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SEPTEMBER • OCTOBER 2017

THE SOCIETY

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REVEALED**
*The Personality
From Within*

**STREET
STYLE**
*Where The
Scene Began*

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TO KNOW NOW**
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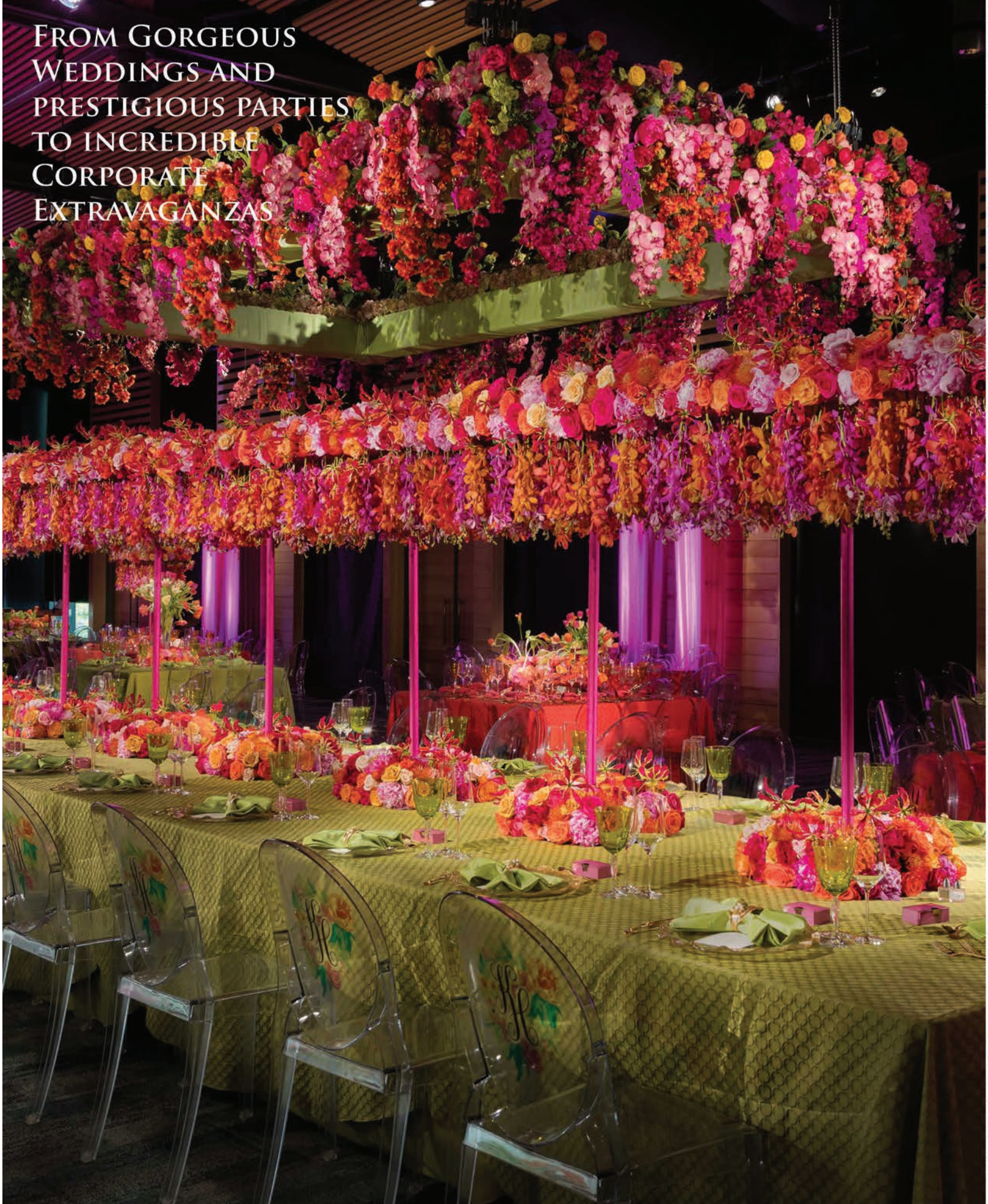
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Garden Room

FIG. 01

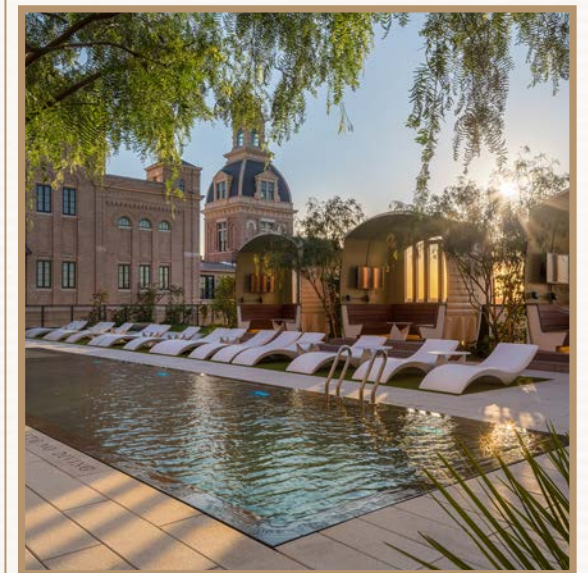


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TSD SEPT • OCT 2017

114. HIDDEN TALENTS

This fall's crop of new fashion is the most exciting we've seen in years. Fresh as an autumn day, these clothes speak to the modern woman who feels as beautiful on the outside as she does on the inside.

Photography by Mark Oberlin
Styling by Dion "Bleu" Drake

124. THE PERSONIFICATION OF TEXAS

The strong Texas personality has always been a force with which to be reckoned. Here our Senior Social Editor Rob Giardinelli, in his new book *Being In The Room*, takes a look at the cities in the family that comprises the Lone Star State.

By Rob Giardinelli

131. VERY, VERY VENICE

Long considered to be not only everyone's favorite European city, but also one of centuries old culture that never seems dated, Venice is a jewel that consistently beckons, as seen in this five-star look at this dynamic port of adventure.

By Lance Avery Morgan

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44

Opera San Antonio's MacBeth.
Photo by Kari Cadel

38. CONTRIBUTE

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

42. EDIT

Editor-in-Chief and Creative Director Lance Avery Morgan is more than ready for fall. Out with the heat and in with the cool, he says. Here's his look at some of the season's favorite offerings.

44. CURATE

Looking for more culture as things cool down? We are, too. Take a look at some of our state's finest museums in the country, according to our active arts arbiter Jonathan Spindel.

48. INDULGE

Our sensational style editor Tori Johnson is feeling blue this month. In fact, every shade of blue, is perfect as a fall neutral. Remember, blue is the new black.

50. SEEK

This great big fabulous world, according to on-the-go guy Jason Grosgrain, has all the international happenings that we recommend you enjoy.

52. BEHAVE

We love that our Ms. Modern Manners Sharon Schweitzer, JD is to the rescue for all your good behavior conundrums as you progress this fall season toward more continued social success.

54. BEAUTIFY

It's getting gorgeous in here for fall. Our beauty insider Ana Bribiesca picks will prettify your golden glow for a more shimmering season that goes from boardroom to ballroom.

50



Alexander
McQueen
evening dress,
2004, FIT



Purse by Neiman Marcus

48

Ollie Nichols, Carolyn Nichols Morgan,
Montgomery and Rod Morgan. Congress
Avenue, Austin, 1952



60



66



56. REFLECT

Our favorite astrologer Weiss Kelly has been doing some reflecting lately on the mirror's rich history as we see ourselves and pop culture in it.

58. READ

We love a good book. More than most, in fact. That's why we've searched the best of the best new tomes to sit atop your coffee table or book shelf.

60. RECALL

Chronicling street style is nothing new, accordingly to style aficionado Lance Avery Morgan, who searched archives to reflect each Texas city's unique sidewalk scene from the past.

62. DISCOVER

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

66. SAVOR

Fall appetizers and cocktails are the perfect way to heat things up when entertaining, according to our chic cuisine contributor Josie Rees.

68. INVITE

To the polo fields in Amarillo we shall go, as we make the scene for unique events to share in this issue.

70. HOST

Senior Social Editor Rob Giardinelli launches his new book, *Being In The Room*, with a fundraiser.

72. PROMOTE

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

76. WED

The nuptials of Marie Brown and Ryan Mays, as well as Sarah Meredith and David Wells are celebrated in this issue.

FIRST
LOOK
AT
FALL

GUCCI

"GG Marmont"

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84. SAN ANTONIO Stephanie Bailey, Mary Conger, Jenevieve Zoch and Courtney Percy



94. DALLAS DIFFA



98. HOUSTON Lynn Wyaff, Richard Flowers and Donna Chapman



102. SAN ANTONIO Adrianna Llano, Patty Jeffers, Nellie Mendosa, Sonali Mehta and Jeanne Hornbeak

THE VERY BEST EVENTS ACROSS TEXAS & BEYOND

SPECTATE

84. SAN ANTONIO

The Texas Biomedical Forum gala

ENTRANCE

90. AUSTIN

The St. David's Foundation events

94. DALLAS

The DIFFA gala

98. HOUSTON

The Houston Grand Opera ball

102. SAN ANTONIO

The Le Brunch Des Chapeaux luncheon

104. AUSTIN

The U.T. Harry Ransom Center gala

106. DALLAS

The Pat & Emmitt Smith Foundation gala

108. HOUSTON

The Society For The Performing Arts gala

110. SAN ANTONIO

The San Antonio Academy event

112. AUSTIN

The Contemporary Austin event

ARRIVAL

138. AUSTIN

The Zachary Scott Theatre gala

140. DALLAS

The Dallas Museum Of Art gala

142. HOUSTON

The Celebration of Reading event

146. SAN ANTONIO

The San Antonio CAN event

ARRANGE

152.

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



104. AUSTIN Mickey and Jeanne Klein



106. DALLAS Pat and Emmitt Smith and Dak Prescott



112. AUSTIN Jim Dechman and Johnna Jones



108. HOUSTON Richard and Ginni Mithoff



140. DALLAS Anne Hathaway and Ann and Lee Hobson

Julian Gold

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

TORI JOHNSON

Our new *Indulge* column contributor and *The Society Diaries TV* host and Digital Producer Tori Johnson is the owner of sTORIbook Public Relations and is a fashion and lifestyle blogger of TheSTORIBOOK.com. She is also a successful commercial and editorial stylist. In 2015, Johnson was voted San Antonio Fashion Blogger of the Year and has worked with a bevy of top names including Neiman Marcus, Nordstrom, Lancôme, Armani Exchange, and many more.



TORQUIL DEWAR

Torquil Dewar is the founder of October Custom Publishing. Originally from Scotland, he can claim to be the world's first time traveler after moving from London, England in 2001 to Peoria, Illinois in 1978 (at least that's what it felt like). As an art director for a wide variety of magazines and books, he also publishes a current events magazine for the Austin area called *The Austinite*. His long-time colleague Shelley Lai is the only reason deadlines are actually met on time.



WEISS KELLY

Weiss Kelly, pmafa is a Certified Professional Astrologer and syndicated columnist. She is on the Board of Directors of the American Federation Of Astrologers and also serves as their Secretary. Kelly is best known for her work in business astrology, advising business owners and professionals throughout the U.S. She is one of the few astrologers to have her own segments with TV's *PM Magazine* and later her own weekly cable show that ran over six years and can be reached for readings at weissastro@aol.com.



DION "BLEU" DRAKE

Dion "Bleu" Drake is a fashion stylist with almost a decade of experience working in celebrity, editorial, advertising and personal styling. Over the years he has honed his skill by working with celebrities, athletes, and with publications such as *Elle* and *Italian Vogue*. Originally from Detroit, moving to the East Coast afforded Bleu to be infused with fashion and culture from a very young age. He proclaims his inspiration for his keen style aesthetic is anything edgy and glam, allowing Bleu to create dynamic images that will forever be cemented in editorial history...as in this month's fashion cover feature, *Hidden Talents*.

MARK OBERLIN

Our feature photographer for this issue's *Hidden Talents* fashion editorial cover story is Los Angeles-based Mark Oberlin. Oberlin has also photographed the collections of many of the West Coast's top fashion designers. He is an acclaimed painter, as well, and has exhibited his paintings in Los Angeles, New York City and San Francisco galleries. More of his work can be found at MarkOberlinPhotography.com



ROB GIARDINELLI

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



JOSIE REES

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



LAURA VILLAGRAN-JOHNSON AND KEVIN SMOTHERS

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

JENNIFER ROOSTH

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





ESCADA

Julian Gold

TWO HOUSEHOLDS, BOTH ALIKE IN
DIGNITY, IN FAIR VERONA,
WHERE WE LAY OUR SCENE



Ballet Austin Presents

a star cross'd



FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 22, 2017

JW Marriott Austin



Fête tickets start at \$500

fête*ish tickets \$150

BALLETAUSTIN.ORG/FETE



SHARON SCHWEITZER

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



CYNTHIA SMOOT

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



JONATHAN SPINDEL

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



MIRANDA F. WALICHOWSKI

Miranda F. Walichowski, Ph.D. is a certified professional life coach and docent at Texas A&M University in the Department of Educational Psychology, helping her clients achieve measurable results when it comes to professional and personal growth in her role as coach and principal of MiraNous Coaching & Consulting, LLC (MiraNous.com). Dr. Miranda has developed a coaching process based on how the brain works to help individuals develop self-awareness, self-mastery, and self-actualization. She has co-founded a once-in-a-lifetime, transformational experience, the New You Journey (NewYouJourney.com), an intensive six-month coaching program that culminates in a 1,200-year-old pilgrimage from the foothills of the Pyrenees mountains in France to Santiago de Compostela, Spain.





E T R O

Julian Gold

RISING TIDES LIFT ALL BOATS

Dimitri Kritsas, couturier, 1967 at the Temple to Poseidon, Sounion, Greece. Photography by Slim Aarons. Courtesy and availability Jonathan Adler

RISING TIDES LIFT ALL BOATS. DON'T YOU JUST LOVE that concept – the sensibility that a truly good outcome benefits all? Nothing selfish, and certainly nothing selfie. Around here, the September issue is an important one because it continues to reflect those who give back with their philanthropy in great style. Tom Wolfe said it best and we think the same about our readers who live a stylish life: “I don’t like to be conspicuous, but I like to be noticed.”

Heck, all the magazine’s issues we create all year long are important to us, yet this one reflects the eagerness to get on with the year and begin a robust fall season following a strong spring and summer. When I was a kid I couldn’t wait for fall for so many reasons; I looked forward to new school classes and teachers, and yes, the new school clothes too. Then there was the new fall television season – with only three major networks, all TV was “must see.” There’d be new series, the promise of breakout stars and of course, new stories to learn. Saturday morning offered a few hours of kiddie-oriented networks and programming, and the rest of the time I learned to understand the adult world in sitcom reruns.

And, the cars. New, gleaming cars would be rolled out in Detroit amid much fanfare with promises of how one new model could enhance a life in just one spin. Was all the hullabaloo worth it? Yes. We think people like new and different ideas, especially when the changes are positive. The changes we reflect in this issue are indeed optimistic. Our fashion cover story shot by Mark Oberlin and styled by Dion “Bleu” Drake, with Texas-based brands, reflects our typical reader on the go: she’s smart, sophisticated and gives back plenty.

We also offer a fresh look at Texas by Rob Giardinelli, our Senior Social Editor, whose book excerpt from *Being In The Room* extolls an illustrative look at our state as if the cities were one big family. The kind of family one might find in the film *Giant* or the 70s series *Dallas*, or any myriad of programming that has tried to capture the rebellious essence of the Lone Star State. We also venture to Venice, where I spent my honeymoon, to capture the grand essence of the fabled city that always

amazes. These, along with a special look at Texas street style back in the day, more gorgeous weddings, and all our wildly talented contributors’ points of view of all things stylish will surely brighten your day as you read and enjoy, we hope.

In keeping with the overwhelming feedback we’ve received with our “how to live life more positively” reminders, here’s this issue’s new offering, courtesy of the new book *Love 2.0* by Dr. Barbara Frederickson that we think you’ll enjoy...

- 1. Do good things for other people.** Don’t even think twice, just do it.
- 2. Appreciate the world around you.** It’s fast and fleeting, so enjoy every drop of it.
- 3. Develop and bolster relationships.** Like the song, we’re all people who need people.
- 4. Establish goals that can be accomplished.** Set the bar high, reach it and then start again.
- 5. Learn something new.** It will keep you younger and more agile in all facets of your life.
- 6. Choose to accept yourself, flaws and all.** Hey, you’re the best you’ve got, so keep reaching for the stars.
- 7. Practice resilience.** Always serve lemonade from lemons, just like mom said.
- 8. Practice mindfulness.** Live in the present because the past is done and gone.

That in mind, cheers to your best fall season yet and we look forward to seeing you in the ballroom and the boardroom. **S**

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



Photography by Megan Kyle Bennett



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FALL INTO THE ARTS

As summer transitions into autumn, the weather is cooling down but the arts scene is heating up. *Our ardent art aficionado Jonathan Spindel* presents a few of selected happenings.

AUSTIN



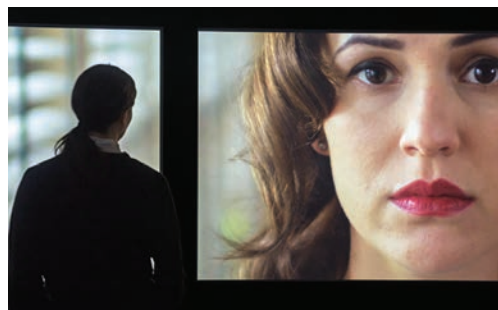
Image courtesy of Fox Searchlight Pictures

THE TREE OF LIFE

See local filmmaking legend Terrence Malick's *The Tree of Life* like never before, accompanied by a live score featuring Austin Symphony Orchestra and Chorus Austin. September 30. At TheLongCenter.org

MEXICO GOES MODERN

Discover the pivotal chapter in 20th century art, when artists, curators, journalists and public figures across North America created and promoted Mexican art born of indigenous traditions, modern trends, and international aesthetics. September 11 to January 1, 2018. At RansomCenter.org



GIANT INSPIRATION

In homage to the Texas epic film *Giant*, Teresa Hubbard and Alexander Birchler's art interweaves forms of storytelling and invites suggestive, open-ended reflections on place, history, and memory. Until October 1. At BlantonMuseum.org

DALLAS/FORT WORTH



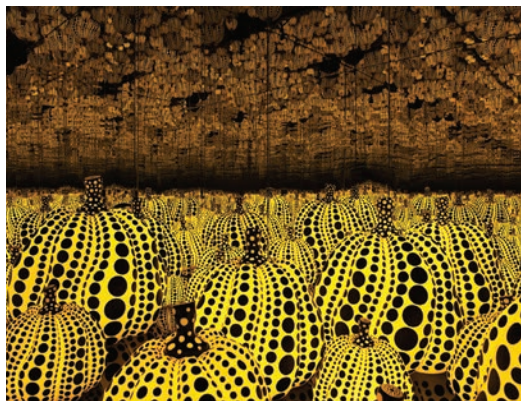
THE MEETING OF MASTERS

During the Mexican artist Diego Rivera's first solo exhibition in Paris, he had an opportunity to meet Pablo Picasso in his

studio. See how this momentous meeting affected the style of each of these legendary artists. Until November 5. At MeadowsMuseumDallas.org

STYLED WITH POISE

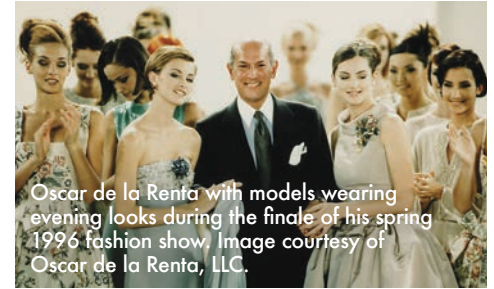
Japan's Edo period was known for its flourishing arts and culture. See exquisite paintings and woodblock prints of the era's courtiers, lively townspeople, tragic heroines, and virtuous deities, as portrayed by master artists of the 19th century. Until January 7, 2018. At CrowCollection.org



INFINITE IMMERSION

Venture into one of Yayoi Kusama's signature *Infinity Mirror Rooms*, the installations beloved by the "Instagram generation" of art aficionados. This is currently the only installation of its kind in North America. October 1 to February 25, 2018. At DMA.org

HOUSTON



Oscar de la Renta with models wearing evening looks during the finale of his spring 1996 fashion show. Image courtesy of Oscar de la Renta, LLC.

GLAMOUR AND ROMANCE

Celebrating the life and career of the influential fashion designer, this historic overview Oscar de la Renta's design work showcases pieces from private archives, private lenders, and the costume collection of the Museum of Fine Arts, Houston. October 8 to January 28. At MFAH.org

VISUAL PRESENCE

The artist Jasper Johns used symbols and motifs throughout his drawing career, representing his evolving relationship with his own visual medium. Get to know his career with pieces from his 50-year oeuvre. October 7 to December 31. At Menil.org



FABULOUS FOODIES

Gourmands may recognize Christopher Kimball from his tenure at *America's Test Kitchen*. Now, he's taking his epicurean project Milk Street on the road, where each audience member participates in cooking competitions, tastings and more. VIP packages available. September 21. At TheHobbyCenter.org



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ALL THIS AND HEAVEN TOO

San Antonio artist Chuck Ramirez employed the visual techniques found in advertising and package design, and re-contextualized familiar objects to explore cultural identity, mortality, and consumerism through his photographs and installations. See his first career retrospective survey this fall. September 14 to January 14, 2018. At McNayArt.org

UNA NOCHE EN LA GLORIA

A yearly celebration that highlights local and regional artists, the 9th annual La Gloria celebration will feature emerging artists, poets, musicians, fashionistas, and visual artists to inspire you. October 14. At LaGloriaArts.org 





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GOING FULL CIRCLE

The round bag is the it-bag of the season. Elaine Turner has a new take on the crossbody handbag with her “Shelly” circular bag perfect for the gal on-the-go. \$178. Availability and photo courtesy of Elaine Turner.



