is a line from the movie—one of the buddies says we're the only people in the world [in the U.S.] to ever occupy a campaign and expect it to be liberated.

RL: You know it's funny. In the film, President Jimmy Carter was the only guy who never bombed anyone. He was seen as weak and you could argue it cost him the [1980] election. But, no one died on his watch and we never talk about that. With the hostage situation then, I think most citizens would have been as happy if we'd gone in guns a-blazin' and killed people. To them that would have been a more satisfying result. They want action. They want blood. Let's face it: this is some fundamental flaw that we can't be too optimistic of ever changing. **S**



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THE ZEST OF ZACH

Celebrating its 85th anniversary, the Zachary Scott Theatre is on a roll with a stellar provenance and exemplary season ahead, as *our theatre enthusiast Lance Avery Morgan* shares. He should know, he was a child performer there and has reprised his talent for a brief time at this special landmark.

Photography courtesy of *Kirk Tuck*



Blake Spellacy, Sasha Hutchings and Luke Hawkins in *Singin' in the Rain* at ZACH Theatre. Photo by Kirk Tuck



Zachary Scott Theatre

IF YOU WERE BORN IN 1932, YOU'RE bound to have seen a few changes in your time. At least, in the case of Zachary Scott Theatre (known as ZACH), the changes during its 85-year tenure have been numerous. Founded as the Austin Civic Theatre, it is the longest continuously running theatre company in the state of Texas, and one of the ten oldest in the country. It was renamed Zachary Scott Theatre Center in 1968 in honor of Austin-raised, Academy Award-nominated film leading man Zachary Scott, who was best known for his popular 1940s films *Mildred Pierce* and *Cass Timberlane* while under contract to Warner Brothers in Hollywood's Golden Era.

Scott always remembered his Texas roots and as small world aside, my father knew the actor from his jaunts to the West Coast in the 1950s. Other famous names, from Jayne Mansfield to Mary Louise Parker have shared their thespian talents on the ZACH stage over the years, adding star luster to an already luminous organization.

Zachary Scott was quite a character, on and off the silver screen. He



Zachary Scott, 1940s



Holland Taylor in *ANN*. Photo by Kirk Tuck



Luke Hawkins, Sasha Hutchings and Cast in *Singin' in the Rain* at ZACH Theatre. Photo by Kirk Tuck



Zachary Scott and Joan Crawford on the set of *Mildred Pierce*, 1945. Warner Bros

was tall, handsome, erudite, came from family money and usually played the wealthy cad beloved by mid-century moviegoers. His acting was respected by his peers, his former wife went on to marry John Steinbeck, and his genial demeanor made him popular with the chic Beverly Hills and Manhattan sets where he had homes and split his time.

His legacy intact after his premature death in 1965, Scott's legacy would live on in Austin. In 1972, the 230-seat Kleberg Theatre opened at ZACH, and in the late 1980s the Whisenhunt Theatre, a new 130-seat theatre-in-the-round was added, as well as a classroom, administrative offices and costume shop space. In the early 1990s ZACH moved to professional status with Actors' Equity Association and was selected for a National Endowment for the Arts Advancement Grant. In 2012, the 420-seat Topfer Theatre opened with the largesse of philanthropists Bobbi and Mort Topfer.

THE SMELL OF GREASEPAINT

And, I was a child performer there. It was long before there were any children's theatre training programs or summer camps. My debut, in

The Man Who Came To Dinner, a riotous three act play about sophisticated New Yorkers who get sidelined in the Midwest was about as theatrical as it could get. I was surrounded by talented grown-ups like actress Demp Toney and a repertory company that entertained Austinites in another bygone era of the 70s and 80s. It was sheer heaven, so when ZACH asked me to play a walk-on role in *A Christmas Carol* this fall, it was an offer I couldn't refuse. So it was a full circle moment for me. "The only things you live to regret are the risks you didn't take," Zachary Scott once said, so it was all systems go.

As an adult who is most definitely not a theatrical talent these days, I'll admit I was nervous when I showed up for my first rehearsal. I realize even the most seasoned performers get the jitters, but the butterflies inside me seemed the vast size of a great migration from down Mexico way. Knowing the show must go on, I looked, listened and learned. Then looked, listened and learned some more. Taking to the stage as a non-professional performer is similar to being plopped into Shanghai and having to learn Mandarin right away. But the ZACH team couldn't have been more welcoming and fun, as the people and theatre usually are and I shall never forget "taking to the boards" and helping drive ticket sales.

So, it was off to several fittings and then rehearsal. Luckily, I performed the role at the same time as some other folks I knew who were also asked to join in the fun. And fun it was. The nervousness subsided once



A Christmas Carol

I donned my costume of a 19th century gentleman dandy who would have been as at ease on the sidewalks of Dickens' London as I was on the stage of ZACH. The show, a retelling of the classic holiday yarn, has been a huge hit for years and theatre goers return year after year. Once the excitement of the appearance subsided, I found the largesse of Zach's staff and the audience, to linger in my mind for some time about the community vibe the organization has created in the market.

THE SHOW MUST GO ON

Producing artistic director Dave Steakley says the secret to ZACH's success is simple. "We've had a role, pun intended, in this community in this community for a long time. In fact, it's been the epicenter culturally and socially since when the city was younger. So many people who were movers and shakers civically were involved in ZACH's early days and even now, the incredible group of supporters helps deepen those ties," shares Steakley.

With ZACH, like any successful performing arts organization, its success and position in the community is a numbers game. For instance: the 19,645 reduced price tickets that were provided to students from Title I and underserved schools. And the 25,000 pounds of scenery that were lifted by ZACH's backstage crew over a season. Then there's the 1,550 hours that were spent creating, altering, and repairing 1,500 individual costume pieces for season opener *Priscilla, Queen of the Desert* and 60 gallons of laundry detergent used to clean those costumes. In fact, 250 schools in 30 different school districts were reached through ZACH's Theatre for Families performances. That also means \$55,000 in scholarships were awarded to students entering its education camps and classes and 3,200 students registered for camps and classes between its main campus and ZACH North. You could call it a theatrical machine in this era of arts funding cuts.

Dave Steakley, a team leader and driver of ZACH's ongoing success encapsulates the new season of theatrical endeavors as such: "The title of *A Christmas Carol* may be familiar but the production will be fresh. The national tour from New York is different with the ZACH artists. We strive to be better every time," proclaims Steakley. Some of our hit selections like *The Great Society* or *All the Way* or *One Night With Janis Joplin* resonate with Central Texans. For the rest of 2017 and into 2018 we have *A Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-Time*, *Sunday in the Park with George*, *Heisenberg* and Disney's *Beauty and the Beast*. Steakley says it best about the appeal of this theatre, "Austin is a magnet for such creative individuals, and ZACH is the outlet for that creativity." **S**



Zachary Scott, far left and Joan Bennett, 2nd from right, 1952 in Austin TX. Photo by Neal Douglass, Courtesy of Austin History Center and Univ. of No. Texas Libraries



Karen Kukendall in *Full Gallop* at ZACH, 1999

WINTER'S WARMTH

Baby, it's cold outside, but the possibilities for warmth are endless...according to *our resident cuisine expert Josie Rees* who is on the scene to heat things up a bit.



FESTIVE HOT TODDY

- 4 cups apple cider
- 1 large orange, sliced
- 1/2 cup fresh cranberries (more for garnish)
- 3 springs of rosemary
- 1 teaspoon ground cinnamon (and 2 cinnamon sticks- if you have them)
- 4 1.5 oz. shots of Fireball or cinnamon-flavored whiskey

1. Place all ingredients minus the Fireball into a large pot. Turn to high heat and bring to a boil. Then, reduce to low and let simmer, uncovered, for 10-20 minutes or until cranberries begin to soften.
2. Add a shot of Fireball to 4 glasses and garnish with fresh cranberries, orange slice and cinnamon stick. Drink hot. **S**



MARBLE CRÈME COFFEE CAKE

Cake

- 1 cup unsalted butter, softened
- 2 cups granulated sugar
- 2 1/2 tsp. pure vanilla extract
- 4 large eggs
- 1/2 cup sour cream
- 2 3/4 cups all-purpose flour
- 1 1/2 tsp baking powder
- 1/2 tsp baking soda
- 3/4 cup milk
- 1 tsp salt
- 1/4 cup cocoa powder

Glaze

- * 1 1/2 cup of powdered sugar
- * 3 tbsp. of milk or water
- * 2 tsp of vanilla extract

Place an oven rack just below center and pre-heat to 325 degrees. Grease a bundt cake pan thoroughly with cooking spray and set aside. In a large bowl, or the bowl of a stand mixer, cream butter and sugar together for about five minutes until very light and fluffy.

1. Add vanilla and eggs, one at a time, mixing well after each addition. Stir in sour cream and set aside.

2. Sift flour, baking powder, baking soda and salt together in a separate bowl. Add half of flour mixture to wet mixture and fold gently to mix. Pour in milk and stir until combined, and then fold in the remaining flour mixture until just combined. Divide cake batter evenly between the two bowls. Stir 1/4 cup cocoa powder into one half of the batter.
3. Dollop large scoops of cake batter into the prepared Bundt pan, alternating between the chocolate and vanilla. Once all batter is in the pan, tap pan on the countertop to force any trapped air bubbles out and to help settle batter into the pan.
4. Use a skewer or butter knife to drag and swirl batter together to create a marbled effect. Bake 50–60 minutes, until a cake tester comes out with a few moist crumbs attached. Remove from oven and allow the cake to cool in the pan for 5 minutes before turning it out onto a cooling rack to cool completely.
5. When cake is completely cool, place powdered sugar, milk (or water). Add vanilla and stir until the glaze is smooth and glossy.
6. Pour glaze evenly over the top of the Bundt cake and allow glaze to set about 10 minutes before slicing. Enjoy.



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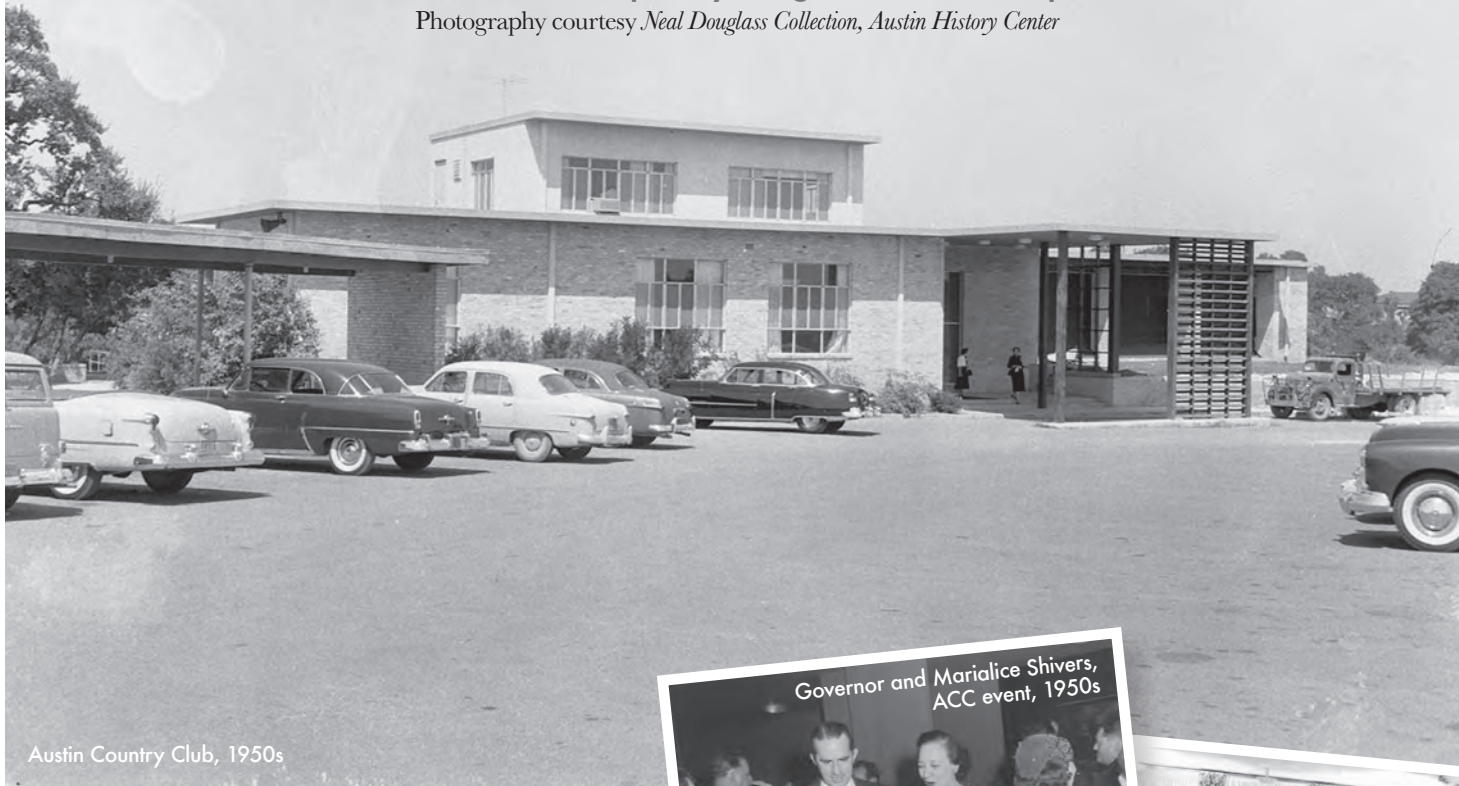
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THE SPORTING LIFE

When the Austin Country Club was in its midcentury growth mode, the city looked east for social activities. *Our vintage chronicler Lori Duran looks back at how the club evolved into the hot spot of society activities that included plenty of governors and presidents.*

Photography courtesy *Neal Douglass Collection, Austin History Center*



Austin Country Club, 1950s

TODAY, MOST DRIVE PAST IT WITHOUT NOTICING. But for more than 30 years, one of the chicest addresses in Austin was a green, tree-rimmed spot on East Riverside Drive that was home to the Austin Country Club. Designed with a sleek midcentury trim, its clubhouse, pool, tennis club and members lounge saw countless parties, receptions and just plain power brokering.

Odell Rowe, one of the club's former employees, remembered that in 1968 or 1969 President Lyndon Baines Johnson and wife Lady Bird attended a major function hosted by Governor and Mrs. Allan Shivers at the Riverside Drive location. He added that Secret Service men were everywhere among the 700 people in attendance. What he remembered from working that night is they were not allowed to pour President Johnson a drink out of an already opened bottle. For security purposes, they had to open a new bottle of Chivas Regal every time he had a drink. Odell also remembered Mr. Shivers as a very nice man. In the 2000s I made my way to the Riverside Golf Course, which is located at the site of the former country club, for lessons. The first



Governor and Marialice Shivers, ACC event, 1950s



The card room at ACC

lesson was at the putting green, which was the same one where Ben Crenshaw and Tom Kite honed their skills. Over the following week's lessons, I learned from the golf pros what they knew about the former country club and what remained of it.

THE EARLY DAYS

The Austin Country Club was located on Riverside Drive from 1950 to 1984. In the early years, Riverside was a two-lane country road. Perhaps the country club should never have moved there from

continued...



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their original cramped location on 41st street (where Hancock Golf Course and Hancock Mall are now.) Austin businessman Commodore Perry correctly predicted that the cedar and oak-covered hills in northwest Austin would become Austin's prime residential destination. He tried to encourage the club to move to his 300-acre Bull Creek Road development. But instead, they moved to Riverside Drive. On February 5, 1950, *The Austin American Statesman* recorded the grand opening of the Austin Country Club on Riverside. There was an extravagant dinner dance in their modern brick clubhouse building that formally opened the new venue.

The club stayed on Riverside Drive for the next 34 years before leaving for Davenport Ranch. After they departed, the Riverside Drive club location became an Austin Community College site with a golf course. Becoming part of a community college required alterations to the golf course and the clubhouse, and filling in the swimming pool. However, it doesn't take long to discover what was left behind and is still recognizable.

AND NOW, TODAY

The biggest remnant is the 18-hole golf course itself. It has been modified to accommodate the growth of Austin Community College, but most of the holes are still the same and it's still a beautiful golf course with gentle rolling hills and tall trees with a creek that flows through it.

The clubhouse building is still there. It is recognizable despite a few updates such as the removal of the second-floor apartment and a new roof. You can see where the patio was. The porte-cochere is still there to provide a covered drop-off at the front door and one can guess the



The golf course at ACC, 1950s

original whereabouts of the 19th hole bar, the teen room, the ballroom and other club facilities.

Directly behind the clubhouse is the original putting green, the pro-shop and the golf cart storage shed. They are still there despite the buildings showing their age. The tennis courts are still in front of the clubhouse to the east and nearby it's easy to notice that several Montopolis streets have golf-related names such as Fairway, Caddie, Clubview, Hogan and more. On the south end of the golf course, Penick Drive is still there with the same seven houses that stood when the country club was open. The famous golf pro of the club, Harvey Penick's old house is still there and Country Club Drive itself still partially remains as well.



Members of ACC, 1950s

During the 1960s the Riverside Drive location of the Austin Country Club was busy both with golf and social events, but by the 1970s the social events were scarce. By 1978 the club determined that 78% of its members were coming from north of 35th street and west of Lamar Blvd. Plus, there were other golfing clubs opening in Austin and not as many people were making the trek to Riverside. Revenue was down, and a country clubhouse needs to book weddings, parties and other social events to be profitable. So, the decision was made to relocate the club further west to be closer to their clientele. In 1984, Austin Country Club broke ground at Davenport Ranch where the club was once-again reborn, and remains the crown jewel of that development to this day.

