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A close-up, low-angle shot of a person's legs from the waist down, wearing a white, flowing dress. The person is walking barefoot on a sandy beach. The background is a soft, golden sunset over the ocean, with gentle waves lapping at the shore. The lighting is warm and ethereal, creating a serene and romantic atmosphere.

—//—

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Incorporating sophistication with elegance and beauty, the resort offers residents the chance to escape from the hustle and bustle of everyday life. Whether strolling along the beach, enjoying a game of golf on the impressive 222-acre Arnold Palmer Signature links-style course, or relaxing at the world-class Pool and Amenities Center, Palmilla Beach has something for everyone.

Luxurious New Urbanism homes, homesites and condominiums are now available for sale in the first development in Palmilla Beach, Village North. Construction is well underway on seven homes and casitas, and ground has been broken on the Seagate

Condominiums, which are already more than 50% under contract. All within close proximity to the beach, bay, golf course and pool, each residence offers spectacular views like nowhere else in Port Aransas.

Additionally, Palmilla Beach's on-property Black Marlin Bar & Grill features live music and an ever changing menu of contemporary coastal cuisine. Palmilla Beach residents are sure to enjoy this upscale, casual escape after a long day at the beach, pool or fishing in the bay.

Don't miss your chance to call this one-of-a-kind coastal, community home. For a day, a week, or forever, Palmilla Beach Resort & Golf Club is the perfect escape for the beachgoer, golfer or fisherman.

Visit PalmillaBeach.com or call the Welcome Center at 361.749.3628 for more information.



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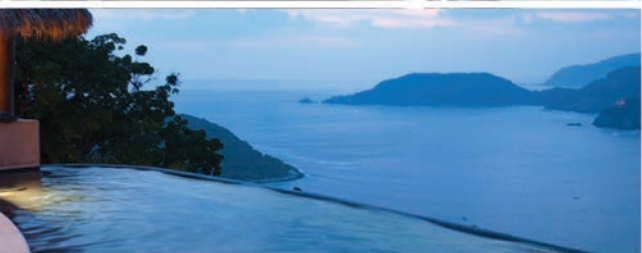
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Beautifully decorated with original artwork by Mexico's most renowned artists, no luxury has been spared at Casa Cielo. From the 28' ceilings to the whole-house water purification system, you'll feel right at home in this estate designed for those as discerning as you.

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Along with our recent transition to UBS, we are pleased to announce the addition of two new team members. With a combined 100 years of financial services experience, our larger team offers more experience and guidance to address a full spectrum of sophisticated wealth management needs.

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NOVEMBER DECEMBER

104. LA BELLE ÉPOQUE

The beautiful age of the here and now has never been more stunning than with our foursome of lovelies. The bevy of beauties, with attention paid to the grace of today's modern world, evoke an era of elegance that was so full of promise and hope. Join us as we waltz across the St. Anthony Hotel in San Antonio wearing the best gowns of the season.

Photography by Romy Suskin • Styling by Megan Kyle Bennett

114. ENLIGHTENED LUXURY

Love to give as much as you love to receive? You are in the right place here with us to be inspired and yes, entertained with our compendium of chic gifts for those of any age. This year, over-the-top elegance and refinement are very much in demand, of course. Now, didn't the holidays just get much easier for you?

By Lance Avery Morgan, Jason Schubert, and Jonathan Spindel

122. FLORENCE: FABULOUS & FASCINATING

The wondrous jewel of the Italian crown, Florence, has both an old world feel, as well as a modern vibe. The big mix. Here we see, do, eat and drink our way across the area with key recommendations for your next visit.

By Emma Lomax-Cohen

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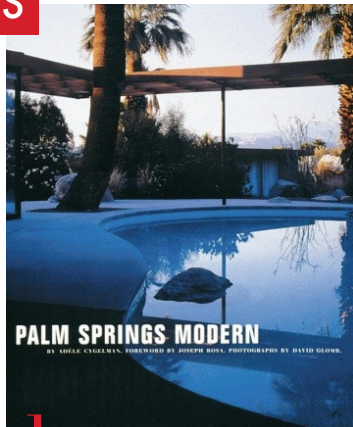
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38. Read

Want to read the best tomes of the season? We've gathered our favorites that will inspire you throughout all of next year, too.



The Capital Grille, Austin

40. Connect

Where to go for some refreshment at the end of a long, hard day of deals? We chose our favorites across Texas to help you unwind and also, connect with others of like minds, according to Molly Bayme.



Lauren Worsham, courtesy Broadway World

46. Reveal

Houston's happening retail and philanthropic scene is thriving, thanks to the city's always-present attention to style, according to our chic Elizabeth Wilhite.

31. Contribute

It takes a village to create a magazine and its digital media platform. Here is a look at the many dynamos who have helped make it happen this month.

32. Publish

Publisher Eduardo Bravo is ready to dive into the holiday season, surrounded by family and friends.

34. Edit

Creative Director and Editor-in-Chief Lance Avery Morgan is grateful for another fantastic year. Here he lends some insight to the past, as well as the future.

42. Behave

Our dynamic Ms. Modern Manners, Sharon Schweitzer, shares her in-the-know etiquette reminders...and you may be surprised with some of her elegant living tips this time.

48. Evolve

Now is the time to note this year's endings and prepare for next year's beginnings for more happiness, according to our soulful and Austin-based Resonance Repatterning practitioner Mary Schneider.

50. Give

When philanthropic endeavors meet family commitments, the results can be mixed, according to Doug White in his new book, *Abusing Donor Intent*.

54. Perform

How to succeed on Broadway without really trying? In an exclusive interview with Austin-bred musical star Lauren Worsham, talent-finder Rose Betty Williams finds that it is both rewarding and hard work.

60. Promote

Join us as we glean more insight about San Antonio's Jingu House, The Shops at La Cantera, and jewelry designer David Yurman's visit to Neiman Marcus San Antonio.



Camille Styles Entertaining

44. Entertain

Camille Styles Entertaining, the eponymously named book, has us excited for entertaining over the holidays hosted by Styles herself. Pull up a chair.



Vintage Bill Blass

52. Acquire

Our tastemaking style-setter Erin Busbee shares why 50-plus shades of gray will rule your closet this fall, like it has on fashion's top runways this season.



Behind the scenes with Mario Testino for the Alta Moda at the Dallas Contemporary

58. Curate

Art follower Molly Bayme shares with us how famed fashion photographer Mario Testino's Peru-inspired art exhibition at the Dallas Contemporary Museum is redefining the cultural landscape.



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**ENTRANCE
ARRIVAL**



64 SAN ANTONIO: Dan Aykroyd, Kim Lewis and Jim Belushi.



70 HOUSTON: Jeffrey Yates and Megan Hotze



ENTRANCE

- 62. SAN ANTONIO The Tobin Center for the Performing Arts gala
- 70. HOUSTON The Junior League Opening Day luncheon
- 76. AUSTIN *The Society Diaries*/ Neiman Marcus Fab Five event
- 80. DALLAS The Dallas Symphony Orchestra gala
- 88. SAN ANTONIO The Southwest School of Art gala
- 92. HOUSTON The Nature Conservancy event
- 94. AUSTIN The Ballet Austin Fête gala
- 98. SAN ANTONIO Lida Steves' debutante party
- 102. AUSTIN The Darryl K. Royal Alzheimer's gala

ARRIVAL

- 130. AUSTIN The Mexic-Arte Museum gala
- 132. HOUSTON The Citizens For Animal Protection and PetSet events
- 136. SAN ANTONIO The August Heart event
- 139. SAN ANTONIO The Anarte Gallery event

ARRANGE

144. ARRANGE Laura Villagran Johnson and Kevin Smothers of Austin Social Planner have canvassed the state for all the best events for you to attend.



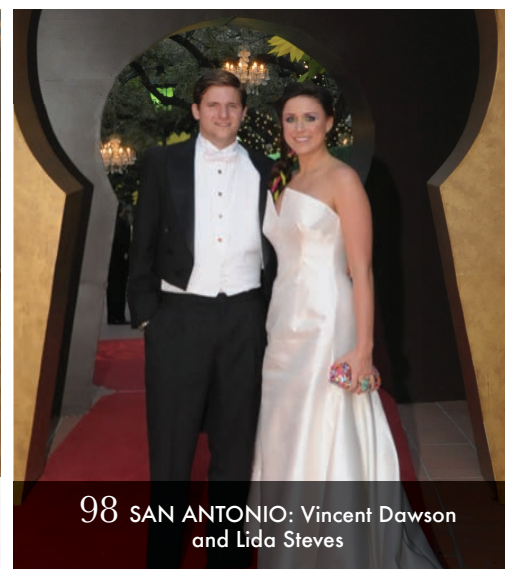
80 DALLAS: HRH Duchess of York Sarah Ferguson



102 AUSTIN: Ava Late, Vince Gill and Edith Royal



80 DALLAS: Mary Ellen Spears, Kathy Holt, and Angela Ross



98 SAN ANTONIO: Vincent Dawson and Lida Steves

GP GIRARD-PERREGAUX

MECHANICS OF TIME SINCE 1791



GIRARD-PERREGAUX 1966

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On the cover:

COMME D'HABITUDE

Top Left: Dress by Rivini, \$5,175, diamond earrings, \$365 by Fantasia, both at Julian Gold. Top Right: Dress by Theia, price upon request at theiaacouture.com. Necklace and Earrings, price upon request at Full Line Collection, NYC. Bottom Left: Dress by Raoul, \$685 at Neiman Marcus. Custom-made earrings by stylist. Bottom Right, Dress by Marchesa Notte, \$1,165 at Saks Fifth Avenue. Necklace by Kelacala Q by Lara Kurtzman, \$70 at kelacalaq.com. Vintage kid skin gloves, stylist's own. Feathers from The Feather Place, NYC.



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MEGAN KYLE BENNETT

The Austin-based fashion stylist and personal shopper is a graduate of Rhode Island School of Design and was previously based in New York and Los Angeles. Her style can be found in living color this month in our fashion feature cover story, *La Belle Époque*. Film, art, photography, and street style are her biggest influences and Bennett believes that the common thread among her Texas clients is that they are unapologetically glamorous and love to express their individuality. More of her work can be found at Megankylebennett.com



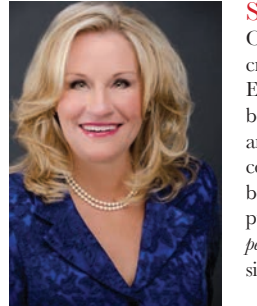
JASON SCHUBERT

Jason Schubert is a native Austinite, graduated from the University of Texas with a business degree, and has spent his career serving various industries in a financial capacity. He most recently served nine years as a financial and compliance executive for an Austin hedge fund, and is now responsible for operations of a local family office. Schubert balances his left-brain tendencies by reading, and working on personal interior and garden design projects, as well as compiling our holiday wish list feature this month.



ERIN BUSBEE

San Antonio style maven Erin Busbee founded her own fashion consulting company, Busbee Style, through which she offers fashion styling, personal shopping and closet organizing. Erin has appeared as a style expert on *Good Morning America*, *CBS 2 News This Morning*, *San Antonio Living*, Tyra Banks' *TypeF.com*, and *Great Day SA*. Busbee writes, produces, and presents style "How To" videos on her YouTube channel, BusbeeStyleTV, and she writes her own fashion and beauty blog, found at BusbeeStyle.com

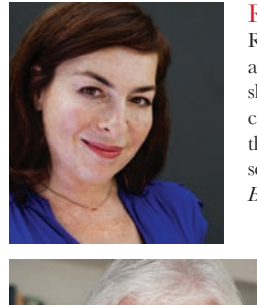


SHARON SCHWEITZER

Our Ms. Modern Manners expert Sharon Schweitzer is a global and cross-cultural consultant, an attorney, and the founder of Protocol & Etiquette Worldwide in Austin, Texas. Blending her experience as a board certified labor and employment lawyer with protocol officer and intercultural management training and her travel to all seven continents, her customized training for clients worldwide creates a better understanding of global culture and etiquette. She has been published in local, national and international media including *European Business Express*, *Texas Lawyer*, *Boston Business Journal*, and others since 2008. Photography by Korey Howell Photography.

EMMA LOMAX-COHEN

Proud New York native Emma Lomax-Cohen attended the University of Texas at Austin and studied International Relations and Global Studies. She most enjoys writing about traveling and photography as she as in this month's travel feature on Florence. Lomax-Cohen loves learning about new cultures and counts her time abroad in Italy as her highlight experience overseas. You can often find her exploring various pockets of New York taking photos.



ROMY SUSKIN

Raised in Ann Arbor, Michigan, educated in San Francisco and schooled in Los Angeles, photographer Romy Suskin has been shooting portraiture, music and fashion for over a decade. Proud to call Austin home now, Suskin built her portrait studio in the "04" three years ago and is loving the city's way of life. Her talents can be seen with her vision of high fashion in this month's cover story, *La Belle Époque* and at Romysuskin.com.

ROB GIARDINELLI

High tech professional by day, social commentator by night is what best describes our Associate Editor Rob Giardinelli and his multi-tasking when covering the Austin social stories. What may appear seamless actually takes hours of research, interviews, and photo gathering to accurately chronicle the Capital City's charitable event stories. Giardinelli himself is involved in several charities and loves sharing how Austinites so generously and passionately give back to the community they love, while weaving interesting social commentary and showcasing the many who work tirelessly to raise awareness toward important issues in the state.



DOUG WHITE

Doug White is the director of the Master of Science in Fundraising Management program at Columbia University. He also advises a small number of nonprofits on governance, fundraising and ethical decision-making, as well as individual philanthropists who wish to better direct their charitable support. He is a frequent speaker before donors, nonprofits and other groups. In this issue he writes about giving during the holidays in his story, *Virtue and Power*.

JENNIFER ROOSTH

Our 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."



ELIZABETH WILHITE

Navigating social scenes and neighborhood dives, Houston style contributor Elizabeth Wilhite says it's the people that make the party and the attitude that makes the outfit. Co-Chair of the American Heart Association's Young at Heart organization, Elizabeth advocates for a healthy lifestyle at every stage. She inspires others through her barre exercise classes and friendly approach to the Houston party circuit, too. Wilhite has a degree in Communications from the University of Texas at Austin and promotes the cause of numerous non-profit organizations.

MARY SCHNEIDER

Mary Schneider has been studying alternative healthcare modalities for over 20 years and is certified in Holographic Repatterning and Touch for Health. She has studied homeopathy, the Chinese Five Element Acupuncture System, The Work of Byron Katie and numerous other modalities. Her practice is the Holographic (Resonance) Repatterning Institute (Repatternit.com) and she happily resides and practices in Austin.



ROSE BETTY WILLIAMS

Wherever there is a wonderful party, there is usually social chronicler Rose Betty Williams. This month she writes about Austinite and rising Broadway star Lauren Worsham. She leads symposia, plans events, serves on boards and supports organizations from Opera America to the Helping Hand Home for Children and facilitates networking for project and product development. Williams is a longtime Austin resident, freelance writer and photographer with a passion for fine art, music, wine, food and life... and a deep love for her family and community.

PUBLISH



GOODBYES & HELLOS

SO LONG 2014, AND WELCOME 2015 AHEAD. THERE IS probably no better time of the year to give thanks than these couple of months. As we gather around the dinner table to feast in the abundance that is Thanksgiving and Christmas, sharing a warm meal and great company, a realization inspires me. It is the fuller understanding of what really matters in life and that this time of year, as always, is the appropriate time to reflect on life, family, and friends.

I am vowing to spend more time with my family this next year, aren't you? Sometimes we forget to make time for our loved ones. We are all so busy with our day-to-day lives that it is easy to forget the real meaning in life: being centered on the people who mean the most to us. Some families see each other often; however, others, due to distant residences, are not together as often as they would like. It is so easy to say, "Let's see each other more during the new year," yet the opportunity to do so routinely slips past.

I like to remember all the things that make this season so special: I love holiday tree shopping, making the tree the only light in the living room. Watching how, with time, presents begin to nestle in the tree, reminding me how much love there is around me. Then there are the meals with the desserts characteristic of this time of year, along with picking the perfect gift for my loved ones, and, of course, the holiday tunes playing all around. Such traditions always seem to beautifully express how we all feel at this time of year.

Speaking of being grateful, how can we forget you? *You* are why we create a publication that won't be found anywhere else, and *you* are the reason we know our future is bright! So with the merriest of holiday wishes to you, we look forward to being a part of your continued success in 2015 by keeping in mind the true spirit of the season throughout next year, too. We at *The Society Diaries* wish you a merry holiday, and the best for 2015.



Eduardo Bravo,
President, CEO & Publisher
Eduardo@thesocietydiaries.com

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THE BEST OF EVERYTHING

IN TEXAS WE READILY REALIZE WE HAVE THE BEST OF everything: a Southern climate, Northern enterprise, Eastern sophistication, and Western self-confidence. If you have been in this state for a while, you already know that. If you are new, we welcome you and all the things you are about to discover here that makes this area of the country so special.

About this time of year we tend to get a little reflective around here, too – retrospectively ruminative of what an exciting year it has been; whom we've met, the high performers we've profiled, the events we've celebrated in these pages that have raised countless millions for worthwhile causes, and the style, trends, and ingenuity of so many that we have translated for our readers from breakfast to ballroom.

Most importantly, being in the present and absorbing everything around us has been an endeavor of epic proportions this year. Perhaps author and mythologist Joseph Campbell states it best in *The Power of Myth*, which can apply to the myth and reality of Texas: *Follow your bliss, find where it is, and don't be afraid to follow it. If you think small, then your world will be small. If you think big, your world will be bigger.* He wrote about the hero's journey and plainly stated he invites us to *be our own personal hero*. How cool is that? DIY heroism, from home to the workplace, to the wider world beyond us is possible.

I have a multitude, to say the least, of personal heroes at *The Society Diaries*. To mention their specific talents would take volumes, so I always let the pages unfold and they speak for themselves. The world-class voices of our editorial and publishing teams reflected here are curated and wildly creative. How could they not be, given our mission and point of view to celebrate, celebrate, celebrate the good in the world with which we surround ourselves? We seek the joy in life, and as spiritual author Paulo Coelho vividly illustrates in the groundbreaking book, *The Alchemist: find a place where there is joy and it will burn out the pain*.

This month we have a culmination of joy, greatly inspired by the vintage holiday covers you see on this page. From joyful, glamorama fashion, shot on location nearby at the fabled St. Anthony Hotel in San Antonio, and captured by the triumvirate of photographer Romy Suskin, stylist Megan Bennett, and feature producer Amy Whitehouse. Then, we jet on a trip to the bountiful, glorious Florence, as seen by Emma Lomax-Cohen. Our over-the-top holiday wish list of gifts to give, and receive, shared by Jason Schubert, Jonathan Spindel, and our team exudes how we are always looking for the new and different. So we thought, why not share some fun holiday gifts that we'd enjoy giving to each and every one of you? Heck, we'd like to try them, too,

Of course, our regular departments contain a great deal of insight that focuses on leading a more elegant and metropolitan life. The riches of the season unfold in this issue and every one ahead, so be inspired and enjoy the holidays like never before as you prepare for a triumphant 2015. Happy Holidays and a very wonderful New Year to you and yours.