SHADES OF BLUE

Dior once said, “Among all colors, navy blue is the only one which can ever compete with black, it has all the same qualities.” Dior Creative Director, Maria Grazia Chiuri, got lost in the shade in her sophomore collection for Dior’s Fall 2017 Ready to Wear. Photo courtesy of Vogue.



TROPICAL HEIGHTS & DELIGHTS

Sophia Webster’s whimsical and light-hearted aesthetic is captured in these colorful shoes that will brighten your walk along Cuba’s tiled boulevards. \$525. Availability and photo courtesy of Neiman Marcus.

BLUE HORIZON

Move over black...there is a new neutral in town. *Our bluesy style editor, Tori Johnson, of TheSOCIETYDIARIES.COM* thinks Picasso had it right when he devoted three years to this universally flattering shade. Fall runways are awash with covetable shades of indigo and azure to inspire you, too.



NOT SO SQUARE

Miu Miu’s square framed oversized lenses are ideal for round and oval faces and are playfully edged with glitter for a hint of sparkle. \$500. Availability and photo courtesy of Miu Miu.



GLOBE TROTTERING

Globe-Trotter’s ‘Centenary’ travel trolley was originally launched to celebrate the British label’s 100-year anniversary in 1997. Handcrafted in England, this midnight-blue version is topped with red leather handles and with embossed chrome hardware. Elasticated straps neatly secure your clothing and valuables inside. \$2,180. Availability and photo courtesy of Globe-Trotter.



THROW A SCARF ON IT

With hand-beaded sequins on silk chiffon, this Mignonne Gavigan “Le Charlot” scarf necklace is the perfect accessory to top off your look. \$425. Availability and photo courtesy of Neiman Marcus.



SLIP THESE ON

These Italian-made slippers by Jil Sander are minimalist, understated and elegantly androgynous. Style them with cropped pants or fluid skirts. \$495. Availability and photo courtesy of Net-A-Porter.



RIBBIT! RIBBIT!

Designed in collaboration with Julie Verhoeven, Marc Jacobs' snake-embossed leather camera bag with frog appliqué is hopping with style. \$595. Availability and photo courtesy of Neiman Marcus.



**ROSES ARE RED,
BAUBLES ARE BLUE**

Crafted of polished 18k yellow gold, these mismatched earrings showcase one stud embellished with a pear-shaped labradorite cabochon and the other with an oval labradorite cabochon by Mahnaz Ispahani Vintage Collection. \$3,500. Availability and photo courtesy of Barney's.



SKIRTING THE ISSUE

Oscar de la Renta's Pre-Fall '17 collection is inspired by Mario Testino's 'Alta Moda' - an exhibition of portraits capturing Peruvians in their traditional and festive dress. Flattering on a woman's body, this skirt is cut to sit at your natural waist and is made from silk-mikado that's printed with a green, cobalt and white pattern. \$1,690. Availability and photo courtesy of Net-A-Porter.



**DENIM ON DENIM...
ON DENIM**

The Canadian tuxedo has expanded to include footwear. Dries Van Noten's blue denim side-zip ankle boots are styled with a tapered cap toe and chunky block heel. \$790. Availability and photo courtesy of Barney's.



HOUSE OF BLUES

Even furniture is having a blue moment! Add a pop of blue to your home décor with this Durham Furniture Living Room Serpentine Hall Console. Price available upon request. Availability and photo courtesy of Stowers Furniture.



JULY • AUGUST 2017

EVEN FASHION SUPERHEROES NEED A CAPE
This figure-flattering Zac Posen gown features an angular sweetheart neckline and mermaid silhouette. Be sure to add on the accompanying architectural capelet with tiered layers. Bondage Jersey Strapless Mermaid Gown, \$2,990. Bondage Jersey Capelet, \$1,390. Availability and photo courtesy of Neiman Marcus.



LAYER UP

Fairchild Baldwin is all about approachable luxury. Their iconic "Bella" collection is made with the finest Italian materials combined with their signature handcrafted leather collars and magnetic closures. \$395. Availability and photo courtesy of Julian Gold.



DO DROP IN

There's nothing like the dangling glimmer of a chandelier earring is there? These lapis numbers go from day to evening. By Miguel Ases, \$302. Availability and photo courtesy of The Garden Room.

GLOBAL GRANDEUR

Seeking the world's greatest luxury events in fashion, art, and culture? Look no further as our lux-seeker Jason Grosgrain points the way to the world's best attractions this season.



FORCE OF NATURE

Explore how the beauty and complexity of nature has inspired fashion designers throughout the centuries. Featuring iconic pieces by Yves Saint Laurent, Alexander McQueen, Rick Owens and more. Until November 18. At FITNYC.edu



AUTUMNAL AMAZEMENT

Want to experience autumn's full blazing glory? Escape to the Omni Mount Washington Hotel, the 1902 grande dame hotel in New Hampshire's White Mountains. Historically rich with Edwardian splendor, it also offers a modern touch: its 25,000-square-foot spa with all the best amenities. At OmniHotels.com

IN GOOD COMPANY

One of America's most impactful abstract expressionists, Robert Rauschenberg challenged the art world by bringing the stuff of the everyday world into his art. Often collaborating with artists, dancers, musicians, and writers, he invented new artistic languages that helped set the course for art of the present day. *Robert Rauschenberg: Among Friends*, the first 21st-century retrospective of the artist, presents over 250 works across mediums from his six-decade career. Until September 17. At MOMA.org



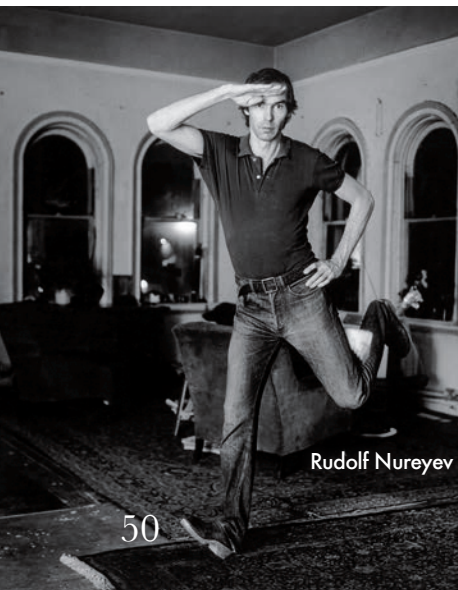
NEW YORK CHIC

The Plaza Hotel in New York City is the setting of the classic children's book series *Eloise* and the hotel's chic artistic splendor influenced *Eloise* illustrator Hilary Knight's work for years to come. See rare drawings and sketches in this special exhibition. Until October 9. At NYHistory.org



SPEED OF LIFE

American photographer Peter Hujar was a part of the group of underground artists, poets and musicians who formed the downtown New York art scene of the 1970s and 80s. His portraits capture the characters who formed the Manhattan art and entertainment scene at that period. See a full range of his work at the world-class Gemeente Museum in The Hague. At GemeenteMuseum.nl



Rudolf Nureyev



Photography by Michael Paul

EASTERN INDULGENCE

Summer vacations may be finished, but you'll be glad to take one last rejuvenating spa treatment to help you head into the social season as radiantly as possible. Try the Mandarin Oriental in Bangkok, a classic grande dame hotel featuring world-class treatments and an exotic vibe. At MandarinOriental.com **S**

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WHY GOOD TASTE COUNTS

We all want to live a beautiful life, don't we? Our Ms. Modern Manners Sharon Schweitzer, JD is on the scene to help you liaise the easiest...and the sometimes quite difficult social situations that can arise as the social season gets back in gear.

Dear Ms. Modern Manners,

SINCE IT'S GALA SEASON, I'D LOVE TO KNOW IF IT'S CONSIDERED rude to start eating before everyone is seated or has arrived... even if the meal has been served?

Ballroom Diner

Dear Ballroomer,

In formal settings, including galas and large events, guest wait for the table host to begin the meal. So, if all the guests are not quite there, the host decides if there is a quorum of at least 80% of the table guests already present. Once the table host signals the dining will begin, through grace, toast or otherwise, it is appropriate to begin. Late arriving table guests join the fun quietly.

Dear Ms. Modern Manners,

Is it alright to post social media about a private, invite-only event? Do I need permission from my host who just left the country and won't be back for weeks, taking the fun and immediacy out of the potential post?

Media Lover

Dear Socially Media Savvy,

Yes, it is especially important for a private, invitation-only soirée. You were included for many reasons, including discretion. Inquire with the host before the event about photos and videos. Remember that the host invited you to their exclusive event, not your followers. If you're unsure about the rules of social media use, a tasteful way to ask the host is to inquire before the event about the custom hashtag. If allowed to use social media here are rules to follow:

- Follow the host's lead by allowing them to share key moments first. If allowed to post, wait for the day after. Choose the perfect picture for the modern photo album.
- Be present and don't spend the majority of the party thinking of the perfect caption.
- Avoid unflattering photos and tagging other guests without permission.

Dear Ms. Modern Manners,

How can I make it clear to my guests that I've invited for a get-together that I'd like them dressed in a certain way if there's not a written invitation?

Dress Code Savvy

Dear Coder,

Without a written invitation, the occasion will be informal so contact guests individually with the theme and wardrobe suggestions. Consider sharing what attire you plan to wear. It may also be helpful to kindly request that they not wear specific items, like jeans, etc. It has been helpful to my clients to take a look at wardrobe and attire considerations from a variety of resources, including social media.

Dear Ms. Modern Manners,

This just happened. My husband's fraternity brother popped into town unexpectedly and stayed a long weekend. We were invited to a gathering – should I have called the host to ask if he could join or let him fend for himself with plans that evening?

Houseguest Host

Dear Best Guest,

As a host, unexpected guests are not only surprising, they also add to the stress of attending or planning events. Hosts need a headcount in advance for catering purposes - food and drinks. Contact the host and decline the invitation, with the specific explanation that it just became impossible for you and your husband to attend due to an unexpected out-of-town guest. Don't expect an invitation for your new visitor. If the host invites your new arrival, arrive with an extra hostess gift of tea towels, scented candle, diffuser, or a personal gift your hostess will appreciate.

Dear Ms. Modern Manners,

I have a dear friend who is like a sibling. We get along perfectly except that she is a tad long winded. She has a habit of finishing her sentences with either the words blah, blah, blah or yada, yada, yada. We don't live in a sitcom, so it sounds a tad awkward. How might I encourage her to see that it's not necessary?

Speaking From The Heart

Dear Heartfelt,

An important part of social graces is never correcting anyone else unless you are paid to do so. However, with a dear friend in a private conversation, gently ask her if she realizes that she says "blah blah blah." This makes your friend aware of the filler words she is using and help her discontinue use of them. Be aware that she may use filler words at the beginning or end of a sentence not to prolong what she wants to say, but due to social anxiety, indecision, an attempt to fill the 'dead air,' lack of confidence, or an attempt to find the right words to communicate. [S](#)



ELAINE TURNER

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FALL 2017 COLLECTION

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PEARL ACCENTS

Designers took a literal approach to the pearly infused trend using seed pearls to accent the inside corner of the eyes during the Fall 2017 runway shows. Try Benefit Cosmetics High Beam Liquid Face Highlighter, then complete with full-groomed eyebrows and an effortless low-twist bun for a pretty and polished look. \$26. At Sephora.



Elizabeth Taylor, 1950

REDEFINING BEAUTY

This fall offers endless opportunities to celebrate individuality, inclusivity and self-expression. A sexy vintage flair and accents of bold colors push to redefine beauty in your own style. Remembering to stay true to your own self will be the major key, according to *our beauty aficionado Ana Bribiesca.*

PEACHY & DREAMY
Cool and delicate peach shades reveal the softer side of the season. Apply this fresher autumn hue messily across the lids for an effect that is a sweet contradiction. Bobbi Brown Long-Wear Cream Shadow Stick in Pastel Peach offers the perfect texture to define, shade and highlight. \$30. At Sephora.



SULTRY RED LIPS

Overly glossed red lips are this season's glamorous take on the always classic look. Feeling fearless? Combine a red-apple shade on the lip with an orange bottom lip. Yves Saint Laurent Glossy Stain Lip Color in Rouge Gouache and Orange De Chine instantly melts onto lips and delivers an intense glossy color with long-lasting shine. \$36. At Sephora.



THE BEET GOES ON

Clean and minimalist complexions make a statement with stained-from-morning- lips. Lancome teamed with Olympia Le Tan for all the lush shades you need this season. \$100. At Neiman Marcus.

OPULENT SHINE

Sophisticated metallic textures fight for the spotlight this season. Let your inner light shine with a subtle sweep under the eyes or by boldly pressing metallic powder on the lids. Gucci Magnetic Color Shadow Mono in Iconic Copper is the perfect intensely pigmented shade for this look. \$37. At Neiman Marcus.



BLACK SHADOWS

This season embraces an overloaded, imperfect shadow all around the eyelids; a powerful yet sexy and vintage look. Soften the look with a warm bronze or a pop of bright color to the center of the lid. stila Smudge Pot in Jet Black is the perfect alternative to powder or liquid formulas, with the right intensity and texture required for this eye makeup. \$20. At Sephora.





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MIRROR, MIRROR

What happens when we see ourselves in the mirror? Are we truly reflected? *Our culture ponders Weiss Kelly, PMAFA shares some history and insight on an everyday object fit to examine once again.*



WHEN WE LOOK INTO A MIRROR, WE ARE OF COURSE seeing what everyone else sees, but it's opposite since it's a reversed projection (that's why sometimes when we see a photo of ourselves and it doesn't look right to us – the image is capturing the actual vantage point that's the antithesis of what we see in a mirror). But, really, what is a mirror? We all know it's an object that reflects light, in some range of wavelengths that can reflect light, sound and matter. A mirror can also split light beams (our modern use of it is used in many scientific instruments, technology, medicine, electromagnetic radiation, architecture, interior design, constructional engineering, and for our own personal use.) We're all familiar with mirrors; we consider them at least once a day, sometimes more. They bring us a sense of self and identity. We all have at least one in our homes, and many times, within arm's reach. They come in all sizes and shapes, flat, curved and dimensional with various uses and functions.

The history of mirrors is fascinating. The first one was found by reflecting in a pool of water in the dark ground. Since time began, man has been fascinated by his image as seen in the still waters. People began making mirrors as early as 6000 B.C. using polished volcanic glass as reflective surfaces. The German chemist Justus van Liebig made the first silvered glass mirror and throughout the centuries the shiny object has kept up a consistent pace with evolution, or has evolution kept up a consistent pace with the mirror with advancements in reflective sound, light and dimensions?

We all need mirrors in our life to reflect to the past, present, and the potential future. A beautiful example of the architectural use of mirrors is found in the Hall of Mirrors in Château de Versailles, with 17 mirrored arches, encompassing 357 mirrors reflecting 17 opposing arcaded windows. Who can forget Walt Disney's iconic animated film *Snow White and The Seven Dwarfs* and those haunting scenes of the wicked Queen starring daily into her ornate framed magic mirror, asking *Mirror, Mirror on the wall, who is the fairest of them all?*, to which it would faithfully answer each time, *You, my Queen* (with a bit of narcissism) until one day, the Queen asked again,

to which the magic Mirror replied, *Snow White*. One of the best-loved uses of mirrors in literature is Lewis Carrol's *Through the Looking Glass*, which was later made into another iconic animated film by Walt Disney, *Alice In Wonderland*. In more current times Harry Potter's magical objects includes "The Mirror of Erised" and two-way mirrors.

The mirror is the also the focal point in some of the greatest of European paintings like Titian's *Venus With a Mirror*. Jan van Eyck, Diego Rivera, Paolo Veronese and Pablo Picasso have utilized mirrors to create works and hone their craft. One of my favorite mirror paintings is by Henri de Toulouse-Lautrec, the Impressionist known for his images of the Parisian night scenes that featured actresses, dancers and courtesans. In fact, in *La Toilette (Madame Poupoule)*, the 1899 portrait of a courtesan in which Toulouse-Lautrec has the mirror performing many tasks as seated at a dressing table. She considers her mirror as she considers preparing her outer illusion. As she sits like a slave to it, you wonder if she is looking inwards to herself to perhaps as a discovery and realization of the path she has chosen for her life. Without a mirror, the great self-portraits of Dürer, Kahlo, Rembrandt and Van Gogh could not have been painted. A mirror reflects, a painting interprets.

Nowadays the mirror moves into the evolution of artificial intelligence, light and sound technologies, magnetic energies with wavelengths from other realms. Now you can go shopping, picking out clothes without physically trying them on with the magic of a life-size computerized mirror. Haute couture designers, high-end boutiques and even luxury department stores are using them. You stand before a life size computerized mirror and tap the mirrored screen to view your choices, styles and colors. As you view your selections, you can mentally ask, *Mirror, Mirror, what is the fairest choice of all?* And, it will perhaps answer: The pink dress, my Queen! Plus, there is always the insight of my favorite reflective quote from Roman Price: *If you are looking for the one person who will change your life, look in the mirror.* **S**

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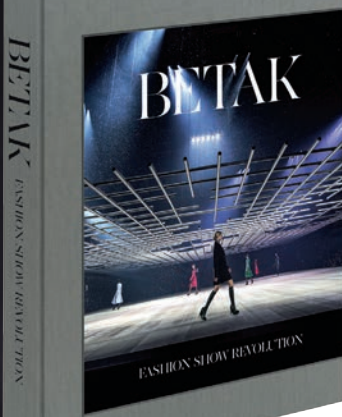
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SHELF LIVES

When it comes to recommending a great read, our resident bibliophile Lance Avery Morgan has a few selections for fall that will dazzle you.



FABULOUS! THE DAZZLING INTERIORS OF TOM BRITT BY MITCHELL OWENS This gorgeous volume divides Britt's portfolio into four categories: Exotic, Modern, Historical, and Classic as Britt's inimitable style merges saturated colors with an easy luxury. (Rizzoli USA, \$75)

BETAK: FASHION SHOW REVOLUTION Here's rare access to the most sophisticated fashion shows of the past 25 years from creative director and producer Alexandre de Betak, highlighting some of the most memorable set and event designs for Dior, Nike, Marc Jacobs, the Guggenheim Museum, Rodarte, and more. (Phaidon Press, \$100)

ABOUT DECORATING: THE REMARKABLE ROOMS OF RICHARD KEITH LANGHAM BY SARA RUFFIN COSTELLO Part biography, part celebration of Langham's lavish work. From grand seaside estates on Maryland's Eastern Shore and on Florida's Jupiter Island, to elegant houses in the country-sides of Pennsylvania and Connecticut, an impressive town house in New Orleans plus city residences in New York and Memphis... and beyond. (Rizzoli USA, \$60)



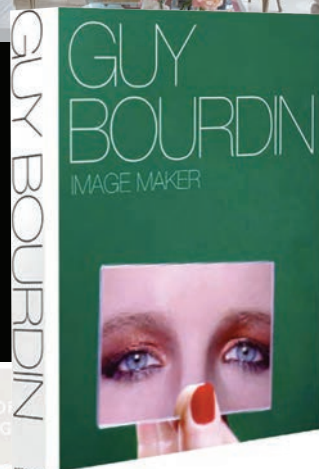
DRESSES TO DREAM ABOUT BY CHRISTIAN SIRIANO One of today's top fashion designers, and Project Runway fan favorite, takes his fans through the creation of his favorite gowns, from sketch to dress. (Rizzoli USA, \$45)

AT HOME WITH DOGS & THEIR DESIGNERS BY SUSANNA SALK Go behind the scenes of designers and as they turn their focus on the pups that share the stylish homes and well-manicured gardens of the top interior designers in the country. (Rizzoli USA, \$35)

SCHIAPARELLI & THE ARTISTS BY ANDRE LEON TALLEY, SUZY MENKES AND CHRISTIAN LACROIX This is the first definitive work dedicated to the shared inspiration between the designer and her circle of artist friends, featuring never-before-seen photography, intimate anecdotes, and essays penned by some of today's most authoritative fashion critics and personalities. (Rizzoli USA, \$85)

LUXURY DESIGN FOR LIVING BY STEVE HUYTON Luxury is defined in this stylish look at over 145 examples of ultra-high-end architecture, automobiles, timepieces, and lifestyle objects that exist in a rarefied realm, offering their owners the ultimate in comfort, performance, and aesthetic pleasure. (Schiffer Publishing, \$60)

GUY BOURDIN: IMAGE MAKER BY MATTHIAS HARDER *Vogue* France's Guy Bourdin irrevocably changed the face of modern photography and this is an exploration of the photographer's iconic imagery, featuring archival material yet unpublished, including original, never-before-seen images and paintings. (Assouline, \$150)



BULGARI: THE JOY OF GEMS BY VIVIENNE BECKER Bulgari's exquisite high jewelry creations are conjured from the vibrant color, life, and light of exceptional gemstones, infused with an innate Roman sense of history, and invigorated with an audacious spirit of modernity that's seen on every gorgeous page here. (Assouline, \$250)