To discover more interesting history about Austin Country Club, look for the book *One Hundred Years of Champions and Change: The History of the Austin Country Club.* **S**



A *grand* celebration

1. Susan Franklin, Rosemary Kowalski, Margaret Cluck 2. Tracy Wolff, Honorable Nelson Wolff, Honorable Marilyn Barnard, Honorable Kevin Wolff 3. Jim Gorman, Tena Gorman, Susan Franklin, Aubra Franklin 4. Marilyn Eldridge, Susan Franklin, Lynn Huntress 5. Aubra Franklin, Susan Franklin, Dr. Bill Henrich, Bill Moll 6. Aubra Franklin 7. Carolyn Biegler, Jack Biegler 8. Deborah Amini, Gayle Embrey 9. Honorable Sandee Bryan Marion, Susan Franklin, Aubra Franklin 10. Honorable Luz Elena Chapa, Susan Franklin 11. Steve Lee, Susan Franklin, Aubra Franklin, Jean Lee 12. Ribbon-cutting ceremony 13. Virtuoso pianists Dr. Anya Grokowski, Dr. Alina Gorina



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Paul Newman, 1960s

THE CASE FOR KHAKIS

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LIKE, THAT'S SO 80s

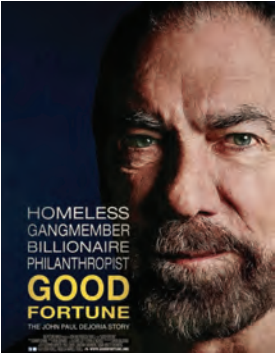
Nostalgia for the 80s is back in a big way. To get in the mood, we suggest adding these Top 10 favorites to your iTunes playlist.

- Perfect Way* by Scritti Politti ('85);
- Look of Love* by ABC ('82);
- What I Like About You* by The Romantics ('80)
- One Thing Leads to Another* by The Fixx ('83)
- You Spin Me 'Round* by Dead or Alive ('84)
- Shout To The Top* by Style Council ('84)
- Bust a Move* by Young M.C. ('89)
- Nasty* by Janet Jackson ('86)
- Love Shack* by The B-52's ('89)
- I Want to Know What Love Is* by Foreigner ('84)



SPEAKING OF BESPOKE

"If I did not design my own men's collection, I would have virtually my entire wardrobe made on Savile Row," says Austin native and designer Tom Ford who created the foreword for the new tome, *BESPOKE* (Thames & Hudson, \$40). And, we couldn't agree more to a having a handmade anything, especially this definitive story of the tailors, customers, and clothes of Savile Row.



GOOD FORTUNE INDEED

You likely recognize John Paul DeJoria from his brands that are as unique as his persona. But do you know what makes the billionaire entrepreneur and philanthropist really tick from all he has accomplished? Check out the recent documentary film about him, *Good Fortune* at Amazon.

5-STAR GETAWAY

Lake Austin Spa Resort is the destination of the rich, famous and those who want to heal their minds and souls with world-class spa treatments. Now you can get there by the resort's new speedboat service. How cool is that? (Photography courtesy of Lake Austin Spa Resort) For more information visit LakeAustin.com.



Photography courtesy of Lake Austin Spa Resort



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Kuper



CELEBRATING CENTURIES

San Antonio Tri-Centennial Celebration Honors Communities and History

By Jonathan Spindel Artwork by Franco Mondini



ON NEW YEAR'S EVE 2017, SAN ANTONIO OFFICIALLY kicked off the highly anticipated celebrations for the city's Tricentennial. Downtown San Antonio was taken over with majestic projections on buildings, dazzling lighting and festive decorations, concluding with a show-stopping fireworks show at midnight. As the days tick down to the three-hundredth anniversary of Presidio San Antonio de Bexar on May 5th, the city will host exceptional events and activities, altogether a worthy addition to San Antonio's legacy signature Fiesta celebrations.

Since its formation in 2015, the Tricentennial Commission has been planning a variety of community arts and cultural events with the help of local organizers. Community organizations and individuals will be closely involved in hosting an array of events, including public art unveilings, performances, and other activities to honor the city's 300th anniversary. This is an opportunity to really highlight who San Antonio is as a community... those things that make the city unique.

The festivities will be capped by a Commemorative Week celebration from May 1-6, each day honoring a different thematic element of San Antonio's history.


On May 1, the day that Mission de San Antonio de Valero – the Alamo – was founded in 1718, a citywide celebration will highlight the diverse religious groups found across San Antonio, as congregations from all over the city will invite the public into their places of worship. After that, Mayor Ron Nirenberg will officiate the burying of the official Tricentennial Time Capsule that will serve as a beacon for generations to come when it is opened and this era is revealed.

On May 2, programs will focus on the history and educational aspect of the festivities. A San Antonio commemorative book, published in collaboration with Trinity University Press, will debut along with a curriculum for San Antonio's young students to gain a more comprehensive understanding of the city's history.

May 3 is Founders Day, celebrating the founding figures of San Antonio as well as the city's sister city relationships. The commission is planning a special gala and has invited the King and Queen of Spain to attend.

On Friday, May 4, arts and culture groups, including musicians, visual artists, performers, and others, will portray their interpretation of the essence of San Antonio and its artistic and cultural influence on its residents. The day will conclude with fireworks and a special concert at Hemisfair's Civic Park, where a surprise A-list performer will take the stage in front of the Torch of Friendship.

May 5 will honor the contributions of the missions in San Antonio. Throughout the World Heritage Site, there will be five miles of musical entertainment, health and fitness activities, and tours culminating in fireworks over every Mission at night. Finally, May 6 will focus on the military and the city's rich military history, with special honors to the residents and families who serve our country.

Stay tuned to learn more about upcoming events between now and the culminating Tricentennial celebrations. These will truly be must-see events that will provide memories for a lifetime. For more information, visit SanAntonio300.org 



Tracy Williams



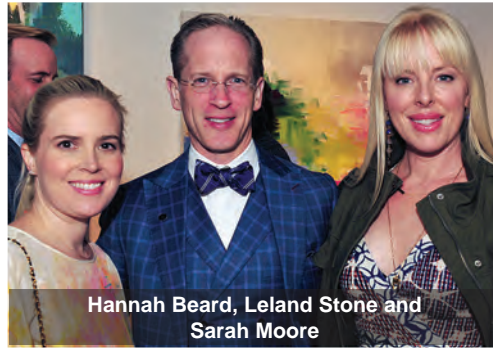
James Warner, Sherrie Johnson and Kellie Mery



Britt Kleberg and Dr. Sara McCamish



Courtney and Steve Ogle



Hannah Beard, Leland Stone and Sarah Moore



Linda Blount and Shannon Benton

THE ARTIST'S WAY

Artist Tracy Williams Debuts San Antonio Show

By *Jake Gaines* | Photography by *Greg Harrison*



Gigi Boothe and Veronika Kovacs



Amit and Sonali Mehta

TRACY WILLIAMS IS AN ARTIST WHOSE EXCEPTIONAL brushstrokes give life to vivid harmonies of color and motion—her ethereal fields of color convey a joyful serenity that brightens the canvas, and indeed the room where the paintings are displayed. It's no surprise that she creates such remarkable pieces—with talent inherited from an artistic family history, and an eye honed by career in interior design, Williams creates beautiful compositions that are beloved by collectors, designers and artists alike.

“I like to generate positive, happy thoughts with my art and inspire people to reflect on where they're going and where they've been,” she shares. “Discovering new cohesive, yet unexpected contrasting palettes is my favorite part of the process.” Williams grew up surrounded by family with a deeply rooted appreciation for the visual arts. She fondly remembers her great aunt, an oil painter who produced both Texas landscapes and abstract works.

Williams inherited paintbrushes from her aunt in the late 90s, and although Tracy has always had a profound love for fashion, design, and color, these brushes were her first form of artistic expression. She found feelings of euphoria and liberation with her first brush strokes—and now captures that feeling in each painting she creates to this day.

Williams has always been drawn to the painters and pieces of the Abstract Expressionist era, including Rothko, Mitchell, deKooning, and Diebenkorn. From a young age, she has always enjoyed inspiration from Henri Matisse.

During her career in interior design, she began to paint more and more; in fact, one of her first pieces was commissioned by one of her clients. She went on to show her work in galleries from Santa Fe to San Antonio, where she has now been exhibiting works for over seven years.

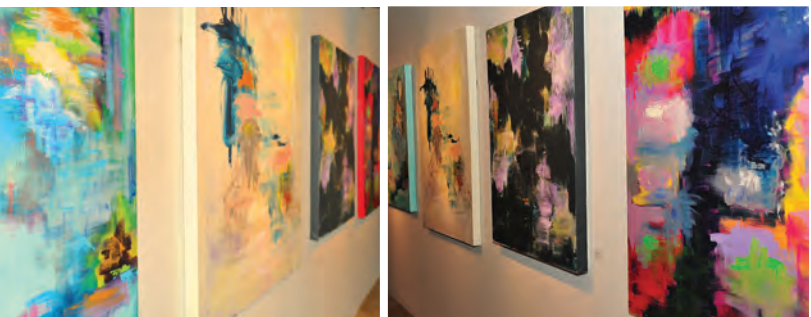
Williams lives in San Antonio with her husband, Jack, and their three daughters. Her latest exhibition is on display at The Roosevelt Library through January 2018. For more about Tracy Williams' work, visit TracyWilliamsContemporary.com **S**



Tina Lyons and Tracy Williams



Alexis Andres & Damien and Lisa Watel



PROMOTE



Earrings by Nicole Mera



Soonalyn Jacob, Nikki Swift, Coury Jacob and Jinnyn Jacob



Nikki Swift



Rosemary's Catering



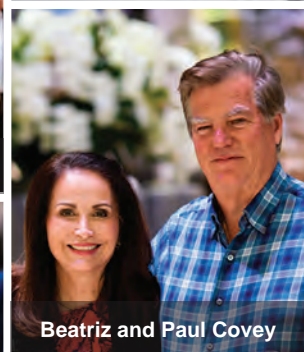
Cassie Kraft, Camilla Labatt, Morgan Mayberry, Nikki Swift, Alicia McNab and Amanda Lewis



Sallie Lewis Longoria and Amanda Lewis



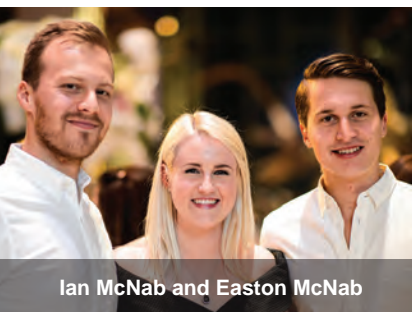
Bobby and Caroleene Dobson & Katie Reynolds



Beatriz and Paul Covey



Paula Miller



Ian McNab and Easton McNab



DIAMONDS AND DINOSAURS

Private Jeweler Nicole Mera Hosts Luxury Launch At San Antonio's Witte Museum

By Eleanora Morrison | Photography by Chris Bailey

THE WITTE MUSEUM IN SAN ANTONIO WAS RECENTLY TRANSFORMED to host the dazzling luxury launch event for Nicole Mera, a private jeweler that specializes in custom fine jewelry and exceptional gems. The graduate gemologist behind the brand, Nikki Swift, is a San Antonio native and has returned from California with her exquisite Los Angeles–crafted pieces in tow. Mera's creative team was in attendance from California to educate guests about her brand, the customization process and the fine jewelry on display.

The Naylor Family Dinosaur Gallery was glimmering with light reflecting from rows of diamond displays as guests arrived at dusk to “look, learn and linger.” Lisa Newburn Events coordinated the interactive soirée down to the finest detail, working with a collection of vendors throughout Texas to evoke an atmosphere where classic sophistication met modern luxe.

David Kurio of Austin designed the cascading orchid arrangements that complimented the coloration theme of soft pinks and metallic hues: nothing about this launch lacked luster.

During a reception at the Witte's Valero Great Hall, guests enjoyed an array of specialty by Rosemary's Catering. The butler-passed hors d'oeuvres including duck rillettes cones, poke, squash blossoms, & lobster cheesecake before six food areas opened that included a local & imported artisan cheese & charcuterie area, a chef-attended Beef Wellington ravioli station, an area of hanging pizza, a biscotti fondue station and a dessert area featuring cinnamon café au lait.

For more information visit NicoleMera.com

Inspired by you, created by Nicole Mera.



NICOLE  MERA

PROMOTE



Ray Benson and Asleep At The Wheel

HILL COUNTRY HAPPENING

Hi Tech Motorcars' Luxury Spin

By Jake Gaines | Photography courtesy of Hi Tech Motors

RECENTLY, 125 OF THE WORLD'S FINEST AUTOMOBILES zoomed through the Hill Country in a single file line during Hi Tech Motorcar's First Annual Customer Appreciation Hill Country Cruise Event.

The luxury performance dealership highlighted their brands by inviting connoisseurs of high-end of cars like Porsche, Audi, Rolls Royce, Bentley, Aston Martin, Lotus, and Maserati to meet at the Hill Country Galleria and cruise out west to the Albert Dance Hall in Albert for food from Salt Lick BBQ, local craft beer, and live music from legendary country artist Ray Benson and Asleep At The Wheel.

That 57-mile drive was a treat for the motorists as they departed the city to push the limits of their supercars while enjoying a scenic tour of the Texas Hill Country. Residents of Blanco got a kick out of seeing these luxe vehicles pass through their town on the way to Albert Dance Hall just 14 miles up the road.

Ray Benson and his band preformed at noon, turning the drivers into dancers inside the historic Albert Dance Hall. After that, they were on the road again with some returning to Austin and others continuing to Fredericksburg and the area's other surrounding points of interest.

Embracing their automotive enthusiast clients, Hi Tech Motorcars successfully presented an experience that brought drivers closer to their vehicles. The Austin-based, family-run, automotive dealer group deals exclusively in luxury performance vehicles. The exalted brands represented by Hi Tech Motorcars include Audi, Aston Martin, Bentley, Maserati, Porsche, Lotus and Rolls-Royce.

For more information, visit HiTechMotorcars.com 



Ray Benson





PROMOTE

Michael and Laurie Kaplan & Linda and Tim Marcus

JAZZ AGE

Serenity And Fun At La Cantera

By Shannon Miller Turner | Photography by Greg Harrison

RECENTLY, LA CANTERA RESORT AND SPA SET A SMOOTH tone for the holiday season with a jazz concert by internationally-acclaimed jazz saxophonist, Paul Taylor.

The spectacular seasonal concert set the stage for the annual ceremony celebrating the lighting of the holiday tree on Plaza San Saba.

A selection of treats abounded, along with various children's activities and portraits with Santa, all of which completed the perfect picture for a holiday event benefiting The DoSeum, a local children's charitable organization. **S**



Andres and Sonya Munoz



Travis and Sarah Grebe



Yvette Gonzalez



Trudy Madan



Paul Taylor



Michelle Robertson and Terry Holden

PROMOTE



Amber Thomas and Kelly Wade Fry



Triana Grossman, Ashley Weaver and Jolie Flavin



Linda Leavitt, Christine Tyng, Shannon Stephens, Kelly Wade Fry, Marian Amini, Carol McDonald and Jackie Broussard



GEM DANDIES

Kelly Wade Jewelers Hosts Sparkling Event

By Shannon Miller Turner | Photography by Greg Harrison

KELLY WADE FRY, CERTIFIED GEMOLOGIST AND OWNER of Kelly Wade Jewelers, provides more than just a beautiful mix of contemporary and classic pieces. She provides a connection to one's past while incorporating her clients' personal style to carry forward for future generations.

Her love of jewelry is one she inherited from her mother whom she lost at the tender age of seven. "I loved playing with her jewelry," she recalls. "It made me feel close to her after she was gone." Today, that love has manifested itself in a way that would surely make her mother proud.

Kelly Wade Jewelers opened in November 2017 and provides its patrons with everything from timeless classics to more of-the-moment styles all showcased in her boutique located in the Uptown Alamo Heights shopping center on Broadway in San Antonio.

For more information visit KellyWadeJewelers.com 



Claudia Kiolbasa, Christine Tyng and Carolina Roberts



Lilly Muecke



THE PLACE TO BE

Phyllis Browning Company Celebrates New Headquarters

By *Jake Gaines* | Photography by *Greg Harrison*

WHAT HAPPENS WHEN THE PERFECT FOLKS TO FIND a new home are the ones who need new headquarters? At Phyllis Browning Co. that meant relocating to both Alamo Heights and Shavano Park, and a celebration to commemorate the move.

The company set up operations in an Alamo Heights office building at 6061 Broadway, relocating from an older building just across the street. In addition, agents also took up residence in the Pond Hill building at 4372 N. Loop 1604 West, Suite 102, at the intersection with Northwest Military Highway. The company's growth and a vibrant housing market in both areas prompted the dual relocations into state-of-the-art facilities.

"We've actually been in Alamo Heights 29 years," CEO Phyllis Browning said about the move. "We've built a new building because the other building became antiquated and was not serving our growth and needs anymore, so we decided to build a new office. It's pretty exciting. Technology plays a bigger role than ever before in the real estate business, she shares. "We have a lot of new state-of-the-art features that were not there previously," Browning shared.