XO Lance Avery Morgan
lance@thesocietydiaries.com



Photography by Jen Perez
 Styling by Amanda Donley
 Location: The Driskill Hotel



Oscar de la Renta



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SAN ANTONIO AUSTIN CORPUS CHRISTI MIDLAND

Julian Gold



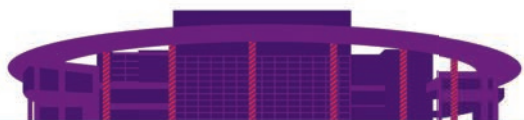
2014 • 2015

This year, make time for...



- 1 ELF: THE MUSICAL Nov 28–30** *The New York Times says that ELF is "Splashy, peppy, sugar-sprinkled holiday entertainment!"*
- 2 DISNEY IN CONCERT Jan 11** *Magical moments from the classic animated films, accompanied by a full orchestra, vocalists, and eye-filling visuals.*
- 3 BLUE MAN GROUP Feb 19–22** *Experience the phenomenon, for the first time or the fifth! "Stunning," "wildly inventive," and "hysterically funny!"*
- 4 2 CELLOS Feb 28** *Breaking boundaries between musical genres, 2 Cellos toured with Elton John and became international sensations.*

JEANNE ROBERTSON November 14	FRANKIE VALLI & THE FOUR SEASONS February 17
BURT BACHARACH November 23	VIENNA BOYS CHOIR March 1
SISTER'S CHRISTMAS CATECHISM December 26–27	CONFESSIONS OF A PRAIRIE B#@! April 28–May 3
SALUTE TO VIENNA January 4	CELTIC WOMAN May 14
CANADIAN BRASS January 28	THE MIDTOWN MEN May 23
BILL BRYSON January 30	JOHNNY MATHIS June 13
DATE* February 3–8	MILLION DOLLAR QUARTET June 21
ELVIS LIVES! February 8	



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SOPHISTICATED HOLIDAYS

Choose La Cantera Mall For Go-To Gifting

'TIS THE SEASON TO SHARE WITH FAMILY AND FRIENDS, enjoy great food, sip sparkling cocktails and, of course, shop. Whether you are searching for the right gadget for him, baubles for her, games for the kid-dos, or a present for your office confidante, you can find all of your style-defining gift ideas at The Shops at La Cantera in San Antonio. Its meandering water features, naturally landscaped gardens, crystal-adorned fir trees, and 10-foot tall reindeers create an enchanting, awe-inspiring backdrop for holiday shopping. The Shops at La Cantera is home to many luxury retailers that are unique to the city, including Neiman Marcus, Nordstrom and Tiffany & Co., plus more than 300 specialty stores, including Apple and Microsoft for the techno savvy shoppers.

That's not all that sparkles. The Shops at La Cantera recently welcomed new retailers like: H&M; Lolli & Pops; Madewell; and PINK. Lady Gaga and Tony Bennett are touting H&M holiday value with their new album *Cheek to Cheek*, which also solidifies H&M's fashion appeal to both genders and all generations, and offers everything from basics to inspiring fashion items for the whole family.

Have a sweet tooth? Visit Lolli & Pops that features unique sweets from all over the world. Savor chocolate from Madagascar, sourbelts from Spain or a soda from Japan. Edible gifts are always in fashion. Want sophisticated and fun? Madewell, by J. Crew, offers a clothing line to live, work and play in from urban Boho to luxury denim. PINK by Victoria Secret is home to comfy, effortlessly cool clothing and accessories made for spirited, true of heart, intelligent, and inspired women.

Altar'd State and Whiskey Cake Kitchen and Bar are two first-to-the-market options coming in November. Altar'd State is an energetic fashion boutique for women interested in the latest fashion finds, the most anticipated accessories, or that next great gift. Abundant options abound. When you're ready to take a break from shopping, enjoy Whiskey Cake Kitchen and Bar, a "farm-to-fork, garden-to-glass" restaurant that serves seasonally rotating, eccentric menus of cuisine and libations made with fresh, locally sourced ingredients. It opens November 17th. And, if you just can't decide what to get, purchase a Shop Etc. gift card that is always a welcome addition to the holiday stocking and also good at The Shops at La Cantera's sister property, North Star. The Shops at La Cantera is extending its holiday shopping hours, so visit Theshopsatlacantera.com, or call 210.582.6255 for extended mall hours, events and retail offers. **S**

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PROMOTE



Tom Wensinger, David Yurman, Avril Graham and Jim Gold

GOLDEN ERA

By *Sasha Ellington*

Photography by *Greg Harrison*

WHAT HAPPENS WHEN YOU MIX LUXE JEWELRY WITH A chic, in-store event? It happened recently when Neiman Marcus San Antonio, the store's president Jim Gold, and general manager Tom Wensinger brought a contemporary fashion icon to the city. With the viewing of David Yurman's new Venetian Quatrefoil Collection, the designer himself appeared to share his jewelry-designing point of view. Facilitated by Avril Graham of *Harper's Bazaar*, the VIP shoppers were on-hand to share the stories of the master's work, as well as enjoying spirits and light bites. **S**

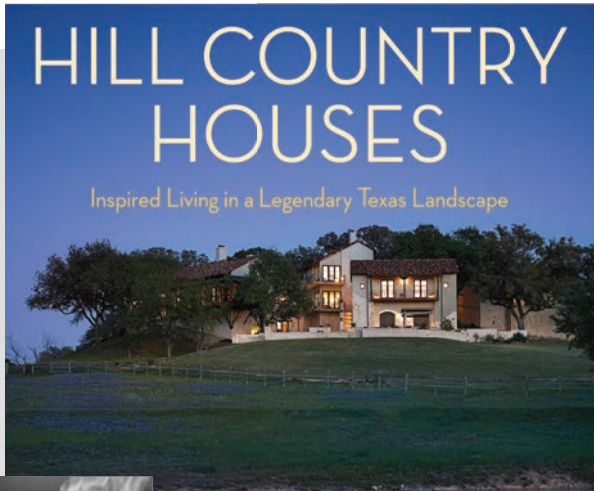


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WELL-READ

Our savvy bibliophile Meredith Heins highlights the latest and most glamorous tomes of the season to grace your coffee table, bookshelf and stylish sensibility

LANVIN: I LOVE YOU BY ALBER ELBAZ This is a stellar showcase of the fashion and spirit of Lanvin with nearly two hundred compositions of Elbaz's work that is full of transformative energy. \$75 at Rizzoliusa.com

HILL COUNTRY HOUSES BY CYNDY SEVERSON This spectacularly volume presents 19 of the area's most exemplary private homes, from meticulously renovated ranches to sustainable houses built around heritage oak trees...with lush photography to provide a glimpse of how today's Hill Country resident lives. \$50. At Monacellipress.com

HALSTON BY LESLEY FROWICK Written by Halston's niece and confidante, the pages reflect his glamorous, minimalist aesthetic that personified American fashion in the electric 1970s. \$75 at Rizzoliusa.com

ROBERT COUTURIER DESIGNING PARADISES BY ROBERT COUTURIER Feast your eyes on gorgeous images by touring Couturier's country retreat in bucolic Kent, Connecticut that reflects his passion for luxury and beauty. \$60 at Rizzoliusa.com

PAULA PRYKE: WEDDINGS BY PAULA PRYKE An essential book packed with exquisite photographs and floral displays for planning every aspect of the wedding day and beyond. \$35 at Rizzoliusa.com

MARELLA AGNELLI: THE LAST SWAN BY MARELLA AGNELLI AND MARELLA CARACCILOLO CHIA Gaze over the exclusive world of one of the twentieth century's most glamorous and alluring women, as seen through her private homes and garden that are full of timeless elegance. \$65 at Rizzoliusa.com

JEAN-LOUIS DENIOT: INTERIORS BY DIANE DORRANS SAEKS, PHOTOGRAPHED BY XAVIER BEJOT As the epitome of French style, Jean-Louis Deniot's classical approach graces interiors in Paris, the French countryside, Moscow, India, New York, Chicago, L.A., and beyond. It offers inspiration and ideas to decorators, homeowners, and antiques enthusiasts. \$75 at Rizzoliusa.com

ESCAPE: THE HEYDAY OF CARIBBEAN GLAMOUR BY HERMES MALLEA Hermes Mallea takes the reader inside a world of beach parties and costume balls set in lush tropical landscapes: rarefied resorts and fairy-tale private estates in Antigua, Barbados, Cuba, and Jamaica, to name a few. \$60 at Rizzoliusa.com

THE ART OF DISCOVERY: HOLLYWOOD STARS REVEAL THEIR INSPIRATIONS BY ROBIN BRONK, PHOTOGRAPHED BY JEFF VESPA Immerse yourself in one hundred intimate portraits of celebrities relating personal stories about their inspirations with a portion of the proceeds going to The Creative Coalition. \$45 at Rizzoliusa.com.

ETRO BY RENATA MOLHO Celebrating a brand famous for its lustrous fabrics and artisanal quality, this acclaimed piece of work features the materials and prints that make Etro unique and inimitable. \$85 at Rizzoliusa.com

NEIMAN MARCUS COOKS: RECIPES FOR BELOVED CLASSICS AND UPDATED FAVORITES

BY KEVIN GARVIN AND JOHN HARRISSON A must have for foodies, the crowd-pleasing tome offers recipes with a well-rounded repertoire of tried-and-true recipes that embody classic American style. \$65 at Rizzoliusa.com.

THE BEST OF FLAIR BY FLEUR COWLES Critically lauded for its sharp mix of clothes, literature, art, travel, decor, theater, and humor, Flair magazine made publishing history in the 1950's with its combination of eclectic editorial content and lavish production quality. \$125 at Rizzoliusa.com.

PALM SPRINGS MODERN: HOUSES IN THE CALIFORNIA DESERT BY ADELE CYGELMAN, FOREWORD BY JOSEPH ROSA, PHOTOGRAPHED BY DAVID GLOMB Showcasing some jet-set homes designed by the likes of Neutra, Frey, Lautner, and others, this mecca of international style features examples of Mid-Century Modernism at its most glamorous. \$40 at Rizzoliusa.com

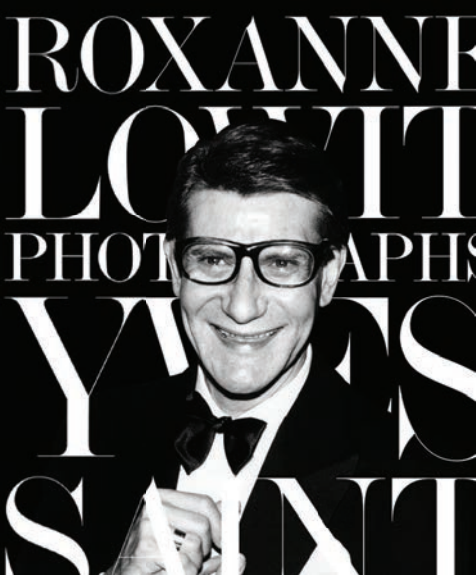
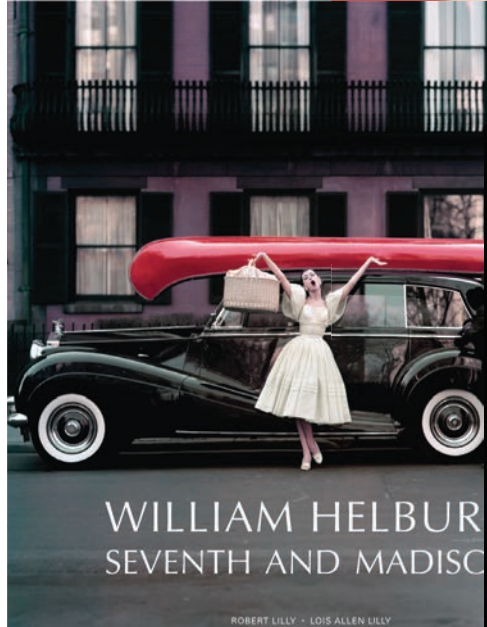
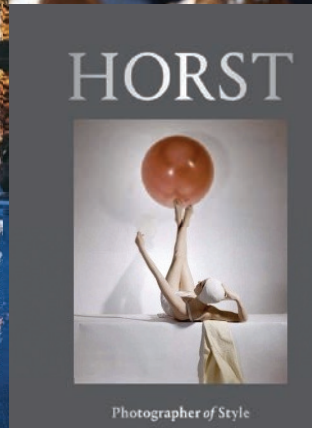
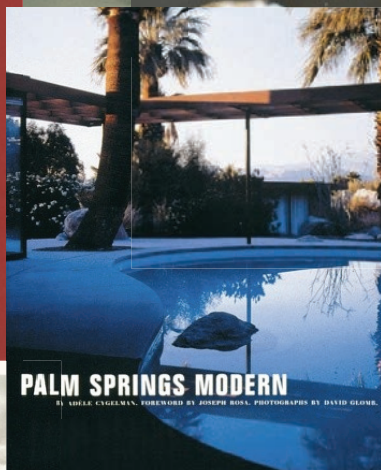
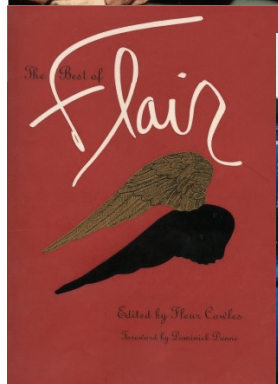
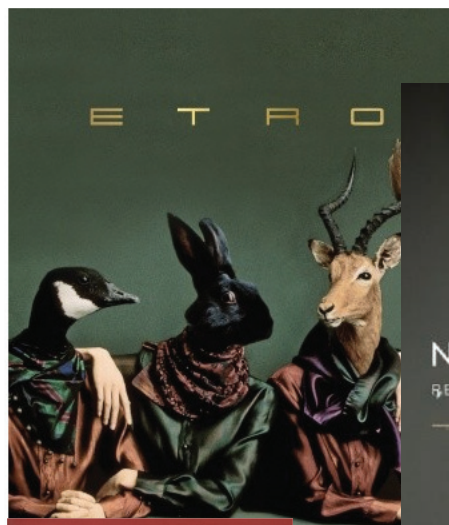
HORST: PHOTOGRAPHER OF STYLE BY PHILIPPE GARNER, CLAIRE WILCOX AND ROBIN MUIR, EDITED BY SUSANNA BROWN, FOREWORD BY ANNA WINTOUR Celebrating the entire career of legendary fashion photographer Horst P. Horst, this rich illustration includes a retrospective of the photographer's career, spanning fashion, nudes, portraiture, interiors, and art at the Victoria and Albert Museum. \$75 at Rizzoliusa.com

PARIS MAGNUM BY ERIC HAZAN This archive of the everyday workings of Paris captures the essence of Parisian life. From fashion shows to underground jazz clubs and from the metro to indoor cafes and beyond. \$65.00 at Rizzoliusa.com

PAPARAZZI!: PHOTOGRAPHERS, STARS, ARTISTS BY CLEMENT CHEROUX Exploring the complex love-hate relationship between celebrity and photography, here is the oft-disparaged profession in contemporary art today. \$60 at Rizzoliusa.com

WILLIAM HELBURN: SEVENTH AND MADISON BY WILLIAM HELBURN A quintessential figure of the Mad Men era's Golden Age of advertising, Helburn was one of the most prolific and dynamic photographers of the New York school that dominated fashion and advertising from the late 1940s through the 1960s and this collection is peerless. \$65 at Thamesandhudson.com

YVES ST LAURENT BY ROXANNE LOWIT This dazzling portrait represents Yves Saint Laurent and his world of fashion over the last 25 years of his career, as well as the backstage experience at YSL's shows. \$50 at Thamesandhudson.com



POWER HOUR

Find The Best Austin, Dallas, Houston And San Antonio Hot Spots To Visit When The Clock Strikes Five

by Molly Bayme



The Capital Grille, Austin

AUSTIN

Breathtaking views of Lady Bird Lake and live entertainment make **The Lobby Lounge at the Four Seasons** (98 San Jacinto Blvd. 512.478.4500) a premier social getaway for the Hollywood types and power players that is often referred to as “Austin’s Living Room.” One of Austin’s renowned eateries, **Capital Grille** (117 West 4th St. 512.322.2005) offers the perfect balance of charm and urban elegance that exceeds expectations and continues to create selections that keep our mouths watering. Dramatic décor and lighting elevate **Perry’s Bar 79** (114 W. 7th St. 512.474.6300) to elusive heights and is the place to be when the clock hits 5, especially with the politicians. Venture to **Bar Congress** (200 Congress Ave, Austin, TX 78701 512.827.2760) and unwind at its sophisticated wine bar and cocktail lounge and select a plate and drink of your liking from their array of inspired options.



CBD Provisions, Dallas

DALLAS

Enliven your taste buds with the cosmopolitan cuisine of **Bistro 31** (87 Highland Park Village 214.420.3900). Bistro 31 has an extraordinary selection of French, Italian, and Spanish influenced foods. Indulge in the ambiance at **The Rattlesnake Bar at the Ritz Carlton Hotel** (2121 McKinney Avenue 214.922.0200). With its honey onyx radiance, extraordinary art collection, and its remarkable wine cellar in combination with its delicious cocktails, it’s no wonder this bar is one of Uptown Dallas’s top selections. **Knife Bar at the Palomar Hotel** (5300 East Mockingbird Lane 214.520.7969) puts a contemporary twist on the established steakhouse vibe, bringing the paramount and inventive Texas steaks to its customers. Relish your meal and mingle in the Knife bar. **CBD Provisions at the Joule Hotel** (1530 Main Street 214.261.4500). The culinary artists of this restaurant are ardent believers in creating meals in house, showcasing their commitment to sustainability.



Simone's On Sunset, Houston

HOUSTON

Brasserie 19 (1962 W Gray St 713.524.1919) is one of Houston’s novel and most posh scenes, offering its guests a European-infused getaway experience. **Mockingbird Bistro** (1985 Welch St. 713.533.0200) has a vibe that is “country-French meets American market” categorized as “funky gothic” due to its ornate gothic styled light fixtures and makes the bar memorable. **The Local Pour** (1952 West Gray St. 713.521.1881) is taking River Oaks by storm. This hipster pub offers a myriad of various beer types on tap, including our favorite Texan beers, of course. **Simone’s on Sunset** (2418 Sunset Blvd #A 713.636.3033) is an urban yet elegant setup is suited for intimate gatherings that make for good times with candles and cozy seating. **RDG+Bar Annie** (1728 Post Oak Blvd. 713.840.1111) has become an instant classic and is *the* go-to place for the super Sociables.