ANNIE LEIBOVITZ: PORTRAITS 2005-2016 BY ANNIE LEIBOVITZ The influential photographer selected the finest and most representative portraits from her recent work. With more than 150 pop culture favorite subjects, this volume of striking portraits documents contemporary culture with an artist's eye and wit. (Phaidon Press, \$90)

YVES SAINT LAURENT ACCESSORIES BY PATRICK MAURIÈS This is the first book to focus exclusively on the legendary designer's exquisite jewelry, hats, shoes, and handbags, presented thematically alongside a wealth of rare materials from the designer's archive. (Phaidon Press, \$60)

WOMEN OF SINGULAR BEAUTY BY CATHLEEN NAUNDORF AND JUDITH CLARK The luxurious photographic work of The Society Diaries' March 2016 cover fashion story contributor can also be seen in this new volume that profiles her talents at Chanel Haute Couture. There's a wow factor on each page. (Rizzoli USA, \$95)

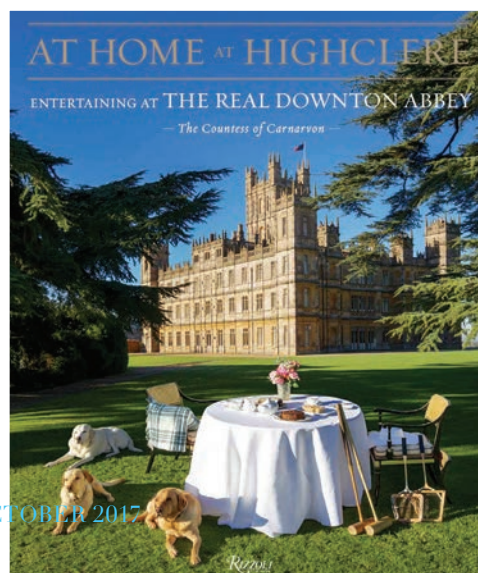
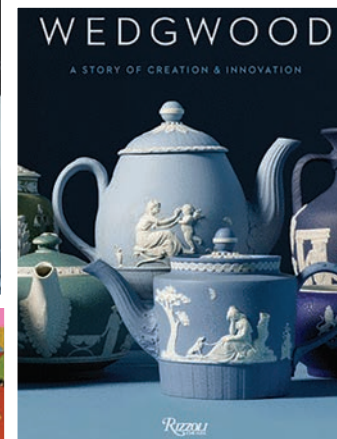
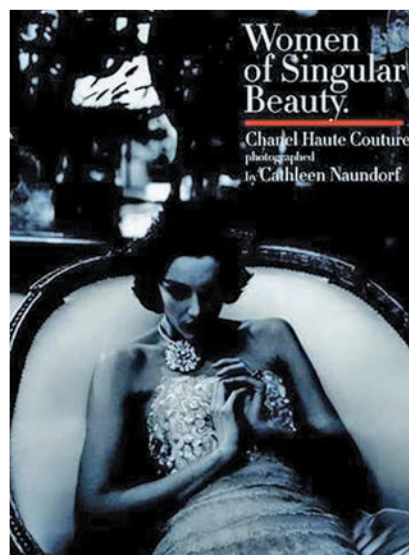
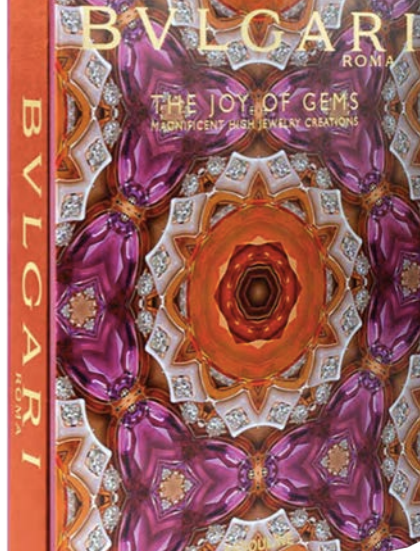
WEDGWOOD FOREWORD BY ALICE RAWSTHORN Here's the most comprehensive presentation to date of Wedgwood, English purveyor of fine china, porcelain, and luxury accessories known for its timeless, elegant, and classic designs. (Rizzoli USA, \$60)

FIORUCCI AFTERWORD BY JANIE SCHAFFER AND STEPHEN SCHAFFER You'll love this playful celebration of one of the most irreverent labels in fashion and design. Fifty years after its founding by Elio Fiorucci in 1967, the iconic Milanese fashion label is entering a new phase of ingenuity with a glittering unveiling of its new collection and retail stores. (Rizzoli USA, \$45)

ROBERT DOISNEAU: THE VOGUE YEARS BY ROBERT DOISNEAU From high-society balls and fashion shoots to portraits of artists and scenes from urban life in France, this volume showcases Doisneau's best photographs for Vogue Paris. Here are masterfully captured scenes from everyday life that captured the spirit of the era and its celebrities. (Rizzoli USA \$55)

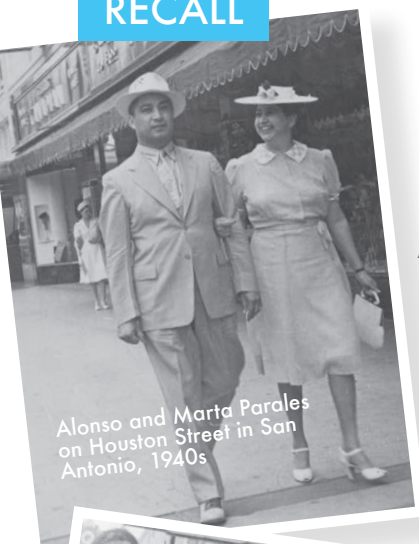
THE ITALIAN GENTLEMAN: THE MASTER TAILORS OF ITALIAN MEN'S FASHION BY HUGO JACOMET In the world of fashion, Italy is the Mount Everest of men's style. Beyond its global fashion brands, the soul of Italian style is found in the workshops and boutiques of the established masters and artisans who for generations have created the finest menswear on the planet. (Rizzoli USA, \$65)

AT HOME AT HIGHCLERE: ENTERTAINING AT THE REAL DOWNTON ABBEY BY THE COUNTESS OF CARNAVON Gain complete access to the world-renowned historic country house and its art of entertaining, past and present. Highclere has welcomed royalty, statesmen, and notables from the worlds of business, academia, and the arts for shooting parties, elegant fêtes, and celebrations in the grand style. (Rizzoli USA, \$37.50) 



THE WAY THEY WORE

Around the state in pre-1960 Texas, every major city had photographers to capture the sights and street style of the era. Here our intrepid style gatherer Lance Avery Morgan shares how the state looked then.



Alonso and Marta Parales on Houston Street in San Antonio, 1940s



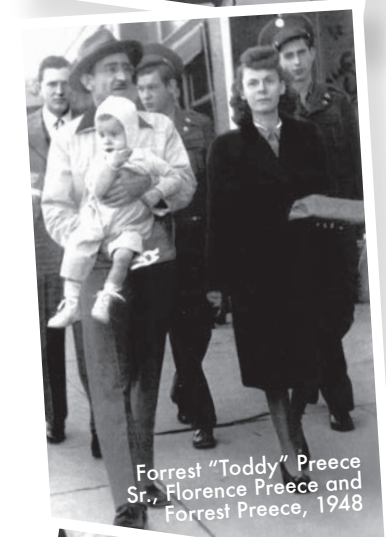
Dallas street style, 1940s



Ollie Nichols, Carolyn Nichols Morgan Montgomery and Rod Morgan. Congress Avenue, Austin, 1952

A TRIP DOWN MEMORY LANE? MORE LIKE A JOURNEY IN A time machine to an era when people considered few options but dressing up for business and pleasure while strolling on bustling downtown Texas streets in the 1930s, 1940s and 1950s. In fact, Michael Barnes of the *Austin America Statesman* did a story on these photos recently.

Growing up I always loved seeing two images of my parents of the same timeframe – Congress Avenue in Austin in 1952. The 3” X 2” snapshots leapt to life, even in black and white. So I decided to look into the history of these photos, and others like them, to discover what stories they contain. I contacted archivists Amanda Jusso and Nicole Davis at the Austin History Center where I began my search. According to them, the photos in question were likely taken by Studer’s Photography Studios, which was owned by Benjamin Studer, located on 916 Congress Avenue. The photos were a promotional tool to drive business to his store, and to capture the glam style of the times. Jusso and Davis agreed, “It promoted the studio’s services. This was before instant development, so the likely subjects were given a business card to claim their photo at the shop. Studer’s had labs in Austin and several in San Antonio.”



Forrest “Toddy” Preece Sr., Florence Preece and Forrest Preece, 1948



Houston street style, 1940s

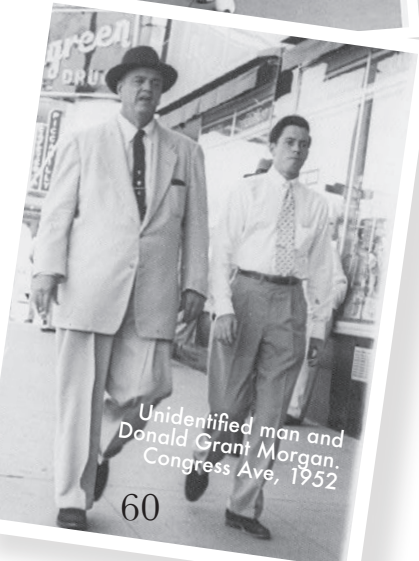
One image is of my mother, Carolyn Nichols Morgan Montgomery sauntering with my grandmother Ollie Nichols and older brother, Rodney Morgan riding in a baby stroller. They were dressed in suits ready to shop on a crisp morning in November of 1952.

“Yes, I remember that day well. We were all dressed up in our suits and as you can see your grandmother wore a hat with a veil,” Carolyn Nichols Morgan Montgomery remarked. “She was also wearing gloves — in fact we may have been shopping for gloves or a new dress. I, without gloves and a hatless head, represented a little rebellion. Not a surprise since my mother called me Miss Independent growing up.”

My dad, Donald Grant Morgan, is the young guy in the white shirt and I believe that’s his boss from when he was with the National Shirt Shop located on Congress Avenue. It looks to be warmer since he’s in shirtsleeves without a jacket and the gent he is walking with is in a light suit. My colleague Forrest Preece, who grew up in Austin has a collection of these photos of his own. In fact, he gives it his own caption to one seen here: On Jan. 31, 1948, Forrest “Toddy” Preece Sr., and his wife Florence went shopping on Congress Avenue in downtown Austin. Forrest, Jr. was enjoying seeing the world from his father’s arms.



Houston street style, 1948



Unidentified man and Donald Grant Morgan. Congress Ave, 1952

No matter which city your family’s roots come from, you likely have a trove of photographic history to discover. So, what are you waiting for? Dig into those family albums to see what Texas street treasures you may be able to find that show the style from a time when Texas was a legend, as captured by the epic grandiosity of the 1956 film, *Giant*. **S**



Fort Worth street style, 1940s



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MAKE WAY FOR THE COOL

Around the state there's something new and interesting happening on every block, it seems. According to our go-go team of Jake Gaines (Austin), Tori Johnson (San Antonio), Eleanora Leeper Morrison (San Antonio), Jennifer Roosth (Houston) and Cynthia Smoot (Dallas) something fun is always stirring up when they are on the scene.

AUSTIN

MEET US UPSTAIRS

The new rooftop deck to be is at Upstairs at Caroline at the new Aloft Hotel downtown. Cocktail of choice? Adult sno-cones that must be tried to be believed. At AloftAustinDowntown.com



Photography courtesy of Aloft

EAST SIDE ESCAPEDE

It's all happening on the eastside these days. The hippest venue would be Kitty Cohen's. Its patio and cocktails have a strong 70s vibe, sans the beanbag chairs. At KittyCohens.com



Photography courtesy of Kitty Cohen's



Photography courtesy of Dart Bowl

DART IN

An Austin classic, this vintage 1950s Dart Bowl can claim its cheese enchilada plate as one of best things in the city...and at the retro sporting venue. A mecca for parties and fun, why not re-create your own *Happy Days* here? At DartBowl.com

DALLAS

GET ME TO CITY HALL

Opening on the site of Dallas's original City Hall, The Adolphus Hotel just opened City Hall Bistro, a Southern European-inspired bistro that features shareable fare, an approachable wine list, and craft cocktails housed in a bright space. At Adolphus.com/City-Hall-Bistro



Photography by Maxine Helfman

MAGIC MAN

In Dallas, where charity galas and luncheons are beyond plentiful, how does a non-profit make their event stand out in the crowd? By hiring Hamilton Sneed of HAS Events. His passion lies in creating emotional & memorable experiences, having helped Dallas non-profits raise over six million dollars since founding his company in 2010. At HASEvents.com

DADDY-DAUGHTER BONDING

Blushington recently introduced Makeup101 classes specially designed for Fathers and Daughters to learn and enjoy together. The 90-minute class empowers dads to be more hands-on with their daughters and creates a bond that is powerful for both. At Blushington.com





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The French Riviera-inspired newcomer a'Bouzy (pronounced "ah-boozy") hits the city with lots of bubbly. It offers over 150 types of champagne, along with a daily lunch and dinner menu including American cuisine, including seasonal seafood and a raw bar. At Abouzi.com



Photography courtesy of a'Bouzy



Photography courtesy of Define Living

LIVING DEFINITELY

Define Living, the premiere meditation studio and wellness space, created by Henry Richardson, offers peace of mind as the ultimate luxury of supporting guests as they experience personal growth, believing that as important as it is to move the body for health and wellness, it's even more important to be still, sit, breathe, and receive. At DefineLiving.com



Photography courtesy of Launch.

LET'S DO LAUNCH

Houston First Corporation (HFC) has partnered with seasoned fashion influencer Sydney Dao of Squid Inc. to create LAUNCH, a downtown pop-up boutique, to showcase Houston's growing and thriving fashion and design community. It aims to promote and educate visitors and Houstonians alike of the high-level of goods designed and produced in the city. At LaunchTX.com

SAN ANTONIO

BE MY PARAMOUR

Touted as the rooftop bar with the best views of downtown San Antonio, Paramour is the perfect spot to relax: day or night. Order a coffee or a mimosa with a breakfast and take in the sunshine, or ascend up the staircase for your breezy nightcap. At ParamourBar.com



Photography by Jeffrey Burton



REGAL STROLL

A walking tour of The King William Historical District is like traveling back in time. Settled by wealthy German merchants in the late 1800s, San Antonio's first suburb consists of 25 blocks of historic mansions and lush landscaping. At OurKWA.com

SUPPER? SUPER.

To love the Hotel Emma is to appreciate historic preservation and interior design at its finest. On the bank of the San Antonio River, its American eatery Supper feels part farm table, part bistro table. The fare is just right in portion size and decadence- don't skip dessert! At TheHotelEmma.com [S](#)



Photography courtesy of Hotel Emma



2017 - 2018
SEASON OF OPERA

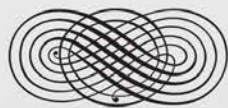
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FALL'S FARE

When entertaining for the big game or drop-by cocktails, your guests will love these have-ready ideas, according to *our cuisine enthusiast Josie Rees.*



CRANBERRY, BRIE AND PROSCIUTTO CROSTINI

- 1 French baguette
- ¼ cup olive oil
- 1 package quality prosciutto
- 1 round of brie cheese
- 1 jar cranberry sauce
- 1 bottle balsamic vinegar

To assemble:

Cut baguette into one-third inch slices, on a bias. Lightly coat with olive oil and bake for eight minutes at 375 degrees F until lightly toasted. Slice brie into thin strips and place on bread. Top with prosciutto and a generous teaspoon of cranberry sauce. Drizzle balsamic vinegar over assembled crostini. Embellish with thyme or mint leaves. Serve immediately.



HONEYCRISP APPLE CROSTINI

- 1 French baguette
- 1 tablespoon extra virgin olive oil
- ¼ tsp. salt
- ¼ tsp. black pepper
- 1 honeycrisp apple
- 2 oz. cream cheese, softened
- 1 tbsp. honey
- ¼ cup of spicy pecans, finely chopped (can be candied, hot spiced, etc.)

To assemble:

If toasting the baguette, preheat oven to 350 degrees. Brush crostini with olive oil. Season with salt and freshly cracked black pepper. Bake for 10 minutes or until slightly brown and crisp. Remove from oven and set aside. Place crostini on serving platter and spread cream cheese over each individual piece. Thinly slice the apple and place one or two pieces on each. Top with chopped pecans and a drizzle of honey.



MEYER LEMON WHISKEY LEMONADE

- 1.5 oz. of quality whiskey
- 1 Meyer lemon, juiced
- Lemon Sparkling Soda

To assemble:

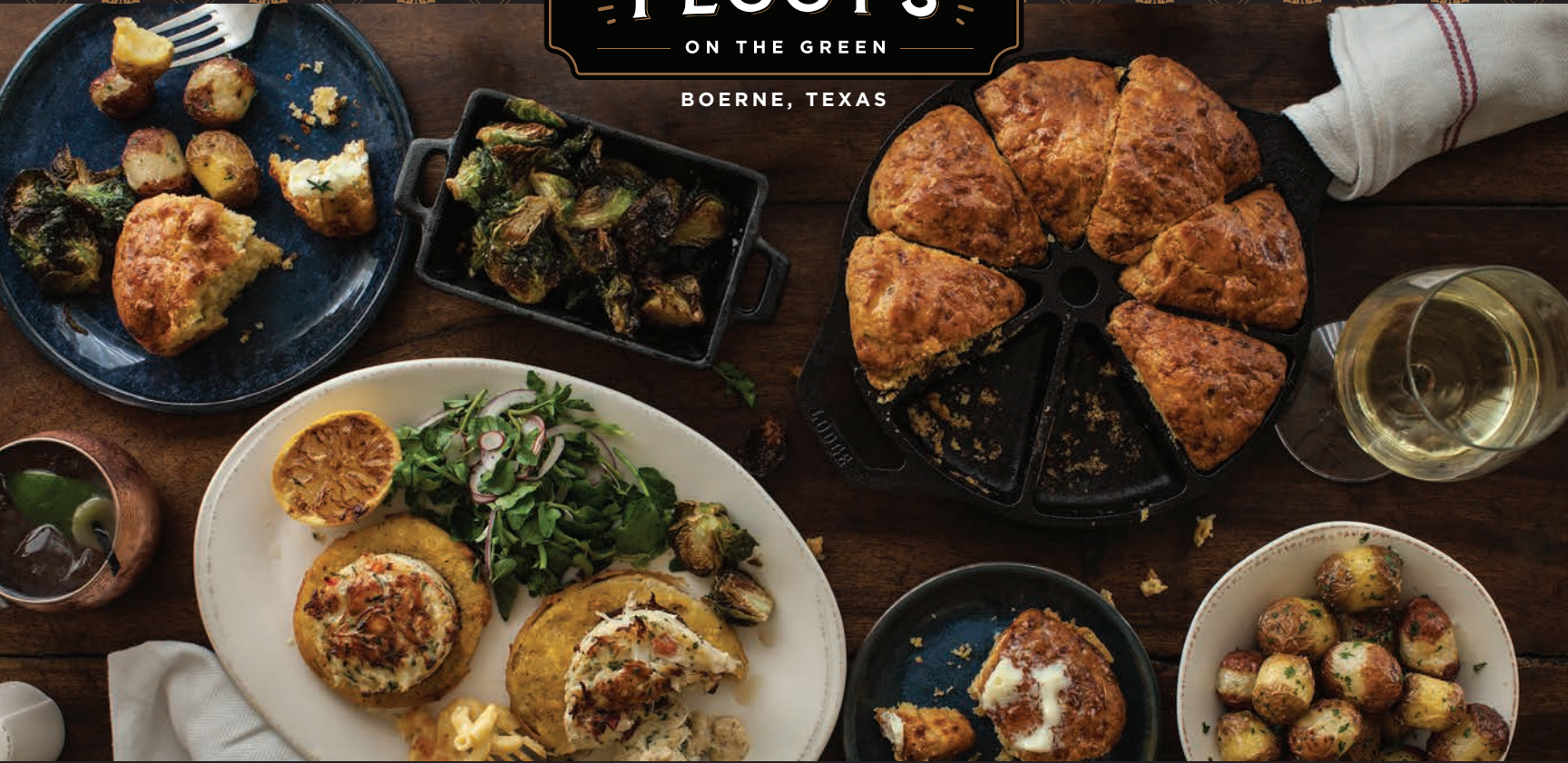
In a cocktail mixer, blend 1.5 oz. of whiskey, ice, and lemon juice. Pour into a tall glass. Fill to the top with lemonade sparkling soda and ice. Garnish with a Meyer lemon slice. Serves one glass. **S**

EST. 2016

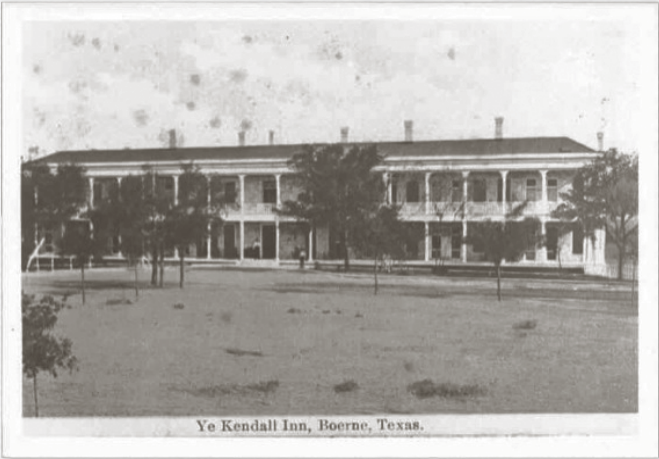
PEGGY'S

ON THE GREEN

BOERNE, TEXAS



A CHEF MARK BOHANAN RESTAURANT



Ye Kendall Inn, Boerne, Texas.