The real estate firm has about 200 agents and six locations across the greater San Antonio area. The new building in Alamo Heights is 9,500 square feet and was designed by Overland Partners; Joeris General Contractors handled the construction. "This is a growing, expanding area, and it puts Phyllis Browning Co. and all the outstanding agents that serve this area in an excellent location," agent Ann Van Pelt said. "The office is also equipped to do business in the 21st century, with the same equipment and furnishings as the Alamo Heights office. This gives the company a very consistent, inviting environment to work in and greet our guests." **S**



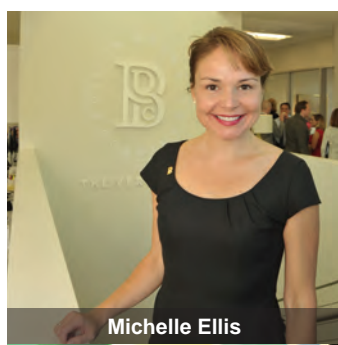
Art and Pam Burdick



Chris and Paige Berry



Phyllis Browning and Jennifer Shemwell



Michelle Ellis



Ann Van Pelt and John McCusker



Kimberley Blohm, Adam Biechlin, Phyllis Browning, Jennifer Shemwell, Michelle Ellis, Deborah Heifner and Justin Budd



Sharon Thurmond and Anne Krause



Nancy Oberman, Cynthia Marmolejo and David Moore



Gail Gifford and Debbie Margozewitz



Kim Azar, Jennifer Shemwell, Alison Barrow and Kristin Kellum



Teddy Seales



Johnny Triesch, Steve Milam, Carol Triesch, Greg Stevens & Vivian and Braden Graham

LANDMARK CELEBRATION

Ken Batchelor Celebrates Landmark Birthday

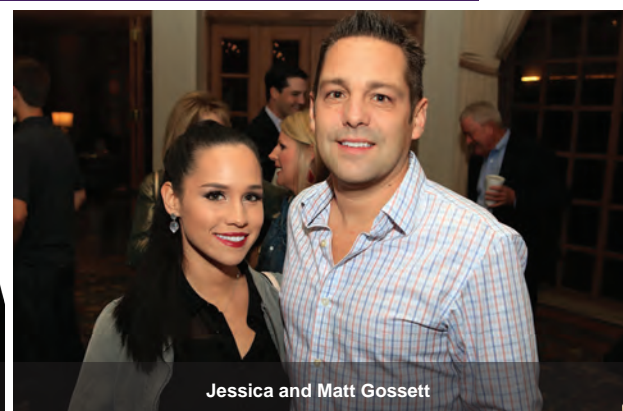
By *Jake Gaines* | Photography by *Jeffrey Truitt*

THE SCENE:

It was a special night to remember when Ken Batchelor celebrated a landmark birthday. The Dominion Country Club served as the venue for the gathering as an all-female mariachi band, Mariachi Las Altenas, serenaded guests as they arrived. The cuisine was catered by the club, including the signature cocktail, the Mexican 75.



Gavin Scott, Kendall Batchelor and Robbie Casey



Jessica and Matt Gossett



Ken and Sharron Batchelor



Tawana Timberlake and Carroll Dorsey Walker



Robert Fleming, Lilli Phillips and Alex Fleming



Mariachis Las Altenas



Dwayne Barrilleaux and Marty Haggard



Harrison Taylor, Clayton Taylor, Ava Taylor & Tanya and John Taylor



Tibaut and Shelly Bowman & Lee Phillips



Nathan and Brittany Skloss



Claudia Nolan, Steve and Joanne Musgraves and Rhonda Kendall



Coltan Batchelor, Jack Gruber and Eric Batchelor



Sharron Batchelor and Justin McDaniel



Chelsea Batchelor and Dax Batchelor



Colea Podoloff, Caleb Podoloff, Clara Podoloff and Mike Podoloff



Coltan Batchelor, Parker Batchelor, Kim Batchelor and Olivia Batchelor



Beverly Bacak and Tanya Taylor



THE VIBE:

A moving tribute was made as visuals from Batchelor's life were presented. Afterward, something special happened: performers Marty Haggard, son of country music legend Merle Haggard, and Teddy Seales took to the stage to perform. Among many favorites, the highlight number was *Road Less Traveled*, a song written especially for Ken Batchelor's special day by Seale, also from Kermit. The song was fitting given that Batchelor's own life has been a series of roads he traveled to become a model citizen.

Ken Batchelor was born and raised in Kermit, a small town in the oilfields of West Texas. He graduated from Sul Ross State University where he studied on a football scholarship. He then moved to the Dallas area after completing his Army active duty. He was in the same reserve unit as Carl Sewell, and they became friends. Sewell convinced Batchelor to become a salesman at Sewell Village Cadillac and after three years, he became the sales manager.

Later he was awarded the new Cadillac franchise in San Antonio with Sewell as his partner, naming it Ken Batchelor Cadillac. As Ken Batchelor shares, "I have been extremely blessed and successful since then. We have earned many awards and have seen the Sewell organization grow to 17 dealerships in Dallas/Ft. Worth, Houston, and San Antonio regions."

Ken and his wife Sharron Batchelor have eight children: Eric, Chelsea, Colea, Colton and Kendall, as well as Greg, Justin, and Tanya. They also enjoy spending time with their 15 grandchildren. **S**

HOST: HOUSTON



Laura Greenberg



Frederick Smith and Neal Hamil

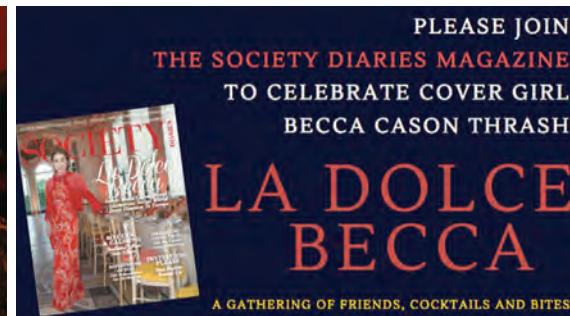


COVER GIRL

The Society Diaries With Gary And Elizabeth Petersen
Host Soirée Honoring Becca Cason Thrash
By Rob Giardinelli | Photography by Erin Wiese



Nick and Dominique Florescu



Lance Avery Morgan, Elizabeth Petersen, John and Becca Thrash, Gary Petersen and Rob Giardinelli



Cenk Ozdagon, Tatiana Green and Duyen Nguyen



Hannah McNair, Joanne King Herring and Joanna Marks



Terry Wayne-Jones, Fran Lichtenstein and Marnie Greenwood



Joel Kalmin and Chree Boydston



Valerie Fuller and Courtney Hopson



Amy and Jim Lee



Becca Cason Thrash



Laura Sweeney and Sheridan Williams



Tony Gibson and Debbie Festari

THE SCENE:

The River Oaks estate of Gary and Elizabeth Petersen was the setting for a memorable evening that celebrated one of Houston's most venerable and beloved philanthropists. Over 250 of the city's social and philanthropic elite were on hand to honor the iconic Becca Cason Thrash, who was the subject of the wildly popular November/December 2017 cover of *The Society Diaries*.



Todd Fiscus and Ceron



Fady Armanious and Shannon Hall



Jennifer Roosth and Amber Elliott



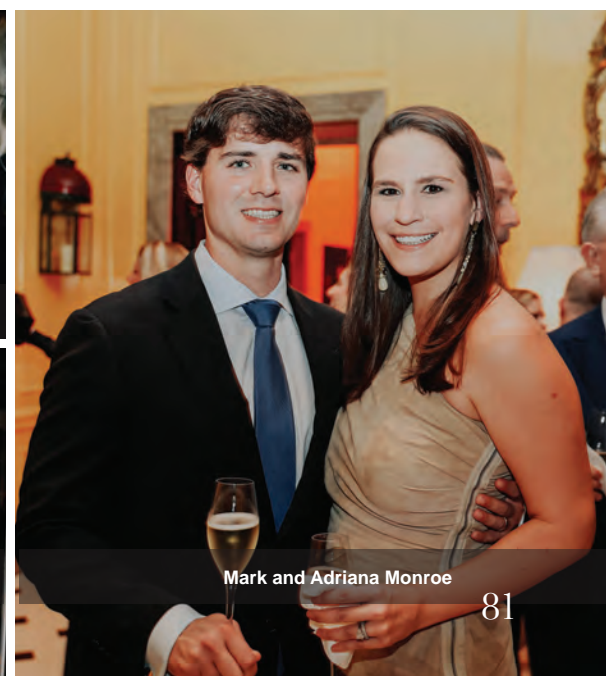
Sebiha Rehmatulla and Elizabeth Dorey



Greggory Burk and Suzy Simons



Paul and Katherine Murphy



Mark and Adriana Monroe

HOST: HOUSTON



Alfred Robinson IV and Diane Lokey Farb



JD Adamson



Annie Amante, Elizabeth Petersen and Glen Gonzalez




Todd Brooks and Joanna Barrett

THE VIBE:

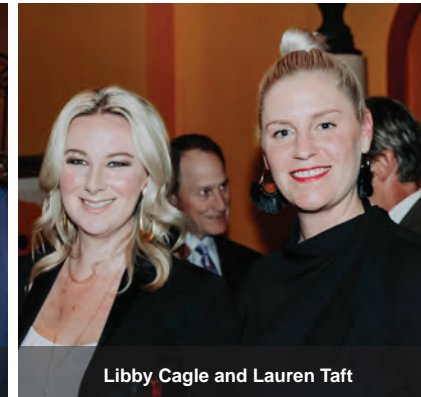
Upon entering the foyer of the Gatsby-era home, partygoers were warmly greeted by hostess with the mostest, Becca Cason Thrash. The wide range VIP's who attended sported their chicest cocktail attire, which was perfectly befitting of both the guest of honor and Houston's most significant homes. The women wore a mix of luxe cocktail dresses and chic pantsuits with a Texas edge, while the men looked dapper in a mix of suits and velvet sport coats. Fashion maven Thrash herself donned Dolce Gabbana Alta Moda couture.

Mingling about the ground-floor of the Petersen home, as guests made their way through each of the color-themed rooms, they encountered more members of the who's who of Houston society than the one preceding it. Café Annie catered the affair and exotic desserts were provided by 7. The cocktails flowed from both international brands and favorites like Hennessy V.S.O.P Privilège and Chloe Wines, as well as Spec's Liquor.

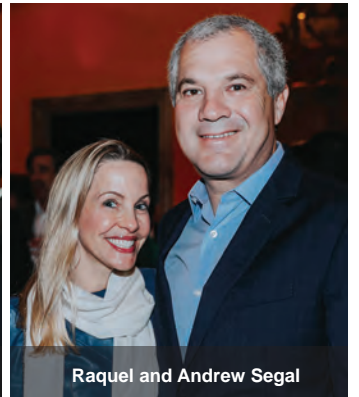
The evening was capped with Thrash ascending the foyer staircase with The Society Diaries' Lance Avery Morgan to toast her cover, the success of the two-city European gala she chaired and most importantly, to share her gratitude for her husband, John Thrash and the hundreds of friends on hand to honor a woman who has made her life's purpose one that does so much for so many. 



Dan Moody and Jay Jones



Libby Cagle and Lauren Taft



Raquel and Andrew Segal



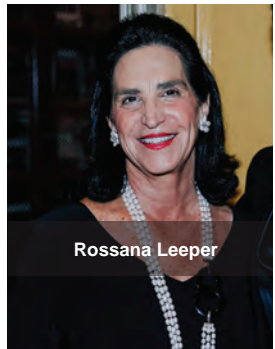
Rob Rutherford, Becca Cason Thrash and John Evatz



1. Eleanora Leeper Morrison and Harry Leeper



Nancy Golden



Rossana Leeper



Vivian Wise and Aaron Smith



Paul Getty and Mark D. Sullivan



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3659 Meadow Lake, *River Oaks (coming Fall 2018)*

ENTRANCE: DALLAS



Quinn Tivey, Cyrus Hadjesmaili and Dr. Gary Tigges

TWO BY TOO MUCH FUN

Annual Two X Two Raises Over \$7.3M for amfAR

By Rob Giardinelli | Photography by McKenzie Coronado Photography



THE SCENE:

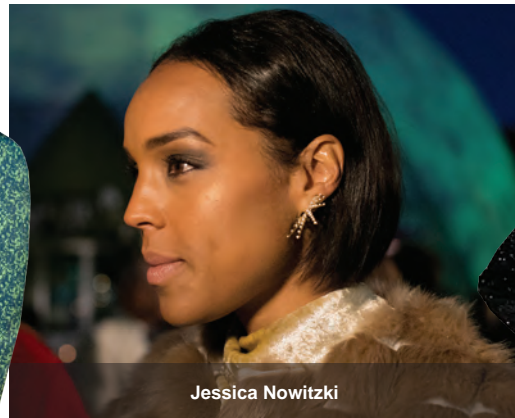
The Dallas home of philanthropists Cindy and Howard Rachofsky set the stage for a weekend full of fun and incredible fundraising. The 19th annual Two X Two for AIDS and Art gala, which attracted over 500 of Dallas' most notable, was an evening those on hand will not soon forget.



Cindy and Howard Rachofsky



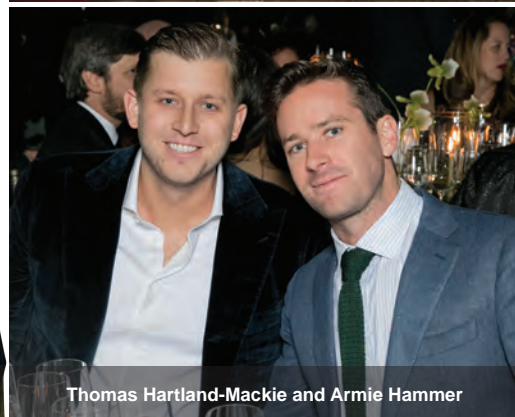
Deedie Rose and Gavin Delahunty



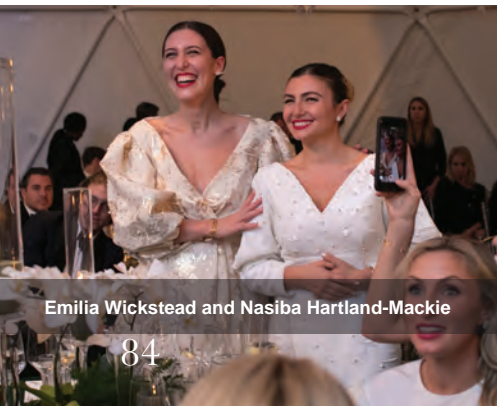
Jessica Nowitzki



Elizabeth Chambers Hammer



Thomas Hartland-Mackie and Armie Hammer



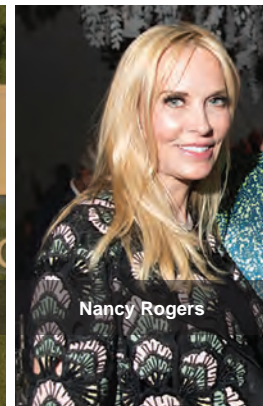
Emilia Wickstead and Nasiba Hartland-Mackie



Dr. Agustín Arteaga



Drew and Melissa Ireland



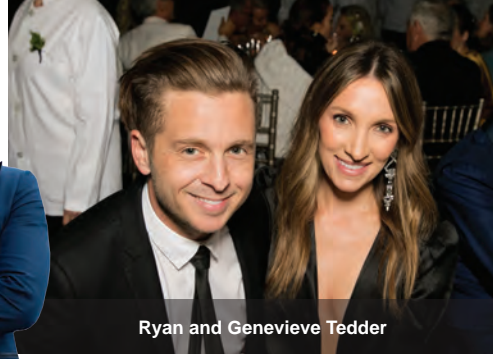
Nancy Rogers



Rosie Assoulin, Mary Katrantzou and Emilia Wickstead



Jorg Grimm, Kirsten Zwignenburg, Elizabeth Lancaster and Nish de Gruiter



Ryan and Genevieve Tedder



Will Cromley, Michael Patrick and Meghan Looney



Charlie and Moll Anderson



David Kordansky and Jonas Wood



Claire Olshan and Josephine Stevenson Kalisman



THE VIBE:

As the black-tie clad partygoers entered the grounds of the Rachofsky estate, they encountered the geodesic dome designed by Todd Fiscus, which provided a verdant garden backdrop to pose for pictures. The impressive art on display for the silent auction during the Dom Pérignon and Belvedere cocktail reception dazzled guests, too.

As guests took their seats for their multi-course dinner, master of ceremonies and actor Armie Hammer effortlessly kept the evening moving as VIPs made their remarks including hosts Cindy and Howard Rachofsky and event chairs Nasiba and Thomas Hartland-Mackie. The action then turned to the live auction, conducted by Chairman of Sotheby's Europe, Oliver Barker. During the course of the live auction, *Pink Plant Patio Landscape Pot* by 2017 amfAR nominee James Wood fetched an astonishing \$1.2 million.

THE CAUSE:

The event raised a mind-blowing \$7.3 million dollars for amfAR, the foundation for AIDS research, which seeks to achieve breakthroughs in finding a cure for AIDS by 2020 through their "Countdown to a Cure for AIDS." **S**



Kevin Robert Frost



Oliver Barker

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The Charity Ball Association 2017



Betty Venson, President
The Charity Ball
Association, 2017



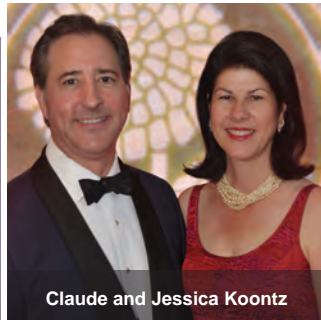
FLORAL FANTASY

Charity Ball Association Celebrates Million Dollar Fundraising

By Shannon Miller Turner | Photography by Greg Harrison and Ansen Seale

THE SCENE:

The Mays Family Center at The Witte Museum was the picture-perfect setting for the 63rd annual Chrysanthemum Ball celebrating over one million dollars in grants given this year by The Charity Ball Association to 24 children's charities in Bexar County.