Ocho at Hotel Havana, San Antonio

SAN ANTONIO

In an attempt to create a union between the old and new worlds, **Ocho at Hotel Havana** (1015 Navarro Street 210.222.2008) provides its guests with a Latin culture vibe in combination with the city club-type atmosphere that exquisitely impacts the vibe and menu. **20 Nine Restaurant and Wine Bar** (255 East Basse Rd. 210.798.9463) will impress connoisseurs of finer things in life with delectable cheese dishes and dessert surprises and its perpetual dedication to the best of the wine country. Located in a historic building in San Antonio, you can rest assured that **Cured** (306 Pearl Pkwy 210.314.3929) exceeds all expectations with its craft cocktails and handcrafted, rave-worthy food selections (the burger is one of our favorites). Because of its tasty drinks, steaks and seafood, it’s no wonder **Bohanan’s** (219 E Houston St. 210.472.2600) remains a hotspot for the bold and the beautiful. **S**

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IT'S YOUR WONDERFUL LIFE

Around the holidays our *Ms. Modern Manners Sharon Schweitzer, JD* is in high gear to share her insight on everything from host gifts, career guidance for friend's children, awkward dinner tabs, and more

DEAR MS. MODERN MANNERS, A quick reminder, please, on hostess gifts during the holidays?

Guessing Guest

Dear Guessing Guest,

Arriving with a hostess gift is one of life's great social graces. Remember your mother's advice to never arrive empty handed? Express your appreciation by bringing a small, thoughtful gift. Avoid ostentatious offerings that embarrass the host or upstage other guests. For BFFs you bring their favorite author's newest release, a luxury candle, imported coffee or tea, or a shared memory beautifully framed. Unknown host? Ask mutual friends and discover what they like – otherwise, wrap and bring a new coffee table book, monogrammed napkins, or guest towels (paper or linen). Be cautious about alcohol, chocolate, nuts and fragrances due to potential allergies. Hosts bring us together and warm our hearts during the holidays, so express your thanks with elegance and panache.

Dear Ms. Modern Manners,

It happened again. I've been asked by a friend to help their college graduate child find a job in my field. I have little time and fewer resources. What's the best way to handle this?

Good Career Samaritan

Dear Good Career Samaritan,

When a friend asks a favor, remember it is a compliment and testament to your character, as well as a request for your valuable time. Graciously explain that you are honored, yet your time and resources are limited and all you can do at this time is share your humble advice.

Prepare a written resource to have ready at all times that you can personalize and send in response to these inquiries. Offer to make an email or LinkedIn introduction to a contact in the industry. Advise the graduate to create a professional LinkedIn profile to connect with classmates and industry contacts, and also encourage them to evaluate and join industry networks. Then, the graduate has the responsibility to move forward with your advice and your mission is accomplished. When the graduate lands that perfect first job, he or she will feel the



satisfaction that comes from starting a career, and you will maintain those precious relationships that weave the fabric of our lives.

Dear Ms. Modern Manners,

Recently it seems like there is an epidemic of *No Gifts, Please* on invitations for birthday parties, anniversaries and beyond. I love giving a gift to show how much I appreciate the person being honored. Am I in the wrong?

Gratefully Gifting

Dear Gratefully Gifting,

Although your kindness and thoughtfulness are admirable, yes, this time you are mistaken. Making someone feel special with a gift is a lovely expression. However, if the host requests *No Gifts*, it is your responsibility to honor their request. By bringing a gift, you disregard the host's wishes, make compliant guests uncomfortable, and create

a larger carbon footprint. If the honoree is family or a dear friend and gift giving is a custom, present your gift at a different time. When invited to a celebration where the no gifts request is included with the invitation, this means your presence is their gift.

Dear Ms. Modern Manners,

My husband and I love dining out with other couples. We're not foodies, so we don't order extravagantly. Yet, when the check comes, the other couple often says, "Let's just split it in half." We rarely order expensive bottles of wine like they do and are never hungry for dessert. How should we proceed?

Inclined Epicurean

Dear Inclined Epicurean,

Actor Michael J. Fox says: *The oldest form of theatre is the dinner table.* I, however, recommend skipping the drama. As a general rule, when dining with other couples, the courteous trend is to split the check equally to avoid debating the numbers. Try politely visiting privately with one member of the couple about 'separate checks.' However, if the well-dressed wino orders extravagantly on a consistent basis, try this approach: arrive early, advise the maître d or server in advance (or quietly as an aside) that your table requires two separate checks. Be gracious and remember that you can't put a price on friendship. **S**



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HOLIDAYS ON NICE

Camille Styles and her new book, *Camille Styles Entertaining: Inspired Gatherings and Effortless Style*, join us in this exclusive look at how to make your holiday dinner parties for family and friends more magically merry this year



SOME OF MY FAVORITE HOLIDAY MEMORIES CENTER around setting the table in preparation for a family feast. When I was little, my mom would let me craft place cards for the Thanksgiving table; I'd use my best cursive and colored pencils to scrawl each guest's name and a little reminder of one thing we had to be thankful for. A few days before Christmas, we'd unpack my mom's china adorned with evergreen trees and reindeer, which seemed even more special due to its limited use. These days, I still get a rush from designing a holiday table that feels different than the year before; one that sends a rush of delight to family and friends the moment they lay eyes on the festive linen tablecloth, delicate vintage glassware or flickering candlelight. A

beautiful table contributes to the magical feeling in the air and creates all kinds of anticipation for the feast ahead. This year, I incorporated shimmering touches and metallic accents to cast a warm glow over my holiday table, inviting guests to eat, drink and be merry until long after the sun went down.

PALETTE: Evergreen, ivory and burnished gold.

LINENS: In an effort to let the beauty of my vintage wood table shine, I topped it simply with a linen runner and a second "runner" formed from evergreen branches. During the holidays, I look for ways to incorporate as much greenery as possible — nothing's more evocative of a classic Christmas than pine, cedar and fir (and the wonderful scents that they impart!) No need to craft any kind of complicated garland — to achieve this look, simply cut branches to size and lay them artfully around the centerpiece.

CENTERPIECE: I've always had a bit of an obsession with croquembouche — the tree-shaped French confections consisting of towering stacks of cream puffs, "glued" together with caramel. Sure, you *could* spend hours in the kitchen making pastry from scratch and then methodically-assembling the tree... or you could order one from a great local bakery (my preferred route!) Either way, something this tall and dramatic is all the centerpiece your holiday table will need.

When there's no room for flowers on the table, I often consider adding a few blooms or branches in another spot, like a side table or buffet. For this look, my friend and floral designer Elizabeth Lewis from the Nouveau Romantics gathered simple bunches into mercury glass vases, and we arranged them on the mantel directly behind the table for a stunning display. These included ranunculus, tulips, winter berries and bay leaves.

PLACE SETTINGS: Since my everyday dishes are made of casual stoneware, the sheer sight of using fine china on the table transforms any dinner into a special occasion. The woven pattern on these plates feels modern while the gold accents add glamour and sparkle, especially when illuminated by candlelight. I love the vintage vibe of the etched champagne coupes and mismatched silverware, adding a timeless touch that recalls Christmases of long ago.





THE DETAILS: A scattering of narrow brass candlesticks in varying heights appears to dance across the length of the table. I scooped these up at a thrift store recently and have been surprised by their versatility — they've been the perfect finishing detail on loads of different tabletop looks, and their slender silhouettes add a certain gracefulness.

On the first holiday I ever spent with them, Adam's British side of the family introduced me to the tradition of Christmas crackers. A cardboard tube gets filled with treats and wrapped in pretty paper then placed at each setting, ready to be opened at Christmas dinner. These play double duty as place cards, with each guest's name calligraphed across the front of the packaging.

EAT, DRINK & BE MERRY: 'Tis the season to eat, drink and be merry and as much as I love experimenting with new recipes and innovative flavors, there's something about the winter months that just calls for the comfort foods of childhood and the familiar flavors that always make an appearance on the holiday table. For me, Christmas morning goes hand-in-hand with my mom's fresh-from-the-oven almond kringle, and now that I have a daughter, I'm looking for ways to be intentional about creating some new family taste traditions of our own. Think about how you feel when you come in from the cold and are handed a steaming mug of spicy cider, or sit down for Christmas dinner to a table groaning with roasted meats and bottles of red wine. Although I often can't help myself from adding one new item to the menu each year, I know that keeping these beloved traditions alive is sacred. And of course, one of my very favorite tastes of the season? Fizzy champagne as glasses clink on New Year's Eve! **S**



JAM THUMBPRINT COOKIES

These are a holiday classic at our house, and I love that the flavors can be changed depending on your mood. I've filled them with all kinds of jam, honey and nut butters, swapped out the almond extract for orange or peppermint and even drizzled the tops with a sugary glaze. It's a great one to get kids involved in, since their little thumbs are perfect for stamping the dough. *Makes 3 dozen cookies

Ingredients:

- 1 1/2 cups all-purpose flour
- 1 1/2 cups slivered almonds, toasted
- 1 teaspoon baking powder
- 1/2 teaspoons kosher salt
- 1 cup (2 sticks) unsalted butter, room temperature
- 1/2 cup granulated sugar
- 1 large egg, room temperature
- 1/2 teaspoon vanilla extract
- 1/2 teaspoon almond extract
- 1/2 cup raw sugar
- raspberry jam and apricot jam

Instructions:

Preheat oven to 375 degrees. Line 2 baking sheets with parchment paper and set aside. In a food processor, pulse the flour with the almonds until finely ground. Add the baking powder and salt, and pulse to blend.

In the bowl of a standing mixer, beat together the butter and sugar until light and fluffy. Add egg and both extracts, and beat for another minute until well combined. Add dry ingredients and mix on the slowest setting until just combined. Refrigerate dough for 30 minutes.

Place raw sugar on a plate. Scoop out 1 tablespoon of dough at a time, and use your hands to roll into a ball. Roll each ball in sugar, pressing gently to adhere. Place a couple inches apart on prepared baking sheets, then use your thumb to make a deep indentation into each ball of dough.

Bake cookies until golden, about 12 minutes. Halfway through, rotate baking sheets so they cook evenly. Remove from oven and let cool for a minute, then transfer to wire racks and let cool completely.

Use a small spoon to fill half of the cookies with raspberry jam, and the other half with apricot jam



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Event Decor



Brittany Ferguson, Brennin Brock, Kendall Jenkins, Sophia Hak,
and Andrea Lopez



Jackie Socop, Lilly Barrera,
and Emily Polenz



Kim Jones, Event Artist

WHO, WHAT, & WEAR

WHO: HOUSTON DO-GOODERS at Cafe Brasil Montrose brought light and life to CREATED, the first glam-casual affair benefitting Aid Sudan and Freedom Place. The hosts, dynamo Kendall Jenkins and her crew of bouncy bubbly philanthropists raised \$31,000 in a cocktail hour, and included real-time art and music by Remnant.

Houston's philanthropic, social, and fashion scene is warming up for fall. Here *girl-on-the-go* Elizabeth Wilhite gets up close and personal with the city's latest people, places and happenings



WHAT: KATIE BE MINE! We asked Houston-based Katie Scott what's what in the jewelry world.... *I see a move towards making fine jewelry more casual and wearable. Luxury brands are recognizing the need to expand the "special" pieces into a more user-friendly product. I predict that fine jewelry will follow the jean trend: creating jewelry that can be worn for all occasions.* At Neimanmarcus.com and Katiebydesign.com

WHAT Alligator and gold-plated cuffs, \$422-\$526



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DIAMONDS

END & BEGIN

Austin-based Resonance Repatterning practitioner Mary Schneider shares her expertise with how to expand and thrive during this transitional time of the season in a brief how-to guide

COMPLETION ALWAYS PREPARES THE WAY FOR A NEW beginning. As we end this year and move into a new year, why not bring the old one to a complete ending with the clear and thoughtful intention to let go once and for all?

A spiritual teacher spoke at great length of the virtues of celebrating endings – any kind of endings: the end of the day, a project, relationship, or any other human activity. The teacher suggested that engaging in some form of ritual, no matter how great or small, would imbue that ending with the blessings of spirit. Then, the next activity would be inculcated with the blessing of the former and therefore, would engender clarity from the start. More clarity allows for a pure intention and greater energy. This energy brings forth more excitement, enthusiasm and effectiveness to whatever we are doing. Enthusiasm comes from the Greek language and literally means *in God*.

BE STILL

In our fast-paced culture today, we are frequently involved in any number of activities simultaneously. Recognizing and celebrating what we have completed and finished allows us to stop for a moment and contemplate. What we could use much more of in society is contemplation or stillness. Unfortunately, as a result, we have forgotten the importance and significance of ritual in our lives.

Not too long ago, ritual was an integral part of our everyday experience and in many cultures in the world it remains so. Mankind lived and worked according to the rise and fall of the sun and engaged in a great many rituals that signified the passing of time, the completion of an endeavor and the opportunity to begin anew. Life was much slower in those days and human beings were able to take the time to better plan for these kinds of remembrances.

If we take the time for small, little remembrances that mark the passages of what we have accomplished throughout the day or even the week, we open the space for a different experience in our daily lives – for a more *spiritual* experience. *Spi-ritual* means a ritual of hope and the engagement in the ritual of completion and endings injects hope into the fabric of our lives. It instills a deeper engagement with our inner selves. We then

develop a greater and deeper relationship with our higher selves and our decisions come more often occur from that place. It is really likened to a little meditation that deepens our experience of life.

In the realm of energetic medicine, completion is an important by-product of a balanced earth chakra. In the Ayurvedic Chakra System, the earth chakra is located at the base of the spine and helps us to stay grounded in ourselves. When we are not given the opportunity to complete particular experiences or periods in our lives, the imbalance generated in the earth chakra makes it difficult for us to be able to let go and move into new beginnings with strength and flexibility.

DECISIONS, DECISIONS

Instead we struggle to know what our next steps are and have difficulty making decisions that enable us to move forward in our lives. One of the most interesting and profound examples of this type of imbalance often occurs in children of military families. The constant change and transition inherent in that lifestyle, moving from one locale to another year after year, makes it very hard for these children to complete large sections of their lives. As a group, they have trouble initiating and sustaining long-term relationships because the pattern of having them regularly cut off is profoundly ingrained.

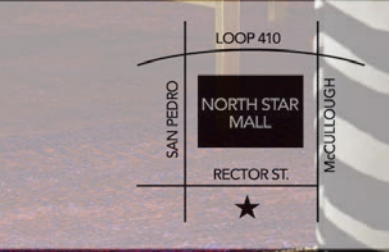
When we are able to go back and complete the old, *broken* relationships, we begin to markedly move forward in all areas of life in all kinds of relationships. In addition to completion, the earth chakra governs a whole host of significant aspects of the human experience such as home, family, tribe, transition, security, safety, nurturance, nourishment – and mother. The earth chakra is also involved in our relationship with Mother Earth even to the point of affecting how we assimilate particular kinds of food and nutrition.

For the beginning of 2015 consider celebrating the wins of 2014 – let go of your losses and disappointments. The celebration of the end of 2014 will help a great deal. That could mean a traditional New Year's Eve, along with something more contemplative to mark the end of the old and the beginning of the next year. We can celebrate the new year by re-introducing ritual into our daily lives by recognizing the blessed completion of another year as we approach life anew with more clarity, strength, flexibility, and purpose for a successful year ahead. **S**

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VIRTUE AND POWER

In his new book, *Abusing Donor Intent*, Doug White reveals how complicated transactions between donors and charities can be, offering insight during this donation-heavy time of year

AS THE SEASON FOR PHILANTHROPIC support hits its peak, donors might well be concerned about how their money will be used. While every organization is different, it may be instructive to take some lessons from the book, *Abusing Donor Intent*, the inside story of *Robertson v. Princeton*, in which readers are invited to look behind a charitable transaction, from 1961, to see what can go wrong.

From the book's introduction: *It was the largest one-time amount – \$35 million – anyone had ever donated to benefit a university. Charles and Marie Robertson were specific about the way the money was to be used. It was intended to help Princeton's Woodrow Wilson School for Public Policy and International Affairs focus on sending its graduates into those areas of the federal government concerned with international relations. "But the university," the son says, "was ignoring my parents' intentions." Furthermore, he maintains, Princeton's administrators were "harming the country as well."*

The children of the donors filed the lawsuit. Bill Robertson, one of the sons, was the lead plaintiff.

The idea of honoring a donor's intentions is not new, but in recent years it has gained momentum in the public, regulatory and legal spheres. Although that momentum is still scarcely more than an uneven patchwork of laws and sentiment, charities are wise not to ignore their donors' wishes. This is true for all manner of gift: if a charity says the money will be used for a specific purpose, it had better honor the commitment.

In the Princeton case, part of the problem was a difference of opinion about whether the donors' instructions were being followed. Princeton did not see the issue the same way the son did.

Again, from the book's introduction: *The people there say they not only assiduously honor the concept of donor intent for all its supporters, but that in this case they were particularly faithful to the donors' intentions. "Princeton," a top administrator once said, "has always used the funds given by Marie Robertson solely for the purpose for which she made her \$35 million gift in 1961." The university contends that the Woodrow Wilson School has been and continues to be one of the best*



in the country for public administration and policy with an international orientation, and that it was unfairly disparaged.

By the time the lawsuit was filed in 2002, the corpus of the gift had grown to almost \$700 million, a sizable portion of Princeton's endowment. In addition to the sum of money at stake and the audacious, public challenge to a pillar of the most academically revered group of universities in the country, another, more important reason the world took note – and why all donors and all nonprofit organizations should never forget what happened – is that this dispute, at its heart, sharply raised the awareness of the need for trust and honor in the

sector of our society that most demands and depends upon those qualities. Princeton officials claim they fulfilled their obligations. The Robertson family claims Princeton made a mockery of them. No matter what the defendants might say, Robertson insists he wasn't the bad guy; he was just trying to protect the family's honor.

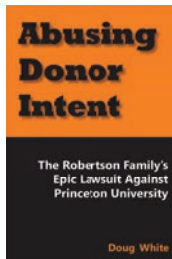
The settlement, which was reached after six and a half years of arduous litigation and the exchange of much bad blood, called for Princeton to pay approximately \$100 million dollars – \$50 million to establish a new foundation that would be run by the family, and the rest to reimburse the Robertsons for their legal fees.

The story is compelling. As one reviewer has said, "Informed by the slow burn of a decades-old frustration, not to mention the disposition of hundreds of millions of dollars and the reputation of one of America's oldest and most respected universities, *Abusing Donor Intent* is equal parts thriller and cautionary tale."

The cautionary tale, however, is not only for the wealthy. It is for all donors. Even though money, once donated, is owned by the charity – and the IRS is clear about that – the charity still must act responsibly and respectfully.