"As a kid growing up in Jourdanton, I watched my Mother and Grandma make everything from scratch every day. My Father and Grandfather were the Kings of Barbeque. I cooked some, too, but I did a lot more watching, tasting, and learning."

CHEF MARK BOHANAN

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Lounge on the broad, breezy wraparound porch, cocktail in hand. Step into a lovingly restored 19th century dining room to savor contemporary interpretations of Southern heritage foods and classic American dishes. Sit down to a familiar, casual, satisfying menu influenced by seasonal bounty from area farms and the affinity of beef and mesquite smoke that is the soul of the Hill Country.

INVITE



Jerry Jeff Walker



Hugo Nunez

POLO ON THE RANGE

Prairie Polo Tradition Triumphs In West Texas

By *Jake Gaines* | Photography courtesy of *Polo on the Prairie*



Nick and Liece Hollis

THE SCENE:

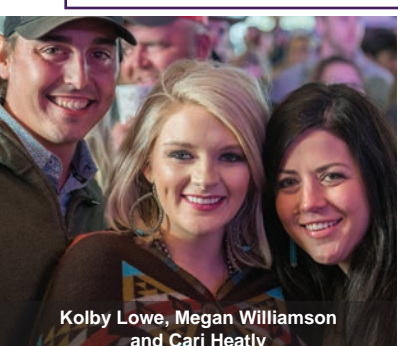
More than 800 guests from across West Texas gathered at the Musselman Brothers' Lazy 3 Ranch in Albany, Texas for the 31st annual Polo on the Prairie in support of The University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center. The event featured Texas country music legend Jerry Jeff Walker, who made his iconic return to the Polo stage, where he previously played 20 years ago.

THE VIBE:

Cool temperatures and a slick field forced an early end for the game for the safety of the polo players and horses, but that didn't stop the crowd from sticking around late into the night. Guests enjoyed Joe Allen's Pit Bar-B-Que served "chuck-wagon" style and peach cobbler before dancing the night away to the twang of Jerry Jeff Walker's guitar. Bob Brigham, Senior Vice President at M.D. Anderson, offered welcoming remarks, and cancer survivor Daron Gribble shared a personal testimonial about his fight with the disease. Ending on an optimistic note, a fabulous display of fireworks capped off the evening.

THE CAUSE:

Henry Musselman, a longtime member of the MD Anderson Cancer Center Board of Visitors, and his wife Melinda chaired the event that broke fundraising records this year, raising more than \$436,000 for lifesaving patient programs and innovative research at The University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center. To date, Polo on the Prairie has contributed more than \$5.7 million for patient care, research and education initiatives at MD Anderson. These efforts touch cancer patients worldwide. The institution ranks as one of the world's most respected centers focused on cancer patient care, research, education and prevention.



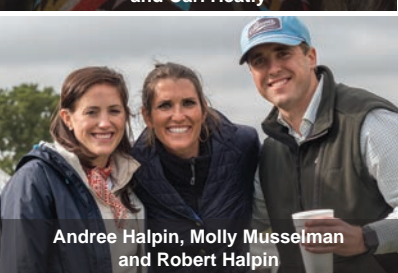
Kolby Lowe, Megan Williamson and Cari Heatly



Cristal Rose, Kristan Renshaw, DeAnn Hegi and Katie Vaughn



Bob Brigham and Jerry Jeff Walker



Andree Halpin, Molly Musselman and Robert Halpin



Josh Allen and Jakob Allen



Post concert fireworks



Daron and Valerie Gribble, Rita and Jeff Crenshaw and Devin Phillips



Peter Murray and Matthew Murray

H A U T E H O R N S



ART BY ANNLYN OSBORN

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HOST



Rob Giardinelli and Stephen Rice



A ROOM FULL OF FUN

The Society Diaries' Rob Giardinelli Fêted At Book Signing Event Promoting New Book *Being In The Room*

By Lance Avery Morgan | Photography by Gilbert Rodriguez and Grover Steele



Eric Copper and Monica Burcham

THE SCENE:

Recently, *The Society Diaries'* Senior Social Editor Rob Giardinelli was the guest of honor at Jonathan Adler. His new book, *Being In The Room*, offers 25 simple life lessons that he's learned during his seven years as a social chronicler for the magazine. The event brought out VIPs and Sociables eager to know more about the intrigue about what happens behind the scenes of these charity events profiled in the book.

THE VIBE:

The summer chic crowd wore a mix of summer whites and bright bold colors. Cocktails, prosecco and wines flowed freely courtesy of Chloe Wines, Sway Water and Equality Vodka. While Maggie Louise Confections provided delicious, custom chocolates in imaginative shapes such as champagne corks and the state of Texas. The event included a conversation with the author and recently passed *KUT* media personality Stephen Rice as Giardinelli shared anecdotes and musings about his experiences in Austin, Texas and beyond.

THE CAUSE:

The book signing party at Jonathan Adler was hosted by Monica Burcham, Eric Copper, Mark Erwin, Chris Lindenmayer, Lance Avery Morgan, Stephen Rice, Jesse Stowell and Luis Valadez with a portion of the proceeds from the Jonathan Adler event benefitting the Kind Clinic, an organization which provides treatment and preventive services of sexually transmitted diseases including access to the HIV prevention drugs known as PrEP and PEP.



Luis Valadez and Ed Ishmael



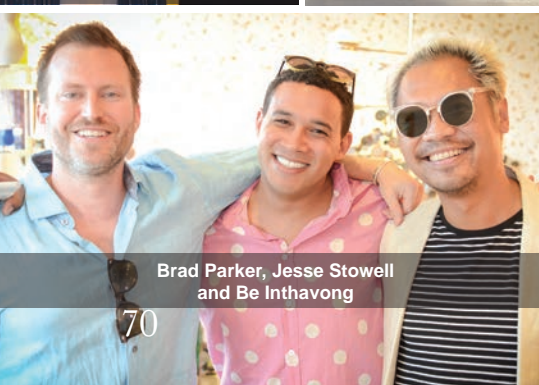
Chris Lindenmayer and Justin Smith



Franco Herrera and Matthew Redden



Mark Erwin, Corey Toland and Melanie McLeroy



Brad Parker, Jesse Stowell and Be Inthavong



Romy Suskin and Lance Avery Morgan



John Conroy and Bill Hendee



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THERE'S A STRETCH OF THE SAN ANTONIO RIVER WALK where creativity flourishes and design inspires. An aesthetically sensual quarter where the visual components of color, form, line, shape, space and texture engage the senses, inspire pleasure and nurture the freedom to dream. This is San Antonio's cultural arts district, and it is about to become the most coveted residential address in the downtown center.

An architectural masterwork is soon to rise from the space at 123 Lexington Avenue—an artistic rendering of glass and stone that will reflect the unbridled creativity of its surroundings and add an über-luxurious niche to the residential offerings in the River City's downtown district. The Arts Residences at the Thompson San Antonio Hotel invites you to expect the unexpected. Redefine yourself and your lifestyle. Transform, relax and indulge.

Perched atop San Antonio's first Thompson Hotel—symbolic worldwide of ultimate panache—The Arts Residences' 66 exquisitely designed condominium homes will be the first luxe-living accommodations available in San Antonio's city center. With 21 open floorplans ranging from 735 to 7,324 square feet, plus five stately penthouses, each Arts Residences condominium home will be marked by organic sensibility and contemporary elegance, with soaring floor-to-ceiling windows; European appliances; Italian kitchen and bath cabinetry; natural stone and porcelain surfaces; and hardwood floors.

Homeowners at The Arts Residences will lead a lifestyle as sophisticated as their homes, with full access to a vast array of amenities, including a resort-style pool and 5,000 square-foot pool deck with cabanas and bar, world-class restaurant, state-of-the-art fitness center, opulent spa, the Thompson Hotel's impeccable room service, valet parking, 24-hour security and private entrances, just to mention a few.

Perhaps the ultimate expression of luxe living will be embodied by The Arts Residences' ultra-attentive, round-the-clock private concierge service, which will cater to residents' every whim, from hotel and travel arrangements, tickets to entertainment events, spa and golf appointments, birthday and holiday gift selections, party-planning assistance and pet services, and much, much more.

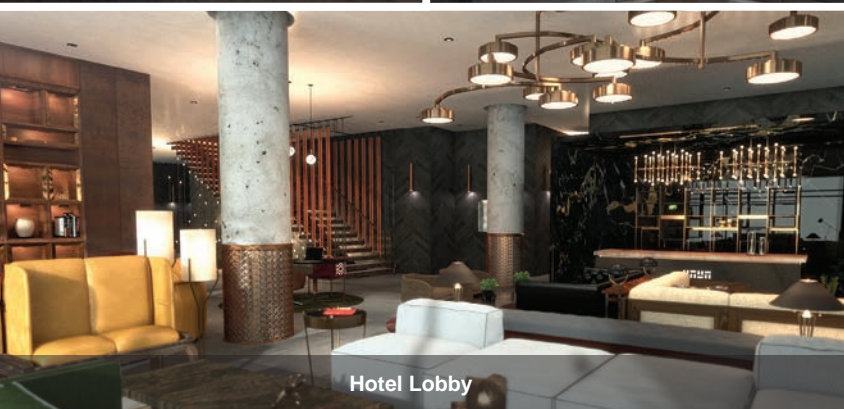
Truly, San Antonio has seen nothing like this \$116 million, 337,000-plus square-foot, 167-room luxury hotel-residential condominium tower. Developed by DC Partners, nationally known for its landmark developments, and San Antonio-based Universal Service Group, with architecture by Powers Brown, interior design by Amass & G. and a portion of funding by Houston EB5, The Arts Residences at the Thompson San Antonio will take urbane living to a new level in the city center, reshaping the character of the culturally rich downtown arts district. [S](#)



Penthouse Master Bedroom



Penthouse Living Room



Hotel Lobby



Poolside



WITTE MUSEUM GAME DINNER

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Monday, October 16, 2017
6:00 to 10:30 p.m.



Game Dinner Chair
Susan Naylor

Honorary Chairs
Sam Dawson and Peggy Walker



Featuring
Aaron Lewis



The Witte Museum would like to thank our generous sponsors



TexasMonthly



For reservations and information please call 210.357.1905
or contact KatieAdams@wittemuseum.org

All funds raised at the Witte Game Dinner provide valuable support for the programs and exhibits of San Antonio's most widely visited public museum. Sponsorship opportunities are available.



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Zachry Brown, Sarah Brown, Marie Brown Mays, Aline Brown Copp, Andrea Brown Brooks and Carter Brown





Photography by *Ann-Marie Photograph*



Ryan Mays and Patty Mays

For all Eternity

The Nuptials Of Marie Brown and Ryan Mays

By *Caroline Bolano*

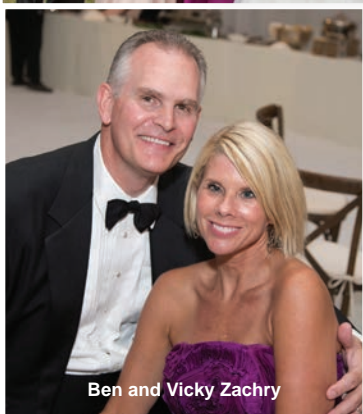
Photography by *David Sixt*



Carter Brown, Aline Brown Copp, Marline Carter Lawson, Marie Brown Mays, Clint Lawson, Andrea Brown Brooks, Sarah Brown, Zachry Brown and Badger Brown

ALTHOUGH THEIR FAMILIES have been close friends for several generations, it was their own unique sense of humor that attracted the couple to each other when Marie Brown, daughter of Marline and Clint Lawson, decided to ask out Ryan Mays, son of Mark and Patti Mays, three years ago. After only three months of dinner dates, the couple knew in their hearts that they wanted to spend the rest of their lives together. After three years of dating, Ryan popped the question after a hike to the top of a volcano in Costa Rica. Following a nine-month engagement, the couple married in the company of all their closest family and friends on June 17.

with around 600 guests in attendance. An extravagant 15-foot tall floral and cactus arch served as the altar for the ceremony. Don Strange Events catered the affair with elegant food stations strewn throughout the reception.



Ben and Vicky Zachry



William Lester and Elinor Lester

The rehearsal dinner was held at Hotel Emma in San Antonio for 110 guests who were surrounded by beautiful fuchsia arrangements of bougainvillea and cactus designed by florist Danny Cuellar.

The bride had 14 attendants with bridesmaids Aline Copp, Sarah Brown, Hannah Smith, Mimi Brown, Maggie Mays, Abby Spalding, Alex Watt, Lindsay Marsh, Lili Jamail, Elle Florescu, Amy Doggett, Kelly Jameson, Elizabeth Douglass and Andrea Leigh Brown Brooks as the Matron of Honor. The groom had 14 attendants as well, with groomsmen Daniel Mays, Andrew Mays, Matthew Mays, Zachry Brown, Carter Brown, Clay Holshouser, Rett McSween, Jack Kingman, Robert Foster, Terry Andersen, Evan Dalton, William Schreiber, Walker Graham and Patrick Mays as the Best Man.



Bridesmaids - Brown-Mays Wedding

The elegant South Texas-themed wedding ceremony was held at The Mays' Family Ranch in Spring Branch, Texas, planned by Elegant Events' Maureen Riebel. The open-air ceremony took place at sunset on top of a cliff overlooking the Guadalupe River

The bride's Vera Wang dress was accessorized with heirloom jewelry from her great grandmother, Marjorie Zachry, consisting of floral diamond earrings and a bracelet.

The black-tie reception was held at the ranch at the base of the Guadalupe River. The theme of the reception was prickly pear cactus with an all-white color scheme



Matthew Mays, Andrew Mays, Maggie Mays, Ryan Mays, Patrick Mays and Daniel Mays



Ryan Mays, Marie Brown Mays, Mark Mays and Marline Carter Lawson



Hon. Michael McCaul, Marie Brown Mays, Kathy Mays Johnson, Lowry Mays, Peggy Mays, Ryan Mays, Bill Johnson and Linda McCaul



Clint and Marline Lawson



Herb and Linda Hill



Zachry and Mimi Brown



Carter Brown, Marline Carter Lawson and Aline Brown Copp



Craig Brown and Henry Sapp



The Groom's Cake



with accents of sage green and blush, creating an elegant Hill Country vibe. The florals, designed by Pattie Beebe with the Elegant Bee in Boerne, consisted of a variety of white flowers paired with deer antlers and prickly pear cactus. The ceiling was covered with lights and was illuminated with three large antler chandeliers. Peerless Tents and Events erected the massive tents that housed the celebration. The ceiling was covered with lights and was illuminated with three large antler chandeliers, all of which was beautifully captured by wedding photographer, David Sixt from San Antonio.

Dinner was served at buffet stations consisting of various southern comfort foods and game meats, thanks to Don Strange Catering of San Antonio. Some of the food highlights included prickly pear margaritas, nilgai antelope fired tenders, fired quail, cabrito, cheese grits, donut holes with rum, coffee and Kahlua milkshakes.

The bride's cake was made by Who Made the Cake in Houston and was 6 feet tall with amaretto and vanilla. Each tier was a different flavor and decorated with sugar paste flowers. Crazy Cakes, located in Austin, made the groom's cake with immense detail. It was fit

for a true South Texan, with a Hill Country-themed diorama scene with a rattlesnake, quail, horned toad, cactus, and scorpion.

Jessie's Girls, a band from Atlanta, did an amazing job entertaining guests and played at the reception for four straight hours. One of the couple's favorite memories from the reception was bringing their two Vizsla dogs, Beau and Belle, out to the dance floor. The band ended the night playing *Purple Rain* and the couple danced and sung in a group huddle with the families.

After the reception, Whataburger honey butter chicken biscuits were handed out on the wedding party bus back to Hotel Emma where some guests kept the party going with an after party at the hotel bar.

The couple's next stop is Tanzania and Seychelles for their honeymoon, a perfect destination for the newlyweds since they both share a love for Africa and being active, so both safari and the beach were ideal. They enjoy traveling and crave adventure, so they've created their own travel bucket list to fulfill throughout the future. The couple resides in New York City where Marie is an art appraiser and Ryan is an investment banker. **S**



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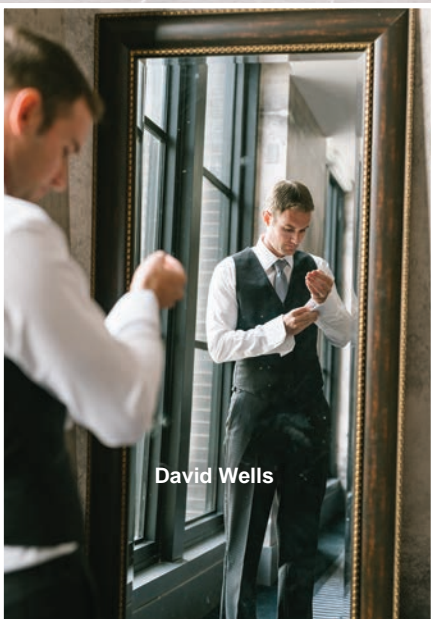
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THE GAME OF *Love*

Sarah Meredith and David Wells Wed

By Caroline Bolano Photography by Jodee Debes



David Wells



Lynn Meredith, Abby Meredith,
Sarah Meredith Wells and
Kate Andrade





David Wells and groomsman



Betty Wells, Fred Wells, Sarah and David Wells, Karen Wells and Sarah Wells



Sarah Meredith Wells and Tom Meredith



Lynn Meredith and Sarah Meredith Wells



Sarah Meredith Wells and bridesmaids

It was their unique and great personalities, along with her smile and his height that drew the bride and groom together at a trivia night in Austin. After that first encounter, sparks flew and they proceeded to attend the trivia nights every Wednesday for the next six and a half years of dating. David Wells, son of Karen Wells and Fred Wells, popped the question to Sarah Meredith, daughter of Lynn and Tom Meredith, in Scotland.

The Texas Chic-themed rehearsal dinner was held at The Belmont in Austin, catered by 34 St. Catering, with 200 guests in attendance.

The wedding was held at the Hotel Van Zandt with 300 guests in attendance. The altar was lined with sublime white flowers at the hotel's rooftop pool overlooking the city skyline. The colors of the wedding were blush and gold with hints of blue and various shades of white. Creative Consultants masterfully planned the stunning and chic wedding. Floral designer David Kurio of David Kurio Designs and his team provided the elaborate floral décor. Townsley Designs created the set design, Ilios Lighting helped the event sparkle and Marquee Rentals provided other rentals. A Scottish bagpiper closed the ceremony by performing as the couple walked down the aisle to their reception while guests tossed thyme to the newly nuptial duo.

The bride had five attendants with bridesmaids Sarah Wells, Natalie Meredith and Lauren Becker. The bride's sister, Abby Meredith, was the Maid of Honor along with her other sister, Kate Andrade, as the Matron of Honor. The groom had five attendants as well, with groomsmen Nathan Girourd, Nathan West, Will Meredith, Will Mayberry, and Best Man Steve Rodriguez.

The bride wore a dress designed by Carolina Herrera paired with elegant, gold sequined Jimmy Choo heels. Sarah also wore her mother's Tiffany estate bracelet and carried her grandmother's necklace, which was one of the bride's most special moments of the evening.

The reception was held at Hotel Van Zandt where dinner was served at various food stations. Ice House Band and DJ Barrington Miles performed live music on stage with a metallic backdrop for guests to enjoy. Lights were strewn across the arches of the ceiling and bouquets of white and blush flowers were centerpieces of the dinner tables. My Event Is The Bomb provided the photo booth for keepsake photos while monogrammed cigars were hand-rolled by Bobalu. The groom and his best man ended the reception with a splash by jumping into the hotel pool. DJ Miles continued the fun after the reception into the after party where Via 313 pizza was served. In fact, Thyme To Get Hitched spiked popsicles were also provided to keep guests cool. The following day, the bride's parents hosted a brunch for 200 at their residence at The Four Seasons, catered by 34th St. Catering.

The newlyweds honeymooned to the Maldives and Singapore where they were able to surf, snorkel and dive. The duo can be found eating at the amazing and diverse restaurants Austin has to offer as well as attending events such as Austin City Limits music festival. The couple has resided in Austin where they will live and begin their lives together. They look forward to starting their own family traditions, as well as continuing their current traditions such as skiing during Christmas with family. **S**



Sarah Meredith Wells and Tom Meredith





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Texas Biomedical Forum Gala Committee 2017





Dr. Edward Briggs, Dr. Sara McCamish & Elizabeth and Kevin Cox



The Spanish Room sponsored by Argo Group



SPRING'S AWAKENING

Texas BioMedical Forum Gala Spring Soirée Blooms

By *Jonathan Spindel* | Photography by *Greg Harrison and Candace Schaddelee*

THE SCENE:

The home of gala co-chairs Ashley & Rad Weaver served as the scene for this year's Texas BioMedical Forum Gala pre-party, where guests enjoyed a traditional Kentucky Derby vibe. Mint juleps were served, antique silver trophies held jubilant floral centerpieces, and even a horse made an appearance with a blanket of red roses. The gala evening continued at The Argyle, which was decorated with hedges and boxwoods in a floral springtime theme. The atmosphere was alive with a feeling of freshness and renewal, with lush white orchids, peonies and gardenias arranged by Botanical No. Nine of Austin. The magical feeling was underscored by Mio the Magician, who has performed for aristocracy and celebrities around the world, who strolled the ground entertaining guests.