Claude and Jessica Koontz



Rita and John Feik



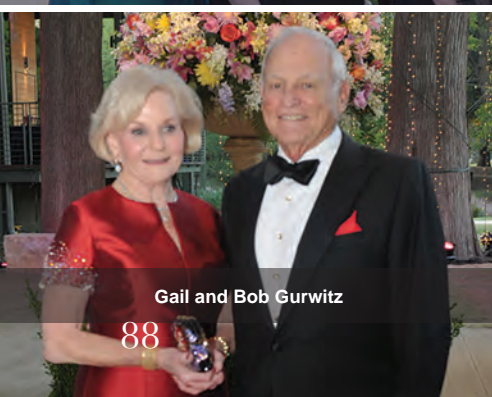
Toby and John Tate



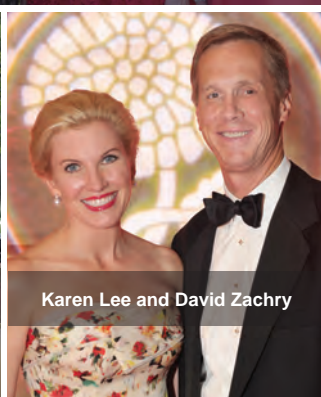
Betty and Mike Venson



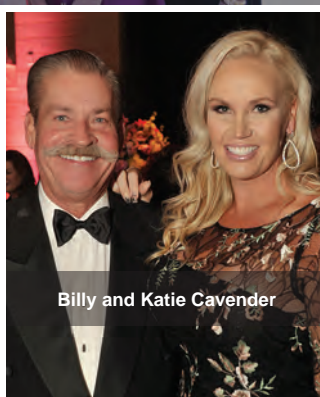
Anna-Laura Block, Terrie Musselman, Kelly Kennedy, Betty Venson, Estee Kellogg, Helen Eversberg and Leslie Kingman



Gail and Bob Gurwitz



Karen Lee and David Zachry



Billy and Katie Cavender



Floral Design by Trinity Flowers



Michele and Randy Cadwallader



KaRynn O'Connell, Sharon Seal, Anna-Laura Block, Becky Smith, Rhonda Calvert and Melissa Branch



Bill Jackman, Kim Lewis & Stephanie and Bobby Cavender



Delores and Danny Cuellar



Wendell and Susan Hall



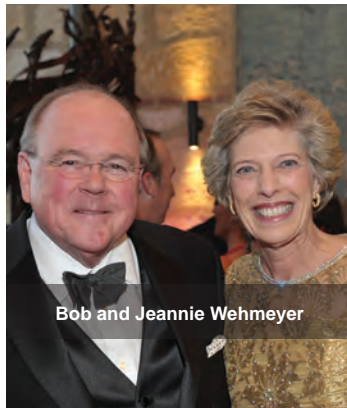
Peggy and Lowry Mays & Kathy and Bill Johnson



Julie Johnson and Sheila Mayfield



Nel Belt and Kelly Kennedy



Bob and Jeannie Wehmeyer



Dinner by Roseary's Catering

SPECTATE: SAN ANTONIO



Betty Venson, Emily LeVasseur, George Venson and Katie Loftin

THE CAUSE:

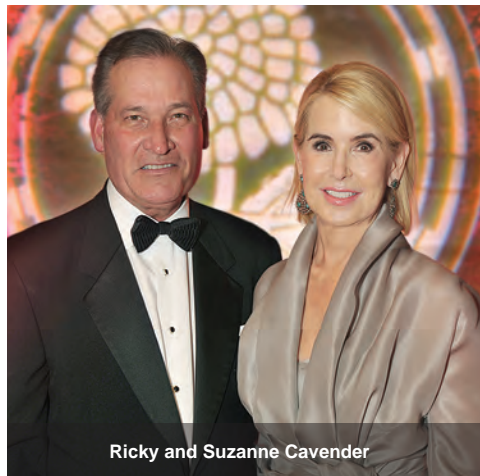
The 2017 Chairman of the Board is Helen Eversberg and the President of this year's CBA is Betty Venson. The Charity Ball Association (CBA) is a non-profit organization that supports and enhances the quality of life for the children of Bexar County. For 63 years, volunteers have sought to meet the needs previously unmet for the overlooked underage citizens of the community. Many "bricks and mortar" projects have been funded by the CBA, providing nurturing environments with permanent value benefitting children in need.



Christy and Andy Kerr



Karen and Dennis Trammell



Ricky and Suzanne Cavender



Lissa and Paul Allen



Peggy Hughes and Carolyn Biedenbarn



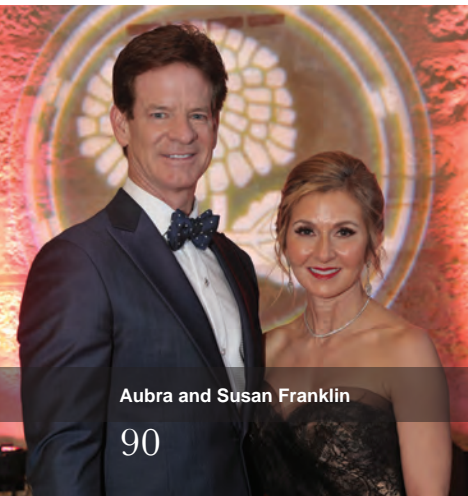
Gene Williams and Sonya Medina Williams



Randy and Carolyn Mayo & Bruce and Alethea Bugg



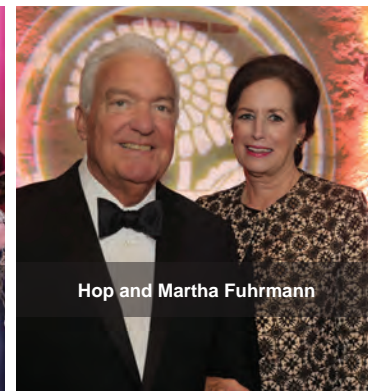
Rosemary's Catering



Aubra and Susan Franklin



Sheila Mayfield, Billy Cavender and Josie Flesher



Hop and Martha Fuhrmann



Floral Design by Trinity Flowers



Alice and Eric Foultz



Bonnie and Gal Shweiki



Lucia Carter, Carla Nelson and Amy White



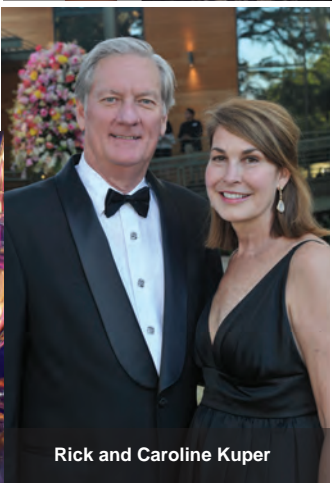
Nicole McLane, Lauren Goldon, Emily Sytsma, Amy Swaney, Jody Lutz and Amanda Beznet



Cari Hill and Payton Kane



Ramiro Salazar, Xitlalt Herrera-Salazar & AnaPaula and Mark Watson, III



Rick and Caroline Kuper



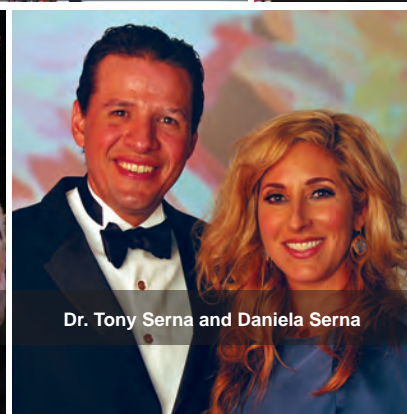
Tracey and JJ Feik



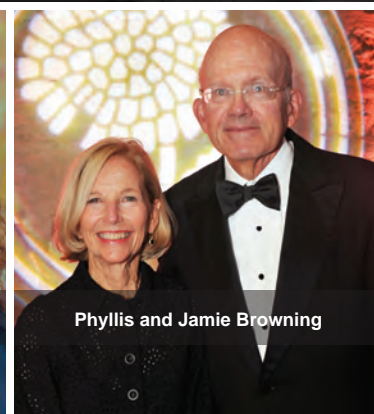
Diana and Tom Schmidt



Amy Miller, Elizabeth Roberts and Alicia Bryan



Dr. Tony Serna and Daniela Serna



Phyllis and Jamie Browning

THE VIBE:

Charity Ball Association members, community patrons and prize donors at the invitation-only ball enjoyed the evening surrounded by the floral creations by Danny Cuellar and Alex Woehrl of Trinity Flowers. Musical entertainment by Blind Date set the stage for a night to remember and a bright future for the Charity Ball Association that, to date, has raised over \$19 million dollars for over 200 local charities that serve the needs of the children of San Antonio. Artist George Venson, son of this year's CBA President, designed and painted the artwork for the 2017 Chrysanthemum Ball invitation, program, datebook and the video mapping for the Mays Center. Venson, a San Antonio native who now lives in New York City, founded his decorative design company, Voutsas, in 2014.

Delicious cuisine by Rosemary's Catering included a meal enjoyed by each of over 560 guests. As the night began, guests enjoyed passed hor d'oeuvres, which included lobster cheesecake, popcorn soup, and foie sliders. Then, guests arrived to the Mays Family Center where a burrata and two tomatoes salad kicked off a multi-course meal including center cut choice filet with Bourbon and horseradish au jus or caramel onion and potato latke with garlic roasted romanesco and Thumbelina carrots, followed by a delightful dessert of apple crumble warm spice cake with cream cheese frosting gelato with oak and dark chocolate streusel. **S**



Hors d'oeuvres by Rosemary's Catering

ENTRANCE: AUSTIN



Barton Bryan and Sarah Berens



Randy Ferguson and Tammy Buckman

STARS OF AUSTIN

11th Annual Dancing With The Stars Raises Record Funds For The Center for Child Protection

By Rob Giardinelli | Photography by Jeff Loftin, Christna Murphy and Haley Plotkin

THE SCENE:

When the 1,000-plus of Austin's social elite ascended the escalator to the fourth floor foyer of the JW Marriott hotel, they had no idea they were in for an evening where records were not just broken, they were smashed beyond anyone's wildest dreams. In the process, the 11th annual Dancing with the Stars will go down in the annals of Austin social folklore as a watershed moment of fundraising in Texas' capitol city.



2017 Dancing with the Stars winners Azucena Perez and Javier Aguirre



Dan Morrison, Megan Bentzin, Joanie Schoener Bentzin and John Haines



Tobie Funte and David Miller



Holly Mills-Gardner, Jeanne Parker and Francie Little



Venus and Bill Strawn



Max Vanderheyden, Abby Argo, Maxine Roberts and Vicki Roberts



Kley Reynolds and Sarah Vasilas



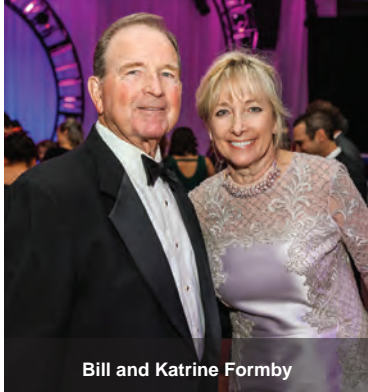
Nicco and Rebecca Azari



Tracey Marshall and Travis Herman



Catherine and Demetrie Mitchell



Bill and Katrine Formby



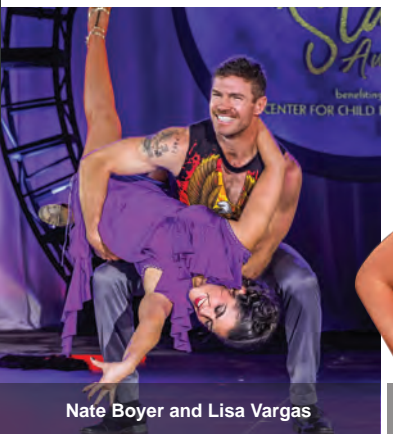
Jeff Nash & Kristin and Corby Salyer



Holly Durbin, Shayla Galvan & Amy and Blair Beard



Susan Kirklin and Matt Swinney



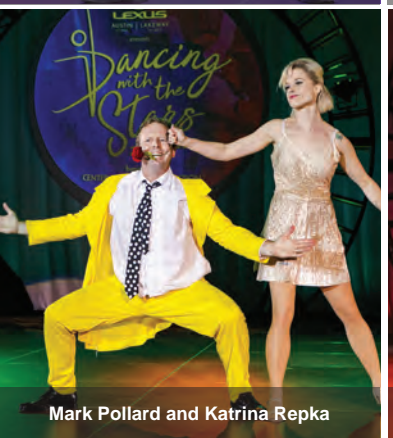
Nate Boyer and Lisa Vargas



Cassie LaMere and Emily Aarvig



Shonnery Pettit and Sheven Kekoolani



Mark Pollard and Katrina Repka



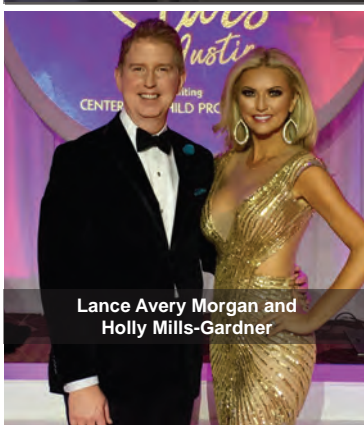
Laila Scott and Tommy Schwegmann



Lesa and Bill Rossick



Kell Cahoon, Quita Culpepper and Ed Clements



Lance Avery Morgan and Holly Mills-Gardner

THE VIBE:

The dapper, black-tie crowd wearing a mix of cocktail dresses, ballgowns, classic tuxedos and velvet sport coats began their evening in the foyer of the JW Marriott for a VIP cocktail hour which included the dancers themselves at various points to receive a final word of encouragement from their friends and supporters. The doors then opened to the grand ballroom where guests sauntered to their tables for the evenings program.

The Society Diaries' own Lance Avery Morgan and T.V. personality and former Miss Texas Holly Mills-Gardner effortlessly kept the evening flowing as emcees. As guests dined, the program with touching testimonials to the importance of the Center for Child Protection to abused children. Following the testimonials, the live auction commenced which featured such coveted items as a trip to London for the opening matches of Wimbledon 2018 and a Caribbean yacht trip.

The action then turned to the main event as Morgan and Mills-Gardner introduced the three celebrity judges, KLBJ talk show host Ed Clements, KVUE anchor Quita Culpepper and Kell Cahoon, writer and producer of the USA Network hit show *Psych*. The 11 celebrity dancers kept the audience cheering all evening to lively and fun songs that kept the energetic tone.

After the performances, guests voted for their favorite routine and as the votes were being tabulated, presenting sponsor Lexus of Austin and Lexus of Lakeway raffled off a 2017 Lexus RX 350. After the emcees made it back to the dance floor to announce the record-shattering fundraising total, the dancers then made it back to the floor where Javier Aguirre and Azucena Perez were declared the winner. The energy remained high well into the evening as hundreds poured onto the dance floor to the tunes of DJ Chicken George.

THE CAUSE:

The event, chaired by Francie Little and Jeanne Parker, raised a record \$1.6 million dollars for the Center for Child Protection, exceeding the previous event record by almost \$500,000 and in the process becoming one of the first organizations to raise over \$1.5 million dollars for a single event. Over the last 25 years, the Center for Child Protection has served as children's advocacy center for Austin area. Abused children admitted to the Center for Child protection receive essential services such as medical exams, counseling and intervention in a safe environment.



Cortnay Elias, Melissa Juneau and Stephanie Fleck

GLAMOUR, MEET ROMANCE

Oscar de la Renta and Tootsies Team For
The Museum of Fine Arts Luncheon

By *Jennifer Roosth* | Photography by *Jenny Antill and Wilson Parrish*

THE SCENE:

Tootsies and The Museum of Fine Arts Houston celebrated the splendor and artistry of famed fashion designer Oscar de la Renta at a lavish fashion show and luncheon in the Museum's Cullinan Hall. The event kicked off the highly anticipated Oscar de la Renta exhibit at the Museum of Fine Arts Houston and featured the Oscar de la Renta 2018 Resort collection.



Courtney Sarofim and Laura Arnold



Laura Kim, Lynn Wyatt and Fernando Garcia



Eliza and Alex Bolen



Gracie Cavnar and Vivian Wise



Fady Armanious and Hallie Vanderhider



Oscar de la Renta fashion show models



Elyse Lanier, Mona Sarofim and Aliyya Stude



Jaleh Sallee and Nidhika Mehta



Alanna Flores and Cherie Flores



Susan Sarofim, Diane Lokey Farb and Lori Sarofim



Durga Agrawal and Anu Lal



Phoebe Tudor, Christina Stith and Leigh Smith



Michelle Hevrdejs and Tina Pyne

THE VIBE:

The vibe of the event was high-end style as the venue's Cullin Hall was filled to the brim with 275 style-setting Houstonians. Gary Tinterow, Director of the MFAH, and Alex Bolen, Chief Executive Officer of Oscar de la Renta made remarks to the gorgeous crowd about the partnership between the legendary Oscar de la Renta, hand-picked Houston-based retailer Tootsies, and the MFAH. The museum exhibit was filled with dresses from Houston social luminaries like Carolyn Farb, Lynn Wyatt and Allison Sarofim, to name a few, who contributed their archive gowns for a truly Texan touch. Prior to the runway show, guests enjoyed a seated lunch by City Kitchen, which included Gulf Coast crab meat salad and asparagus with champagne vinaigrette. The lush fashion show began with structured black and white pieces, melding into earthy greens and vibrant oranges, and ending with breathtaking evening gowns, glittering with sequins and intricate beadwork. The tables were adorned with crisp white linens and fresh white ranunculus floral décor.