Everyone who supports a charitable organization has the right to know how his or her money is spent. When it accepts a gift based on a donor's expectations, the charity, through formal reports and written correspondence, must live up to its word. As the British poet and historian Thomas Babington Macaulay once said, "The proof of virtue is to possess boundless power without using it."

If nothing else, the nation's charities are uniquely created to serve society as beacons of virtue. **S**



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Availability and photo courtesy of Roche Bobois



Vintage Bill Blass, early 60s

SHARP AS A PENCIL
THIS CROC-EMBOSSED, LEATHER,
pencil skirt by Bagatelle looks like a million,
but does not cost it. \$240. Availability and
photo courtesy of Neiman Marcus



GRAY MATTERS

There are so many color options this season...everything from winter white to Bordeaux, to forest green. The standout neutral among most designers that we love is 50 shades of gray. Such a lovely alternative to black, and just as versatile. You can pair gray with just about every color. Here are some of the standout pieces of the season, carefully curated by our very own *style editor dynamo Erin Busbee*

TOUCH OF CROC
ADD JUST A TOUCH of
croc to your next Texas outing
with this croc plate, leather
clutch in "smoke" gray by Moss
Mills. \$180. Availability and
photo courtesy of Julian Gold



GRAY SUEDE SHOES
JOE'S, BEST KNOWN for their
jeans, also has a line of chic shoes,
including these suede, "Ariana"
ankle strap flats in "stucco" gray.
\$110. Availability and photo
courtesy of Julian Gold

BACK TO THE FUTURE
IF YOU LOVE MODERN design, you will love this “Bubble Sofa” by Sacha Ladic,
upholstered in Techno 3D fabric.\$6,900. Availability and photo courtesy of Roche Bobois



Ava Gardner, 1955

YURMAN YULE
A FAIL-SAFE HOLIDAY GIFT and a classic piece you will wear for years to come, this silver and gold cable cuff bracelet by David Yurman. \$2,100. Availability and photo courtesy of Lee Michaels Jewelry



SAINT LAURENT LOVE
IS IT WRONG to be in love with a handbag? I've used this Saint Laurent "Matelasse" shopper for two photo shoots this season, so I'm a fan. \$2,550. Availability and photo courtesy of Neiman Marcus



HEIRLOOM WORTHY
I LOVE THE IDEA of passing things down to my daughter. I think this beautiful, black diamond, classic, cocktail ring would be wearable for years to come. \$3,500. Availability and photo courtesy of Copeland Jewelers



RED SOLE MATES
ONE CAN NEVER go wrong with Louboutins. These, tightly ruched, dark gray, knee-high boots will make a wonderful addition to your wardrobe this winter. \$2,495. Availability and photo courtesy of: Neiman Marcus



RUNWAY TO GRAY
FOR GRAY INSPIRATION be sure to look at the Ralph Lauren FALL 2014 RTW collection, which includes this stunning, beaded gown. At Neiman Marcus. Photo courtesy of Style.com



EDGY EARLOBES
WHO SAYS diamonds can't be a tad edgy? These silver, mother-of-pearl, and diamond drop earrings are not only beautiful, they are a conversation starter with surprising versatility. \$2,105. Availability and photo courtesy of Penaloza & Sons

THE MATTER AT HAND
DETAILS COUNT and Valentino makes sure even your hands are covered (and chic) with these rockstud, napa leather, driving gloves. \$495. Availability and photo courtesy of Neiman Marcus



CABLE ME, PLEASE
THE TRADITIONAL cable knit has morphed into this wonderfully organic, sumptuous extravagance. By Rei Kawakubo for Comme des Garçons, \$645. Photo and availability at Sloan Hall, San Antonio and Houston

HAUTE HOSEIRY
WHY CHOOSE SOLID when you can opt for a fab printed pair like these diamond "Yve" gray tights by Wolford? \$60. Availability and photo courtesy of Saks Fifth Avenue



MOTO MADNESS
THE MOTORCYCLE JACKET trend is still going strong, so to stand out from the rest, choose one in a cool shade of gray like this washed leather jacket by IRO. \$1,250. Availability and photo courtesy of Saks Fifth Avenue



STAR BRIGHT

Omni-directional perfectly describes award-winning Texas star Lauren Worsham, who shines brightly on Broadway, and beyond. Join our social chronicler Rose Betty Williams as she learns more in this up close and personal look at how a star is born

APPLAUSE, APPLAUSE

She is a triple threat. Austin native Lauren Worsham is an opera singer, rock star, and Tony Award© nominee. Her band's cover song is *Say You Love Me Like You Mean It* and when she sings it, the crowds and critics do. Worsham has a diminutive 5'1" curvaceous frame, yet her stage presence, high energy and glorious voice are huge, winning awards and acclaim everywhere she performs.

Worsham made her Broadway debut last fall in the role of Phoebe D'Ysquith in *A Gentleman's Guide to Love and Murder* and won a Tony Award© nomination for her performance.

She moved to New York City in 2005 to work as a professional actress. She's performed as Olive in the first national tour of *The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee* from 2006 to 2007; Clara in Adam Guettel's *The Light in the Piazza* at the Weston Playhouse in 2008; and she starred in *Cunegonde* at the New York City Opera in 2008. "I'd say the role that has been the absolute most to me is singing Lisa in Royce Vavrek and David Little's new opera, *Dog Days*, directed by Robert Woodruff," said Worsham. "The role was written with me in mind and I am so lucky and excited to be able to reprise the piece twice in 2015. We will be bringing the piece to Texas to Fort Worth Opera in April 2015 before heading to Los Angeles Opera in June."

ANOTHER OPENING, ANOTHER SHOW

This busy actress does eight shows a week every week, and on dark nights, she sings with her husband in their rock band Sky-Pony. Worsham said she and her husband Kyle Jarrow started Sky-Pony to create, perform and spend time together. "The band is a crazy mash of theatrical indie-pop. Kyle writes all the music and I help with harmonies and girl-group style choreography. We've been well-reviewed by the *Wall Street*



Photo courtesy of Broadway World

Journal and the *New York Times*. We've performed at Mercury Lounge, The Knitting Factory, Joe's Pub, 54 Below, Pianos and many other venues around the New York area."

Worsham met her husband in 2009 at a party in the East Village. "He is a brilliant writer of film, TV, and theater and a musician," she said. "We fell in love immediately and have been married for three years. Sadly, he is not from Texas, but is from Ithaca, NY where his father is a professor of economics at Cornell University and his mother is a young adult non-fiction author. Oddly enough, both Kyle and I went to Yale University, but he graduated the summer before I matriculated so we missed each other by a hair."

Her success has been meteoric. Just how did Worsham learn about *A Gentleman's Guide*? She had previously been cast by her director Darko Tresnjak in a production of *Carnival* at the Goodspeed Opera House. After that production he asked her to come in for a workshop of a new piece he was working on and that turned out to be *A Gentleman's Guide to Love and Murder*. "I was not ultimately available for the out-of-town runs at the Hartford Stage and then The Old Globe, but luckily they asked me to come back to audition when the show moved to Broadway. Long story short, I booked it."

And the rest, as they say, is show business history. The hit play won the Tony Award© for Best Musical and was nominated for Best Actor, Best Score, Best Book, Best Direction, Best Scenic Design, Best Costume Design, Best Orchestrations and Best Featured Actress...the award for which Worsham was nominated. She thinks *A Gentleman's Guide to Love and Murder* presents a new take on the old-fashioned musical. "People just lap it up," she shares. "The lyrics and book are so clever you could watch the show 100 times and still catch something new. Plus, the tunes are hummable and are really just lovely. Sometimes people want a break

The Giving Calendar

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Music4Music



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The Miracle Foundation



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Caroline Boudreaux

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for the Homeless



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Nelleen McCormick

Symphony of
Soul Foundation



Photo by Brenda Ladd

Leslie Hyland Rodgers

The Rise
School of Austin



Photo by Eric Doggett

Miriam Relyea

Seton Breast
Cancer Center



Photo by Gray Hawn

Marcia Levy & Susan Lubin

Austin Smiles



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Gray Hawn

Make A
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from rock music or the belting-out Broadway experience, and our show provides that. “

SOME ENCHANTED EVENING

Worsham fondly remembers the 68th annual Tony Awards. She wore an Hervé Léger reddish-orange dress with a plunging neckline. “Immediately after winning, the cast, creatives and producers who were in the theatre all came up on stage and we took a group photo,” she recalls. “Then we were whisked away to another press room for more photos. Finally, we headed to the after-party. Our producers rented out the Summer Garden at Rockefeller Center where it is the ice skating rink in the winter. So there we were, under the stars, in the middle of Rockefeller Center, just dancing the night away. It was pure euphoria.”

“Luckily, my parents were in town visiting and it was also their 35th wedding anniversary the same day as the awards. They partied with my husband and me until the wee hours and after the party we attended a party at the Carlyle Hotel, hosted by our press representatives, O&M. The party was surreal...every room had a piano player softly playing the standards. It was dimly lit and went on for many rooms and floors. Around 3AM a waiter started passing out hot ham and cheese omelets. Then we randomly stumbled upon a room set out for high tea, where a waiter poured hot water for tea upon a wave of the finger. It really felt like we’d stepped through the looking glass. We finally got home around 5AM. It was a wonderful night.”

Worsham plans to stay with the *A Gentleman’s Guide* through this fall and after that, many exciting concerts are in the works. “I will be singing the part of Magnolia alongside Vanessa Williams as Julie in the NY Philharmonic concert staging of *Show Boat* in November,” she shares. “I’ll also be singing with the Collegiate Chorale, with the Prototype Festival, and with New York Festival of Song and *Dog Days*, in Fort Worth and LA. In addition to all of that, my band Sky-Pony will be performing gigs probably once a month.”

DAY BY DAY

Every performer has a hero to model and Worsham is no different. She admires Kelli O’Hara, Audra McDonald and Jefferson Mays, among others, but she always tries to be her best self, which requires discipline. “A typical day on the least stressful end consists of my waking up around 9:30AM and going for a run, or doing yoga. I then make breakfast and spritz around the house cleaning up. Around 4PM, I’ll warm up, and around 6PM, I will head to the theatre, arriving at 7PM for an 8PM show. One of the most hectic days I’ve ever had consisted



Lauren Worsham in Carnival



Sky Pony's Tiffany Franke, Lauren Worsham and Megan Stern



Tony Award©-winning company of A Gentleman's Guide to Love And Murder

of waking up at 8AM, warming up at 11AM, heading to theatre at noon for a 2PM show, doing a matinee, then rehearsing in between shows with my band, finally heading back to the theatre for an 8PM performance, which ends at 10:30PM. After getting out of hair and makeup and signing autographs, I usually get home at around 11:30PM and I am in bed after midnight. Wash, rinse, repeat.”

Regarding her diet, she said, “I try to sing and speak healthily with supported breath and I try to avoid acid reflux foods, the bane of most singers. I don’t drink coffee or red wine and sadly, I avoid spicy foods and alcohol.”

Worsham always looks forward to her return visits to Texas. “I miss tacos and my parents and Texas in general.” Her parents, Dennis and Belinda Worsham, reside in Austin, while her singer-songwriter brother, Parker Ainsworth, lives in Los Angeles. Her Texas ties run deep. She graduated from Westlake High School in 2001, ranked number three in her class. “I had many wonderful teachers starting with Ms. Wheeler in 5th grade who encouraged my extroverted personality and Mr. Erck, my choir teacher through all of middle school who helped me to fall in love with music,” she states. “In high school, my choir teachers Ms. Couch and Mr. Snouffer helped me channel my voice into more focused training, while Mr. Harlan introduced me to the joys of theater,

while my extraordinary teachers Mr. Harper and Doctora Garza, who taught physics and Spanish, respectively, instilled in me a sense of work ethic, confidence and ambition.”

THE SOUND OF MUSIC

Lauren Worsham’s work ethic and creative abilities are showcased on stage with her acting and singing, as well as with The Coterie, a group she co-founded with librettist Royce Vavrek six years ago to explore the importance of narrative story telling in opera and music theatre. She said she does not have one preference of style. “I love all music and all kinds of storytelling. That informs the direction I want my career to keep going...omni-directional.” **S**

For more information on Lauren Worsham, go to Laurenworsham.com and to watch Sky-Pony’s official music video of *Say You Love Me Like You Mean It* visit Youtube.com



THE SHOPS AT LA CANTERA

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Qhapaq golla dance costume.
District and province of
Paucartambo, Cusco, Peru, 2010
By Mario Testino at the Dallas
Contemporary Museum

BRAVURA INSPIRATION

Mario Testino's renowned *Alta Moda* exhibit comes to the Dallas Contemporary and our artfully inclined Molly Bayme learns more about the master photographer's eyes for Latin twist

WAIT NO LONGER. PHOTOGRAPHY AT ITS MOST robust is coming to the Dallas Contemporary, featuring the master photographer's Mario Testino's *Alta Moda* exhibition. Yearning for novel fashion crazes? Hanker no more. *Alta Moda* translates to *high fashion* in Spanish, and this show holds a strong truth to its name. Testino delivers the high fashion he promises throughout this exhibition, as he has done for years in his illustrious career.

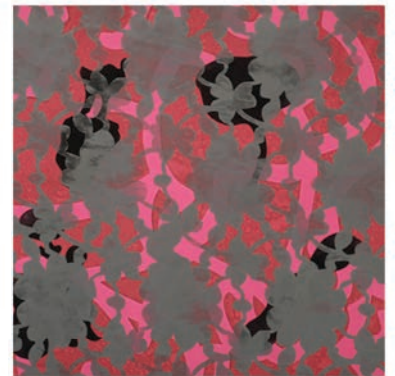
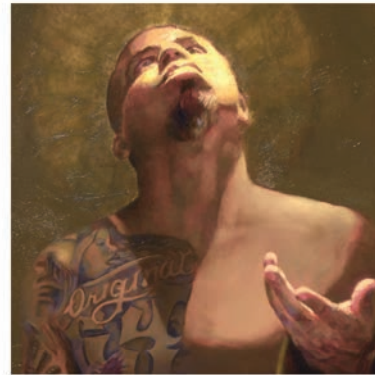
From 2007-2012, Testino made numerous stays in Cusco, Peru and in doing so, attained bravura inspiration for the exhibition. When visiting Cusco, Testino marveled at the region's apparel. He began to document, as he says, "the Peruvian people wearing the traditional and festive dress associated with the mountainous region of Cusco." So, with influence from the latter, Testino was also profoundly encouraged to create *Alta Moda* due to the stunning success of one of the premier early to mid-twentieth century photographers of the native Latin Americans, Martin Chambi. To further incorporate Chambi's spectacular artistic touch in *Alta Moda*, Testino collaborated with Chambi's grandchildren and together they recreated some

of Chambi's dazzling backdrops. The incorporation of those, in combination with the colors and textures of the indigenous Peruvian clothing, made for a captivating and well-received combination.

Testino's *Alta Moda* further classifies Testino as an artistic dynamo. Through this display, Testino effectively tells numerous stories, while simultaneously capturing the "tradition of ethnographic photography." As Testino shares, "I usually try to capture the moment, but with this series, I wanted to do something very different—not just with my own work, but also with the practice of photography. I tried to fit as much time and history into each frame as possible—from the traditional and festive clothing to the Chambi backdrops to the Peruvian people in them. *Alta Moda* is quite different from the portraits I am perhaps best known for."

Testino has triumphed at expanding his repertoire and the state is better for it while his work is here. *Alta Moda* displays until December 22 and for more information about this must-see exhibition, visit Dallascontemporary.org **S**

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TEA TIME

by Maureen Hillman

FOR THOSE WHO GREW UP IN SAN ANTONIO IN THE 1950S THROUGH THE 1970S remembering the enchanted “Sunken Gardens” that we were allowed to run around wildly while our mothers drank tea in the Pagoda is a fond thought. We kids thought they were the biggest gardens we had ever seen and would beg to return again as soon as we left. Years later we took our own babies in strollers through the gardens for an outing to see all the fish. Now, since the restoration the place has become magical again: a 40-foot waterfall and the sounds of the gardens immediately relaxes, while bringing back those childhood memories.

THE EARLY YEARS

In 1899, the San Antonio Water Works Company, through its president, George W. Brackenridge, donated 199 acres to the City of San Antonio for a public park. This tract comprises the largest portion of the park that today bears Brackenridge’s name and officially opened to the public in 1901. There was still an operating rock quarry west of the park leased by the City to stone cutters since the mid-1800s. In 1880, Alamo Portland and Roman Cement Company (later called Alamo Cement Company) began to use the quarry, and when the company needed rail lines to expand production, it purchased a new site and closed its Brackenridge Park operation in 1908. Between the quarry and San Antonio River to the east was an 11-acre tract of land owned by Emma Koehler, widow of Pearl Brewery owner, Otto Koehler, and she donated it to the city in 1915 for a public park.

Its location adjacent to the abandoned quarry posed a challenge for City Parks Commissioner, Ray Lambert, who ultimately created a lily pond, which eventually became the Japanese Tea Garden. With plans from his park engineer, and little money, Lambert was able to construct the Garden. Between 1917 and 1918, he shaped the quarry into a complex that included walkways, stone arch bridges, an island, and a Japanese pagoda. The garden was termed *the lily pond*, and local residents donated bulbs to beautify the area. Exotic plants were provided by the city nursery, and the City Public Service company donated the lighting system. The pagoda’s roof was palm leaves from trees in the city parks and when completed, Lambert had spent only \$7,000. In 1919 it was reported that “the city of San Antonio has recently completed a municipal lily pond and a Japanese garden which we believe are unique.” In 1926, at the city’s invitation, Kimi Enzo Jingu, a local Japanese-American artist, moved to the garden and opened the Bamboo Room, where light lunches and tea were served.


MODERN TIMES

After Mr. Jingu’s death in the late 1930s, his family continued to operate the Tea Garden until 1942, when they were asked to leave because of anti-Japanese sentiment during World War II. The Tea Garden was eventually renamed The Chinese Tea Garden, yet in 1984 the area was rededicated as the Japanese Tea Garden in a ceremony attended by the Jingu’s children and representatives of the Japanese government. The



site is designated as a Texas Civil Engineering Landmark, a Registered Texas Historic Landmark, and is listed on the National Register of Historic Places.

By 2009, the Tea Garden was in a state of disrepair, with the Jingu House operating as a park concession stand and then as storage, so a unique public-private partnership was launched. Through a series of bonds, funds were raised for needed restoration. The San Antonio Parks Foundation, in combination with the city’s Parks and Recreation Department, are responsible for the restoration of the gardens and the Jingu House. By the time of its recently completed renovation, more than \$6 million was spent on the project and according to most, every dollar well worth it for this “gem” located in the heart of San Antonio.