Stephanie Bailey, Mary Conger, Jenevieve Zoch and Courtney Percy



John and Rita Feik



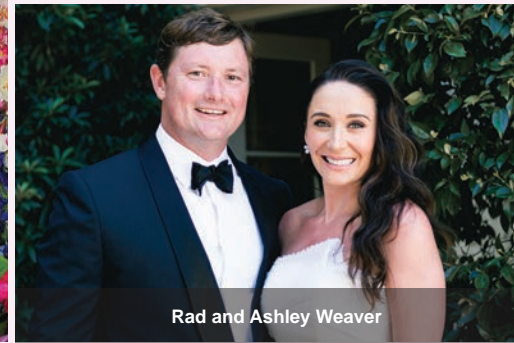
Amy Garcia and Nicole McLane



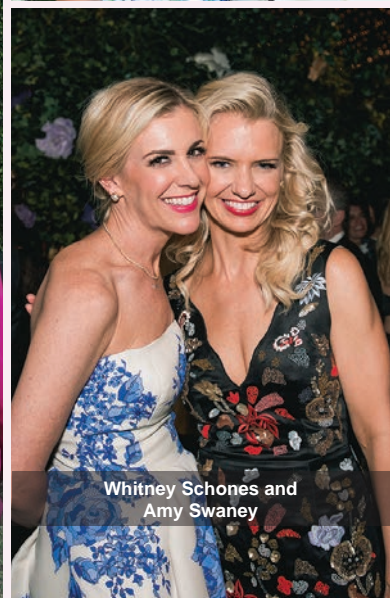
Amelita Mauzé, Ashley Wever and Molly Drought



Daniela Serna and Dr. Tony Serna



Rad and Ashley Weaver



Whitney Schones and Amy Swaney



Chris and Emilie Petty & Jolie and Meade Flavin

SPECTATE: SAN ANTONIO



Laura Moorman and Mary Herff

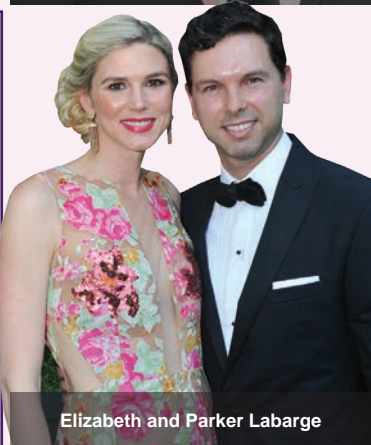


Sarah and Jason Davis



THE VIBE:

Making their way into the tent, guests were enchanted by the whimsical open-air theme created by Townsley Designs of Austin. Laden with peonies in shades of white, coral and fuchsia, the open-top structure featured a canopy of twinkling lights. Caplan Miller Events did the interior and exterior décor of The Argyle, creating the special rooms for all of the major donors as well as the lawn area and the tent for the after party. Each room in The Argyle had special tableaux – including tablecloths and flatware, created by Caplan Miller, as well as the floral décor that framed the entrances to each of the rooms. Don Strange Catering created the cuisine at Ashley Weaver's home for the event's pre-party. At the center, a bar beckoned guests to its three-story tree theme laden with paper flowers. Inside The Argyle, garlands and magnolia swags enveloped the doorways of each private room, where donors enjoyed fine dining in their own intimate setting. Each patron's name was scribed in calligraphy at the top of the door surrounded by magnolia leaves, lending a regal air.



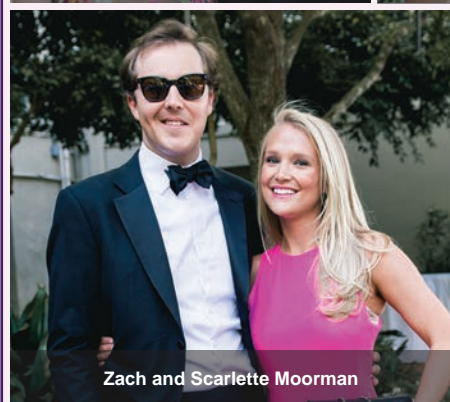
Elizabeth and Parker Labarge



Brooke and Jared Meabon



The Hunt Room Sponsored by the Feik Family Foundation



Zach and Scarlett Moorman



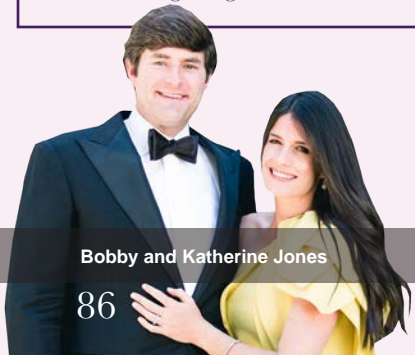
Michael and Beverly Rohlf



Brandon Grossman, Rad Weaver, Rob Flannery, Ann Flannery and Michael Lynd



Tracee Feik, Heather De Rojas, Rita Feik and Amy Garcia



Bobby and Katherine Jones



Miguel and Gloria Dilley & Carla and John Brozovich



Ellie Leeper Morrison and Susan Wise



Gene and Sonya Williams & Amanda and George P. Bush



Shannon and Jon Turner



Tom and Kristan Northington & Kristin and Dick Tips



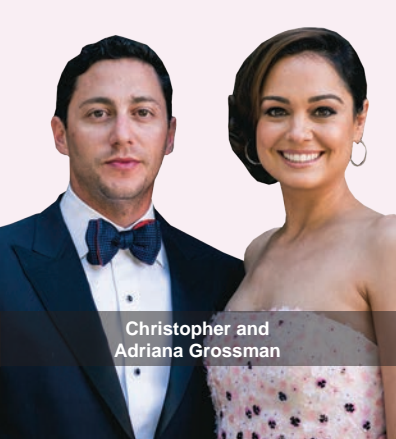
Argyle Bar Sponsored by Luther King Capital Management, Mike Lynd & Ashley and Rad Weaver



Karen Lee Zachry and Tracy Williams



Todd and Anna Wulfe



Christopher and Adriana Grossman



Amanda Williams



Chip and Courtney Percy

SPECTATE: SAN ANTONIO

THE CAUSE:

This year's gala, organized by gala chairs Ashley & Rad Weaver and Molly Drought, raised an impressive sum from both private and corporate donors. North Park Lexus generously provided transportation with their luxury vehicles to the gala for the event's top contributors. These funds will be used as seed money to fund projects in the idea stage at the Texas BioMedical Research Institute that aims to unravel the mysteries of chronic and infectious diseases through innovative thinking, creative problem solving and cutting-edge technologies.



Richard Williams and Georgina Podjenski



Corbett and Debbie Christie



Danielle and Brooks Kieschnick



Triana Grossman and Ashley Weaver



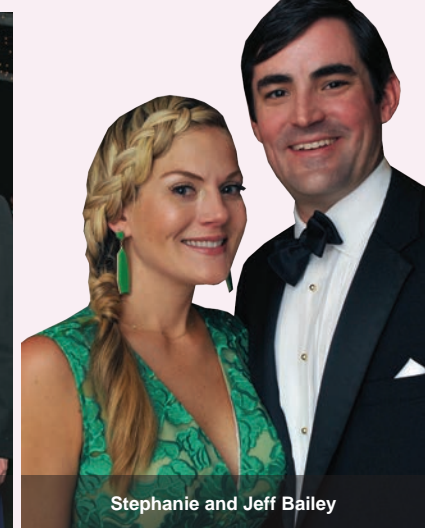
Muffin Moorman, Lauren Gordon and Mallory Moorman



John Culp, Eric Fisher, Tashya Riggs, Lane Riggs, Greg Seay, Dr. Paul Kerby, Cynthia Kerby, Meg Culp, Lauren Fisher, Kelly Satal, Jim Satal and Anne Seay



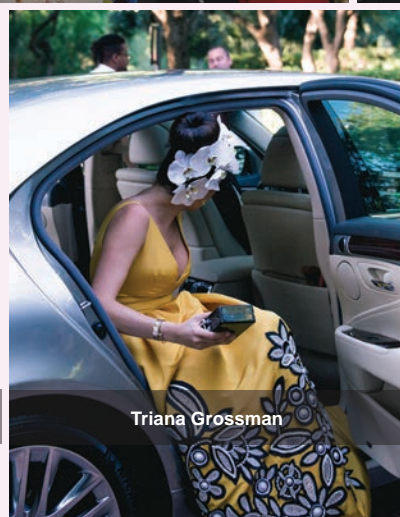
Steven Fry, Linda Leavitt, Kelly Wade Fry and Brent Conger



Stephanie and Jeff Bailey



Brad and Emily Jones



Triana Grossman



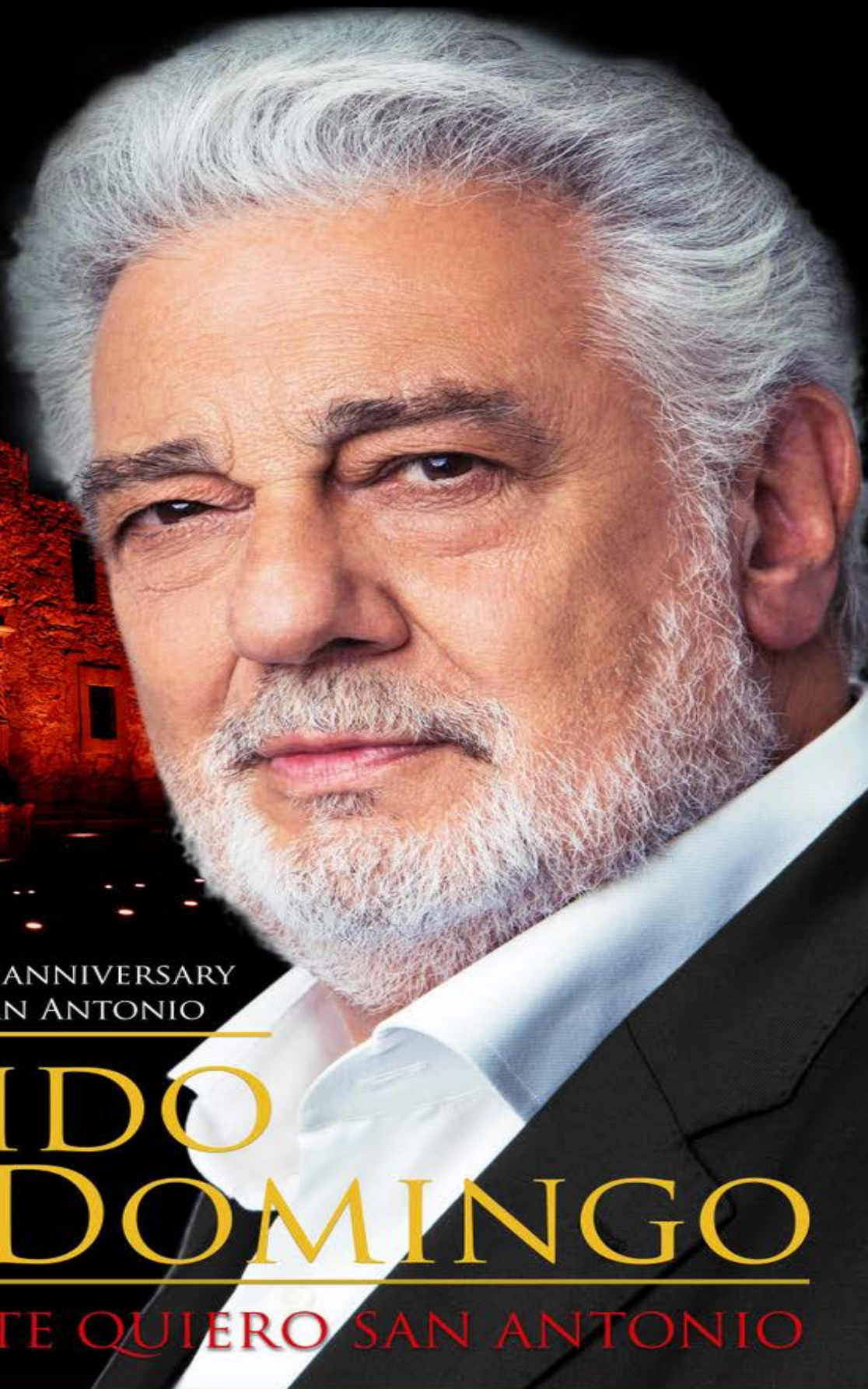
Layne and Tosha Riggs



Stephanie and David Dick



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ENTRANCE: AUSTIN



Randy Taylor, Kent and Melissa Ferguson & Kathy Taylor



Anita and Earl Maxwell

TOASTS WITH THE MOST

St. David's *Toast of the Town* Events Raise Funds For Aspiring Medical Professionals

By Rob Giardinelli | Photography by Matthew Fuller, Robert Godwin and Tomas Segura

THE SCENE:

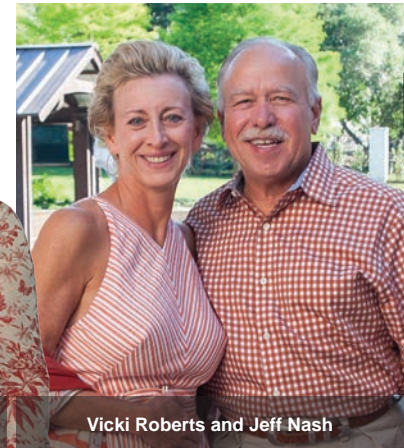
Twenty-one themed events. Four weeks. These parties, each a tour-de-force in its own right, were held all throughout the Austin area – from downtown to the Hill Country – each with a special theme that highlighted the diverse interests of the city. St. David's *Toast of the Town* parties brought out hundreds of Austin's social elite for one of the city's most anticipated social events..



Edith Royal and Lauree Moffett



JK Baxter Hunt and Serene Warren



Vicki Roberts and Jeff Nash



Jona Mata, Shaka and Maya Payne Smart & Tevon Hood



Lesa and Bill Rossick



Lisa Trahan and Joanie Bentzin



Tobie Funte Flannery and Alan Godfrey



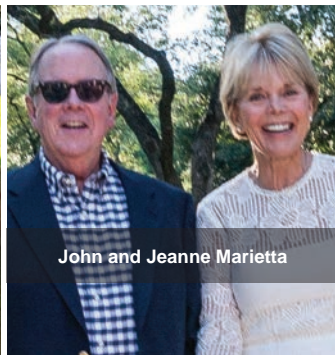
Tom and Beth Granger, Matt and Rita Kreisle & Richard Coons



Jennene Mashburn, Leslie Robnett, Julie Niedert



John Robinson, Tom Herman and Sharon Schweitzer Robinson



THE VIBE:

Each party was an intimate affair ranging from six to 50 guests, creating an intimate and welcoming vibe for everyone, regardless of the soiree they attended. A common theme throughout were the generous hosts and patrons who donned their favorite Austin-chic attire that reflects the casual elegance for which Austin is best known.

The themes of the parties featured something for everyone. Sports enthusiasts had their pick of several parties, where they could chat up UT Head Basketball Coach Shaka Smart at the home of Sharon and Joe Aragona, while another party featured new UT Head Football Coach Tom Herman in one of his first public fundraising appearances since being named head coach at the home of Melissa and Kent Ferguson. Literary lovers had the opportunity to converse with several authors including Frank Denius, an author and World War II hero, at the home of Cindy Wilson... while others engaged in stimulating conversation at an event featuring Pulitzer Prize winning author Philipp Meyer at the home of Kathy and Randy Taylor.

Martha and Richard Coons hosted a stimulating conversation on contemporary cultural issues with Homer Ross Tomlin, whose grandfather, Homer Thornberry was a passionate advocate justice in the Civil Rights era of the 1950s and 1960s. Others chose the downtown Austin home of Eddie Safady to have an engaging conversation with world-renowned historians H.W. Brands, Douglas Brinkley and Mark Updegrove. Among so many more events, those seeking to celebrate their Texas roots were able to do so at the home of Cord and Ann Shiflet where guests were able to pose with both the legendary Bevo steer and the Texas Cowboys while the grand finale event was held at The Range for an Urban Cowboy film themed party that was perfect ending to another fabulous Toast party season.

ENTRANCE: AUSTIN



Chad Geiken, Monika Ostrowski and Joe Aragona



Jane and Michael Driscoll



Cara Abazari, Taylor Gutierrez, April Reed and Ashley Gomez



Gary Farmer with the Texas Cowboys

THE CAUSE:

This year's *Toast of the Town* events, led by event chair Lesa Rossick and vice chair Tobie Funte Flannery, raised over \$1.5 million for the Dr. Neal Kocurek Scholarship Program at St. David's hospital. The scholarships are awarded to approximately 50 high school seniors in Travis, Williamson, Bastrop, Caldwell and Hays County who seek to pursue a career in the medical field.



Amy Barbee and Mary Scott Nabers



Anne and Cord Shiflet



Don Wilkerson



Raven Moss and Trey Eilers



Philip Lauterbach and Sara Fleiller



Robert and Julie Cowan



Heidi Marquez Smith and Ann Brinkley



Lorrie and Ken DeAngelis

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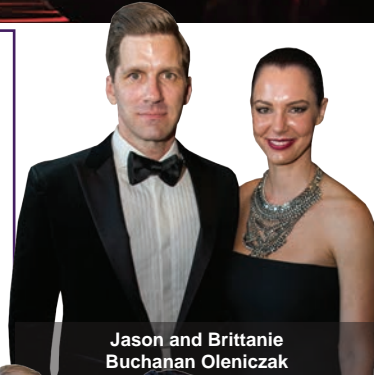


Chuck Steelman and the 2017 DIFFA Style Council

DESIGN THAT DAZZLES

DIFFA/DALLAS Presents Star-Studded Arabian Night

By *Jonthan Spindel* | Photography by *Shana Anderson, Joseph Brewster and Thomas Garza*



Jason and Brittanie Buchanan Oleniczak



Bina Palnitkar Patel

THE SCENE:

Easily one of the most anticipated events in the city, Design Industries Foundation Fighting AIDS, DIFFA/Dallas, concluded the season with their unforgettable signature gala, House of DIFFA: Arabesque, presented by Headington Companies and The Joule Hotel for over 1,500 patrons. The Arabian Wonderland featured belly dancers, genies, camels and a live auction.

The opulent gala was hosted at the Omni Dallas Hotel, and featured a curated selection of one-of-a-kind tailored jackets and garments by world-renown designers such as Alexander Wang, Badgley Mischka, Daniel Esquivel, Geoffrey Henning and Traffic LA at The Joule and dozens more.



Bailee Beilman and Caroline Kraddick



Gina Ginsburg and LeeAnne Locken



Brian Bolke and Nancy Rogers



Brian Brothers, Sami Abboud, Rhonda Sargent Chambers and Densil Adams



Lainie Kritser



David Sutherland and Ann Sutherland, Jenifer Strauss and Bryan Curran



Bryan Reeder, Sheridan Dietrich & Anne Stodghill and Steve Stodghill



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ENTRANCE: DALLAS



Gonzalo Bueno



THE VIBE:

The event began with a cocktail party and silent auction where guests sipped on cocktails, mingled and browsed the vast selection of jackets in this year's show. The charitable patrons were then escorted into the ballroom by belly dancers in the audience and asked to take their seats for dinner and were welcomed by DIFFA/Dallas Board Chair Chuck Steelman and House of DIFFA Chair Sami Abboud, and were wowed by a surprise performance by international pop star and Grammy award performer Natasha Bedingfield. The evening also consisted of awards given to Ana Galalviz (DIFFA/Dallas Young Professional of the Year), Jenifer Strauss (Donna Fishel Community Hero Award), Clint Bradley (Legacy of Love Award), Dr. Patrick Gibson (Health Award), Verona Martinez (Excellence in Design Award), and David Sutherland (Legend in the Fight Against AIDS).



Cearan Henley, Courtney Rider and Allan Knight



Chuck Steelman and Natasha Bedingfield



Carol Quist and Patrick Tichacek

Following the program, patrons were dazzled by a runway show featuring TenOverSix, Forty Five Ten and Traffic LA, with performances interlaced between the shows including Arabian dancers, an upbeat *Choose Life* routine honoring the memory of singer George Michael, and more. The night ended with a fashion show featuring 94 jackets from this year's House of DIFFA collection.

THE CAUSE:

DIFFA/Dallas is one of the largest HIV/AIDS organizations in Texas, providing funding to local HIV/AIDS Service Organizations within the community. DIFFA/Dallas has granted over \$7.4 million to 25 front-line HIV/AIDS Service Organizations in North Texas providing direct care to those living with or affected by HIV/AIDS. Highlighting the fashion design community, DIFFA/Dallas hosts multiple events throughout the season.



Faisal Halum



Ashley Warnick and Jessica Joyner



The Blood & Tissue Center Foundation presents the



Marriott Rivercenter 101 Bowie Street
Cocktail reception, dinner and dancing
Cocktails at 6:30 p.m. Dinner at 7:30 p.m.