THE CAUSE:

The Oscar de la Renta Fashion show and luncheon was generously underwritten by Cherie and Jim Flores, and raised nearly \$300,000. After the runway show, guests were invited backstage to shop the Oscar de la Renta collection provided by Tootsies. Andre Leon Talley, as well as Lynn Wyatt, Oscar de la Renta CEO Alex Bolen and his wife Eliza Bolen (Oscar de la Renta's stepdaughter), and Allison Sarofim were in the crowd. **S**

ENTRANCE: SAN ANTONIO



Laura and Pete Cortez



Marcie and Ray Ince & Merri Longoria Gutierrez



Alejandra Gonzales, Kelly Davis and Katie Boone



Kerry and Chris Quinn & Jordan Vexler Shannon

LIGHT UP THE NIGHT

San Antonio Public Library Foundation's Catrina Ball

By *Shannon Miller Turner* | Photography by *Greg Harrison*

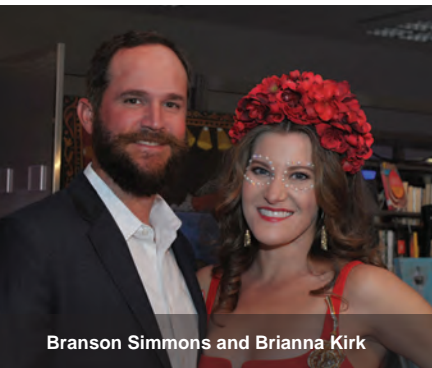
THE SCENE:

The San Antonio Public Library Foundation's inaugural Catrina Ball celebrated the long-anticipated opening of the Central Library's Latino Collection and Resource Center (LCRC), a dynamic and inviting 6,000 square foot space devoted to Hispanic and Latino education programs. Guests were welcomed by Catrina Ball chair Kye Kilpatrick Fox and Latino Leadership for the Library's event Co-Chairs, Ellen Riojas Clark, Ph. D. and James V. Mazuca.

La Catrina, Rosemary Kowalski and *El Catrin*, Pete Cortez, were honored and recognized for their invaluable contributions to the San Antonio Library System including the \$100,000 gift that La Familia Cortez has pledged to the Latino Collection and Resource Center.



Carla and Richard Veliz



Branson Simmons and Brianna Kirk



Ramiro Salazar and Xitlalt Herrera-Salazar



Callie Redding, Cameron Redding and Ellie Leeper Morrison



Drs. Harriett and Ricardo Romo



Dya Campos and Margie Vera



AnaPaula and Mark Watson III



Albert and Sandra Cavazos, JoAnn Boone, Epitacio Resendez and Hunter Henke



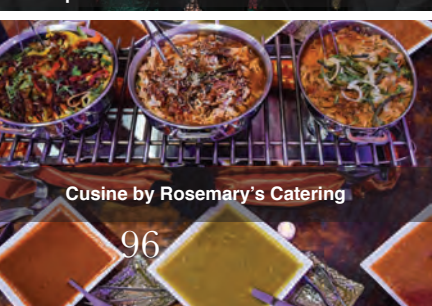
Bill Myers and Alicia Guevera Meyers



JoAnna and Gordon Weidman



Frida Doll and Rebecca Medina



Cuisine by Rosemary's Catering



Becky Reina and Carmen Tafolla



Brandon and Tony Davila



THE VIBE:

The *Día de los Muertos*-themed gala began with Mariachi las Coronelas and Adelita Folklorico performance as guests entered the iconic Ricardo Legorreta-designed library, which was framed by a lit sculpture of the Mission Espada by artists Momo & Pompa. The first floor was transformed into an elegant moving fiesta, enticing the crowd to mix and mingle as guests were treated to music by Henry Brun, and specialty cocktails and gourmet versions of favorite Mexican street foods by Rosemary's Catering.

After hors d'ourves of Flor de Calabaza, lobster and avocado corn cake, and chorizo and manchego croquettes, Rosemary's Catering filled the Central Library with uniquely designed, traditional & modern Mexican food stations that included: a campechana station with citrus-marinated seafood presented in individual martini glasses, and street taco stations with fresh pressed mini tortillas and house-made salsas.

The attendees were dressed in dramatic costumes and brought mementos to place on the community altar anchored by a larger-than-life Catrina. The silent art auction with many works donated by Drs. Harriett and Ricardo Romo amplified the fundraiser's success and highlighted local Latino artists. Performers adorned with large, elaborately decorated Frida Kahlo heads led partygoers through the areas of the LCRC.

Celebrations continued as Urban 15, in full calavera costume, paraded through the crowd leading everyone to the *Disco de los Muertos* after party where Judy deLeón and the Latin Connection had the dance floor packed until the end of the night.

THE CAUSE:

This year's Catrina Ball raised essential funds for the Latino Collection and Resource Center's future programming and outreach. Ramiro Salazar serves as the Director of the San Antonio Public Library System. The San Antonio Public Library Foundation is a non-profit organization with a mission to strengthen the library and its services to its community. **S**



Rebecca Viagran, Tracey Bennett, James Mazuca, Ellen Riojas Clark, Ph.D., Carmen Tafolla, Ramiro Salazar, Kye Fox, Maria-Eugenia Cossio-Ameduri, Jordan Vexler Shannon and John Phillip Santos



Cuisine by Rosemary's Catering



Libby Morris, Jill Giles and Roxanna Blanchette



Maria-Eugenia Cossio-Ameduri and Dr. Ardo Ameduri



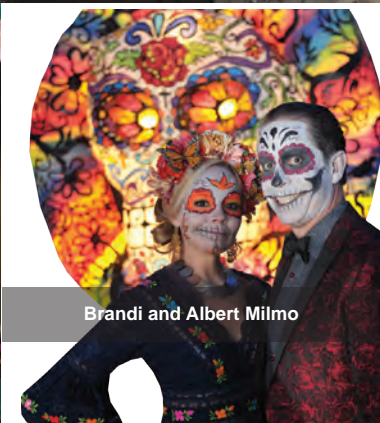
Frida Dolls by Rebecca Medina



Stephanie Davis and Sylvia Rodriguez



John and Sabine Senft, Sandi Schnieder and Rick Liberto



Brandi and Albert Milmo



Liz Morales, Marianna Lujan, Margie Vera and Linda Quesada



Bud and Pat Smothers



Robin Cross & Rosalind Miles



Kye Kilpatrick Fox, Tracey Bennett and Rosemary Kowalski

ENTRANCE: DALLAS



Missoni models

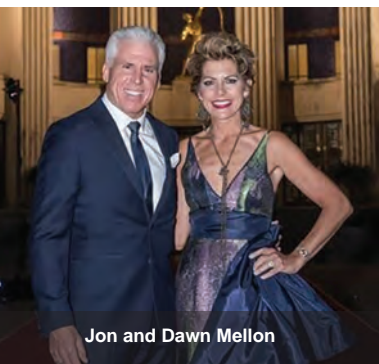


Christine Depree, Jennifer Fleming, Jason Stanford, Alex Small and Brenda Carlson

THE FASHIONABLE SET

Fashion Group International of Dallas' Annual Night of Stars Gala Honors Excellence in Fashion

By *Cynthia Smoot* | Photography by *Danny Campbell and FGI Dallas*



Jon and Dawn Mellon



Cameron Silver and Rhonda Sargent Chambers



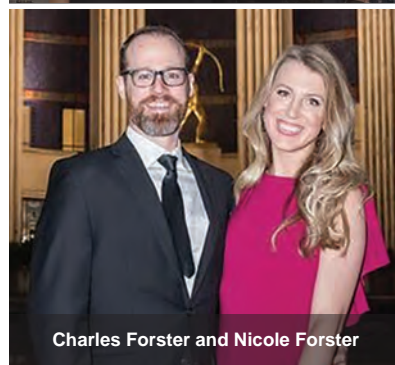
Britt Harless and Heidi Dillon



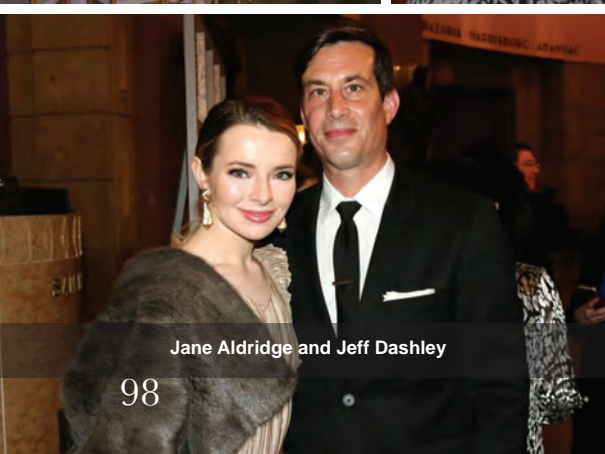
Hall of State Interior



Sue Gragg and Jessica Nowitzki



Charles Forster and Nicole Forster



Jane Aldridge and Jeff Dashley



Jan Strimple, Chuck Steelman and Charmaine Marshall

THE SCENE:

In a spectacular evening of fashion and glamour, Fashion Group International of Dallas (FGI Dallas) hosted its annual Night of Stars gala at the Hall of State building in Fair Park, an Art Deco masterpiece. Guests were welcomed onto the red carpet in front of the historic building, which was the perfect setting for this glamorous affair.

THE VIBE:

Attendees enjoyed champagne and specialty cocktails from Kruto Vodka upon entering the spectacular event, where models posed on the grand staircase wearing the Missoni Spring 2018 collection. A beautiful Rolls-Royce from Park Place Motorcars, and exhibits featuring the FGI Scholarship Competition added to the event's décor. The gala's co-chairs Britt Harless and Heidi Dillon greeted guests and presenters, including Ken Downing, Cameron Silver, Chuck Steelman, and regional FGI's Ken Weber. Career achievement awards were presented to Angela Missoni, Nasiba Adilova, Kenny Goss and Joyce Goss, Michael Aram, and Marilyn Sullivan.



Park Place Motors



Angela Missoni with models



Maxine Trowbridge Kenny Goss and Joyce Goss



Catherine Lowe, Whitney Roberts Kutch and Nha-Khanh Nguyen

THE CAUSE:

This year marks the 68th anniversary of the Fashion Group International of Dallas organization. Fashion Group International, Inc. provides a high-profile forum to promote the fashion business by hosting events that educate and facilitate the exchange of ideas by giving back to the community. **S**



LeeAnne Locken and Ese Azenabor



Jane McGarry



Gina Ginsburg and Grant Farmer



Ken Weber and Greg Kelly



Mary Katrantzou, Nasiba Adilova and Prabal Gurung



Allison Mitchell



Ken Weber, Britt Harless, Marilyn Sullivan, Kenny Goss, Joyce Goss, Angela Missoni, Nasiba Adilova, Michael Aram, Heidi Dillon and Cameron



Andy Roddick and Brooklyn Decker

MILLION DOLLAR ANDY

12th Annual Andy Roddick Foundation Gala Raises Over \$1 Million And Features Country Music Star Jake Owen

By Rob Giardinelli | Photography by Tyler Schmitt, courtesy of the Andy Roddick Foundation

THE SCENE:

Austin's ACL Moody Theatre was the setting where over 1,500 of Austin's social, cultural and music elite gathered for an incredible evening of fun and philanthropy. The 12th annual Andy Roddick Foundation featured celebrities, a performance by a country music star and so much more.



Jake Owen



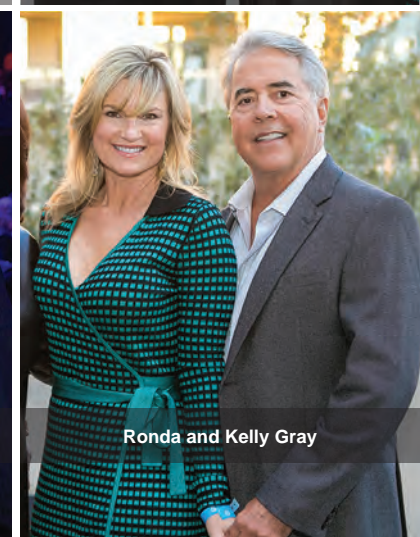
Mike and Semia Harvey



Mort and Bobbi Topfer



John and Waleska Lavorato & Hon. Steve Adler



Ronda and Kelly Gray



Alex Fink and Mardy Fish



Bobby Bones and Amy Brown



Kara Scholz, Amy Brown, Meri Barnes and Abigail Aldridge



Richard Tagle



Sheri West



DJ Hexum



Tyson and Rebekkah Cole



Erin and Ross Bennett



Sara Skirboll and Jackson Bigham



Sheena and Adam Wilde

THE VIBE:

The evening began as the Austin-chic crowd gathered in the outdoor pavilion of the Moody Theatre, where celebrities and Sociables chatted during a cocktail hour against the backdrop of the Austin skyline. The festivities then turned inside for the dinner and live auction portion of the gala, where over 400 attendees gathered for the dinner and program portion of the evening. This included keynote speeches by ARF CEO Richard Tagle and Andy Roddick himself.

The event continued for a spirited live auction that featured a dazzling list of items including a New York trip with two VIP tickets to see the *Late Show with Stephen Colbert*, a Wrigley Field VIP experience in Chicago and a round of golf with 2017 Masters tournament winner Sergio Garcia. The festivities then continued as over 1,000 additional Austinites flowed into the mezzanine level of the theatre for a concert by Jake Owen who capped off the evening with a show-stopping performance that brought down the house.

THE CAUSE:

The event raised over one million dollars for the Andy Roddick Foundation, which provides engaging opportunities for after-school and summer programs to enrich the extra-curricular lives of children. Since its founding in 2000, the Andy Roddick Foundation has raised over 20 million dollars to improve the lives of countless children. **S**



Daisy Cho and Jill Kraft



ENTRANCE: HOUSTON



Nha Khanh runway



Amelia Xu and Kristen Tate



Joanna Marks and Hannah McNair



Melissa Fleis runway

SO FASHIONABLY HOUSTON

Fashion X Houston Showcases Talent, Honors Style Setters

By Rob Giardinelli | Photography by Jesse Greene, Charles Lin, Erin Wiese and Treva Wygle

THE SCENE:

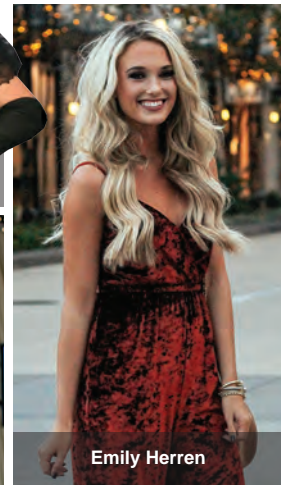
The second annual Fashion X Houston, held in the uber-chic River Oaks district, brought out Houston's social and cultural elite. Over the course of three days, over 2,000 of Houston's most fashionable turned out to view the collections on a local, national and international level, leaving those who attended wanting more.



Kara and Matt Swinney & Carolyn Farb



Gabe and Ashley Lopez



Emily Herren



Mysterious NPN runway



Miles David runway



Chloe Dao runway



Alantude runway



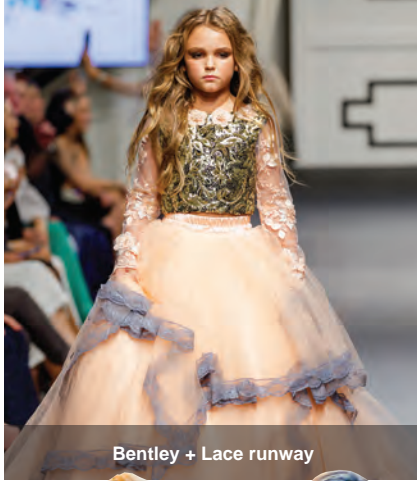
Anna Iriom capsule collection



CleRenda McGrady



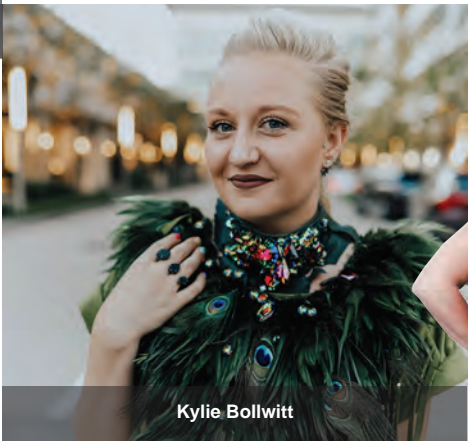
Amanda Valentine runway



Bentley + Lace runway



Brittany Nicole runway



Kylie Bollwitt



Anika Jackson, Staci Henderson, Michael Pearce and Victoria Hellyer



J Ewing Designs capsule collection



Adrienne Yunger runway



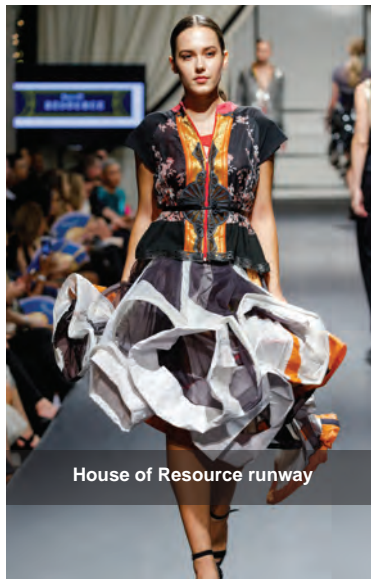
Sonja Williams runway



Daniel Esquivel runway



Jade Danhach



House of Resource runway

THE VIBE:

Held in the open courtyard of the River Oaks District, a welcoming feeling was felt from the moment the guests arrived. Whether it was in the VIP lounge where fashionistas could sample an array of cocktails ranging from vodka to scotch, or the open-air tent and runway designed by Caplan Miller, the vibe was sophisticated and inclusive.