Fresh Horizons Creative Catering was selected as the exclusive provider of services for the facility in 2011 after the more than two-year restoration process. Guests can experience a relaxing lunch on the outdoor patio or intimate treetop dining room featuring Private Label teas, specialty bento box, sushi, sandwiches, salads and signature teahouse desserts. Complete your next visit with a stroll through the Japanese Tea Garden’s unique koi ponds, waterfall, stone bridges and walkways. The winter hours are 11am to 4pm from Nov. 1 - February 28 and the spring hours are March 1st through October 31st, daily 10am to 5pm. For more information, visit Jinguhousesa.com. 



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OPENING NIGHT OPULENCE

Inaugural Tobin Center Gala Entertains With Glamour

By *Ellie Leeper* • Photography By *Greg Harrison*

THE SCENE: The new and highly anticipated Tobin Center for the Performing Arts opened its doors recently, hosting the 2014 Opening Gala on the banks of the River Walk underneath a sparkling sky complemented by the venue's shimmering LED illuminated AT&T Sky Wall. Tall topiary structures, blooming with the venue's plum-colored logo, created a statuesque and elegant entrance into the spectacular Center that was presented to its supporters for the first time.



Phil and Linda Hardberger



Bruce and Alethea Bugg



Nelson and Tracy Wolff



Aubra and Susan Franklin



Doug and Winell Herron, Charles Butt & Dya Campos



Walter and Nel Belt



Steve and Jean Lee



Dan Aykroyd, Kim Lewis and Jim Belushi



Steve and Mary Souter



John and Vicki McLaughlin



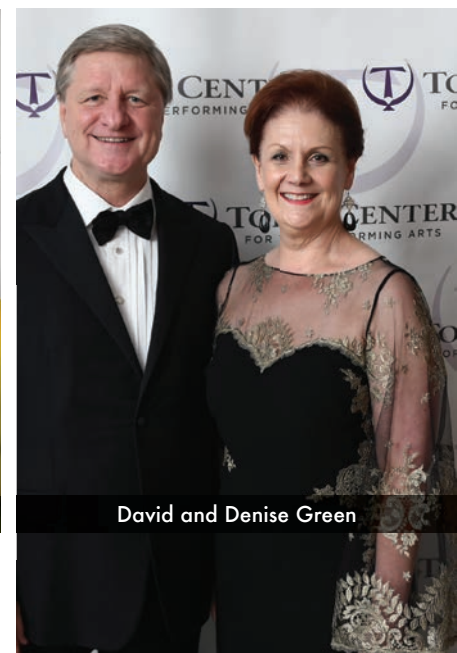
Dr. William Henrich and Mary Henrich & Karen Lee and David Zachry



Denny and Suzanne Ware



Hank Green and Susan Reed



David and Denise Green

THE VIBE: Guests were passed flutes of bubbly as they stepped into the newly renovated historic structure, and were lured into the lobby by the modern sounds of jazz harpist Rizpah. Over three hundred distinguished donors and supporters made their way through the Mays Family Foundation Historic Facade and Foyer, the Red and Charline McCombs Grand Lobby, and into the H-E-B Performance Hall for a seated dinner presented by Tobin Catering, and entertainment provided by sand artist Joe Castillo and pianist Tony DeSare. The Tobin Center founders led guests in a toast with plum purple Waterford crystal champagne flutes that were gifted to each guest.

Over a hundred Ghost Light Society members, the young professional supporters of The Tobin Center, enjoyed cocktails and dinner upstairs in The Denman Founders Lounge, as DJ JJ Lopez spun beats that created a sophisticated, yet trendy ambiance. After dinner, they were guided backstage, preparing to energize the audience in welcoming the next phase of the evening: dancing on the H-E-B Performance Hall stage with the legendary Blues Brothers Dan Aykroyd, Jim Belushi, and the Blues Brothers Band. Guests flooded the stage with everyone singing, swinging and shimmying until the wee hours of the morning.



Joe and Julie Dubrof & Drs. Sergio and Alice Viroslav



Mayor Ivy Ruth Taylor and Rodney Taylor



Anna Wulfe and Carla Moran



Chris and Emilie Petty



Charles Butt and Bruce Bugg



Jorge and Carrie Calderon & Xitlalt and Ramiro Salazar



Ellie Leeper and Dan Morrison



Tom Wensinger and Lisa Spielhagen

ENTRANCE
SAN ANTONIO



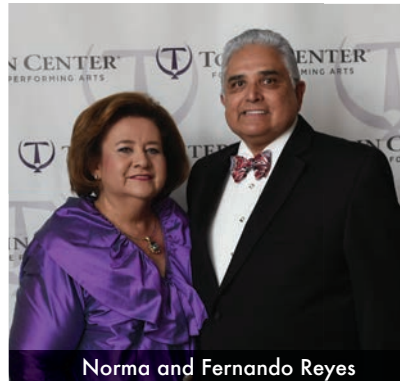
Rizpah



Eric and Alice Foulz & Linda and Ed Whitacre



Bobby and Stephanie Cavender



Norma and Fernando Reyes



Sheryl and Mike Sculley



Gene and Sonya Williams, Lawrence and Sara Walker & Lee and Zach Lee



Photo Courtesy of Daniel Holman Photography



Cathy and Frank Burzik

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ENTRANCE
SAN ANTONIO

THE CAUSE: The Tobin Center for the Performing Arts, a nonprofit organization whose mission is to provide programming that is something for everyone through providing a home for San Antonio's resident arts organizations, opened its doors this summer after seven years of work as a public-private partnership with the city and the county to renovate the historic Municipal Auditorium. The individual Tobin Center founders are Tobin Center Chairman J. Bruce Bugg Jr., Former Mayor Phil Hardberger, and Bexar County Judge Nelson Wolff.

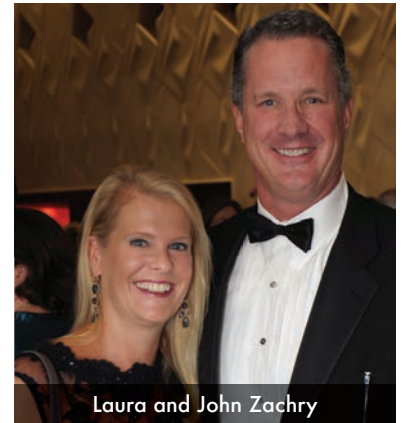
The gala's honorary co-chairs were Bruce and Alethea Bugg, Phil and Linda Hardberger, and Nelson and Tracy Wolff. The Tobin Center opening gala major sponsors were the Tobin Endowment, the Mays Family Foundation, H-E-B, and the Zachry Family, among many other generous supporters. Billinda Wilkinson of Wilkinson Rhodes designed and executed the unforgettable evening.



Tom and Meaghan Frost



Kathy Johnson and Tricia Steves



Laura and John Zachry



Photo Courtesy of Daniel Holman Photography



Richard and Emily Reynolds & Helen and Jonathan Dear



Heather and Jeff DeRojas, Mark and Amy Garcia, John and Rita Feik, Ashley and Britt Campbell & Tracee and JJ Feik



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STYLE FOR MILES

Junior League Opening Day Style Show

By *Jennifer Roosth* • Photography By *Michael Martinez*

THE SCENE: The Junior League ballroom was filled with a flurry of hundreds of excited guests at the annual sold-out lunch and dinner events for this year's Opening Day Style Shows. Over the years, guests have come to expect surprises at the League's annual opening day event and this year was no exception. Featuring a fabulous new look that featured Tootsies, and themed Dressed to the 9's: A Roaring 20s Affair to celebrate the era the League began, the events began with a bang.



Jeffrey Yates and Megan Hotze



Andrea Davidson, Cherish Bradshaw and Keli Luce



Jennifer Wauhob and Leigh McFarlane



Melissa Kinney, Abbey Roberson and Judith Leiber



Bobbi Petersen, Missy Belcher, Nicole Walters, Elizabeth Love, Mimi Foerster, Maidie Ryan and Tanya Leiber



Kimberly Davis and Ashley Sinkiewicz



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ENTRANCE
HOUSTON



Maidie Ryan and Julianna Moorad



Meredith Cooley, Molly Ellis, and Sydney Short



Megan Elizabeth Buster and Laura Runkel

THE VIBE: Nostalgia meets high fashion best depicted the sizzling energy of the chic event that always kicks off the city's social season. With the League celebrating its 90th anniversary, the League's president Elizabeth Love highlighted the organization's nine decades of service to the Houston community. It all began in 1925 when 12 visionary women came together to form a luncheon club that raised funds to establish a well-baby clinic that now is the Junior League Health Care Clinic at Texas Children's Hospital. Tootsies and the League's volunteer models proceeded after Love, showcasing the latest collections that included Alice and Olivia, Aidan Mattox, BCBG, Elizabeth and James, Hervé Léger, Parker, and Nicole Miller.



Josie Morgan, Tanya Leiber, Katie Kildal, Cherish Bradshaw and Bethany Buchanan



Tea Room model Elizabeth Wilhite

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**ENTRANCE
HOUSTON**



Sarah Snyder, Steph Magers and Shannon Wiesedeppe



League Leaders Josie Morgan, Bethany Buchanan, Elizabeth Love, and Amy Holmes in Tootsies dresses with Fady Armanious



THE CAUSE: The Junior League of Houston has been sponsoring style shows since 1929, with the Opening Day Style Show traditionally marking the beginning of a new League year with its volunteers modeling the latest in the season's fashion trends. Leading the helm of this year's event were League president Elizabeth Love, development vice-president Tanya Leiber, Tea Room director Josie Morgan, and special events chairman Bethany Buchanan. The take home swag bags were filled with treats from Goldenthread Jewelry, Tootsies, and the presenting jewelry sponsor, Tenenbaum & Co.



Tea Room Model Amy Miers



Tea Room Models Laura Rochelle and Morgan Bellows



Virginia Tomlinson and Joanne Grisanti

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FAB FIVE

Fashion Show Event Honors Five Stylish Women And The Arts

By Rob Giardinelli • Photography By Stacey Harrell

THE SCENE: Neiman Marcus Austin was recently the scene of an evening of fun, fashion and philanthropy. The first annual Fab Five, celebrating The HeART of Fashion, was a collaboration between *The Society Diaries* magazine and Neiman Marcus to honor five stylish women in Austin...with the proceeds benefitting some of Austin's top cultural organizations. Guests were greeted by Neiman Marcus' general manager Chris Hendel and *The Society Diaries*' Lance Avery Morgan, as they all enjoyed bites from The Capital Grille, as well as an assortment of cocktails. After honoring the Fab Five and their outstanding achievements, the event was capped off with an extravagant fashion show featuring 40 stunning fall looks, many featuring the fall season's hottest colors, which we like to call 50 Shades of Gray - and Green.



Ava Late, Chris Hendel and Jennifer Carnes



Lindsay Smith, Laura Matz and Aida Dieck



Rusty Tally and Jason Schubert



Mary Tally, Wendy and Justin Harvey, & Eloise DeJoria



DK Reynolds and Lorrie Deangelis



The 2014 Fab Five Recipients - Mary Tally, Laurée Moffett, Laura Matz, Melba Whatley and Ava Late

Neiman Marcus Austin and *The Society Diaries* invite you to celebrate the Twentieth Anniversary of the NM Art of Fashion and salute

THE FAB FIVE

Join us for a reception and fall fashion presentation to recognize five outstanding arts organizations and five fabulous philanthropic leaders

Ballet Austin - Ava Late
The Contemporary Austin - Melba Whatley
UMLAUF Sculpture Garden & Museum - Laura Matz
Women's Symphony League of Austin - Laurée Moffett
ZACH Theater - Mary Tally

Thursday, September 11
5:30 p.m.

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Tickets - \$150

Seating is limited
To purchase your ticket, please contact
Christi Cuellar Lotz, Director of Development
512.476.9151 x124 or christi.cuellar@balletaustin.org





Rita Senter, Caroline Campbell and Donna Campbell



Rob Giardinelli, Lance Avery Morgan and Jill Skinner



Nina Seely and Elisabeth Challener

THE VIBE: “Who are you wearing?” was the phrase often quoted by the recently departed comedic legend and host of *El’s Fashion Police* host Joan Rivers as celebrities donned the red carpet at various award shows. This Fab Five all made our Best Dressed list for not only their individual style, but also their vast contributions to the city’s cultural presence. The five dynamos were: Ava Late, representing Ballet Austin, Melba Whatley, representing The Contemporary Jones Art Center, Laura Matz, representing Umlauf Sculpture Garden and Museum, Lauree Moffett, representing Women’s Symphony League of Austin, and Mary Tally, representing ZACH Scott Theatre.



Kathy Taylor and Socar Chatmon-Thomas



Renata Marsilli and Venus Strawn



Ann Cannon, Karen Harrell and Liz Redwine



Laurée Moffett and Jill Powell



Wendy Kratzer, Lisa Trahan and Cara Abazari



Laura Villagran Johnson and Kevin Smothers



Jamie Barshop and Gray Hawn



THE CAUSE: The proceeds from ticket sales to the fashion show event benefitted several of Austin's best known artistic organizations including Ballet Austin, The Contemporary Jones Art Center, Umlauf Sculpture Garden and Museum, Women's Symphony League of Austin and ZACH Scott Theatre. We look forward to seeing who next year's Fab Five organizations and representatives will be, too.



Larry Connelly and James Armstrong



Tobie Funte Flannery and Dana Germer



Molly Bayme and Emily Glocer



Jenna Leiker and Angie Teagarden



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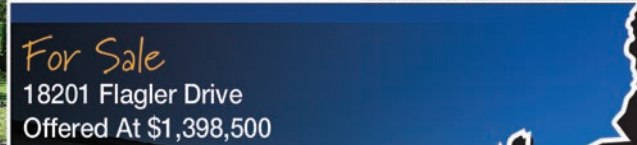


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SOIRÉE AT THE SYMPHONY

Dallas Symphony Orchestra's Smashing Star Power Gala

By *Jonathan Spindel* • Photography By *Lara Bierner and Kristina Bowman*

THE SCENE: Dallas's most charitable swells rubbed elbows with an international set of cultural elites at the Dallas Symphony Orchestra 2014 Gala. The star-studded crowd enjoyed world class dining and entertainment, with an appearance by HRH Duchess of York Sarah Ferguson, then danced the night away at the Space Odyssey themed after-party. The extravagant evening made for myriad memorable moments and set a new record for overall fundraising revenue.



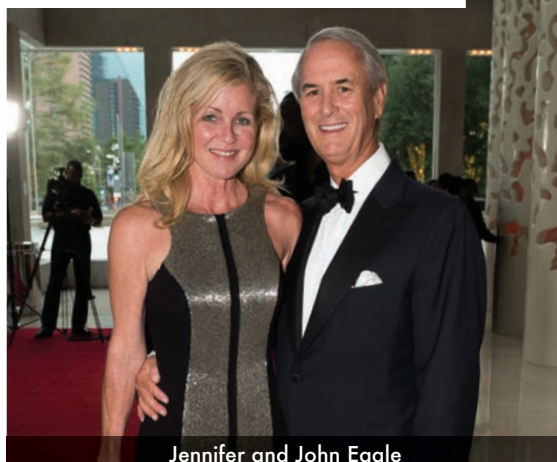
HRH Duchess of York Sarah Ferguson



Aaltje van Zweden, Maestro Jaap van Zweden, Jan Miller, and Jeffrey Rich



Mary Ellen Spears, Kathy Holt, and Angela Ross



Jennifer and John Eagle



Joe Hubach, Colleen O'Connor, Micki Rawlings, and Hon. Mayor Mike Rawlings

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Pat Smith



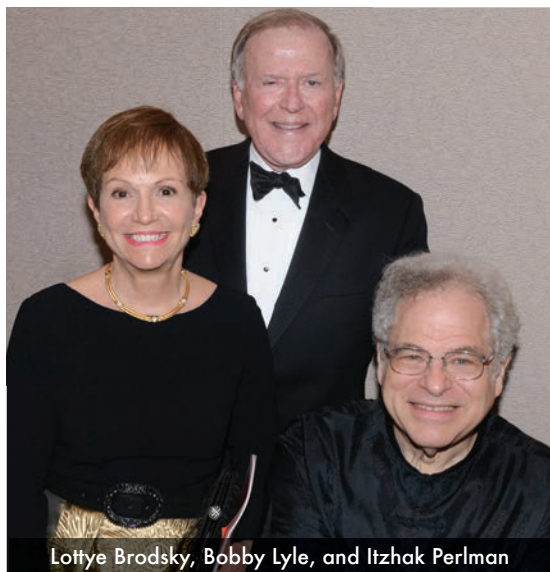
Nicole and Jonas Woods



Rita Senter, Caroline Campbell and Donna Campbell



MarieAnn Newsom, DJ Lucy Wrubel, and Sunny Slinger



Loffye Brodsky, Bobby Lyle, and Itzhak Perlman

THE VIBE: The black tie evening began with a cocktail reception and dinner in the Meyerson Center lobby, a regal space designed by legendary architect I.M. Pei. Following the dinner, guests made their way into the concert hall for a performance by world-renowned violinist Itzhak Perlman with the Dallas Symphony Orchestra. Afterward, the SOLUNA: International Music & Arts Festival hosted the Space Odyssey after-party, featuring late night entertainment including DJ Lucy Wrubel spinning tunes for a packed LED dance floor under the stars. Stylish patrons enjoyed out-of-this-world cocktails and sumptuous epicurean delights in the Ritz-Carlton Dallas lounge.