The Blood & Tissue Center Foundation Chairmen
Mary and Steve Brook

Red & White Ball Chairmen
Ginny and Art Bennert

Chairman's Award Recipient
DOCUmation

*Proceeds benefit **GenCure** and the **Texas Cord Blood Bank**.*

For more information or to buy tickets: **210-249-4498** or visit **RedandWhiteBallSA.org**



*The Blood & Tissue
Center Foundation*

A SUBSIDIARY OF

BioBridge
GLOBAL



Jana and Scotty Arnoldi

MASKED & MARVELOUS

Houston Opera Ball Gala Celebrates New Season

By Jennifer Roosth | Photography by Priscilla Dickson, Gary Fountain and Wilson Parrish

THE SCENE:

The Wortham Theater Center in Houston was transformed into a red-carpeted Venetian Carnevale for the 2017 Opera Ball, *Carnevale di Venezia*, presented by The Houston Grand Opera. With masked anticipation, event chairmen Zane and Brady Carruth welcomed friends of the organization to the annual white tie ball for a magical evening of Italian-inspired celebration. Upon their arrival, guests were greeted by mysterious and elaborately masked Venetian characters including a ten-foot-tall marionette provided by J & D Entertainment.



Kendall Hanno and Kirby Lodholz



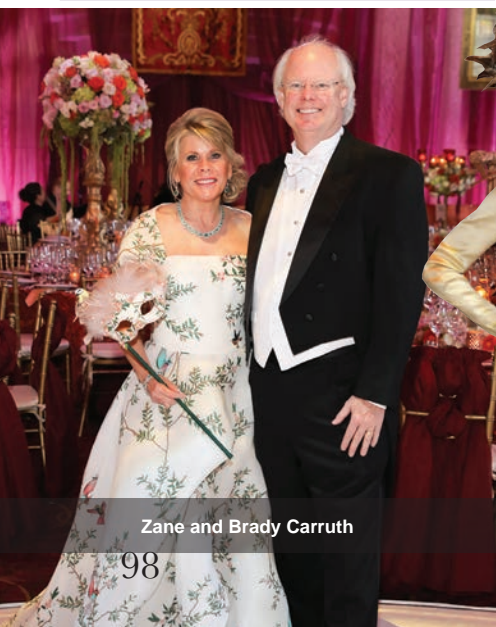
Sverre and Carrie Brandsberg-Dahl



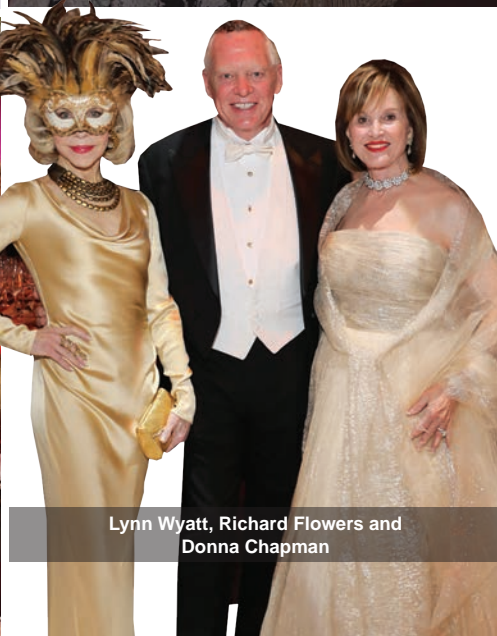
Elizabeth Grimm and Jack Roth



Buddy Carruth, Kylie Conner, Zane and Brady Carruth & Brittany and Adam Clark



Zane and Brady Carruth



Lynn Wyatt, Richard Flowers and Donna Chapman



Megan Bailey and Christopher Lane



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ENTRANCE: HOUSTON



Janice and Robert McNair



Winell and Doug Herron



Denise and Philip Bahr



Myrtle Jones and Brandon McClendon



THE VIBE:

Inside the venue's Grand Foyer, guests were transported to the Piazza San Marco in Venice, complete with its iconic astrological clock tower that towered over dinner guests from the sixth floor, as well as the famous Harry's Bar Bellinis. Sparkling chandeliers and embroidered Italian velvet tapestries hung overhead, while playfully costumed marionettes and jaw-dropping florals in a rich color palette of blush to cinnamon to merlot adorned the dinner tables. The Richard Brown Strings Ensemble enhanced the arrival with the sounds of Italian classics, and City Kitchen Catering served an Italian inspired menu.

THE CAUSE:

With 420 guests in attendance, the gala raised over \$1.75 million dollars to support the company's internationally renowned performances and community programs that distinguish HGO as one of America's great opera companies. Immediately following *Carnevale di Venezia*, late-night attendees made their way to the Encore Party—a lively "after party" co-chaired by Carrie and Sverre Brandsberg-Dahl.



Robin Angly and Miles Smith



Fady Armanious and Sippi Khurana



Bobbie-Vee and Jerry Cooney

Alice Delahunt and Reese Lasher

RICHARD ORSINGER

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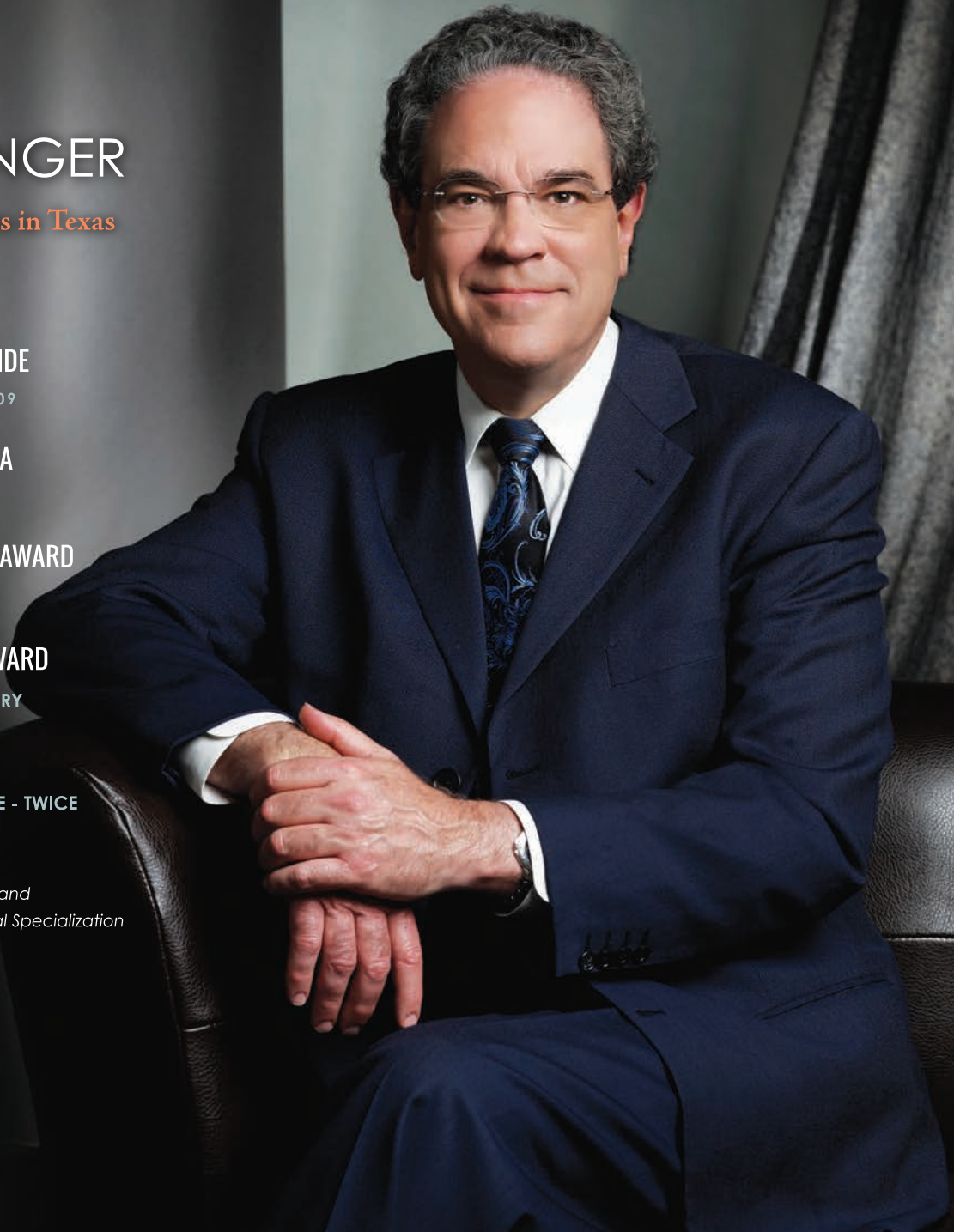
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Eddie Wright, Kati Smith and Shalimar Wallis

HATS OFF TO YOU

Chic Derby Luncheon Tips Hat To Style

By *Jonathan Spindel* | Photography by *Greg Harrison*



Zoe Reilly

THE SCENE:

The verdant Argyle club was the scene of the 14th annual Le Brunch des Chapeaux luncheon benefitting the Autism Community Network. The sold-out crowd of 470 donned their most chic chapeaux for the “Day at the Races” theme, and San Antonio’s own style-setting boutique Julian Gold presented an incredible style show highlighting the season’s latest in fashion trends.



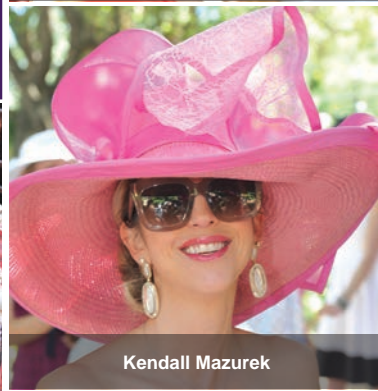
Leslie Edwards



Linda Leavitt, Sheila Mayfield and Elizabeth Cox



Tiffany Fresher



Kendall Mazurek



Jessica Berg and Shawn de Campos



Corinna and JB Richter



Elizabeth Labarge, Lisa Johnson and Katherine Goertz



Adrianna Llano, Patty Jeffers, Nellie Mendosa, Sonali Mehta and Jeanne Hornbeak



Raven Labatt, Tracee Feik and Cynthia Kerby



Katherine Welder



Linda Dullnig



THE VIBE:

The derby theme was brought to life by decorations chair Laurie Barnes, whose décor vision transported guests to a truly Triple Crown vibe. Guests enjoyed an al fresco brunch luncheon, then enjoyed the signature event: the Julian Gold Show, which featured a showcase of styles of the season, including designers who made a splash during Fiesta and beyond.

THE CAUSE:

Event chairs for the 14th annual event were Shalimar Wallis, Kati Smith and Edie Wright. Proceeds of Le Brunch benefitted Autism Community Network. ACN's mission is to maximize the potential of children with autism by increasing autism awareness and services for families throughout the San Antonio area.



Tanji Patton, Carroll Dorsey Walker and Courtney Glover Percy



Megan Sanders and Amber Thomas



Michelle Mitchell



Sherie Johnson



Julie Johnson



Sophia Lomeli





THE SCENE:

The University of Texas at Austin's Harry Ransom Center was the setting for a special evening that celebrated six decades as a leading worldwide destination for artistic exhibits that have impacted the cultural zeitgeist on an American and international level. The occasion brought out not only the city's cultural elite, but also drew artists known on a worldwide level including Peter O'Toole's daughter Kate O'Toole and creator of the iconic series Mad Men, Matthew Weiner. The theme? It was W.O.W., a World Of Wonders.

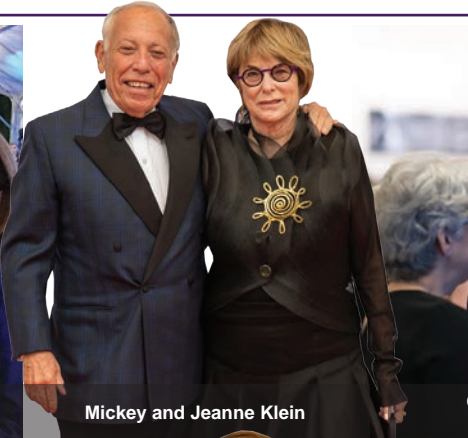
THE W.O.W. FACTOR

Harry Ransom Center Celebrates 60 Years With Mad Men Exhibit

By Rob Giardinelli | Photography by Brian Diggs, Birzer Photography, Ben Porter and Pete Smith



Alan and Rose Betty Williams



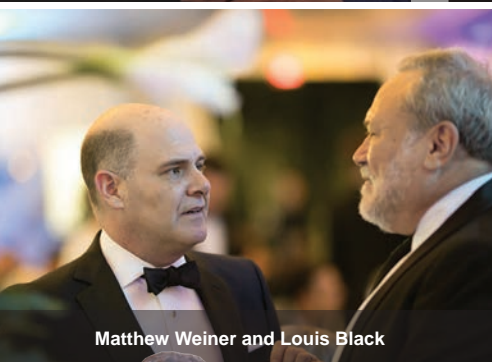
Mickey and Jeanne Klein



Carmel and Greg Fennes & Joe Armstrong



Regan and April Smith & Gitta and Michael Black



Matthew Weiner and Louis Black



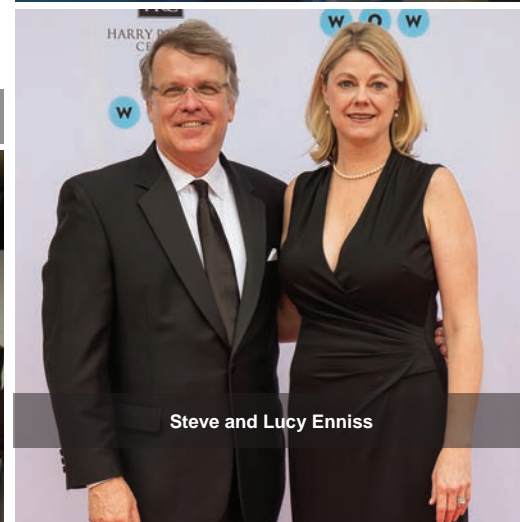
Kelly Cooper McClure, Dawn Black, Margie Rine and Jennifer Kuczaj



Sally Quinn



Eric Colleary and Kate O'Toole



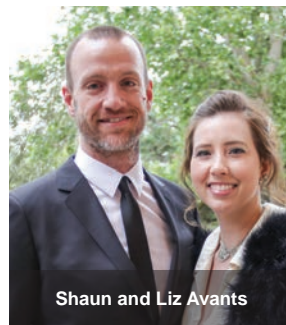
Steve and Lucy Enniss



Nate Davis, Kate McCann, Betsy Dupree Nowrasteh, Emma Aldridge and Conrad Franz



Luke Borders, Justin and Samantha Halloran, Amanda Rivera & Taylor and Shawn Bose



Shaun and Liz Avants



Carmel and Tom Borders



Rob Giardinelli, Eric Copper, Lance Avery Morgan and Adrian Farrell



Cecily Rodman, Marian Casey, Joa Clark, Chris Casey, Diana Ball & David and Rona Baizer



Rita and Matt Kreisle



Cathleen Slack, Becky and Mike Robertson & Sean Slack



Michael Kentor, Mandy Dealey and Franchelle Stewart Dorn



Nell McKeown, Jeff Williams and Debra Law McKeown

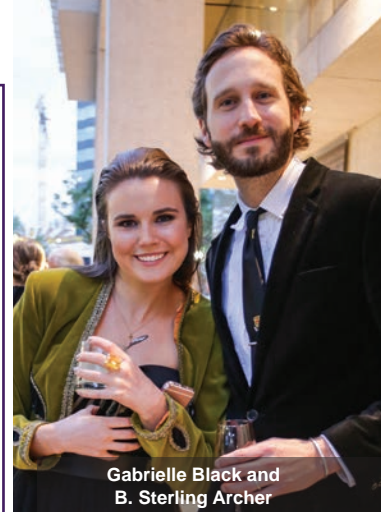
THE VIBE:

The evening began at the second-floor reception area of the Harry Ransom Center with a VIP cocktail hour. Guests had the opportunity to mingle with internationally known and respected artistic and literary minds as well as view some of the iconic pieces from Ransom Center's collection including two clothing ensembles from *Mad Men*, as well as a desk that belonged to Edgar Allan Poe. The festivities then continued as the action moved outside to the courtyard in front of the main entrance of The Harry Ransom Center where the good times continued against the backdrop of a perfect Texas evening.

The festivities then headed toward the iconic University of Texas Bell Tower and guests entered a beautifully adorned tent erected on the plaza, where guests dined on delicious cuisine during the evening's program. Masters of Ceremonies Franchelle Stewart Dorn and Virginia I. Murchison effortlessly kept the evening flowing as a host of artistic and literary icons presented and received awards including: Sally Quinn, Billy Collins, Kate O'Toole, Elizabeth Avellan and Nell McKeown. The evening concluded with a conversation with Matthew Weiner, who shared his thoughts and behind the scenes insight about the culture of his visionary series, *Mad Men*.

THE CAUSE:

The event, with honorary chairs Sally Quinn and Matthew Weiner raised over \$400,000 for The Harry Ransom Center which procures and produces exhibitions of works by world renowned artists and writers.



Gabrielle Black and B. Sterling Archer



Elizabeth Avellan

IT TAKES TEAMWORK

Pat & Emmitt Smith Charities Scores For North Texas Youth

By *Cynthia Smoot* | Photography by *Marcy Meeks and Thomas Garza*



Emmitt and Pat Smith, Larry Fitzgerald Jr, Marianne and Roger Staubach

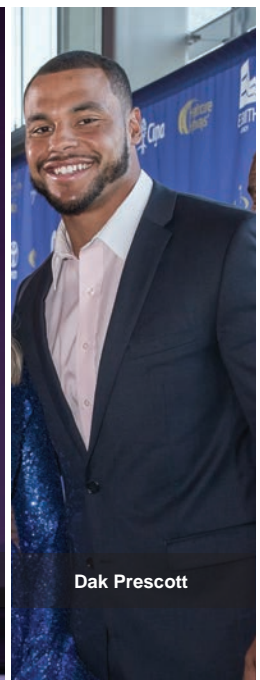


Pat and Emmitt Smith with Team 22

THE SCENE:
The eighth annual Emmitt Smith Celebrity Invitational, presented by Healthcare Highways, was recently held at the Omni Dallas Hotel to benefit the Pat & Emmitt Smith Charities. Activities began with a Friday night gala presented by Albertsons/Tom Thumb. The theme for this year's gala was *Celebrate*. Some of the notable guests for the sports fans included Marianne and Roger Staubach, Dak Prescott, Ezekiel Elliott, Daryl Johnston, Nancy Lieberman, Thomas "Hollywood" Henderson, Seema Sadekar, Nate Newton, Torii Hunter and Melissa Rycroft Strickland.



Hannah Selders



Dak Prescott



Nancy Lieberman



Tye and Melissa Rycroft Strickland



Bishop TD Jakes and Serita Jakes



Mike Jones, Jennifer Holliday, Dee Lincoln and Mike Ruley



Larry Fitzgerald Jr and Dale Hansen



Daryl Johnston and Cheryl Jackson



Trammell and Carmen Hancock



Cheryl Brown, Lamont Thomas and Cheryl Mayo Williams



Ananias Hayes, Alexis McDaniel and Taylor Robertson



Carmaleta and Otis Felton

THE VIBE:

WFAA's Dale Hansen served as the evening's emcee with Bishop T.D. Jakes opening the dinner program in prayer. Legendary Dallas Cowboys quarterback and real estate icon, Roger Staubach, presented his namesake award, courtesy of Toyota, to Arizona Cardinals wide receiver and 2017 Walter Payton NFL Co-Man of the Year Award winner, Larry Fitzgerald, Jr. for his exceptional work with The Larry Fitzgerald First Down Fund, which supports education and recreation for youth, children, and families experiencing health challenges.

At the gala Pat and Emmitt Smith were thrilled to have teens from their flagship, hands-on, one-to-one mentoring program, TEAM 22 and previous scholarship recipients, participate throughout the evening's ceremony. After a spirited live auction, Emerald City Band took to the stage to cap off an inspiring and entertaining evening. The gala ushered in the celebrity invitational golf tournament the next day hosted at TPC Craig Ranch and sponsored by American Airlines.

THE CAUSE:

The event's honorary chair was Faye C. Briggs and Carmaleta and Otis Felton served as event chairs. Proceeds from the weekend go to Pat & Emmitt Smith Charities (PESC), a public charity that creates and funds unique educational experiences and enrichment opportunities for underserved children

ENTRANCE: HOUSTON



Scott and CC Ensell

UNDER THE BIG TOP

Society For The Performing Arts Hosts 50th Anniversary Gala

By *Jennifer Roosth* | Photography by *Priscilla Dickson*



THE SCENE:

Marking the occasion of its golden anniversary, the Society for the Performing Arts celebrated fifty years of “bringing the world’s best to Houston,” with a look back at the iconic performances of SPA’s five-decade legacy... as well as looking to the future of the performing arts. The evening’s over-the-top circus-themed fundraising gala event set a record-breaking number by raising over \$600,000 for their arts and education programs.