Each evening featured between eight and ten designer collections, ranging from local designers Chloe Dao, Mysterious NPN and Miles David to nationally and internationally known designers Vince, Bannou and Roberto Cavalli. Additionally, Friday and Saturday evenings featured two Style Setters, women of great style who have given back to the community, who were recognize and honored: Staci Henderson and the legendary Carolyn Farb. These incredible women of style showcased their greatest fashion hits on the runway, directly from their archives and worn at various charitable events over the years.

THE CAUSE:

A portion of proceeds from tickets on Friday evening, featuring Style Setter Staci Henderson, benefitted the Rebuild Texas Fund. Additionally, a portion of proceeds from tickets on Saturday evening, featuring Style Setter Carolyn Farb, benefitted Camp Say. **S**

ARRIVAL: DALLAS



Lynn Mock, Karen Coleman and Barbara Rosenblatt



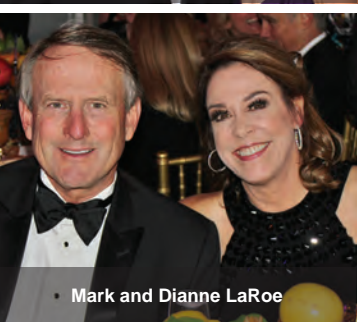
Gene Jones and Aileen Pratt



Keith and Jennifer Cerny



Steve and Betty Suellentrop



Mark and Dianne LaRoe



Diane Stile, Karen Needham, and Ellen Winspear



THE SCENE:

The Margot and Bill Winspear Opera House recently hosted two extraordinary events to celebrate the start of The Dallas Opera season. The fun and glamour began with First Sign Fashion Show and Luncheon, where 125 fashionistas and arts lovers enjoyed a spectacular Salvatore Ferragamo runway fashion show in the Winspear Opera House, followed by an elegant luncheon, chaired by Lisa Cooley, Ciara Cooley and Bela Cooley.

The events continued the following evening at the First Night gala, where the air was electric with excitement as ladies in gorgeous gowns and gentlemen in tuxedos enjoyed a red carpet arrival to the reception in the tent in Sammons Park. The décor was inspired by the Linda and Mitch Hart Season Opening Night performance of *Samson & Dalila* by Camille Saint-Saëns. The ambiance transported patrons to a glamorous tent in the desert that featured an opulent atmosphere and luxurious details.

THE VIBE:

Over 225 guests dined on specialties from Wolfgang Puck where the dinner menu included delicacies inspired by the evening's biblical theme. Next, guests were thrilled by the production of *Samson & Dalila* starring Olga Borodina as Dalila, and Clifton Forbis as Samson. Music Director Emmanuel Villaume conducted the opera which received rave reviews.

After the opera, the fun continued back in the tent, transformed for the after party with the cast, with lush seating, a dance floor, stage, and entertainment by Dallas String Quartet. Late-night noshes by Wolfgang Puck helped keep the festivities going late into the evening.

THE CAUSE:

First Night and First Sight chairs were Dianne B. and Mark H. LaRoe, with honorary chairs Nancy A. Nasher and David J. Haemisegger. Proceeds from First Night and First Sight benefit The Dallas Opera. **S**

DIVINE DANCE

The Dallas Opera Season Sizzles With Fashion Show And Gala

By Jason Grosgrain | Photography by Celeste Hart and Jason Kindig



Nicole Paiement, Patti Cody and Cindy Feld



Lisa Cooley, Ciara Cooley, Bela Cooley, and Dianne LaRoe



Steve Stodghill, Kara Goss, Anne Stodghill and Don Winspear



Elizabeth Kimple, Kara Goss, Ellen Winspear, and Rhonda Marcus



Emmanuel Villaume, Lynn McBee and Andrew von Oeyen



David Haemisegger and Nancy Nasher

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BEST LAWYERS IN AMERICA

1987 – 2017

DAN RUGELEY PRICE MEMORIAL AWARD

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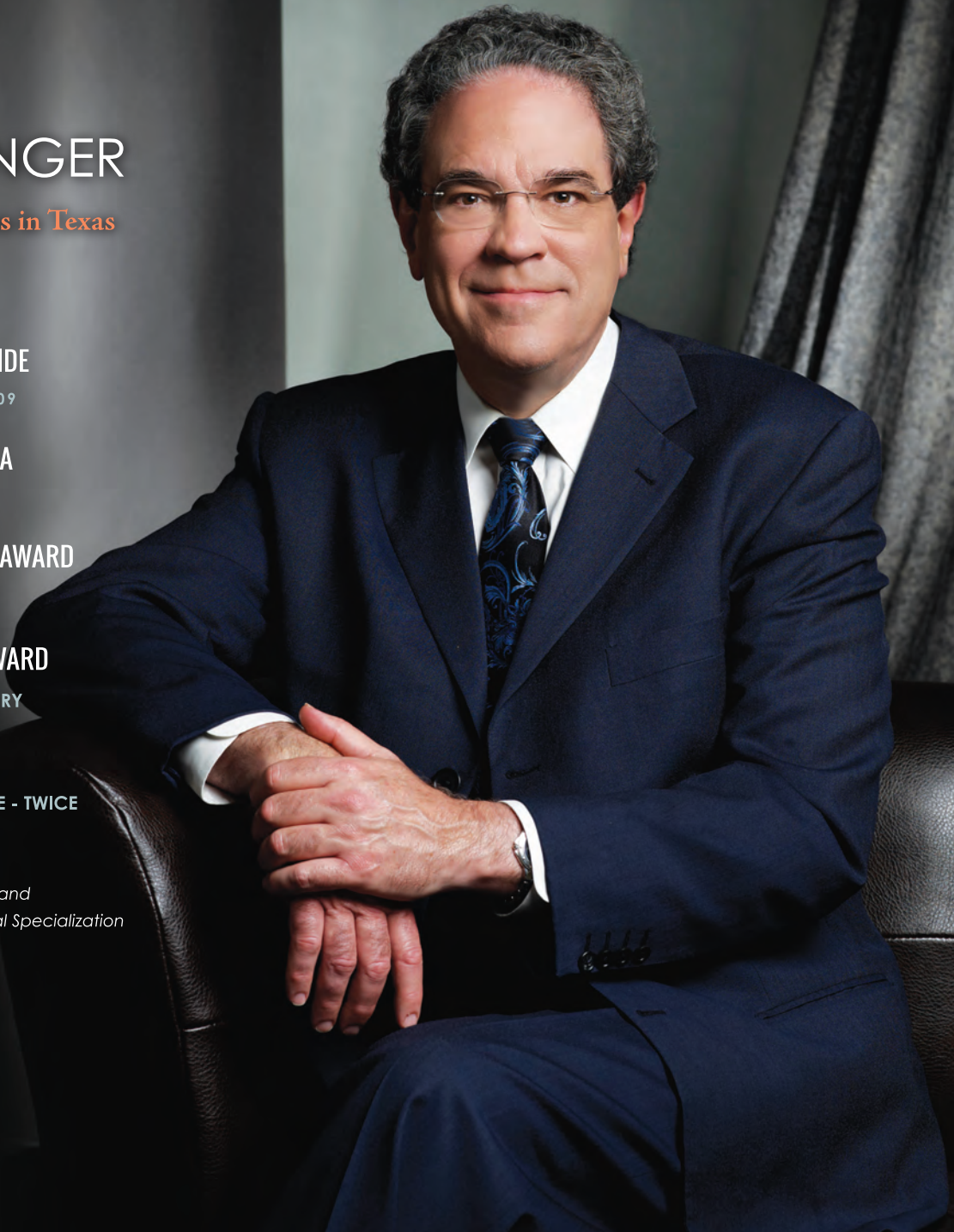
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WHY PARIS
IS STILL
Sexy

The City of Love is exactly that. A place to fall in love, be in love and to see love all around. Our ardent traveler Dee Covey sets her sights for Paris with some unexpected results.

IT'S MIDNIGHT PLUS A COUPLE of minutes on New Year's and we're sitting around the fire out back sipping bubbly Merciers.

"So, Baby, what do you want to do for your birthday?" says my long tall Texican about February 11, 2017, when the world is dark and damp in northern hemispheres or wet and sweaty in the lower latitudes. You see, my thoughtful Leo-in-control groom never wants to be caught flat-footed.

"Um, how about dinner in Paris?" I said with a wink and a smile, just kidding of course. My *very* literal guy, not really paying attention to the subtleties, gulped and missed the dog whistle. "Sure, but we can only go for a few days? I have a board meeting in Florida around then."

Okay, so I jumped on the trusty mobile phone to check out the price of beaming

over to the old world to celebrate another whirl around the sun. The Universe responded immediately with fluky results on the American Airlines website. Raising my brows, I flipped around the illuminated screen to show my fire-lit Francophile, whose first declaration of the year was "Book it." A round trip ticket with excellent seating cost less than one-way anywhere domestically (but then, who flies from Miami to Paris in *February*?)

SEINE SCENE

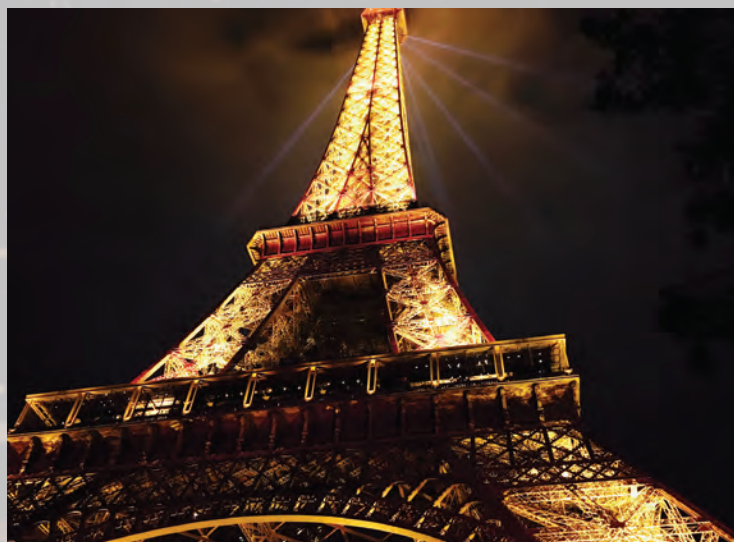
Neither of us had been to the City of Light in *years*, and we were now landing at Charles de Gaulle in the gloomy dead of winter. First, the Arrondissement. Paris is like New York, in that it is so many cities in one, and everyone has an opinion about which is the best and their favorite.

We all know it's an utterly different experience to stay, for example, in Williams-

burg than the West Village. Paris is even trickier for the decision-challenged, with so many signature places to be seen, and les arrondissements are laid out very, well, *French*. Instead of a grid with semi-logical numbers north to south and east to west, it's a crazy/confusing snail that has something to do with the Seine, everything to do with history, and nothing at all to do with modern day logic.

It seemed that everyone had an opinion, too, which they passionately defended and virtually nobody was blasé. There were the haters (Parisians are such jerks!), the scaredy cats (Europe is dangerous) and the skeptical (it's going to be frigid in February), but overwhelmingly there are people like me who are smitten with it and who love the city anytime, any way. Soon I was completely overwhelmed by the avalanche of "Oh you must...do/stay/eat/read" recommendations, links, reviews and

France is open, on sale and eager for company from across the pond.



LEFT: Eiffel Tower RIGHT: Flea market in Paris





CLOCKWISE FROM TOP LEFT: Bar Hemingway at the Ritz Hotel; Montmartre Hill; Paris street scene; Brasserie Le Deux Palais in Ile Saint-Louis; Notre Dame

*Go for swank
on the Left
or Right
Bank,
or trot far
afield to find
the newest
nouvelle in
cuisine and
design.*

other touchpoints. I had devoured so many helpful hints, travel content and Moleskine scribbles that I couldn't keep it all straight.

RIGHT OR LEFT?

Go for swank on the Left or Right Bank, or trot far afield to find the newest nouvelle in cuisine and design. Moonlight in Paris, Anthony Bourdain or Linklater's *Midnights*? Airy **AirBnB** on the super cute, but hushed **Ille Saint Louis**, or bijoux kitsch in the raucous Rive Gauche, like **Hotel de Jobo**? Try the lively 11th or 20th, or play it safe near the Champs d'Elysee? Hmm.

So, I finally did what any undecider would do. I waited until the last possible second and booked four nights and two vibes: A luxury suite at the famed and slightly old world L'Abbaye, with its roaring fireplace and pretty little bar, near the Left's sumptuous Luxembourg Gardens in the **St. Germain-des Pres** area of the 6th Arrondissement; and the other across the river in **Le Marais**, the Right's stylishly romantic Pavillon de la Reine on the historic Place des Vosges in the **4th Arrondissement**-- a neighborhood and hotel red hot and trendy for all the right reasons.

Soon it was night-night on Flight 52 before landing at DeGaulle with thrills and chills—literally (but it's not like we needed a dogsled.) We hopped in a taxi - better than Uber at the airport, I heard—and made our first surprising discovery, like a kiss that goes well on a first date. Our cheerful cab guy did not sneer at our raggedy French, question our American politics, or do anything but make happy haste to our destination, for only thirty euros.

Apparently, tourism has plummeted and the dollar is up. Paris, France is open, on sale and eager for company from across the pond. A much better value this year than, say, a destination long weekend anywhere in Texas.

Our plush digs were in a former monastery behind a lush and lovely wall, opening to a crackling blaze warming the lobby (**L'Abbaye, 10 rue Casette**). The superb staff took us straight to a breathtaking room with a glass-in sitting room. The early check-in meant our unbeatable anti-jetlag plan could move into immediate action: Stash stuff, early lunch, nap exactly 3.5 hours—set alarm! Take an oddball walking tour, hydrate, down the vin de table at an excellent neighborhood restaurant. Ramble home. We catch some Z's by 11pm and dream of the perfect croissant ahead. Done.

ADVENTURE AWAITS

We then wake up on the Big Day, taste reality (flawless,) and meet, yes, Remí.

Who? As a couple, our travel style is decidedly cross-cultural. I like spontaneous discovery and wandering; he prefers orientation and reservations. **Retro Tour's "Great Escape"** seemed so perfect that I risked that it might be a complete waste of ninety minutes.

It wasn't. Magnificently helmeted, goggled and lushly-bearded Remí, the utterly charming bilingual 30-something founder picked us up right on time on his vintage type motorcycle with a special elongated sidecar. I hopped on the back, while my long drink of water rode in the add-on compartment, which remarkably fit my husband. (He, in a leather jacket, wool scarf and six foot-four inches, lap-blanketed for the winter ride. Me, bundled up and extra snug clinging to our sueded hearty host.)

Remí delivered, radiating joy in a vehicle that is a showstopper itself. We hummed along wide boulevards and up narrow cobblestone lanes, across the Seine and down the quays, while our driver pointed out stunning arcades, hat shops, cafes, museums, sculptures, chocolatiers and curiosities along the way, including the not-to-be-missed **Deyrolle**. We saw **Poulaine patisserie, Rue Mouffetard** market, **Shakespeare & Co** and many promised

I had no idea if the eager accented server was talking about the Sancerre or the saucier, but who cared?

“hidden gems” colored by sparkling wit and humor. We climbed **hilly Montmartre** and the **lovely rue Lepic**, and stopped at **Sacre Coeur** for its astonishing view, then discovered a **secret city vineyard** on the way back down.

I asked to be dropped anywhere Remí personally frequented, “on a pretty street in Saint Germain.” The boeuf bourguignon at his hangout, the bistronomic Chez Fernand (**13 rue Guisard**), made us weep.

LE BIRTHDAY

Fast forward to my birthday “dinner in Paris” which was on the little known (to Americans) **Le Calife**, a magnificent glass-topped wooden boat built in 1939, which luxuriously cruises both sides of the Seine while capturing the Eiffel Tower at the height of its sparkle. This gasp-worthy dining experience was shared with Parisian couples who knew about Le Calife’s sensational food, wine and service... and its playlist, the best in the city. At **3 Quai Malaquais**.

We capped the night (oh, why not?) with French 75s at the infamous **Hemingway Bar at the Ritz** hotel, and chatted up the alleged “**world’s best bartender**,” **Colin Field**.

Morning featured the giddy up to the historic and multi-faceted Marais district. I was prepared to be a good sport about the poor choice to move, but no need. My Austin pal, French/American expert Andra Millian was spot on with her brilliant recommendation of **Pavillon de la Reine**, dreamy and incredibly cool, as is the *entire* atmospheric neighborhood with its imaginative shops, inventive restaurants



Little Red Door

and narrow winding streets, like the wonderful **rue du Rosiers flea market** and **L’As du Falafel**.

We went to the **Musee Picasso** in a glorious Baroque mansion at **5 Rue de Thorigny**, housing a retrospective of the Spanish master’s work and his collection of Cezannes, Miros and Matisses; and found the ideal authentic zinc bistro, **Les Temps des Cerises** a short walk away. Nearby is **Huygens** for custom natural cosmetics, **Paul Marius** for superbly crafted leather goods, and the **Little Red Door** speakeasy. Once we rounded a corner, we happened upon ringletted newlyweds cramming the voluminously dressed bride into the teensy getaway car.

We laughed all the way to the Metro, willing to leave the Marais to try to get into the **Louis Vuitton Foundation’s** extraordinary **Frank Gehry building**. No reservation, no ticket? Wildly, no problem (exit stage left at Les Sablons.)