George Schrader, Caroline Rose Hunt, and Robert Brockville



Sandi Pei and Margaret McDermott



Anna-Sophia van Zweden



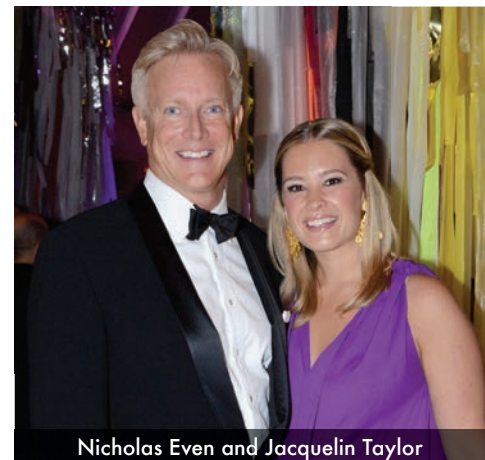
Gillian Breidenbach and Holly Reed



Laura Wilson and Roger Horchow



Margot Perot, Ross Perot, and Betsey Urschel



Nicholas Even and Jacquelin Taylor

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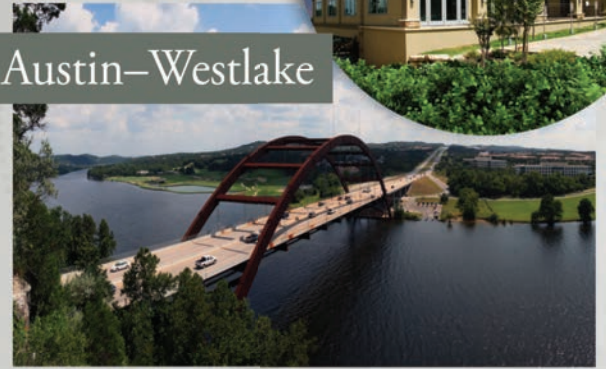


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After-party dancing



The Dallas Symphony Orchestra featuring lizhak Perlman



Lacy Lynch, Kaitlan Moczulski, and Lindsey Cullins

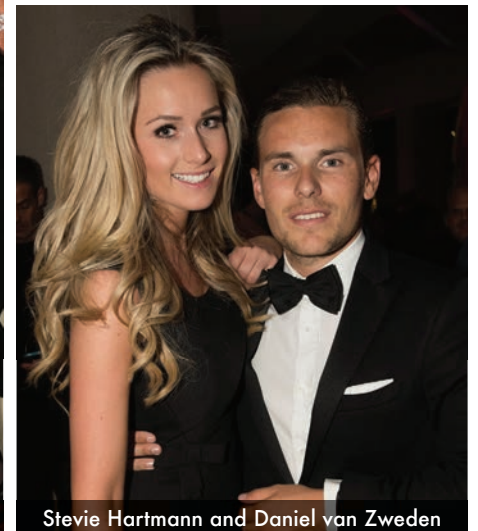
THE CAUSE: This year's gala and after-party, chaired by Dolores Barzune and Anna Sophia van Zweden respectively, set an all-time record for fundraising revenue. Over 2,500 music lovers gathered to enjoy the concert at the public simultaneous broadcast in Klyde Warren Park, the first-ever Dallas Symphony Orchestra simulcast presentation. The Dallas Symphony Orchestra (DSO) is committed to inspiring the broadest possible audience with distinctive classical programs, concerts with popular personalities, and innovative multimedia presentations. The DSO's commitment to the Dallas regional community includes an award-winning educational program, community projects, public park concerts and children's programming.



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EXOTIC GARDEN

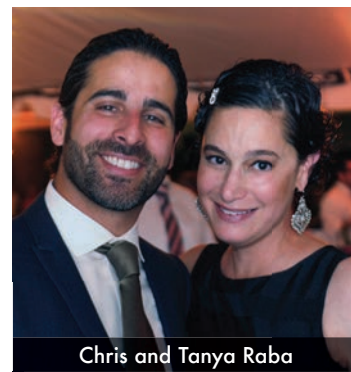
Southwest School Of Art's Gala Paints The Town Red

By *Shannon Miller Turner* • Photography By *Greg Harrison*

THE SCENE: Jardin Marrakech was the chosen theme for the annual Southwest School of Art gala held in the lush garden setting of the school's historic campus. The theme was a nod to style icon Yves Saint Laurent and his legendary Moroccan retreat. Laurent's "love for all things beautiful" was celebrated in grand fashion as gala patrons dined and danced the night away under the stars.



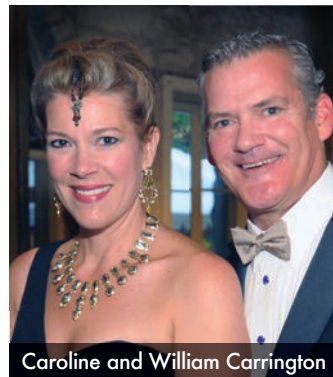
Craig and Elise Boyan & Theresa and Chris Wyatt



Chris and Tanya Raba



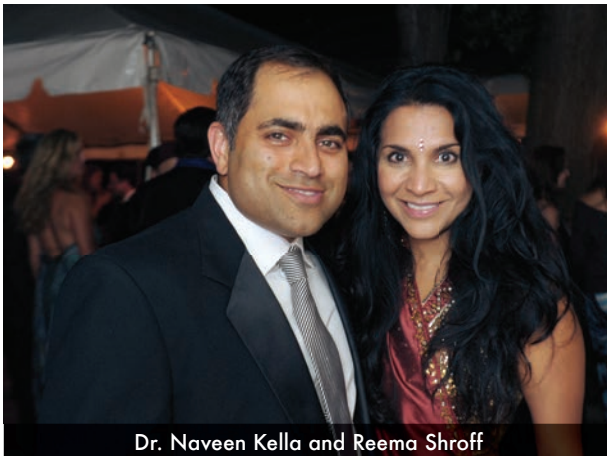
Anne Krause and Andi Rodriguez



Caroline and William Carrington



Chris and April Childs



Dr. Naveen Kella and Reema Shroff

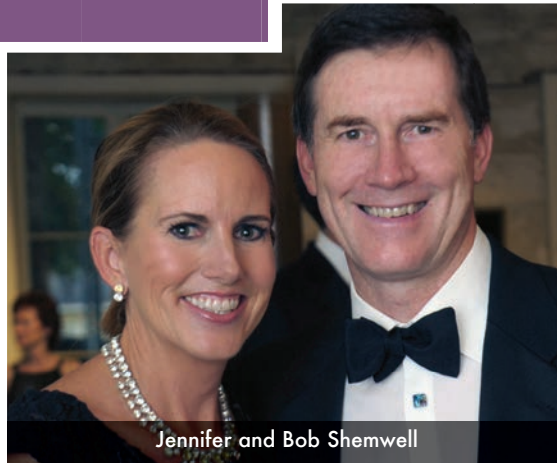


Betty Howard, Susan Reed, Annie Castleberry and Patti Stewart

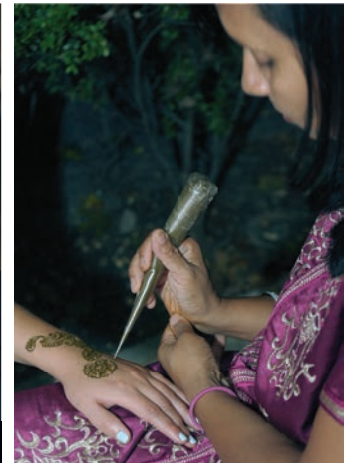
THE VIBE: Upon arrival, how else would guests be greeted than by two live camels cloaked in traditional Moroccan garb at the entry to the school's stunning Elizabeth Huth Coates Chapel? Inside, gala-goers viewed various works of art available for sale and exhibited on the chapel walls before the dinner, catered by Club Giraud, was served al fresco in the campus' exquisite gardens. Guests enjoyed the meal that was accompanied by a variety of musical delights and belly dancing before strolling to the courtyard where DJ Lucy Wrubel set the scene for the inaugural "Starlight Soiree", an after-party presented by Neiman Marcus. Complete with henna tattoo artists and an elegantly appointed hookah lounge overlooking the dance floor, the post-event was the perfect way to end a fabulous evening.



Laura and Lew Moorman



Jennifer and Bob Shemwell



Faith Haddad, Camille Chamberlain and Sara Ash Jessop



Dr. Dana Quarles and Gary Walton



John and Ruth Agather



ENTRANCE
SAN ANTONIO



Sarah and Marks Moore



Lou Celia and Don Frost



Xitlalt Herrera-Salazar and Suhail Arastu



Richey and Joan Wyatt

THE CAUSE: Gala chairs Elise and Craig Boyan and Theresa and Chris Wyatt ensured an evening to remember for all who attended. The mission of the Southwest School of Art is to teach, preserve and advance the visual arts. It expands the creative potential of its community and connects cultures of its world through participatory learning experiences, and preserves and presents the former Ursuline Convent and Academy as a place of historic significance.



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NATURE'S WAY

Nature Conservancy Celebrates 50th Anniversary Golden Jubilee

By *Jennifer Roosth* • Photography By *Kim Coffman and Jenny Antill*



Paul and Lisa Tyree & Troy and Allison Thacker



Charles and Anne Duncan



Kathy Smyth and Carter Smith



David and Alie Pruner



Caroline Levander and David and Barbara gibbs



Laura Huffman and Don and Ann Short

THE SCENE: In honor of the 50th Anniversary of the Nature Conservancy of Texas, the Houston Polo Club was tented and transformed into a small town called Nature, Texas, a magical place encompassing all this state has to offer. The 440 guests enjoyed exploring the magical town of Nature, which encompassed the best food, scenes, and activities at this special Golden Jubilee event. The crowd was a mix of politicos, corporate leaders, nature lovers, and philanthropists partnering to preserve and conserve the natural landscape of the Lone Star State.



Paul and Lisa Tyree & Troy and Allison Thacker



Carolyn and Jimmy Robertson



James Blanchard, Angelica and Ramzi Nassar



Bill and Jackie Cathriner



Josh and Jenny Martin & Sherry and Trey Willerson



Alan and Elizabeth Stein



Chris and Kristy Bradshaw



Phoebe and Bobby Tudor



Asleep at the Wheel



Monica and Kevin King & Susan and Dick Hansen

THE VIBE: Nature may be a small town, but it had a big spirit and miles of style. Guests donned their best Texas tuxes and Western chic ensembles complete with hats, boots, and bling. A three-course dinner was served before a live auction that included an Audi Q5 and a 10-day safari to Kenya. Following that, swing dancing went on late into the night to the sounds of Texas legend Asleep at the Wheel.

THE CAUSE: The milestone event was chaired by Ann and Don Short with co-chairs Allison and Troy Thacker, and raised over \$700,000. The mission of The Nature Conservancy is to conserve the lands and waters on which all life depends. To date, the organization and its more than one million members have been responsible for the protection of more than 119 million acres of land, 5,000 miles of rivers worldwide and the operation of more than 100 marine projects globally.



Mark Schwartz, Vicki West and Amy Schwartz



Rob and Sharon Sanchez & Grace and Rocky Holmes



Kim and Chuck Yates and Amy Garrou

ENTRANCE

AUSTIN



BEAUTY & THE FÊTE

Ballet Austin's Fête and Fête*ish Gala Launches Black Tie Season

By Rob Giardinelli • Photography By Jen Perez & Tony Spielberg

THE SCENE: Some of Austin's most prominent patrons of the arts recently attended Ballet Austin's La Belle at Fête, and it Fête*ish after-party, Beauty and the Beast, at the W Hotel. From the moment guests ascended the modern staircase, lined with large and beautiful flowers to highlight the enchanted forest theme, they knew they were about to encounter a magical evening of fun and fantasy.

Beginning with a cocktail party in the upstairs foyer, it continued into the ballroom where guests were treated to a four-course meal. The robust live auction, coinciding with dessert, featured vacation packages to Colorado and Belize, along with a wine connoisseur package, and other opportunities to donate to Ballet Austin.



Russell and Vivian Wilson & Marlene and Mike Majersky



Robert and Kate Hersch & Jennifer and Chuck Rice



Karen and Will Steakley



Stephen Mills and Brent Hasty



Ray and Jennene Mashburn



Marla Bommarito-Crouch and Cookie Ruiz



Brandi and Chris Horne



Rich and Kei Cleary



Maria and Eric Groten & Mindy Ellmer



Linda Ball and Forrest Preece



THE VIBE: The ballroom, especially grand, was peppered with floral décor of reds, pinks and purples by Mandarin Flower Co. Thoughtfully executed detail, from the mirror centerpieces, handmade colorful mobiles and rose petal tablecloths for the VIP tables, would have made all the characters from the legendary fairytale feel right at home. After the dinner and auction, guests ventured back to the foyer and ballroom for the late night Fête*ish, where Fête attendees mixed with the newly-arrived Fête*ish attendees to dance the evening away in style, with late night performances, DJ's rocking, and cocktails flowing.

THE CAUSE: The gala, chaired by Karen Steakley and Will Steakley, raised a record-breaking sum of over \$310,000 for Ballet Austin's Community Education Programs that reach over 75,000 Central Texans each year.



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FOLLOW US ON  ELITE25AUSTIN

ENCHANTED FOREST

Magical Debutante Party Awakens Imagination

By *Ellie Leeper* • Photography By *Greg Harrison*



Vincent Dawson and Lida Steves



THE SCENE: On a cool evening in San Antonio, Lida Steves, and parents Sarah and Sam Steves II and Leanne and Douglas McLeod Finlayson celebrated her debut at the historic La Villita Assembly Hall. The venue was transformed into a magical land of make believe that transported guests to their favorite fables and memories from once upon a time ago.

Guests entered the party through a swirling rabbit hole and were greeted by the Mad Hatter and his tea party. A series of floating white-gloved hands offered libations through an endless hedge, while a gentle, meandering, and larger-than-life walking vine summoned guests into the enchanted forest of festivities where the merriment continued.



Patrick and Nan Watson



Sarah and Sam Steves



Barbara Sykes and Ben Brewer with an entertainer



Jessica and Clint Worth



Belinda and Will Nixon



Sam Steves, Patsy Steves, Lida Steves, Burt Haus, George and Daryl Tanner & Sarah Steves



Nancy Eshleman, Kate Eshleman & James and Tammy King



Hudson Hammer



Doug and Leanne Finlayson



Elizabeth Ames Jones with an entertainer



Susan and Steve Lewis



Helen Tanner and Ben Tanner

ENTRANCE
SAN ANTONIO



Tres and Megan Steves



THE VIBE: The honoree donned a custom glam gown designed by her cousin Beau Watson as she glided into her fairy tale land that was designed by Richard Flowers of The Events Company in Houston. Guests danced the night away to the sounds of Jessie's Girls from Atlanta, and shimmied to the beats of San Antonio's Urban 15. DJ Jesse Marco from New York City spun late-night beats to a laser light show that had guests letting loose until the wee hours of the morning. The RK Group curated the culinary experience that had guests tasting storybook-themed surprises throughout the evening. After the revelry and make believe, Lida's enchanted evening was a fairy tale come true.



Katie Reynolds, Maddie Matthews, Heather Noe and Jackie Richter



Pam Rosser and Marshall Steves



Miquel and Gloria Dilley



Ben Noe and Gabby Mize



Kay and Randy Harig



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A ROYAL KICKOFF

DKR Fund's Links And Lyrics 4th & Goal Gala Launches Social Season

By *Rob Giardinelli* • Photography By *George Brainard*



Ava Late, Vince Gill and Edith Royal

THE SCENE: In the game of society and high caliber philanthropy, a touchdown was scored with the Darrell K. Royal Research Fund for Alzheimer's Disease's Links and Lyrics/Ben Crenshaw - Willie Nelson - Darrell Royal-inspired gala, held at the Austin City Limits Moody Theatre. As guests ascended the stairs to the theatre, the red carpet was rolled out and the Texas Cowboys and Texas Silver Spurs service organizations greeted each guests as they arrived for the cocktail hour. Once inside the venue, they shared a mix of stories ranging from Texas football legends to recent summer travels.

After a delicious dinner on the ACL venue floor, the Mezzanine level opened to the public and the program continued with a spirited live auction along with captivating performances by various country artists seamlessly peppered in throughout the evening. The performances culminated in a set by country music legend Vince Gill who captivated the audience by performing many of his classic tunes.



Sheri Krause and Charmaine McGill



Henry and Caroline Hortenstine, Rita and Dale Hortenstine



Steve Late & Leslie and Scott Haydon



Julie and Ben Crenshaw & Catherine Crenshaw





Eloise and John Paul DeJoria



Alfred and Sybil Jackson



David Kazen, Callie Hudson, Edith Royal and Christian Campbell



John Donovan, Scott Carr, Brad Knippa and Corby Jastrow



Vince Gill Performs



Ed Clements



Becky Heiser, Bradfield Heiser and Jeff Heiser

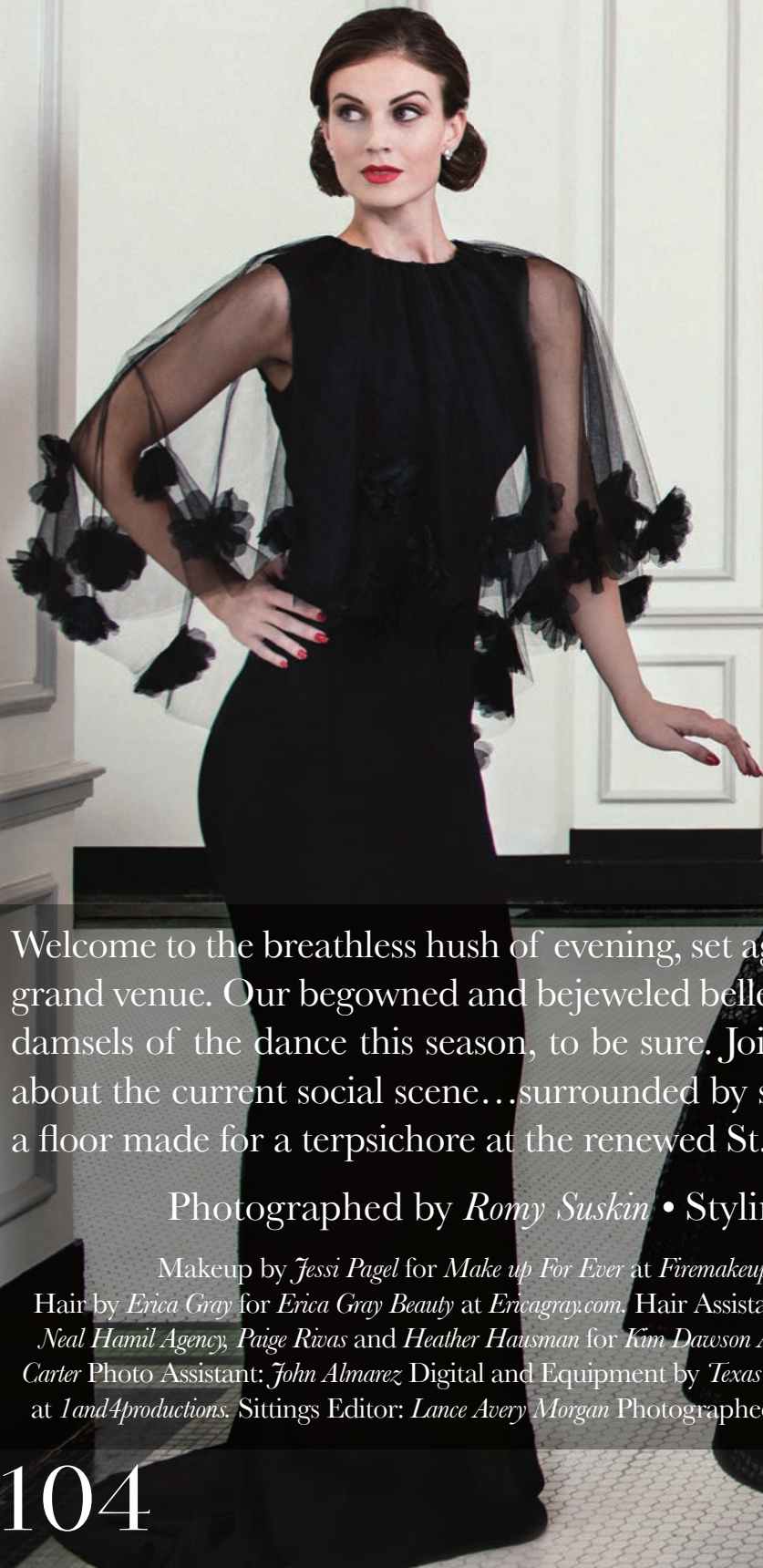


Kristi Knippa, Kim Carr, Jacy Donovan, Stephanie Jastrow and Lindsey Majors

THE VIBE: Polo shirts by day at the Barton Creek golf tournament, Prada by night for the gala meant there was style for everyone, creating a warm and welcoming environment for which Texans are world-renowned. The gala featured a mix of chic cocktail dresses for the ladies, while many of the men got into the country music spirit – boots, hats, and all.