Stephany LeGrand Olsen and Curt Carges



Lynn Wyatt



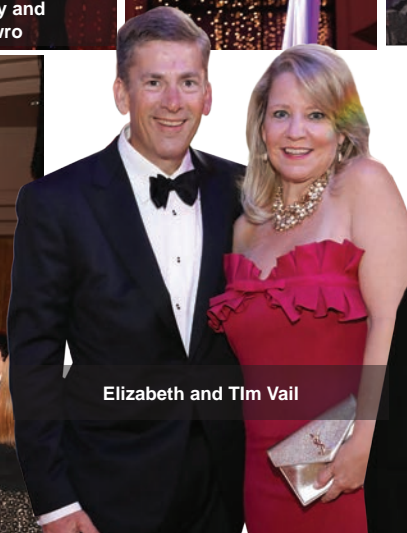
Melanie Gray and Mark Wawro



Janiece Longoria and Steve Lasher



Nancy and Chuck Davidson



Elizabeth and Tim Vail



Rebekah Johnson and Milton Johnson



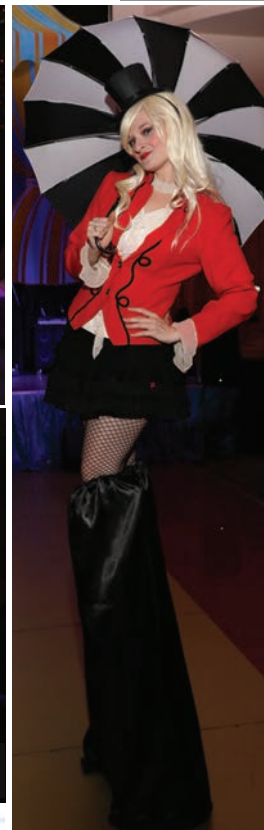
Elizabeth Vail, June Christensen, Ronel Golden



Willie and Linda Chiang



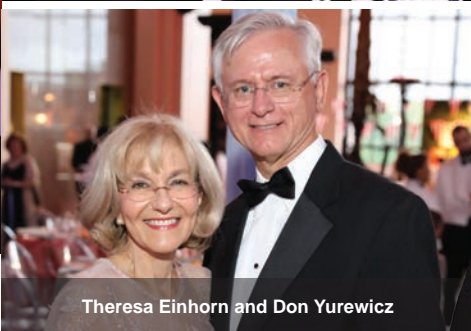
Janet and Bill Swanstrom



Jeff and Kathryn Smith



Gerald and Anita Smith



Theresa Einhorn and Don Yurewicz



Marc and Brenda Watts



Richard and Ginni Mithoff

Katherine and Paul Murphy

THE VIBE:

The SPA Gala is always one of the highlights of the Houston social season. The evening started with cocktails and appetizers in the Wortham Theater, offering the perfect opportunity to shop the silent auction that snaked through the foyer. Everything from autographed sports memorabilia to trips to Cabo San Lucas, Mexico, Steamboat Spring, and France were some of the highlights. The venue was transformed, thanks to the talents of Rebekah Johnson of Bergner and Johnson, into a lively and whimsical circus setting for the evening, including a gourmet dinner by Jackson and Co. A jaw-dropping aerial performance by Blue Lapis kept the audience glued to their seats, which was followed by a robust live auction, then the fantastic entertainment of Skyrocket late into the night.

THE CAUSE:

Applause was given to co-chairs Stephany Olsen LeGrand and Curt Karges, and Janet and Bill Swanstrom, and honorary chairs Katherine and Paul Murphy and Sharon and Tim Taylor. The gala honored Marc and Brenda Watts for their dedication to the Society of the Performing Arts and contributions to the arts community in Houston. Proceeds from the Gala will further SPA's mission in presenting the world's best artists and performances to Houston audiences and in expanding award-winning Education and Community Engagement programs — which reach over 100,000 students and educators each year.

ENTRANCE: SAN ANTONIO



Julia Webster Shulman, Marilyn and John Webster & Adam Webster

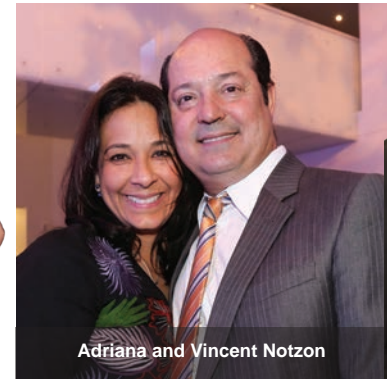
CELEBRATING DISTINCTION

San Antonio Academy Honors Dedicated Leader

By *Jonathan Spindel* | Photography by *Rose Benton and Mary Candee*



Max Woldenberg and John Webster



Adriana and Vincent Notzon



John Webster

THE SCENE:

The San Antonio Academy community gathered to celebrate John Webster's 32 years of dedicated service as head of school by gathering at The Tobin Center for a giant retirement party in his honor. Over 1,200 guests consisting of alumni, current and former parents, faculty & staff, current and former grandparents, current and past board members, and friends all heeded the call to pay tribute to "El Guapo."

Upon arrival, guests were treated to refreshments and beverages while a medley of John Webster's favorite songs filled the background. An entire wing of The Tobin's foyer was transformed into "Mr. Webster's office," which included all the unusual décor and trinkets he's collected from students over 32 years. Attendees got their picture taken at his "desk," and over 30 various "Websterisms" (John's famous sayings from his chapel talks) were individually printed on napkins, and on Academy blue souvenir cups.



Clint Dubose and John Webster



Molly and James McAdams



Mary Wilde, John Webster and Steve Wilde



John Webster and Deborah Knapp



Don and Liesl Noble, Charles Noble & Sharon and Sam Noble



Janet Holliday, Cheryl Meyers, Dan Meyers and Charlie Meyers



Lindsay and Lennie Irvin, Joseph Irvin & Cathy Cummins



Chris, Vivienne, Alex Bathie, & John Webster



Michael Amini, John Amini, John Webster, Molly Amini, Maggie Amini and Sarah Beth McDonald



Re-creation of John Webster's office



San Antonio Academy Class of 2015



Anne Trevathan, Lindsay Kramme, Tanya Weis and JJ Cornwell

THE VIBE:

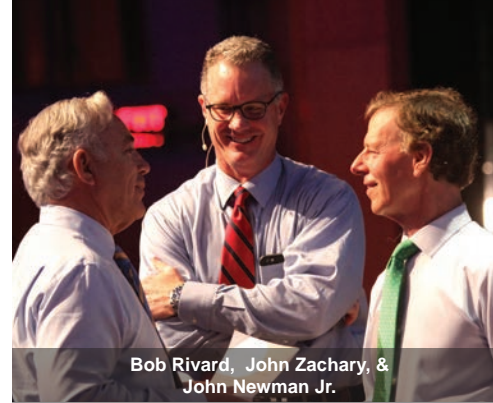
Paying tribute to John's legacy as SAA's head of school since 1985, the program opened with a Beatles-inspired band, The Blue Note Ringos, as a slideshow displayed images and video clips highlighting moments of John's storied career. Robert Rivard, former SAA parent and editor of the Rivard Report, was masterful as Master of Ceremonies. He introduced SAA's Battalion Commander from the Class of 1995, Pedro Martinez, who began the program just like The Academy begins each school morning with the Call to Attention & the Pledge of Allegiance. The roster of guest speakers included: former SAA parent and chairman of the board, John Zachry; former SAA parent and board member, Laurie White; long-time admissions director, Mary Wilde; SAA alumni Chris Galvan (Class of 1990) and John Amini (Class of 2005), and current SAA board chair and parent, Steve Chiscano. As a finale, John "Chico" Newman, Jr. (Class of 1961), who as board chair in 1985 was responsible for hiring John 32 years ago, gave a heartfelt introduction to the man of the hour, John Webster.

THE CAUSE:

As one of his favorite songs "Wild Thing" played, Webster took the stage, and paused before he addressed the sea of faces, clearly overwhelmed and moved by the turnout. And in typical John Webster style, he thanked his wife Marilyn, adult children Julia Webster Shulman and Adam Webster, and The Academy family first, before reflecting on his over three decades of dedicated service to the thousands of boys and young men who he has led along the way. The incredible evening was filled with love, laughter and many memorable moments that Webster says, "Will stay with me for the rest of my life."



Bob Rivard



Bob Rivard, John Zachary, & John Newman Jr.



Dave and Wendy Meaden, John Webster and Peter Meaden



Stephanie and Bobby Cavender



Adam Reed, Brad Kaufman & Rowe and Sage Blount



SO CURRENT & CONTEMPORARY

The 4th Annual Contemporary Austin Art Dinner Dazzles

By Rob Giardinelli | Photography by Whitney Arostegui and Brian Fitzsimmons

THE SCENE:

The Betty and Edward Marcus Sculpture Park at Austin's Laguna Gloria was the setting for an evening of delicious food, beautiful people and captivating art. The fourth annual Contemporary Dinner, supporting The Contemporary Austin, has quickly become one of Austin's hottest tickets and this year was no exception with over 300 VIPs attending the sold-out event.



Kirstin and Joe Ross



Hon. Steve Adler



Jim Dechman and Johnna Jones



Julie Knox, Steven Tohselin, Suzanne McFadden and Janet Allen



Lora Reynolds, Theresa Windham and Debra Green



Tom Borders & Suzanne Deal Booth and LeMel Hughes



Paul and Natalie Bardagjy

Rick and Karen Hawkins



Melba Whatley and Jeremy Sitheal



Heather Pesanti, Jeffrey Poe and Anya Gallaccio



Mark Lewis, Andrea Mellard and Daniel Fereia



Corey Leahy, Sarah and Dr. Ernest Butler & Kevin Leahy



Ben and Liz Kweller & Kristen and Joel Cole



Timothy and Kim Dowling



Jeanne Klein and Ross Moody



Brian Sharples and Dannielle Niecag



Richard Chang and Francesca DiMatio



Maya and Andrew Nairn



Karen Gish, Margo Tate, Marice Brown and Kathleen Loughlin



Louis Grachos and Garth Weiser

THE VIBE:

The cosmopolitan-chic crowd where Austinites mixed seamlessly with guests in from far and wide, including both coasts and London. Patrons expressed their artistic side in a fun yet elegant mix of fashions, included ladies in a mix of bright colors, bold prints and geometric patterns. The men got into the spirit in cocktail tire, and many wore statement jackets of their own.

The evening began with a cocktail hour where partygoers were able to view the stunning art pieces on hand as well as enjoying the beautiful weather on the Laguna Gloria Grounds. The festivities then turned to the main program where guests entered one of two stunning tents that transported them to a majestic New York garden. Guests were treated to a dinner catered by Chef Larry McGuire, of McGuire Moorman Hospitality, during the evening's program that featured distinguished Austinites who are most passionate about the arts including Mayor Steve Adler and The Contemporary Austin's Board of Trustees President Jeanne Klein. Topping off the program was a live auction helmed by Sotheby's Kevin Doyle that raised over \$400,000 for the organization. As the program concluded the fun was just heating up as guests danced the night away on the Laguna Gloria lawn to the tunes of Golden Dawn Arkestra..

THE CAUSE:

The event, chaired by Lora Reynolds, raised funds for The Contemporary Art Museum exhibition programs. The Contemporary Austin reflects the spectrum of contemporary art through exhibitions, commissions, education, and the collections on display.

hidden
TALENTS

PHOTOGRAPHY BY MARK OBERLIN STYLING BY DION "BLEU" DRAKE

HAIR: RENÉ CORTEZ USING THE OUAI, ORIBE, SACHAJUAN, BLOWPROHAIR & KERATIN COMPLEX

MAKEUP: ERIN LEBRE USING KATE SOMERVILLE AND SMASHBOX COSMETICS

MODEL: MCKELL LAUREN, THE INDUSTRY MODEL MANAGEMENT

SITTINGS PRODUCER: LANCE AVERY MORGAN



EXTERIOR MOTIVES

Gown by MNM Couture at MNM.com.
Bracelet by Joey Galon at JoeyGalon.com
Shoes by Femme Sans Peur at
FemmeSansPeur.com

STRIKE A POSE

Gown by Zac Posen at Neiman Marcus,
\$5,990. Necklace by Jewelry Bar USA
at JewelryBarUSA.com. Bracelet by Joey
Galon at JoeyGalon.com





THE ESSENCE OF NATURE
Gown by Zac Posen at Neiman Marcus,
\$5,490. Necklace by Jewelry Bar USA
at JewelryBarUSA.com. Shoes by Becki
Coakley at BeckiCoakley.com



IN A BLUE MOOD

Dress by Christian Siriano, at Julian Gold
\$1600. Belt by Anglo Couture Bridal.
Necklaces by Nadiandlo Jewelry.
Shoes- Vezalez.

THAT VELVET TOUCH

Top by Fouad Sarkis at FouradSarkis.com. Skirt by Mario De La Torre. Bracelet by NMD Designs.





SO LUSCIOUS IN LACE

Dress by Olvi's, at Julian Gold.
\$1315. Necklace by Nadiandlo
Jewelry, Bracelet by Joey Galon at
JoeyGalon.com



RED'S RAVISHING

Dress by MNM Couture at [MNM Couture.com](https://www.MNM Couture.com). Necklace by Joey Galon at [JoeyGalon.com](https://www.JoeyGalon.com). Ring by Charles Albert. Shoes by Femme Sans Peur at [FemmeSansPeur.com](https://www.FemmeSansPeur.com)



**THAT OLD
BLACK MAGIC**

Gown by Zac Posen, at Neiman Marcus.
\$6,990. Bracelet by Gold Philosophy.
Shoes by Femmes Sans Peur at
FemmeSansPeur.com





The Personification of

*I*N OUR LIFE EXPERIENCES, WE ENCOUNTER MANY TYPES OF PEOPLE and families, ranging from the mundane to the larger than life. In fact, I've found a way to personify the people and personalities of the state of Texas. It's by comparing them to a nuclear family unit you might be familiar with, too – a tale of several cities that is represented by the people in this particular analogy. I've gotten to know this remarkable family of the state of Texas and the people in it rather well through my experiences with these individual cities. It's a family headed by a man named Tex. A larger than life personality who loves playing by his own rules, Tex is strong, rugged and competitive. He fosters a large and boisterous bravado with an independent spirit.

This spirit is often oversized and from time to time he creates rifts with his siblings such as his sisters Florida and York, or his brother Phil. What Tex's siblings often misunderstand is that his bravado



Texas

The *Society Diaries'* *Rob Giardinelli* takes an insightful look at each major city of Texas in his new book *Being In The Room...* you might recognize some of the characters in your own life and hometown.

is as big as his heart. He is often charitable to a fault, giving hundreds of millions of dollars to causes ranging from children's organizations to the arts... and everything between. With his wife Grande, they have five beautiful children. Each one shows flashes of the bravado of their father, yet possessed their own nuances that make them unique. While each sibling is very different, they have various traits in common with one another. As in the case with most families, these traits link them inextricably.

The oldest son, Dallas is most like Tex. He is larger than life, unafraid to use his confidence to get ahead, and is proud that he is the oldest, the biggest and the strongest. Charitable to a fault like his father, Dallas loves giving back to make his way of living as beautiful and fruitful as

possible. At the same time he is extremely competitive and unafraid of confrontation to the point that others view him as aggressive. He often tries to outdo his personal best immediately after a triumph. Think about him running a marathon in three hours on Saturday, only to turn around and run fifty miles in six hours on Sunday. The fire in him to do better is constant. Faith is important to Dallas, but so long as you can deliver the goods and contribute in a substantial way, he does not care if you subscribe to his faith. He believes that the differences others bring to the table will usually yield a better product that only makes him stronger.

Dallas is a man of many interests and is happy making money in various ways. Be it in technology, defense, media, retail, oil, or finance, he feels



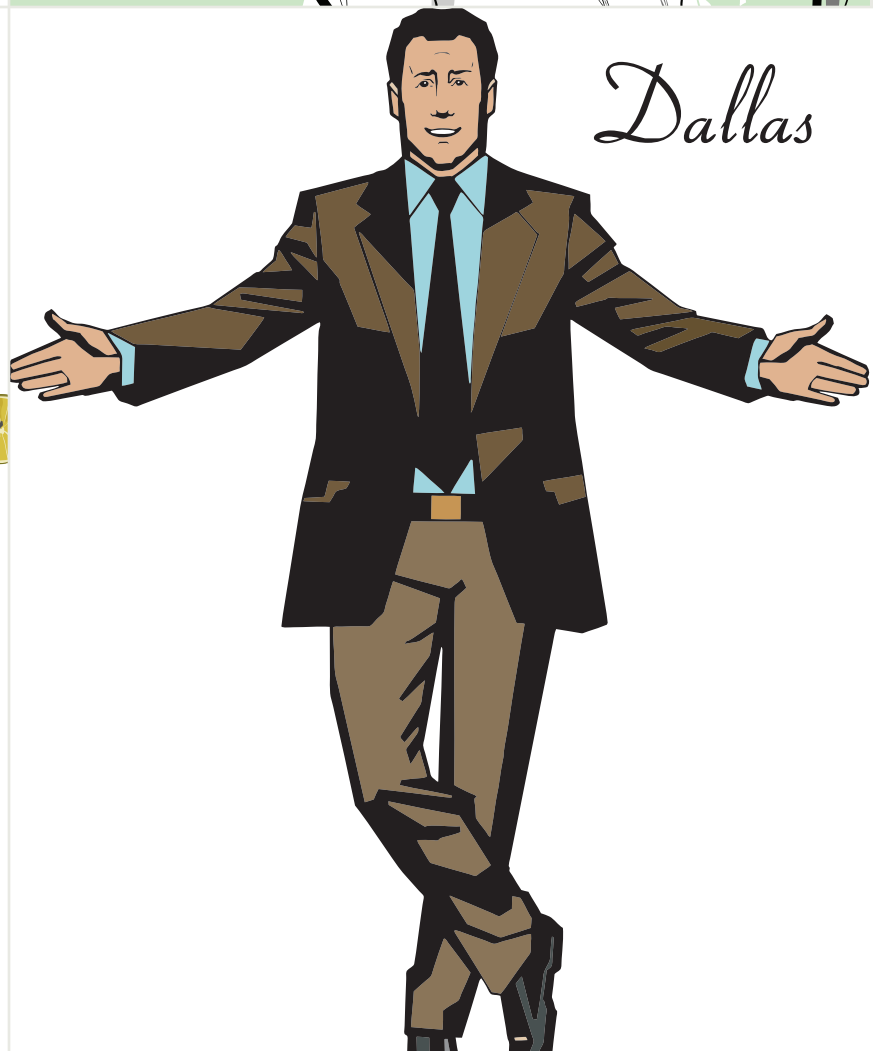
Big Tex



Grande



Houston



Dallas

As with all families, Tex's extended family is comprised of all kinds of relatives who have personalities that exhibit similar family traits. This proves their family connectedness and as with most extended families, some relatives get along better than others.

that this array of interests creates more competition, which is ultimately better for everybody. Most importantly, he is always up for a good time, and he is known for his legendary parties that draw thousands of people. From a football tailgate to a multi-million-dollar gala, these extravaganzas are always a blast and he knows it. These events often occur to the embarrassment of his siblings who think they are more spectacles than they are parties. They perhaps are a little jealous at the same time. As long as you are up for a good time, you are welcome by Dallas – boots and all.

Houston, Tex's oldest daughter and Dallas' sister, is a woman who loves tradition and decorum. As president of her sorority in college, she developed an insatiable passion for the arts and architecture. She spent a year studying abroad in Paris and also completed a prestigious internship at a top art gallery in New York. These experiences yielded an incredibly fine, sophisticated palate as well as exemplary taste. After college, she went into oil, the legacy family business and the hub of her universe.

Like her older brother, Houston takes her faith seriously. Unlike her brother however, the more-is-better attitude is less on display. She instead opts for what feels comfortable and familiar rather than going all-out to impress as many people as possible. This can be seen in the parties she hosts, which are beautiful, elegant affairs that are more intimate than the over-the-top affairs for which her big brother Dallas is known. At the same time, Houston's parties raise impressive sums of money for as many charitable causes as her big brother's fundraisers. She prides herself on having impeccable manners while demonstrating the ability to carry on lively and fun conversations with whomever she may encounter. Most admirably, as an expert in the art of discretion, Houston masterfully avoids encounters with those she chooses not to engage.

The third of five siblings, Antonio is the good son. He's the child who is always going to do well no matter what. His personality is one that values tradition and decorum in a similar way to his older sister Houston. At the same time, Antonio has created a mutual distance between himself and his older brother Dallas. In fact, they often do not even notice one another in the same space. If Antonio is perfectly happy sticking to tradition and decorum, his older brother Dallas is continually seeking the next big thing. This tradition is driven in large part by Antonio's role as the family historian. He appreciates and celebrates his past and thereby, his role in the family.

The way Antonio entertains is emblematic of this sense of tradition. Rather than focusing his energy on continually trying to create something new like his older brother, or exquisitely curated intimate events like his older sister, he has chosen to follow his own path. He's taken the best traits of his older siblings:

Houston's love of tradition and Dallas' love of bravado. Antonio creates a spectacular array of parties once a year that everyone in town celebrates, like an unforgettable Mardi Gras. It's an array of envy, really. The round of galas and parades, combined with music, food, art and history, celebrate both he and his family in a way that none of his older siblings ever would.

Austin, the fourth sibling, is the youngest son. He's the free spirit who has a different, more progressive view of the world than his siblings and parents. Austin came out as gay to his family in high school and after attending college, he spent a year backpacking through Europe and climbing Mount Everest. He then returned home to spend another year in the hospitality industry as a bartender before landing a key marketing job at a hot successful technology startup.

Austin is the most casual of his siblings. He has a unique sense of style that is sophisticated in its own way. Unlike his siblings, especially his oldest brother and oldest sister, he entertains in a hip and fun way. He's charitable in a way that is very different from Dallas' bravado, Houston's elegance or Antonio's tradition. Austin is about giving from the heart. In his individualistic way he is open to any and all incredible experiences like his oldest brother, Dallas, open to enjoying intimate evenings with friends like his oldest sister, Houston, and appreciates traditions like his older brother, Antonio.