Days before our trip, with this story in mind, my editor sent me a *The New York Times* travel piece about the most enchanting walks in Paris, one of which was the **Rue de Richelieu** with a drawing of the little stairs to the exquisite **Verjus**, a small plate wonder at Number 52. When we were seated, I had no idea if the eager accented server was talking about the Sancerre or the saucier, but who cared?

As I gazed out the high louvered windows I thought, the City of Light still outshines everywhere else on the planet, and suddenly I knew it was really more the City of Love. Mais Oui! Paris will *always* be the right choice for me to love. **S**

LA BOMBE BEST VINTAGE

Puces de Saint-Quen market

BEST FLATS & BOOTS

Repetto
Jonak

BEST CAFFEINE

Hugo & Victor
Coutoume

BEST PYRAMIDS

Le Café Marly

BEST BEER

Dirty Dick

BEST WINE BAR

Frenchie

BEST CLUBS

Le Docks
Silencio
Chez Castel

BEST SCENES

Candelaria
La Bristol
Costes Hotel Rooftop



CLOCKWISE FROM TOP: Musee Picasso;
Rue de Richelieu as it looked in the 19th
century; Luxembourg Palace and Gardens

Dress by Chiara Boni La Petite Robe Dress- \$750, Shoes by Prada, \$990, Earrings by Oscar de la Renta \$495, all at Neiman Marcus. Necklace by Konplott, \$320 at The Garden Room. Scarf is model's own.



Ready to

ROCK

Amy Edwards leads the rock star life of performing and pursuing her dreams. We recently caught up with this busy wife, mother and musician while she was recording her latest album in the studio. We also take a look inside her new book, *#RockYourLife: 5 Days to New Habits*, that will surely inspire you and how you tune into life this year.

PHOTOGRAPHY BY BEN PORTER STYLING BY BIJOU FINNEY

Make-up and Hair by Rianna Alberty, RIMIX Cosmetics;

Sittings Producer: Lance Avery Morgan; Location: 512 Studios, Austin



Dress by Badgley Mischka and fur jacket are available with price upon request at Julian Gold. Shoes by Giuseppe Zanotti, \$860 at Neiman Marcus.

ROCK YOUR LIFE

What if you could accomplish anything? What a question, right? And that's exactly the spirit that makes life rock. Picking up something new. Fearlessly embracing the unknown.

In 2010, at 38 years old and with two small children, that's just what I did. I unwittingly set myself on a course of life-rocking by saying *yes* to picking up a guitar and attempting to make sounds with it that were tolerable to the human ear.

I didn't know that I was embarking on something that would alter the course of my life. I just wanted to try something new. And as a result, I learned that with a little effort and the right mindset, life could be less challenging, be more satisfying overall, and it didn't matter if I was busy. I could do it.

That's what rocking life really means: *we are busy individuals, but we want to accomplish things and do things and go for it and feel good about ourselves.*

That's definitely not too much to ask out of life, is it?

But the *how* of it is where it can break down. Like I said: We. Are. Busy. It's a thing now, right? Busy lives. I personally never have the wherewithal—or much less the time—to spend on a super involved series of lessons. I won't stick with a program that demands too much from me. Which then sets me up for—you guessed it—feeling bad about myself that I didn't complete my goal. With that in mind, my book *#RockYourLife: 5 Days to New Habits* is laid out so you can flip it open anywhere, you can work it straight through, or you can use it as a reference when you are feeling down and need a pick-me-up. You can go back to it anytime to remind yourself of what you need to do every day to keep working toward your life goals.

I need it just as much as anyone. I refer back to this system all the time: I fall off of it, and I get back on it. True story: I even used this 30-day process to get the first draft of *this very book* written. I truly wrote this 30-day Rock Your Life manual for myself and anyone who wants to achieve a goal and live the best life possible, without feeling overwhelmed in the

process. This book is the opposite of feeling bad about yourself. This book is about spending roughly ten minutes a day working toward a goal and a better you. This book is about building goal-oriented little daily habits, which are a lot like developing callouses on guitar-playing fingertips: once they're there, they're there for *life*... even if you don't use them every day.

When I picked up music those years ago, I started to get called *rock star* randomly by people I knew. It used to embarrass me. I constantly felt like—what am I doing? Am I seriously 40 years old and pretending to be a rock star? But as time went by, I thought about the people who I would call *rock star*. What that means to me is someone who lives life on their terms. It's someone who might be afraid but doesn't allow that to hold them back. It's someone who takes risks, lives in the present moment, and doesn't conform to expectations. It's someone who doesn't worry too much about what others say about them. It also means getting out of your comfort zone. Those are all methods spelled out and made easy and are right here in your hands.

So, flip it open or follow it through, and know that you can make your life rock to the next level just by saying *yes* like I did that day in 2010 when I picked up a guitar. We will get past fear, build toward feeling amazing, accomplish our goals, and most importantly: live our dreams.

And the best part? *Today* can always be more rocking than *yesterday*.

DAY 1: GET CLEAR ON YOUR GOAL

What's your goal?

We all have one. Or many. Maybe yours isn't fully formed yet. Maybe it's a vague sense that we know we have more within us. Maybe it's as simple as getting through this book!

When I started out with guitar, my dream wasn't to write music or release an album. My goal wasn't fully formed at all. I think if I were to spell it out, looking back, it would be something to the tune of, "*I'd like to not embarrass myself.*"

If I had forced music-beginner-Amy to come



Dress by Magda Butrym
Dress, \$1,425. Boot by Stuart
Weitzman, \$798. Earring by
Oscar de la Renta, \$425, all at
Neiman Marcus.



Dress by Olvis, \$978
at The Garden Room.
Coat by Theory \$695 at
Neiman Marcus.

up with a goal, however, I know she could have seized upon one or two dreams that seemed crazy at the time. Maybe it would've been to be able to play the guitar solo in the first song she learned (that would be *I Love Rock 'N Roll* by the great Joan Jett, by the way). Or, possibly it would have been to just actually call herself a guitar player.

Music-beginner-Amy had always fantasized about being in a band. Ever since college, she fantasized about how amazing that must feel and the exhilaration of being on stage and connecting with others through music. It's a little trigger that can point you toward what you really dream about doing in life.

Take cues from the moments you might feel jealous of what someone else is doing in their life. When I feel that twinge, it's always a huge indicator that I should be pursuing whatever *it* is. It's a signal to see what feeling or desire lies underneath.

We don't have to have our goal completely figured out now, and we don't have to get fancy with it, either. We just need to keep it simple and say, *Yeah! I want to write a book.* Or, *I want to help people with their lives.* Or, *I want to start a charity.* Or (*insert your answer here!*) Something drew you to this book. What was it? Was it just the idea of making more happen within your own life? Or was it the simple thought of being perceived as a rock star?

Take just a few minutes today and get one thing written down, either on your own paper, a post-it note, or a notebook. Is it a business you want to start? Or is it a creative endeavor, like starting a blog, podcast or a YouTube channel? It could even be something personal, like being a better partner, parent, or leader. Maybe you want to learn a new skill, play guitar, or advance in yoga. Whatever it is, get as clear on it as you can, and write it down.

Next, take your goal and put it on a post-it note, or tape it up on your bathroom mirror. The idea is to see your goal every day. It is yours. State your goal in a way that affirms it, using *will* rather than *want*. For instance: *I will write this book this month!*

Again, your goal doesn't have to be fancy—I mean, consider me. I am not trying to write

the great American novel. But I am trying to bring this idea to life. It scared the daylight out of me (and quite nearly overwhelmed me). But just because we might feel scared, that doesn't mean our goal isn't worth fighting for. You know what you dream of. So, bust that out and let's put it in front of you. As the day progresses, keep your goal in mind. Toss it around in there. Let your brain mull over all the things you might need to do to get it going. Aaaaand...you're done! BOOM! **S**

When you're ready, follow the rest of these steps toward your goal:

30 Days to #RockYourLife

1. Get clear on your goal
2. Write it!
3. Clear that head
4. Get specific
5. Action (not distraction)
6. Baby steps add up
7. Say it!
8. Stay Vigilant
9. YOU time
10. Rock all night
11. Thanks = Cool
12. Do that thing
13. Right now is all
14. Routines build freedom
15. Want without attachment
16. Get with that FLOW
17. It's a DIY world
18. Find your tribe
19. Roll through FEAR
20. Random daily kindness
21. You control SUCCESS
22. Assess and reassess
23. The Majority Rule
24. Be true to your beat
25. Change the song
26. No one rocks like YOU do
27. Look like the star you are
28. Good enough vs GREAT
29. WILL not WANT
30. You create your own light

Order your copy of the book, out January 31, on Amazon.com and for more information, visit RealAmyEdwards.com



Dress by Parker, \$789 at Julian Gold. Knopflott silver flower necklace, \$92 at The Garden Room.



Samantha Newsom and Daniella Singleton

RISE & VINE

Travel The Vine Event Raises Funds For The Rise School

By Rob Giardinelli | Photography by McKenzie Coronado Photography

THE SCENE:

Austin's Camp Mabry was the setting for 320 of Austin's Sociables who gathered for great food, fantastic wine and most importantly, a great cause. The Rise School's Travel the Vine event had all in spades and the result was an incredible evening that those fortunate enough to attend will not soon forget.



Andra Liemandt and Tracey Marshall



Donna Stockton and Dr. Randy House



Al Koehler and Amber Scanio



Marlene Magierski and Georgia Denny



Emily Greer and Sarah Sweeney



Bill Marshall



Sarah and David Racino



Meg and Andrew Bethune



THE VIBE:

The evening began with a cocktail hour where guests mingled between the exterior area which featured a three-piece band, and inside where guests mingled as the wine flowed as freely as the conversation. All the while, guests browsed the opportunity to bid on silent auction items. The festivities continued as partygoers enjoyed the lavish buffet of bites, from seafood to Italian food, which were perfectly paired with the dinner's wines.

Then, the wine auction began. Overall, there were 30 auction items with a fabulous assortment of wine packages that even the most discerning of palates would appreciate. The packages included a Napa Wine Country Experience With Friends, a Fantastic Five Wine Lot and a Girls Just Want To Have Fun dining experience. After the auction, guests continued to mingle well into the evening toasting its success.



Gigi Melrose and Corra Dunigan



Wesley and Cater Joseph

THE CAUSE:

Travel the Vine, with its stellar host committee fully engaged, raised over \$700,000 for the Rise School Austin which provides the highest quality of early childhood education for all children: gifted, traditional and developmentally delayed. This is all done in an inclusive setting where individualized learning techniques are deployed to ensure every child can achieve their maximum potential.



Chris and Angie Bell



Dale Craig and Susan Joseph



Jay Fredricksen and Mike Costello



Jill Parma and Sarah Ciesla



Tina Donahoo, Brian Magierski and Brent Donahoo



Stephanie and Steve Strain

ARRIVAL: HOUSTON



Albina Shagimuratova and Kristina Somerville

MUSIC, ITALIAN STYLE

Houston Grand Opera's Dazzling Opening Night Celebration

By Jennifer Roosth | Photography by Priscilla Dickson

THE SCENE:

Less than two months after Hurricane Harvey flooded The Houston Grand Opera's home, The Wortham Theater, the HGO kicked off the 63rd season with Verdi's La Traviata performance and dinner celebration in what has come to be known as "Resilience Theater" at the George R. Brown Convention Center. More than 400 guests attended the opening night celebration.



Caroline and Perryn Leech



Margaret Alkek Williams & Courtney and Bill Toomey

Lynn Wyatt, Cynthia Petrello and Beau Miller



Katherine Thomasson and Michael Talbot



La Traviata chorus members



Patrick Summers, Hon. Sylvester Turner, Jim Crowover and Perryn Leech



Andrew Bowen and Efraim Corzo



THE VIBE:

Resilience was the vibe of the evening, as well as the inspiration to celebrate the opera company in its against-all-odds relocation outside of HGO's Harvey-ravaged Wortham Theater Center. Guests and cast members reveled in the spirit of the evening, toasting to the themes of Houston Strong and "the show will go on." HGO Managing Director Perryn Leech welcomed patrons with heartfelt thanks, followed by Artistic and Music Director Patrick Summers who introduced the internationally acclaimed La Traviata cast, led by soprano Albina Shagimuratova, tenor Dimitri Pittas, and baritone George Petean.

For the dinner, Richard Flowers and The Events Company transformed the foyer of the second level of the venue into an elegantly vibrant, jewel-toned fête—one that Violetta might have hosted in her glittering Paris maison when La Traviata debuted—inspired by the lavishly colorful creations of the production's costume and puppet designer, Cait O'Connor.



Sara and Gabriel Loperena

THE CAUSE:

The evening was chaired by Kristina and Paul Somerville. The opening night celebration raised over \$450,000 for the Houston Grand Opera. To support fundraising efforts, a fixed price auction included the experience of conducting the HGO Orchestra in the Star Spangled Banner during next season's opening night, as well as jewelry donated by Tenenbaum Jewelers. Guests also contributed to replace the company's production vehicles that were destroyed by Harvey. **S**



Claire Liu and Joe Greenberg



Jana and Scotty Arnoldy



Kenyon and Katie Coleman

HERO'S WELCOME

Unlikely Heroes 5th Annual Recognizing Heroes Benefit Raises Funds for Children

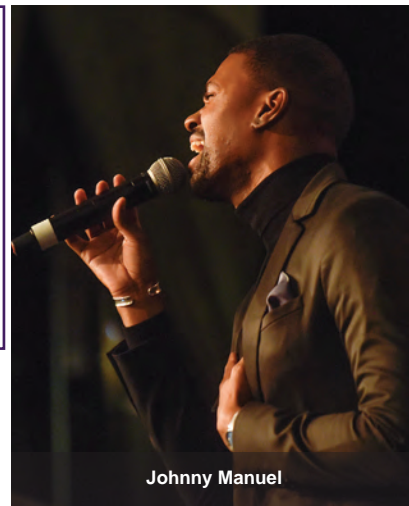
By Cynthia Smoot | Photography by Rex Curry | AP Images



Toni McKinley, Shamere McKenzie and Rebecca Bender



Savannah Chrisley



Johnny Manuel



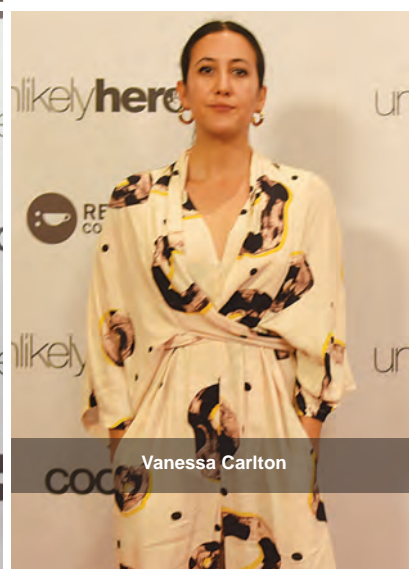
Allen Evans and Kellie Rasberry



Erica Greve and Francia Raisa



Briana Barnhart and Preston Arsement



Vanessa Carlton

THE SCENE: More than 400 guests attended the fifth annual Recognizing Heroes charity benefit at the Four Seasons Resort & Club. Hosted by comedian Anjelah Johnson and television personality Savannah Chrisley, guests enjoyed an unforgettable evening that featured live performances from multi-platinum recording artist Vanessa Carlton, Cassadee Pope (winner of *The Voice* in season 3) and Johnny Manuel (an *America's Got Talent* season 12 alum.) The evening's keynote speaker was Dallas native and the Netflix hit *13 Reasons Why* producer, Mandy Teefey.

THE VIBE: The 2017 Hero Awards were bestowed upon actress Francia Raisa, Dallas Police Sergeant Byron Fassett, Crowns of Hope Founder Toni McKinley, and CEO of Sun Gate Foundation Shamere McKenzie for their tireless work in advancing global human rights and outstanding efforts to stop human trafficking. The event chairs Kenyon and Katie Coleman welcomed notables such as *Chrisley Know's Best's* Todd and Julie Chrisley, *Real Housewives of Dallas'* LeeAnne Locken and D'Andra Simmons, Melissa Rycroft, Chef Tiffany Derry, Joanna Czech, Blaine Bowen, and Courtney Kerr.



Sgt. Byron Fassett and Rebekah Charleston



Courtney Kerr



Tiffany Derry



Katie Hamilton and Julia Hamilton



Leah Frazier



D'Andra Simmons



Angela Johnson



Blaine Bowen Jakubov

THE CAUSE:
Unlikely Heroes CEO & Founder, Erica Greve, announced that the charitable foundation ended the night raising over \$600,000 to open the very first licensed home for trafficked boys in Tijuana, Mexico and thanked all who supported their global mission to end the trafficking of children. [S](#)



LeeAnne Locken



Jennie Lieber and Cynthia Smoot



Tye Strickland and Melissa Rycroft Strickland



Southwest School of Art's Kabuki Pop 2017 Gala Committee



Jody Lutz, Amy Swaney and Whitney Schones

POP GOES THE EVENING

The Southwest School of Art's 2017 Gala in the Garden Transports Guests

By Shannon Miller Turner | Photography by Al Caballero and Vince Quaranto of Super Q Photography

THE SCENE:

The scene was an aesthetic vision that came to life in bright colors. Inspired by the contemporary art of Japan and the Meow Wolf Immersive Art installation in Santa Fe, Southwest School of Art's Kabuki Pop 2017 Gala in the Garden enveloped guests in a magical dream. The evening was a striking and sophisticated ambience in the heart of the School's lush historic campus.