THE CAUSE: The event, co-chaired by the duo of Ava Late and Debbie Hanna, raised over \$1 million for the Darrell K. Royal Research Fund for Alzheimer’s Disease, which enables preventive care and treatment strategies in fighting Alzheimer’s Disease in Texas, with the ultimate goal of curing Alzheimer’s Disease within our lifetimes. In addition to the funds raised, the DKR Fund also awarded five different grants to develop advanced scientific research in Texas, and the organization will announce the establishment of a \$25,000 permanent endowment to the Austin chapter of the Texas Council on Alzheimer’s Disease and Related Disorders. The Edith Royal Caregiver Support Fund will provide the vital education and support for those caring for a loved one afflicted with this terrible disease.

La Belle



Welcome to the breathless hush of evening, set against the backdrop of a pedigreed grand venue. Our begowned and bejeweled belles of the ball are the most beautiful damsels of the dance this season, to be sure. Join us as we make a bold statement about the current social scene...surrounded by soaring ceilings, gilded objects and a floor made for a terpsichore at the renewed St. Anthony Hotel in San Antonio

Photographed by *Romy Suskin* • Styling by *Megan Kyle Bennett*

Makeup by *Jessi Pagel* for *Make up For Ever* at *Firemakeup.com*. Makeup Assistant: *Erin Klarer*
Hair by *Erica Gray* for *Erica Gray Beauty* at *Ericagrays.com*. Hair Assistant: *Priscilla Gallardo* Models: *Michelle Mitchell* for *Neal Hamil Agency*, *Paige Rivas* and *Heather Hausman* for *Kim Dawson Agency*, *Alyssa Draper* for *Wilhelmina*, and *Jason D. Carter* Photo Assistant: *John Almaraz* Digital and Equipment by *Texas Grip* at *Texasgrip.com* Produced by *Amy Whitehouse* at *1and4productions*. Sitings Editor: *Lance Avery Morgan* Photographed on location at the *St. Anthony Hotel, San Antonio*

Époque



SEULE CE SOIR

L to R: Dress by Christian Siriano, price upon request at Christiansiriano.com, Earrings by Auden, \$280 at [Julian Gold](http://JulianGold.com). "Cat eye" dress by Zac Posen, \$9,490. Shoes by Valentino \$1,045, both at [Neiman Marcus](http://NeimanMarcus.com). Earrings by Majorca, \$88 and necklace by Miriam Haskell, \$760, both at [Julian Gold](http://JulianGold.com). Dress by ML Monique Lhuillier (Customized by stylist with tulle train), \$750. Shoes by Jimmy Choo, \$775 both at [Neiman Marcus](http://NeimanMarcus.com). Stylist's own vintage Earrings. Peacock Bra, \$64 at [Patricia Field, NYC](http://PatriciaField.com), worn over bustier by Wacoal, \$85 at [Julian Gold](http://JulianGold.com). Skirt by Carmen Marc Valvo, \$595 at [Neiman Marcus](http://NeimanMarcus.com). Earrings, \$185 and Cuffs \$490, by Kelacala Q by Lara Kurtzman at Kelacalaq.com. Albertoguardiani.com



This Page: AVEC LE TEMPS Left: Dress by Christian Siriano. Price upon request at Christiansiriano.com. Handbag by Anthony Luciano, \$2895 at Anthonyluciano.com. Earrings by Miriam Haskell, \$190 at Julian Gold. Set of two rings, by Kelacala Q by Lara Kurtzman, \$280, at Kelacalaq.com. Ring by Kelacala Q by Lara Kurtzman, \$85 at Kelacalaq.com. Hair brooch is stylist's own. Right: Dress by ML Monique Lhullier, \$698 (customized with floral trim by stylist) at Neiman Marcus. Clutch by Anthony Luciano, \$2595 at Anthonyluciano.com. Earrings by Majorca, \$75 at Julian Gold. Oversized pearl necklace, \$65, at Patricia Field, NYC. Stylist's own headpiece. **Opposite Page: QUE JE T'AIME** Seated: Dress by Thecia. Price upon request at Theciacouture.com. Cuff bracelet by Kelacala Q by Lara Kurtzman, \$389 at Kelacalaq.com. Tuxedo is model's own, back: Vintage dress by Early Halloween, NYC. Cocktail back necklace by Kelacala Q by Lara Kurtzman, \$305 at Kelacalaq.com





J'ATTENDRAI

Dress by Alice and Olivia,
\$1096, necklace by Danijo,
\$845, both at Neiman Marcus.
Petticoat worn underneath
dress, at Petticoatfair.com



ETRANGÈRE AU PARADIS

Dress by Zac Posen. Vintage earrings are stylist's own.



LA PLUS BELLE POUR ALLER DANSER

L to R: Dress by ML by Monique Lhullier, \$648, at Saks Fifth Avenue. Ear cuffs worn as earrings, \$30 each at Patricia Field, NYC. Dress by Rubin Singer, \$7,995 at Neiman Marcus. Necklace by Kelacala Q by Lara Kurtzman, \$289 at Kelacalaq.com. Gold brocade dress by Theia, \$1,495, earrings by Majorca, \$75, both at Julian Gold. Far Right: Dress by Aidan Mattox, \$495, necklace, \$1195 and earrings, \$395 by Oscar De La Renta, all available at Neiman Marcus.





NON, JE NE REGRETTE RIEN

Opposite page, L to R: Model far left wears slip by Golden Hawke, \$125 at Julian Gold. Maribou shrug, price upon request, from The Feather Place, NYC. Dress (held by model) by Amsale, \$7,400 at Julian Gold. Right, seated on bed: Custom made bustier by Megan Kyle Bennett, \$350 at Megankylebennett.com. Skirt by Alice and Olivia, \$597, shoes by Rene Caovilla, \$1,275, both at Neiman Marcus. Various eyemasks from Patricia Field, NYC. Corsets worn underneath dresses throughout are from Frederick's of Hollywood.

NE ME QUITTE PAS

Dress by Monique Lhuillier, \$6,930, earrings by Miriam Haskell, \$190, Both at Julian Gold.



ENLIGHTENED LUXURY

If you have been a good girl or boy all year long, Santa might bring you what you deserve. Or, so we are told. Why not ask for what you really want, and conversely, give, give, give like there is no tomorrow? Here we have brought together some inspiring, instant heirloom gifts and experiences that will warm hearts and enrich minds for many years ahead. By *Lance Avery Morgan, Jason Schubert, and Jonathan Spindel*

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WORTH A THOUSAND WORDS CAPTURE YOUR GOLDEN

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\$129. At Lomography.com

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SHARE THE SOUNDS

FOR THE STYLISH LISTENER, Bang and Olufsen's BeoPlay offers headphones that sound as good as they look. An optional feature allows you to link multiple headsets to a single audio device.

\$399. At Beoplay.com

LIGHT UP THE NIGHT

THIS PENDANT LIGHT, reminiscent of Sputnik meeting the future, will add a dash of charm and whimsy to any space that needs to be revved up and brought to new heights. \$2250. At Hudsonvalleylighting.com



HEAVENLY HEARTH

TURN A FIREPLACE into to a stunning framework for this sculpture year-round. It's designed to hold votive candles that will illuminate with a warm glow, by Kathryn McCoy Design in Selenite. \$5,700. At Horchow and Bergdorf Goodman



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PASSAGE TO INDIA
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THIS GORGEOUS DAMASCUS STEEL kitchen knife by Henckels is the first German-made blade of its kind. Made of 160 layers of folded steel, this luxurious blade will be the pride of any home chef. \$999.95. At Williams-sonoma.com



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at a cafe or your kitchen counter, the elegant GS/3 espresso machine by La Marzocco is the envy of every DIY home barista. From \$6,900. At Lamarzocco.com



SUDDENLY, IT'S 2022 THE NEW BMW i8

is the thinking person's approach to a luxurious electric car. With its zoom factor and gull wing doors, the future is here and now. From \$135,700. At BMWofaustin.com



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A DARING MASH-UP of classic tradition with modern whimsy, the Kartell “Ghost Chair” will make a striking addition to your bar or breakfast nook. Designed by famed designer Phillippe Starck. From \$450. At Karstellsorela.com



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TIE ONE ON
THE GO-TO FOR QUALITY scarves always gets our vote. This Hermès Sous l'Egide de Mars Hermes silk and cashmere shawl at 56” X 56” by Pierre Marie is perfect for self or home. \$1175. At Hermès

SCENT OF A WOMAN
A WOMEN RARELY buys a scent for herself, according to experts. So, spurge on her this year with our favorite fresh scents of the season.



Dolce&Gabbana
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Gucci Guilty
Pour Femme Shimmering, floral hedonism at its most provocative. From \$99 for 75ml.



Gucci Première
 This is bottled confidence created from jasmine sambac and Bulgarian rose. \$101 for 75ml.



Ralph Lauren
Midnight Romance Pink peonies and vanilla create this magical elixir. \$94 for 100ml.



Vince Camuto Amore
 The modern sensuality is blended from notes of blush orchids, fresh freesia, and floating lotus. \$78 for 100ml.

SWEET SCENTS

THE LUXURY GIFT SET by Nest Fragrances makes a perfect hostess gift this holiday season. Or, decorate your own home with this aromatic essential, \$85. At Neimanmarcus.com



CONTAIN YOURSELF

WHAT'S NOT TO LOVE about an assemblage of vintage decanters gathered in one attention-getting spot? You can source these almost everywhere to build your own collection. From estate sales to the finest stores.

ROOM WITH A POINT OF VIEW DALLAS-BASED AND GLOBALLY

ORIENTED interior designer Jan Showers creates stunning, show-stopping rooms. Have her use her touch in your own home to refresh things a little. Price Upon Request. At Janshowers.com. Photo courtesy of Jan Showers



BRONZE GODDESS

DURING THE MID-1960S, Texas artist Charles Umlauf produced a number of significant sculptures of women which exemplified elegance and beauty that was truly contemporary. From \$39,600. On view and available at Hotel Ella. At Hotelella.com



WHEELS UP

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WANT TO DAZZLE any tabletop? Look no further than this collection of malachite-inspired vases that makes any surface more sensational. \$128-168. At Jonathan Adler and Neiman Marcus



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Dolce & Gabbana The One for Men Collector's Edition
 As elegant and sensual as a roulette game in Monaco. \$86 for 100ml.



Vince Camuto Homme
 Crisp and clean like the Mediterranean yacht's seabreeze. \$70 for 100ml.



Gucci Guilty Pour Homme
 Cedar, sandal and mandarin reminiscent of the F-1 track in Nice. \$84 for 90ml.



Prada Luna Rosa
 Sage and spearmint creates this energetic spray for the on-the-go guy. \$82 for 100ml.

F L O R

An aerial night view of Florence, Italy. The Arno river flows through the center, with the Ponte Vecchio bridge illuminated. The city lights are visible, and the sky is a mix of orange and blue. The word 'F L O R' is written in large, white, outlined letters across the top.

FABULOUS & FASCINATING

122

Florence by night

FLORENCE



The fabled city, known for its majestic beauty, culture, and the Medici family's impact, has always captured the world's imagination. Join us, with *our girl-about-globe Emma Lomax-Cohen*, as she explores the unique richness of the Italian mecca



Villa La Massa near Florence



The St. Regis in Florence

“IN PARIS YOU LEARN WIT, in London you learn how to crush your social rivals, and in Florence you learn poise,” wrote the American composer Virgil Thomson to friends at one time. Not much has changed since then in Florence, long known as the jewel of the Italian Renaissance, as well as the style capital of Tuscany.

STAY

Let’s face it. When thinking about Florence three words come to mind: food, art, and leather goods. I didn’t know it was possible for one city to be both culturally and historically enriched *and* have the most delectable cuisine on the planet, but Florence does, and in the chicest way possible.

This city is unique in every aspect, which is why it is one of the most enchanting places in the world. Although it seems impossible, *Firenze*, as Florence is known in Italy, has condensed 600 years of artful abundance into a 39 square-mile radius that is most easily navigable by walking its treasure trove of quaint avenues. That just gives you more reason to invest in a new pair of authentic Florentine leather boots—this city’s made for walking and each street you come across will be surpassed by a more beautiful one on the next block ahead.

Staying anywhere other than the St. Regis, Four Seasons, or the Hotel Savoy would be doing yourself a huge disservice, considering they are near the Arno river that winds through the city. Note that the Four Seasons has the best view of the city, and the best cocktails. If you’re planning on staying in Florence for longer than a week, renting an apartment might be beneficial. The Portrait hotel is a newcomer to the game and is a lavish town house, and a true corner of paradise situated on the Arno. There is also Villa La Massa, a 16th-century Medici mansion, also on the banks of the Arno, which is an option for those who want to live, well, like a Medici.



The Four Seasons in Florence

DRINK

Henry James noted, “Everything about Florence seems to be colored with a mild violet, like a diluted wine.” Since Florence is at the center of wine culture in Italy, the choices for wine are infinite. Every restaurant and bar has an endless wine list, and if you’re really serious about wine, you’ll go on a wine tour in one of the Florentine vineyards. If you like beer, check out Kikuya, famous for their dragoon beers.



DINE

Because Florence is located in the heart of wine country, you could drink your way through the city, but then there would be no room left for its fine food. And you do want to leave room for food. Yes, Italy is known for its fantastic and unique pastas, but can other cities in Italy say that they are known for their blueberry steak and pear ravioli? You'll note that Tuscan bread is different – made sans salt – so the olive oils and pasta sauces are recommended to rescue its taste.

Dinner at La Giostra is a must. For the upscale food daredevils there is the famous Alle Murante. The menu changes quite often and ranges from duck liver to beef tartare; all while being located in an underground cave. Although you may want to try all of the Florentine delicacies, it is not physically possible to eat so heavily for every meal. While touring the city during the day it is quick and easy to pick up a panini at Antico noe, Pino's, or The Oil Shoppe. You will hear people talking in line about splitting a panino—don't. You'll end up wanting to order three more, they're that good. Although it is a hotspot for study abroad students, Gusta Pizza is one of the most famous restaurants in all of Italy, and it puts Chicago's deep-dish pizza to shame. Since it's hard to go anywhere in Italy without dessert, picking up gelato post-meal is a must. Try everything, eat as much as you can, and just make sure of one thing- never mix cheese and seafood.

The famous Ladurée has brought its nimble French touch to the food scene in the city. I love that it is painted in Ladurée's signature tone



Florence's Food Market Scene

of celery green and offers virtually pyramids of macarons and their charming colored boxes. Il Borro Tuscan Bistro is where the Ferragamo family has put its stylish touch into what is both a cozy and elegant wine bar that turns scene-ish later in the evening. Venice's iconic Caffè Florian has opened an offshoot in Florence that serves delicious dishes in a hip, artsy ambiance that is decorated with paintings from the Florian artistic foundation. Eataly really is the temple of Italian food, has now opened in Florence. Located by the city's Duomo cathedral, the 22,000-square-foot space has a first floor that hosts a bookstore dedicated to food, and on the second level the "DaVinci" restaurant and store sells exclusive wines and beers, while the third floor hosts courses on food education for both children and adults.

KNOWN FOR THE DUOMO, THE DAVID BY MICHELANGELO, AND THE PONTE VECCHIO, FLORENCE WAS AT THE HEART OF THE RENAISSANCE ERA AND HAS MAINTAINED ITS CHARM AND LOVE FOR THE ARTS EVER SINCE.





Fountain of Neptune on the
Piazza della Signoria

FIRENZE HAS CONDENSED 600 YEARS OF ARTFUL ABUNDANCE INTO A 39 SQUARE MILE RADIUS OF A TREASURE TROVE OF QUAIN AVENUES.



Ponte Vecchio over the Arno river



Statue of Michelangelo's David, Hercules and Cacus in front of the Palazzo Vecchio at Piazza della Signoria

DO

Although you may want to eat your way through Florence, it would be a crime to not leave time for the multitude of dazzling sites. Known for the Duomo, the David by Michelangelo, and the Ponte Vecchio, Florence was at the heart of the Renaissance era and has maintained its charm and love for the arts ever since. Every sculpture or painting in the Uffizi or the Accademia will have you entranced for hours, and there are enough beautiful and intricately designed churches within a three mile radius that could keep you enthralled for weeks. Because of Florence's popularity, it is important to reserve tickets ahead of time if you want to avoid standing in line. Your hotel concierge can handle those details for you.

The only time you may want to consider standing in line is to mentally prepare yourself for the 436 steps to the top of the Duomo. The climb will help you work off the previous night's dinner, and the view from the top is a spectacular reward. What could be better than a 360-degree view of the entire city? The red-tiled rooftops and a view of the Arno leading to the mountains are worth every single step.


SHOP

As we all know Florence used to be a fashion capital of the world. Via de' Tornabuoni keeps couture alive in Florence and is full of designer boutiques and dedicated shoppers at Gucci, Ferragamo, Cavalli, and all the usual favorites. You can find the rest of the dedicated shoppers at the San Lorenzo leather market perusing thousands of handmade leather purses, wallets, and hats of all shapes and sizes.

There's nothing like true Italian leather, which means you can't leave Florence without a new leather jacket, boots, bag, or just about anything of the fine hide. While you're at it, nothing goes better with Sergio Rossi boots than a pair of diamond earrings from the Ponte Vecchio. Although crowded during the day, the Ponte Vecchio is an incredible spot to watch the sun set over the Arno river, and it has the best view of the stars once night comes and the shop owners close up and go home.

The thing that continues to make Florence feel so special is its hidden gems. Of course it has its famous restaurants and boutiques, but it also has thousands of less famous, perhaps even unknown places. Take a walk, pop into a random store, and more likely than not it will be a diamond in the rough.

Less populated streets are filled with vintage clothes and antiques, ranging from Chanel buttons from the 1950s turned into necklaces, to jewelers that hand-sculpt one-of-a-kind gold jewelry stamped with the Florentine emblem. For you night owls, stay awake and around 2 a.m. your nose will lead you to one of the three secret bakeries in Florence. Their location is unknown, but their steaming chocolate croissants are worth the wild goose chase.

So, no matter what you do, see, eat, or drink, your next visit to Florence will have you planning another trip there to discover more wonders than one trip could possibly allow. 