Karen Lee and David Zachry



Dr. Sara McCamish, Dr. Edward Briggs, Sarah Moore, Mark Watson and Marks Moore



Beatriz Cardenas, Elena Abrahamsson-Oseguera, Alejandra Gonzales, Xitlalt Herrera-Salazar and Rocio Heller



Sarah and Marks Moore



Mark and AnaPaula Watson





Ed Conroy and Tamara Adira



Benjamin Beckhart, Andrew Herdeg, Brooks Englehardt, Len Briley, Maggie Herdeg, Jan Briley, Karen Beckhart, and Kari Englehardt



Kyle Ferari-Muñoz and Henry Muñoz



J and Rachel Kuper



Epitacio Resendez and Hunter Huenke



Payton Kane, Sonya Dawson, Sarah Ash Jessop and Analise Hellman



Carolyn Gill French and Peter French



Alan Barber, Amy Smiley and Richard Aste



Easton McNab, Claire Cavender, Courtney and Tobin Smith



Al Hartman and Edith McAllister



Jorge Elizondo, Jeremy Kell, Cris Bregman, Elise Boyan, Gary Walton, Marks and Sarah Moore, Mayor Ron Nirenberg, Dan Markson and Ruth Chang



Catherine Nixon Cooke



Sylvia Garza, Elise Boyan and Steve Garza

THE VIBE:

As the event began, the gala's 600 guests, many in Asian-inspired attire, gathered in the school's Coates Chapel to view and purchase donated works of art by many local, regional and national artists. Following a limited edition raffle drawing, patrons strolled through a hot pink dream to enjoy dinner al fresco, at the stunning tables embellished by the dramatic arrangements by Danny Cuellar and his team from Trinity Flowers with florals donated by HEB. The coup d' grace, however, was still to come. Upon the conclusion of the evening's sumptuous meal, provided by Club Giraud, the unmistakable beat of David Bowie signaled something special was about to begin.

Fog filled the garden and a laser light show commenced electrifying the crowd for a full 20-minute display. The Neiman Marcus After Party that followed was a scene unto itself providing even more magic for Gala guests to enjoy. Patrons danced the night away, spent time at the casino tables and lounged in the elegantly-appointed surroundings created by Neiman Marcus' own Xitlalt Herrera-Salazar. **S**

ARRIVAL: SAN ANTONIO



Christina Varela Mayer and Lisa Galo Westmoreland



Holly Tupper Beinhorn and Will Beinhorn



Rick Frederick and Chris Sauter



Floral design by Trinity Flowers



Marks Moore



Jennifer and Mark Johnson

THE CAUSE:

The event was co-chaired by Sarah and Marks Moore, each artists themselves, A portion of the Gala proceeds provide support for the newly-established Bachelor of Fine Arts program at the Southwest School of Art. Now known as Texas' only independent art school. The school's inaugural graduating class will receive their degrees in the spring of 2018. The mission of the Southwest School of Art is to teach and advance the visual arts for the benefit of students seeking higher education and for others seeking education and enrichment. **S**



Michael Mewborne, David and Meredith Alvarez, Krista Chapman, Jessica Mewborne & Clint and Jessica Worth



Amanda Raba Gentis



Tim McHugh, Linda Spencer, Perny Shea, Ben Hernandez, Carol, Smeltzer, Cece Cheever and Zifa Esparza



Bud Smothers, Rosalind Miles and Robin Cross



Justin and Melody Boyd



Lisa Weller and Shannon Houston



Cosmo and Danielle Guido, Taylor and Kate Dawson, Easton McNab





JORGE L. MENENDEZ
Certified by The American Board of Plastic Surgery
Fellow of The American College of Surgeons
Member of The American Society of Plastic Surgeons
Member of The American Society for Aesthetic Plastic Surgery

M
JORGE L. MENENDEZ, M.D., F.A.C.S.
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Board Certified Plastic Surgeon Dr. Jorge L. Menendez understands that treatment does not begin and end with a surgical procedure. The special bond he creates with each patient fosters an unparalleled level of comfort. He believes in frequent follow ups with each person in order to monitor the results over time and ensure the best in health and happiness.

His emphasis on minimally invasive procedures sets him apart from other cosmetic surgeons. He encourages realistic expectations while still delivering phenomenal results. From facelifts to tummy tucks to Botox to breast augmentation, Dr. Menendez is highly skilled in the art of perfecting all parts of the body. In the end, his talent and compassion will improve your body and satisfy your mind.



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FABULOUS AT 40

Seton Development Board Celebrates 40 Years,
Honors Luci Baines Johnson

By Rob Giardinelli | Photography by Brandi Nellis Photography



Jennifer Ikard and Ana Hunt



Big Night Quartet



Laurel Hooper



Jeff and Sylvia Thomas

THE SCENE:

A spectacular night at the Four Seasons in Austin celebrated four decades of a fall social season mainstay. The 40th annual Seton Development Board gala delivered an evening of entertainment that also honored a beloved Austin resident whose family legacy lives within so many of the things Austinites hold dear.

THE VIBE:

The evening began for the black-tie crowd of 470 on the terrace beyond the ballroom's foyer for a cocktail hour that featured the SDB Band Big Night Quartet, serving as a perfect backdrop for banter and conversation. The festivities then moved into the ballroom where guests dined on a multi-course meal during the evening's program that included moving testimonials from Austin residents who have benefitted from the Seton Women's Heart Center. The gala was capped with a presentation by Seton Development Board President Nicole Nugent Covert, who bestowed her mother Luci Baines Johnson with the Daughters of Charity Award.



Luci Baines Johnson and Carolyn Curtis



Clifford and Leigh Chiu & Martha and Greg Clay



Jacy Donovan, Nicole Covert and Lori Johnson



Charmaine McGill, Vicki Eidman and Lanette Smith



Terri Quinn and Diana Dobson



Mary Lou and Charles Morrison



Amy Porter and Catherine Sansbury



Brent and Nicole Covert & Luci Baines Johnson and Ian Turpin



Steve Goldsmith and Kristin Patton



THE CAUSE:

The evening, co-chaired by Jacy Donovan and Lori Johnson, raised over \$440,000 for the Seton Heart Institute and Seton Women's Heart Center. Over the last 40 years, the Seton Development Board gala has raised over \$14 million for various Seton initiatives including Mother and Baby Services and the Sister Gertrude Levy Endowment for the Poor. **S**



Lisa Youngblood and Kathy Terry



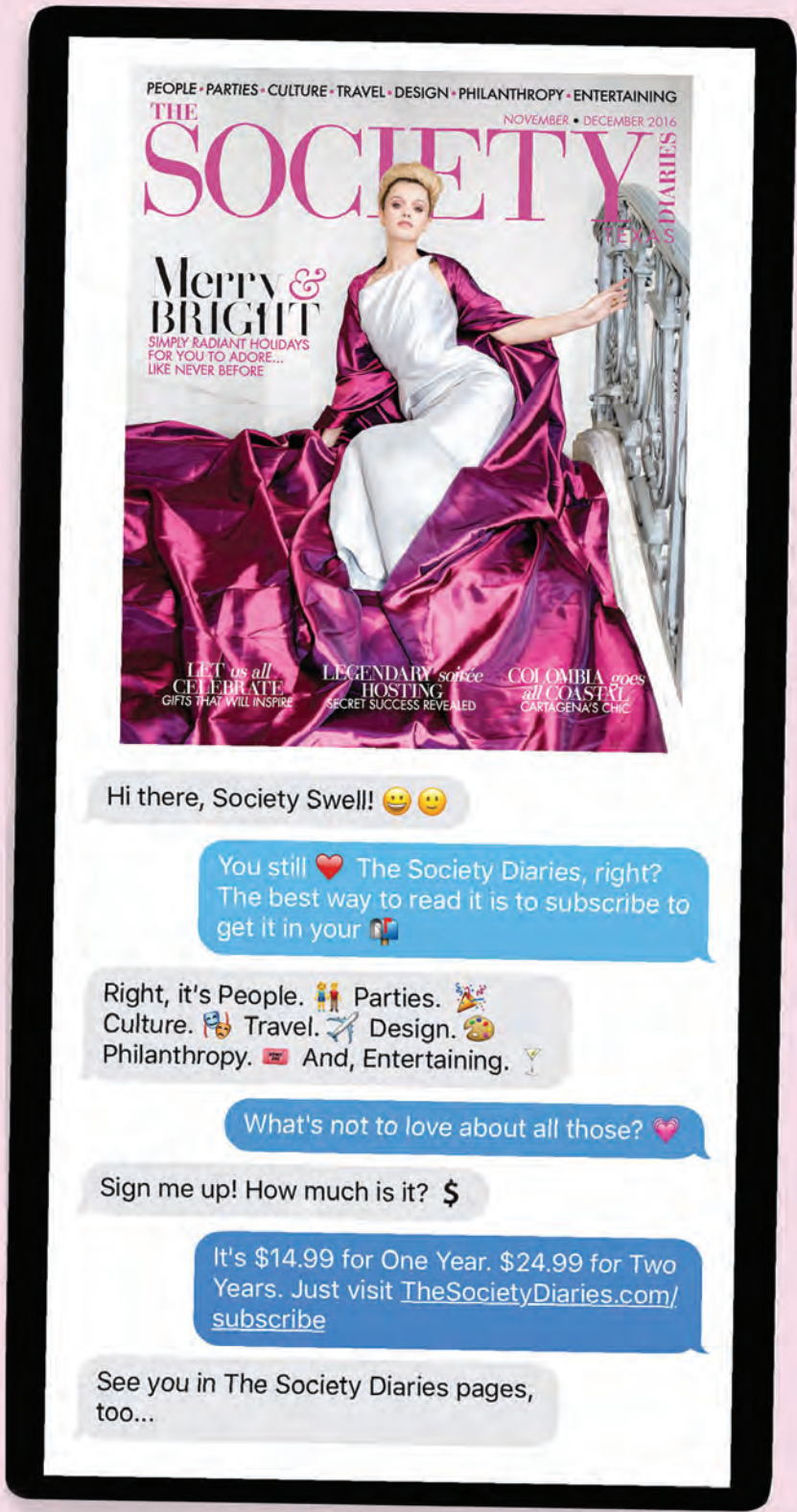
Craig Cordola and Sr. Joanna Vasa



Drs. Caitlin and Eric Giesler



Andrew and Mary Ann Heller



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Heather and James Chandler



Jeff and Sylvia Thomas

IT'S GAME NIGHT

The 47th Annual Witte Game Dinner Ushers In New Era For Museum

By Shannon Miller Turner | Photography by Greg Harrison



Karen Lee Zachry and Sonya Medina Williams

THE SCENE:

The 47th annual Witte Game Dinner, recently held on the grounds of the museum, served to celebrate the first year of the “New Witte” and to raise funds for educational programs, operations and exhibitions. The event was chaired by Susan Naylor and honored Peggy Walker and Sam Dawson, co-chairs of the organization’s capital campaign.

THE VIBE:

As the museum’s largest annual fundraiser, the Game Dinner lived up to its name. Both live and silent auctions offered the perfect partnership for a concert by country vocalist Aaron Lewis. Additional décor by Danny Cuellar of Trinity Flowers and Alex Woerhle included a glorious floral Phoenix generously donated by Susan Naylor representing the evening’s theme, *Carrying the Torch With Texas Flair*.

The evening featured a delicious array of wild-game cuisine provided by The RK Group...during a reception at the Witte’s Valero Great Hall, Rosemary’s Catering took guests palates traveling throughout Texas inside and outside the Witte with a Texas Farmers Market theme that was filled with local farmed greens and vegetables, sausage and charcuterie. The Texas game meat stations, with roasted and smoked meats carved to order, also featured crisp chicken fried quail stations with creamy gravy and buttermilk biscuits. The South Texas stations provided achiote grilled hangar steak tacos, venison enchiladas and hand-patted gorditas. The Taste of Seafood stations were highlighted with Texas shrimp, lobster and crawfish boil, blackened redfish and paellas. The evening’s desserts served in the South Texas Heritage Center included donut walls, sweet and spicy ancho brownies, kettle corn cupcakes and a D.I.Y. s’mores station.



Anna Wulfe and Kristin Tips



Marise McDermott, Susan Naylor, Peggy Walker and Sam Dawson



Diane Palmer and Anna Sigman



Tracee Feik & Ryan and Jessica Berg



Peggy Walker, Frank Laurel and Christina McCarthy



Heather Williams and Billy Ray Sheppard



Debbie and Charlie Morino



Katy Alexander and Robert Vogt



Bruce and Alethea Bugg



Eddie and Cristina Aldrete & Linda and Doug Howland



Jackson and Lindsey Mahoun



Brandon and Triana Grossman



Cary Huffstutler, Pam Gilbert and Dori Wile



Adrianna McKinnon and Monty Lennox



THE CAUSE:

Founded in 1926, the Witte Museum is where science, nature and culture meet... among the themes of land, water and sky. Located on the banks of the San Antonio River, The Witte is San Antonio's premiere museum that promotes lifelong learning through exhibitions, programs and collections in natural history, science and South Texas heritage. **S**



The Phoenix designed by Alex Woehrle of Trinity Flowers



Bob and Patty Hayes



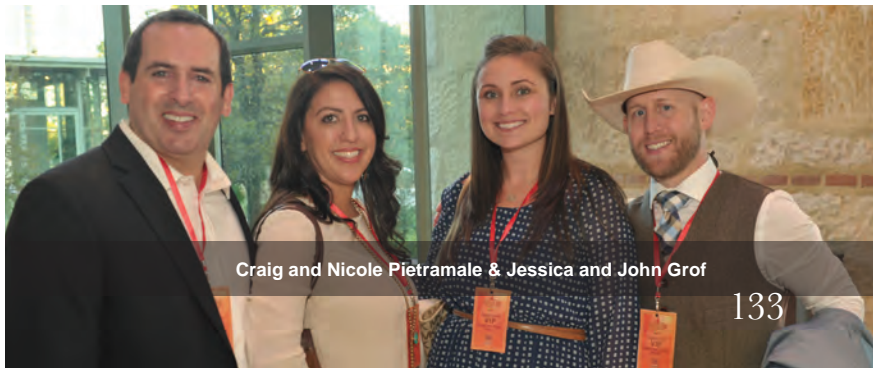
Jennifer Stearns, Michele Camp and Linda Gail Dullnig



Gloria and Miguel Dilley & Rick Liberto



Kathleen and Curtis Gunn



Craig and Nicole Pietramale & Jessica and John Grof



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AUSTIN

January 20

Merry Merry Martini Mixer
Equality Texas
EqualityTexas.org

January 27

Dell Children's Imagine Gala
Dell Children's Medical Center
DellcChildrens.net

January 27

HRC Austin Gala
Human Rights Campaign
HRCAustin.org

January 27

Somewhere Down in Texas Gala
Austin Smiles!
AustinSmiles.org

February 3

CASAblanca
CASA of Travis County
CasaTravis.org

February 3

Rodeo Austin Gala
RodeoAustin.com

February 3

Guess Who's Coming to Dinner
Project Transitions
ProjectTransitions.org

February 10

Ellsworth Kelly Austin Grand
Opening Dinner
Blanton Museum of Art
BlantonMuseum.org

February 11

Feed The Peace Awards
The Nobility Project
Nobility.org

February 17

Austin Opera Serenata Dinner
AustinOpera.org

DALLAS

January 13

Love Rocks: The 20th Annual
Bishop's Gala
Catholic Charities of Dallas
CCDallas.org

January 27

Toy Town: TBPP 6
The Birthday Party Project
TheBirthdayPartyProject.org

January 29

Soups On Luncheon
The Stewpot Alliance
SoupsOnDallas.com

February 3

UNICEF Gala
UNICEF
UnicefUSA.org

February 13

On Stage Dinner
Dallas Opera
DallasOpera.org

February 17

Presentation Ball
Dallas Symphony Orchestra
League
DallasSymphonyLeague.org

February 23

Dallas Go Red for Women
Luncheon – AHA
DallasGoRed.ahaevents.org

February 24

Aging Mind
Foundation Gala
AgingMindFoundation.org

February 22

Luncheon & Fashion Show
Attitudes & Attire
AttitudesAndAttire.org

HOUSTON

January 30

Rienzi Society
Annual Dinner
Museum of Fine Arts Houston
MFAH.org

February 8

Picnic for the Park
Memorial Park Conservancy
MemorialParkConservancy.org

January 27

Club 31: Winter Ball
Crohn's & Colitis Foundation
CCFA.org

February 3

Houston Heart Ball
American Heart Association
Heart.org/houston

February 10

Bejeweled
The Center for Success and
Independence
TCSL.org

February 15 – March 1

Cyber Gala
The John Cooper School
JohnCooper.org

February 26

Spring Luncheon
Breakthrough Houston
BreakthroughHouston.org

SAN ANTONIO

January 11

Opening Night at the Doseum
Houston Street Charities
SanAntonioCocktailConference.com

January 13

Taste The Dream Gala
San Antonio for Growth on the
Eastside
SageSanAntonio.org

January 20

Rodeo Ball
San Antonio Stock
Show & Rodeo
SARodeo.com

February 2

Casino for a Cause:
Under a Moroccan Sky Junior
League of
San Antonio
JLSA.org

February 3

Khaki & Plaid Gala: A Royal
Ball
Archdiocese of San Antonio
ARCHSA.org

February 10

Valentine Style Show &
Luncheon
Friends of Hospice San Antonio
FriendsOfHospiceSA.org

February 12

Student Media Gala
University of Incarnate Word
UIW.edu

**BY KEVIN SMOTHERS AND LAURA VILLAGRAN-JOHNSON
FOR MORE INFORMATION VISIT AUSTINSOCIALPLANNER.COM**



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