Leathergoods shopping in Florence



Antique shopping in Florence

MUSEO MAGIC

Mexic-Arte Gala Del Museo Celebrates 30 Years

By *Rob Giardinelli* • Photography By *Chris Caselli & Jen Perez*

THE SCENE: A Saturday evening in Austin was the perfect setting to celebrate 30 years of Mexican art in the region. Mexic-Arte's Gala Del Museo event wowed its attendees by creating an evening full of fantastic music, food and festivities. The highlight was honoring a living legend: the recipient of the Lifetime Achievement Award for The Humanities – Dr. Guadalupe Rivera-Marín, daughter of Diego Rivera, the most prolific Mexican painter of the 20th century.



Dr. Guadalupe Rivera-Marín, Rodrigo Lopez and Fernanda Lopez



Astrid Hadad with the 30th Anniversary cake



David Garza and Dr. John Hogg



Dr. Mario Moya and Sylvia Orozco



Vicki and Mark Eidman



Counsel General Rosalba Ojeda, Joe Long, Beatriz Antonelli and Liliana Patino



Matt Randall



Kim and Gregory Vincent



Omar and Monica Flores & Milayka Aquiles and Miguel Bou



THE VIBE: Upon arriving to the foyer of The Four Seasons ballroom, the guests, prepared for a good time, were treated to a cocktail hour al fresco that featured Patrón cocktails and a mariachi band for a special touch of *Mexi-elegance*.

The ballroom doors opened for the evening's program, helmed by Master of Ceremonies Dr. John Hogg, which in addition to honoring Dr. Marín, included two musical performances by world-renowned artist Astrid Hadad. This anniversary celebration was capped off by an after-party where the merry celebrants danced the night away to tunes spun by DJ Soto el Tiburon.

THE CAUSE: The evening, chaired by the museum's supporters Dr. John Hogg and David Garza raised funds for Mexic-Arte Museum, which provides cultural enrichment, education, presentation and promotion of traditional and contemporary Mexican, Latino and Latin American art and culture.



Jodi and Fred Zipp



Nikki Salzillo



Laurel and Edgar Prats



Manuel Zuniga and Luz Angela Norton



John Duncan and Becky Beaver

PAUSE FOR PAWS

Citizens For Animal Protection and PetSet Soirées Dazzle

By *Jennifer Roosth* • Photography By *Kim Coffman*
and *Fulton Davenport*

THE SCENE: Whether gathering at the Bayou City Event Center (Bad to the Bone) or the Hotel Zaza ballroom (Fierce and Fabulous), the Houston philanthropic community has made it clear that animal love is firmly on its radar. At the Citizens for Animal Protection (CAP) “Bad to the Bone” event guests were clad in leather motorcycle gear as the dogs strolled the catwalk with them, and there was even a doggie kissing booth as part of the silent auction that captivated the guests.

THE VIBE: Joyful and lively best describes the vibe of these events. What could you say about rooms full of revved-up animal lovers besides “My gosh, these Houstonians love their dogs”? They will spend their time, energy, and money to prove it. Whether at a trendy hotel dolled up in cocktail attire, or at an events center with pooches in tow dressed as biker gang outlaws, these animal loving partygoers know how to have fun while raising funds for canine causes.



Alex Blair and Alex Martinez at CAP



Blake Barber Perry Finger at CAP



Bruce Padilla, Shelby Kibodeaux & Don and Patti Murphy at CAP



Carmina Zamorano at PetSet



Jon Halburn and Bubba Mc Neely at CAP



Hershey Grace John Moritz at CAP



Jeff and Katherine Smith, and Mark Grierson at PetSet



Maaney Mafridge, Rob Rutherford and Stephanie Eustis at PetSet

OFF *the* WALL

2015 BLANTON MUSEUM OF ART GALA

HONORING BILL POWERS PRESIDENT OF THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS AT AUSTIN

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 7, 2015 | 6:30 PM



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MICHAEL KLEIN

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NEW YORK JENNY AND TREY LAIRD / DARREN WALKER AND DAVID BEITZEL

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For more information visit: blantonmuseum.org/gala

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ENTRANCE

HOUSTON



Dr. Devinder and Gina Bhatia at PetSet



Barbara Van Postman at PetSet



Lori & Darryl Schroeder at CAP



Dr. Angela Sturm, Shayna Andrews, Nicole Trevino at CAP Bad To The Bone



Gaylon & Don Gullquist at CAP



Jack Morris Rains at CAP



Kim Dunn at CAP



Ursaline Hamilton at CAP



Tina & Sam Governale at CAP



Tena and Tyson Faust at PetSet



Liz Zaruba and Bob Devlin at PetSet



Judy Nichols at PetSet

THE CAUSE: While Citizens for Animal Protection (CAP) is most well known for their annual Celebrity Paws Gala in November, this Bad to the Bone runway event was held to contribute to the overwhelming need to raise funds during the dog days of summer. The Bad to the Bone event was chaired by Patti and Don Murphy, Shelby Kibodeaux and Bruce Padilla, with honorary chairs Francie and Mike Willis. The honorees were Gaylon and Don Gullquist, and the Bad to the Bone award recipients were Lori and Darryl Schroeder. Animal lover and TV's news anchor Deborah Duncan, emceed both events.

The PetSet soirée's Fierce and Fabulous, was chaired by Tena Lundquist Faust, Tama Lundquist, and John Evatz, with its honorees Debra and Mark Grierson. There were 275 guests and over \$200,000 was raised, including funds from a live action in which a trip to Costa Rica that was bought by honoree Mark Grierson, donated back to PetSet, and then bought again by Tyson and co-chair Tena Faust. Houston PetSet is an umbrella organization that provides grants to animal welfare charities in Houston (including CAP among many others). The corporate sponsor was Momentum Porsche. DJ Senega was on the scene spinning tunes before the event, during the program and at the after party that went until midnight.



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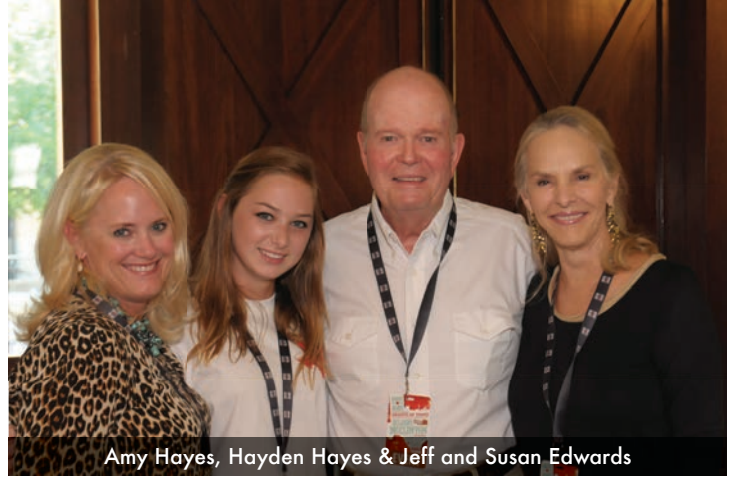


GIVING FROM THE HEART

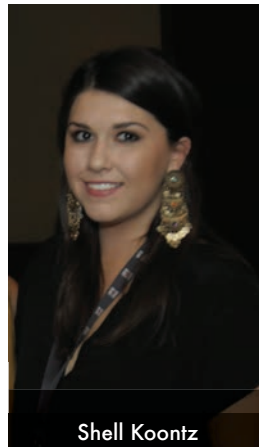
August Heart Foundation Hosts Annual Hearts of Texas Fundraiser

By *Sasha Ellington* • Photography By *Greg Harrison*

THE SCENE: The AugustHeart Foundation successfully hosted its 4th Annual Hearts of Texas fundraiser at the Pearl Stables. The gathering offered an array of live country and soul music entertainment as the musicians shared their talents by engaging the guests to help advance the mission of AugustHeart.



Amy Hayes, Hayden Hayes & Jeff and Susan Edwards



Shell Koontz



Ross Studer, Catherine Stumberg, and Will Hughes



Dr. Manny Lopez and
Kerri Thompson



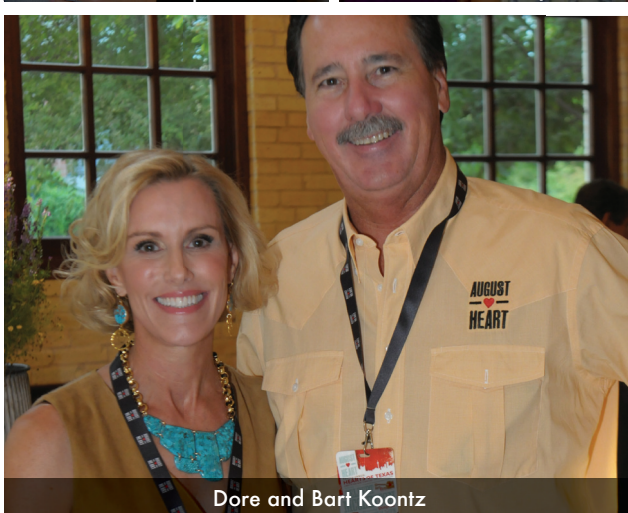
Jessica Zaccaria, Whitney Zaccaria,
and Krissy Zaccaria



Carter Speer, Julie Speer, Payton Speer,
and Crockett Speer



Wallace Rogers, Gracie Saunders, Juliana
Decamps, and Marty Dusek



Dore and Bart Koontz





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Beau Wilson, Paul Swann, and Delbert McClinton



Erin Wolff, Gretchen Lahourcade, and Ashley Cruse



Mike Joyce

THE VIBE: The Austin band, Shinyribs, kicked off the evening and generous guests bid during live and silent auctions to sustain funds used towards raising awareness about the importance of heart screenings among youth. Various items auctioned off consisted of photography, golf, beach, and shopping packages to further support the cause. The grand finale featured Texas celebrated singer and songwriter, Delbert McClinton. Guests enjoyed an array of fabulous food stations and open bars catered by Don Strange of Texas.

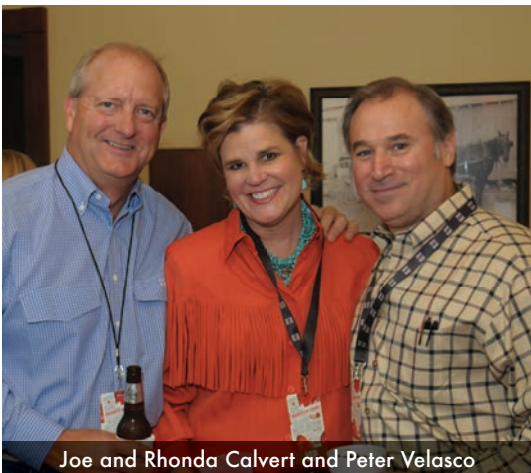


Drew Allen, Mary Sue Nelson and James Everhart



Shane and Gail Riley

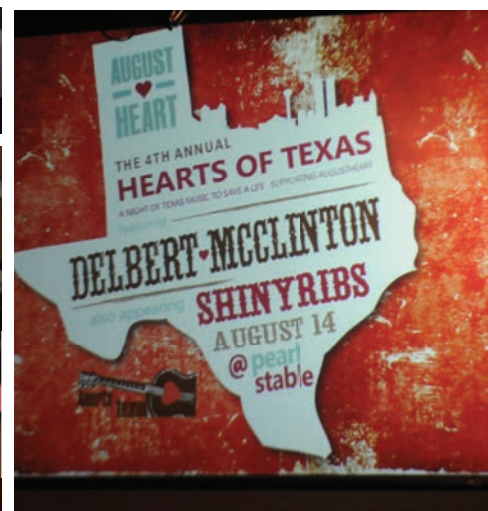
THE CAUSE: Bart and Dore Koontz began the AugustHeart Foundation after losing their son August from the undiagnosed congenital heart condition, Hypertrophic Cardiomyopathy (HCM). Often undiagnosed, HCM is the leading cause of sudden cardiac death in young athletes, and because of AugustHeart, complimentary heart screenings are provided to student athletes throughout Bexar County, ages 14 to 18. In the few years since the organization's inception, almost 4,000 students have been screened for this heart abnormality free of charge, and over 160 students were identified with the condition. Since then, some of those students have required immediate heart procedures. Fortunately, AugustHeart was able to prevent any further harm.



Joe and Rhonda Calvert and Peter Velasco



Chip and Courtney Percy






WHIMSICAL, MAGICAL & SURREAL

by Jake Gaines

ANARTE GALLERY IN SAN ANTONIO RECENTLY hosted acclaimed photographers Eduardo Berdegué, Thomas Dodd, Aubra Franklin, and Trish Simonite for the 2014 FotoSeptiembre exhibition, *Whimsical, Magical, Surreal*. The reception for it gathered photography, artist talks, DJ music, and a performance by local band Antique Sunset.

As AnArte proprietor Ana Montoya states about the show, “Each photographer creates an otherworldly universe that evokes the dream and the unconscious mind.” And, as artist Eduardo Berdegué says, “My *Emerging Markets* series is a collection of images of produce markets in my native Bolivia. Through low-speed shooting and forced-speed shooting and forced-processing techniques, I attempt to capture and convey not only light, but also sounds, scents, temperature, even the ancestral mix of fatigue and pride of its subjects.” Thomas Dodd whose work was prominent, stated, “I have always been fascinated with the hidden forces that propel us through life and which have been codified and represented in countless cultures through myths and legends. Using photo-editing software, I stack, layer and blend different photographs together to create a final image that looks much more like an oil painting than a photograph.”

Artist Aubra Franklin noted, “For me photography is about capturing a mood, a feeling. In my *Lavender Dreams* series I try to understand the layers of light and shadow within nature, what I call Soul Light. I look for moments of magic, when the structure of a landscape is in tune with the light cast upon it.” Photographer Trish Simonite shared her point of view on the exhibit by noting, “Much of my recent work has focused on the history of the landscape. The images from this series *Beauty And Blood* were taken while working on a project on the Moorish gardens and architecture of Andalucía in Southern Spain. In this time of conflict between radical Islam and the contemporary secular and Christian world, I wanted to explore the idea of these two ancient religions coexisting in the landscape.” 

For more information on AnArte, visit Anartegallery09.com or call 210.826.5674.

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November 1-2

Formula 1 United States Grand Prix™
formula1.com

November 1

My Yacht Club Formula 1 Nightclub
Benefitting Ballet Austin
myyachtclub.com

November 6

Big Reds & Bubbles
The Wine & Food Foundation of Texas
winefoodfoundation.org

November 7

Collectors Evening
UMLAUF Sculpture Garden & Museum
umlaufsculpture.org

November 8 - 13

Christmas at the Caswell House
austinjuniorforum.org

November 11

Party for Good
Greenlights
greenlights.org

November 13

Night of 50,000 Lives
American Red Cross of Central Texas
american.redcross.org

November 13

Beauty Unveiled
Hospice Austin
hospiceaustin.org

November 13

Help Clifford Help Kids
American YouthWorks
americanyouthworks.org

November 15

Rags to Wags Gala
Austin Human Society
austinhumansociety.org

November 14

Art Night EAST
Art Alliance Austin
artallianceaustin.org

November 15

DecaDance
Forklift Danceworks
forkliftdanceworks.org

November 19 - 23

A Christmas Affair
Junior League of Austin
jlaustin.org

December 6

Hope for the Holidays Gala
JDRF Austin
austin.jdrf.org

December 7

Dancing with the Stars Austin
Center for Child Protection
centerforchildprotection.org

DALLAS

November 1

Zoo to Do at the Dallas Zoo
dallaszootodo.com

November 1

Big Black Tie Ball
Big Brothers Big Sisters
bbbtx.org

November 1

ART for ADVOCACY
Dallas Children's Advocacy Center
dcac.org

November 3

A Conversation With a Living Legend
University of Texas M.D. Anderson Cancer Center
mdanderson.org

November 5

'Neath the Wreath Ladies Night Out
Junior League of Collin County
jllcollincounty.org

November 6

Dallas International Art, Antique & Jewelry Show Private Preview Party
dallasfallshow.com

November 6

The Milestones Luncheon featuring Laura Bush
Junior League of Dallas
jld.net

November 8

Deals & Dreams Casino Night
Heart of a Warrior Charitable Foundation
hoawdallas.org

November 8

An Evening of Hope Gala
Hope's Door
hopesdoorinc.org

November 12

Inaugural Great Futures Luncheon
Boys & Girls Club of Greater Dallas
bgcdallas.org

November 13

DIFFA/Dallas 2014 Holiday Wreath Collection
diffadallas.org

November 15

Night at the Museum
Perot Museum of Nature and Science
perotmuseum.org

December 6

The Crystal Charity Ball
Children's Charities
crystalcharityball.org

HOUSTON

November 1

7th Annual True Blue Gala
Houston Police Foundation
houstonpf.com

November 3

Guardian of the Human Spirit Luncheon
Holocaust Museum Houston
hnh.org

November 6

Catwalk for a Cure
Amschwand Sarcoma Cancer Foundation
sarcomacancer.org

November 7

Fashion Fete: Art of the Runway
DiverseWorks
diverseworks.org

November 8

Rice Design Alliance Gala: Draw
ricedesignalliance.org

November 11

One Great Night in November
The Museum of Fine Arts, Houston
mfah.org

November 12

We Can Go Forward Luncheon
CancerForward
cancerforward.org

November 13

2014 Legacy Gala
Stacey and Bo Porter SELF Foundation
sbpsselffoundation.org

November 14

Trees of Hope Silver Bell Ball
Star of Hope
treesofhopehouston.org

November 15

Art on the Avenue
Avenue CDC
avenuecdc.org

November 18

Another Great Night in November
Contemporary Arts Museum Houston
camh.org

November 22

Celebrity Paws Gala
Citizens for Animal Protection
cap4pets.org

December 9

2014 Angels of Hope Luncheon & Fashion Presentation
Friends of Child Advocates
childadvocates.org

SAN ANTONIO

November 1

65 Roses Annual Gala
Cystic Fibrosis Foundation
cff.org

November 1

Noche de los Reyes Gala
El Rey Feo Consejo Educational Foundation
reyfeconsejo.org

November 1 - 7

Fashion Week San Antonio 2014
fashionsa.org

November 11

Zoobilation Ball
San Antonio Zoological Society
sazoo.org

November 13

Gayla's Gala
Transplants for Children
gaylasgala.org

November 14

Marisol Deluna New York® Fashion Show
marisoldelunafoundation.org

November 19

Fall Luncheon Fundraiser
Opera Guild of San Antonio
operaguildsa.org

November 20

Cardinals for Kids Winter Gala
University of the Incarnate Word
uiw.edu

November 28

Ford Holiday River Parade & Lighting Ceremony
thesanantonioriverwalk.com

December 13

Tannenbaum Ball
Gillespie County Historical Society
pioneermuseum.net

December 4

Annual Gala & Silent Auction
Greater San Antonio Chamber of Commerce
sachamber.org

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