As with most large families, there are plenty of secrets. One secret is of a dalliance that Tex's wife Grande once had with a younger man named New Mexico, who was the son of Mexico. Her husband Tex regularly conducts business with Mexico and unbeknownst to him, Tex has been having an affair with Mexico's wife Baja for years. Grande discovered this and used this discretion to get even with the affair with New Mexico. It was an affair that produced a daughter named El Paso. Grande decided to pass it off as Tex's daughter and picked the name El Paso by design. In Spanish, El Paso means "the passage," giving a strong sense of irony and amusement to her name.

Growing up there was always a distance between El Paso and her other siblings. Sensing she was different from them, she created her own way in the world and is naturally drawn to Mexico and New Mexico in social situations for reasons known only to her mother Grande. She sees the similarities to her natural father and grandfather every day, which allows El Paso be her true self and celebrate her own unique sense of individuality.

As with all families, Tex's extended family is comprised of all kinds of relatives who have personalities that exhibit similar family traits. This proves their family connectedness and as with most extended families, some relatives get along better than others.

Antonio



Austin

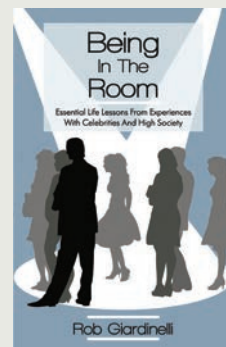


One of the most notable extended family members is cousin Angel, who is from the West Coast and is known for her indelible mark on the entertainment industry. Under this context, you can see why the various children of Big Tex have a strong affinity for Angel. Her home town's gay community appeals to Austin, who will occasionally go for weekend visits loving the idyllic weather that allows everyone to show their well-toned physiques year 'round. At the same time, Dallas appreciates cousin Angel's perfectly manicured lawns and the way she always seeks the next new cool thing. It creates a healthy, competitive landscape. Like Dallas, each of Angel's lavish fêtes is soon matched by an even more over the top production that continues in a seemingly never-ending cycle. This is why some in Tex's family feel that Angel and Dallas are kindred spirits.

Then there is Uncle Phil and Aunt York on the East Coast who are the straightforward relatives who always say what's on their mind. While Tex's wife and children may feel uneasy about their bluntness, these two have special characteristics that their nieces and nephews admire. Antonio appreciates his uncle's role as a historian for the extended family and is fascinated by the many long-standing established traditions he relishes supporting. Many of these traditions precede the existence of Tex's family in the United States. Houston appreciates her aunt and uncle's love of culture and their sharp wit. Hers is similar, yet more nuanced. Houston's disdain for others is not through the verbal confrontation for which her aunt and uncle are known. Rather, that disdain is shown through the old adage that "actions speak louder than words." Instead of creating a scene at a family event, Houston will simply not attend if she might run into relatives and others she does not care for. However, Phil and York are also charitable to a fault, sharing a great appreciation of the arts, which resonates with Houston and influences her deeply.

In navigating through this wealthy, complicated, yet relatable family that represents the essence of the Texas, I have learned that while we are in many ways different, we are also much more alike that we realize. In many cases, more than we would ever care to admit – rich or poor, famous or anonymous. Throughout the stories in my new book, which occur in and beyond Texas, many of the settings, locations and characters will not explicitly be named to represent the city in which they occurred. This is meant to allow you to interpret each story through the filters and lenses of your own experiences. You can apply these lessons to your own life, family, friends, colleagues, strangers, and situations that are part of your own story. **S**

Rob Giardinelli's book *Being In The Room* is available on Amazon as well as on his processional coaching website, Enrich Coaching at EnrichCoach.com/Book



El Paso



Very, Very **VENICE**



130

Its Old-World chic, mixed with a New World style, will have you at *buongiorno*. Join *our globe-trotting Lance Avery Morgan* as he spends the perfect 72 hours in Venice seeing the sights, and yes, some by gondola.





Venice Carnival



Italian For Beginners

IF YOU'RE DOING A WHIRLWIND trip to Italy, visiting Venice in the northern part of the country is a must. Long fabled in literature and film, its glamorous, historic sights make it one of Europe's most enchanting destinations – especially in the fall when the crowds are smaller and the weather is perfect.

To get there from Rome, we booked first class tickets for a very reasonable 59 Euros (about \$65 US Dollars) on the Italo high-speed train that sped through the Italian countryside in about three hours, as opposed to the normal eight. Although the longer train routes give you a great view of the region, the high-speed option is

sixty percent faster, and the gorgeous view as we snaked through the wine country was majestic. In fact, we'd seen cons-old Roman artifacts and a flea market in the morning and then briskly arrived in time for a late lunch on the water in the Queen of the Adriatic, as Venice is lovingly known.

Like Texas, Venice was its own republic at one time, so it sits gleaming in the distance as travelers approach, asserting its independence. Any city with 120 islands connected by 391 bridges traversing 400 canals and containing 159 churches would certainly have an independent state of mind. The architecture, prominently Middle Eastern due its global presence as a historic trading center connecting both eastern and western cultures, is omnipresent in the six harmonious *sestieri* districts.

Known historically for its masked balls, the city's vibration changes when the sun sets. The aged palazzos take on a different patina as the shimmering water lights the winding cobblestone paths ahead.



Venetian gondolier

After having just left a rather modern apartment in Rome, it was time to discover the charms of Venice at an accessible, pre-Renaissance flat with a rooftop terrace found through AirBnB. There are also plenty of luxury hotels (Hotel Danieli, Hotel Cipriani, Hotel Gritti Palace, Ca' Sagredo Hotel and San Clemente Palace, to name the best with canal views) to dazzle your accommodation if you might not choose to reserve your own private residence. Since the city has no cars, it's been paved with concrete and dreams over the years. In fact, the few trees it does have are a tourist destination. Forgoing the lack of greenery, Venice is all about the art, architecture, food... and people.



Murano glass

Think the streets of Paris or London are great people watching? Venice beats them all by a mile. With about 50,000 local residents, the visitor rate can often grow six times beyond that. And, of course, we've all heard about how the city swelters in the summer heat, so opting for a fall arrival shortly before Halloween was a well-made choice. With the weather cool, yet comfortable upon arrival, we immediately set out to find a lunch spot nearby.

Chic Scene

One thing to note throughout all of Italy, and almost everywhere in Europe, is that the food tastes notably fresh. Perhaps it's because of the lack of additives and preservatives than we know in the United States. But the point is that you'll consume more food with fewer calories. No worries because you can walk it all off and there's likely a gelato stand nearby should you become hungry (always have the whipped cream on top like the locals do.)



Murano glass blowing



Fondaco dei Tedeschi



Burano

Like Texas, Venice was its own republic at one time, so it sits gleaming in the distance as travelers approach, asserting its independence.

If you have a pedometer on your phone or fitness band, you'll want to track your miles of sightseeing. Don't be surprised if you've logged as many as fifteen to twenty miles in a day's exploration – yet another reason Europeans stay so svelte. If you want a walking tour phone app tailored for the city, try the Ecco Venezia.

With a plate of pasta, pizza and a spritzer to refresh us, it was off to see the local artisans and stores in the area. As we noticed in Rome, clothing is much less expensive in Italy. Yet it has the exact same high style you'd expect with the Italian reputation of attention to detail. Sure, the Buccellati jewels can easily be found, as well as the Fortuny fabric, yet there's so much more authenticity to the city to discover from the Piazza San Marco and walk along the Basilica di San Marco. It's the heartbeat of the city and the nexus from which all things occur.

From there, hop on a *vaporetto*, the ubiquitous water taxi, and the connected set of islands are yours to discover. To see the wonders of the Canal Grande, the number 1 at the dock just in front of Santa Lucia rail station can guide you to admire all its noble palaces from the boat. Ca' Rezzonico, with its museum of 18th century treasures (a plethora of frescoed rooms, chandeliers, furniture, paintings and incredible ceilings) or Palazzo Mocenigo (furniture, paintings, ancient suites and some rooms dedicated to the history of perfume) would be perfect destinations for the just-arrived.

That first evening we went on a Venice by Night walking tour and gondola ride, meeting in the central Academia di Belle. As with any sightseeing endeavor, reserving the skip-the-line or private tour are the best options. Known historically for its masked balls, the city's vibration changes when the sun sets. The aged *palazzos* take on a different patina as the shimmering water lights the winding cobblestone paths ahead. The bars and restaurants are but a mere bustling distraction while learning about the city's royal feuds, architecture and customs of long ago. All the tour guides are academic experts from the country's universities

and they speak on firm authority of the area they call home. They are as vibrant, knowledgeable and animated as the subjects of their centuries-ago stories who experienced the history the guides share with you.

Must See Museums

After a refreshing breakfast near our accommodations, seated next to three elderly locals discussing the news of the day in their native Italian, which was entertaining in itself, we pursued our private tour of the Peggy Guggenheim Collection. The American heiress lived there and then founded the museum that houses her extensive Modern art collection in 1951. A supreme hostess, she had most of the famous artists and literati of her day as guests, and collected them all with her heart and her head. The truly stunning all-white palazzo is the place where I easily had the feeling I was surrounded by a billion dollars of art. In each room. For any Modernist art lover like me, it was sheer heaven

to be surrounded by rare Magrittes, Mirós, Pollock's and more. Since the tour was extensive, we decided to duck into the sidewalk crowd and grab lunch at Harry's Bar, starting with a Harry's Bellini (fun fact: according to the boys in the bar there, "a few weeks after the liberation of Venice in April '45, Cipriani was summoned by the U.S. commander of the Allied forces. "You are not a good Italian," he told Cipriani sternly. "Why?" he asked. "Because you have not reopened Harry's Bar.") No other bar in Europe has a richer history than here. I'm almost positive we sat at Papa Hemingway's table, the one where he wrote *The Old Man & The Sea*, in the late 40s. It was where Café Society loved to dine when it first opened in 1931... and it remains a primo destination.

After mango gelato cone desserts, we toured the city's extensive canal system (Google Maps is a lifesaver here since you can be strolling on a sidewalk that can easily end at a brick wall) and continued to be amazed with the street style of the



Carnival

city. A key destination for many is the Fondaco dei Tedeschi, a lavish, high-end shopping center that has been updated by OMA and Rem Koolhaas, where you will find luxury brands and a great view over the Rialto Bridge. After a brief rest it was time to live like a local and dine al fresco on a crisp, yet comfortable fall night in one of the many Venetian restaurants tucked away near our flat in the Tolentini neighborhood. The cuisine, and house table wine that most restaurants offer, are universally pleasing on the palette and only about two to three Euros for a glass.

No Man Is An Island

The next day we embarked for northern Venetian island of Murano for a glass blowing tour. We met our private guide at the San Zaccaria *vaporetto* stop in front of the lagoon. The water taxis routes are as scenic as they are efficient. Once on Murano, as any luxury glass lover can attest, the crystal-clear essence of its fame is readily apparent. Murano's colored glass is used for everything from jewelry to estate-worthy chandeliers. Seeing the artisans handcraft the glass into a decorative object in less than 15 minutes is a feat, and a treat to watch. In fact, on the island of Murano, ornaments such as embellished trees and just about every other object are created from the glass and most are ready to purchase in the quality shops that line the streets. Burano, a nearby island is just a twenty-minute speedboat ride away. The island of Burano is known for two things: the nearly lost art of lacemaking and the colorful house facades so that sailors, according to legend, could easily locate their homes after returning from their long journeys.

Our final stop in our tour de Venice was a finale beyond our wildest dreams as we spend the evening in a private tour of Doge's Palace and St. Mark's Basilica by the Piazza San Marco and the Venetian Academy of Fine Arts. One word. Wow. Seeing the Doge's Palace in St. Mark's Square is a must-do. The throngs of daytime tourists clamoring



St. Marc's Square at sunrise

to see the beloved palace and church is usually enough to keep anyone at bay. So do yourself a favor and take the nighttime excursion instead. You'll have the palace and time in the cathedral to yourself. From the dazzling gold and bejeweled altar to the anterooms, real aficionados will want to dig even deeper and explore the hidden corners of the palace on *Itinerari Segreti del Palazzo Ducale* (the secret tour of the Doge's Palace.) It follows in the footsteps of the most important, or really,

infamous leaders of Venice. On their trips through the palace, according to lore, these men wouldn't use the public doors and stairways, they would slip through hidden passageways and concealed doors. Intriguing, and somehow appropriate in this smoke-and-mirrors city where mask and illusion are so popular and where duplicity was always an essential element of politics. It was a hangout of Casanova, too. Imagine seeing where that covert action happened... all in the darkness of night.



St. Marc's Square

Think the streets of Paris or London are great people watching? Venice beats them all by a mile.

After touring through Doge's Palace, we continued our after-hours tour at St. Marks Basilica. This tour was the ultimate VIP experience courtesy of Walks of Italy, who we also used for our private tour of Venice the first night, as well as our day in Murano. At exactly 7:30 p.m., our tour guide led our group of ten to the rear entrance after speaking with the security guard in Italian. Leading us to a staging area since the parishioners were not finished with daily mass, our tour guide gave us a history of St.

Mark's. After the church congregation vacated the church, our small group (along with one other group of ten) was escorted inside. We were able to view this incredible landmark with access to places not open to the general public, including the ability to go up onto the pulpit and view the church in a way that few get to see, the perfect way to cap a once-in-a-lifetime trip with a once-in-a-lifetime experience that would wow even the most discerning of VIP's.

Without a doubt the cuisine in Venice is wonderful. Every one of the numerous sidewalk cafes are remarkable in their own way. One tip learned ahead of time: never order Parmesan cheese as a garnish, it's an insult to the chef. For special evenings out, we made reservations at two venues that were highly recommend from foodie friends: Algiobagio (at Fondamenta Nuove Cannaregio 5039) and La Lanterna de Gas (at Sestiere Santa Croce 24) and each was exemplary in its own way. From the service to the ingredients to the wine (don't worry about a wine list *anywhere* in Italy – just order the house wine that's always meritorious in its own right) each choice was sublime. Algiobagio was bustling and felt like a happening scene. La Lanterna was more of a romantic spot, and with any restaurant in Italy with idyllic weather, try to dine al fresco on the front patio for... you guessed it, more people watching.

Whether Venice is your next major destination, or it's a 72-hour stop like we experienced, the city will always beckon you back with its sweet *serenissima* (serenity) that is as energizing as it is soul-satisfying.



Marc and Carolyn Seriff



Chanel sings for the audience

FEELING THE HEAT

ZACH Scott Theatre's Red, Hot and Soul Smashes Fundraising Records

By Rob Giardinelli | Photography by Jim DeBth

THE SCENE:

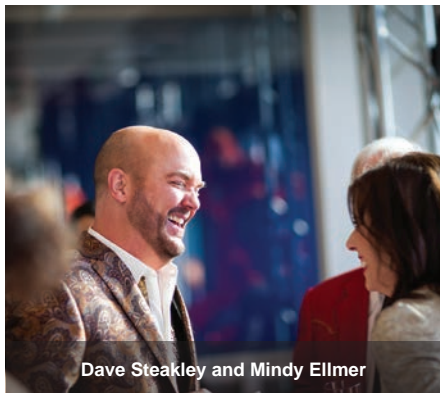
The Bobbi Pavilion and Topfer Theatre at Austin's ZACH Scott Theatre were the destination where 420 of Austin's most hip, stylish and fun Sociables gathered for an evening of great company, incredible libations and amazing fun that set the town on fire. One of Austin's most highly anticipated social events; Red, Hot and Soul lived up to all the hype with its *Great Balls of Fire* theme that left patrons wanting more.



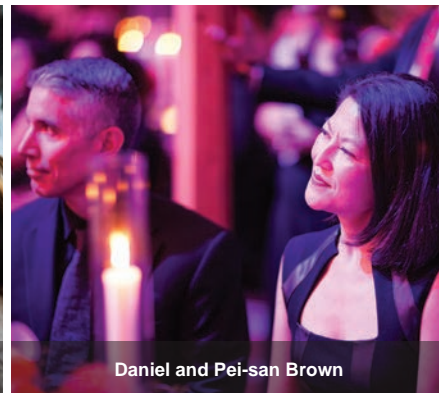
Michael Smothers and Maria Groten



Jade Ausley and Ronda Gray



Dave Steakley and Mindy Ellmer



Daniel and Pei-san Brown



Bobbi Topfer and Carla McDonald



Kelly Green, Andra Liemandt and Jenny Mason



Wendy Harvey and Shannon Ring





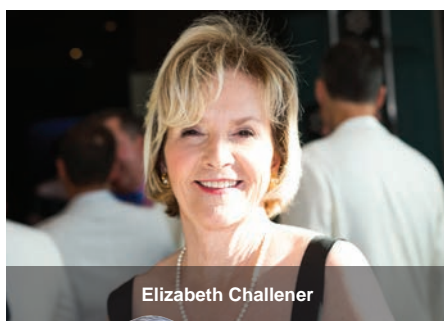
Maxx Judd and Donn Gauger



Forrest Preece and Linda Ball



Bryan Gardner and Armando Zambrano & Will Coombes



Elizabeth Challenger



Bill and Venus Strawn



Harvey Guion, David Kurio and Kathleen Guion



Rebecca Gindele, Ivy Ford and Ray Eve Michel



Chad Dike

THE VIBE:

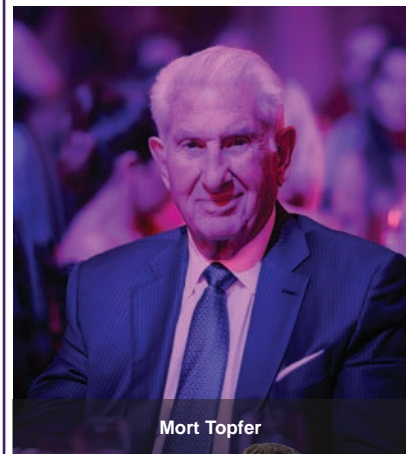
A fabulous mix of black-tie and vintage 50s attire was on full display on the red carpet and in the venue's lobby for a cocktail hour where attendees mingled and admired the range of fun outfits on display by the partygoers.

The crowd then headed to the Bobbi Pavilion where a scrumptious dinner catered by The Four Seasons awaited, as well as the evening's program that featured performances by ZACH's ensemble troupe, including the always amazing ZACH Pre-Professional company which nurtures the top theatrical talent of children and teenagers in Austin. Additionally, a spirited live auction and Fund a Dream event raised a combined \$360,000 and each auction winner was fêted with confetti and Champagne.

The festivities then moved to the Topfer Theatre where the audience was on their feet for a series of performance numbers of current and future productions showcasing the incredible and world-class talent in Austin. After the performances, the festivities headed back to the lobby for the after party where guests danced the night away, capping off a magical evening that those fortunate enough to experience will not soon forget.

THE CAUSE:

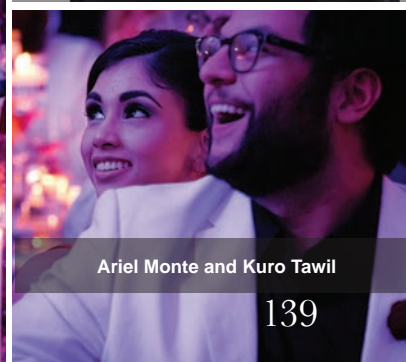
The event, co-chaired by Bobbi Topfer and Carla McDonald, raised a record \$750,000 for ZACH Scott Theatre, which provides a year-round season of 600 performances that services over 128,000 Central Texans annually.



Mort Topfer



Shelagh Schiro and Sam Slate



Ariel Monte and Kuro Tawil



John and Jennifer Eagle



Anne Hathaway and Ann and Lee Hobson

ALL THAT GLITTERS

DMA's Art Ball 2017 Smashes Fundraising Record

By *Jonathan Spindel* | Photography by *Tamytha Cameron and George Fiala*



Merry Vose and Rajan Patel



Ann Hobson, Melissa Foster Fetter and Trevor Fetter

THE SCENE:

The Dallas Museum of Art hosted yet another dazzling annual Art Ball for Dallas' glitterati and art aficionados. The evening began with a chic cocktail hour inspired by France's the Champs-Élysées' most iconic landmarks, The Grand Palais, where guests enjoyed beats by DJ Souljah and sipped fine wines and cocktails.

Guests were invited into the main tent, where Todd Fiscus of Todd Events brought this year's nineteenth-century French theme to life. Attendees were treated to a glimpse of Parisian spring with opulent floral displays, ambient music of the period and decadent shades of blue, soft lavender and ivory.

THE VIBE:

Once seated, patrons enjoyed a multi-course dinner catered by Cassandra Fine Catering, which included dazzling details such as Petrossian caviar. The live auction, sponsored by Christie's, including the opportunity to dine with Bavarian royalty, coveted seats at top designer shows during Paris Fashion Week and a weeklong stay at a sprawling chateau in the French countryside. The auction brought in \$460,000, making it the highest grossing live auction in the event's history.

Guest were invited to stay for an after party and journey from Paris, France to Paris, Texas. The cocktail lounge was transformed into a honky-tonk with gold glittering walls and neon lighting, making for an unforgettably deluxe southwest vibe. Guests danced to live music by The Roof Raisers and enjoyed HALL Wines' most anticipated red varietal.

THE CAUSE:

The 52nd annual gala, chaired by Ann and Lee Hobson, raised more than \$1.3 million to support the Dallas Museum of Art's mission of engaging and educating the community through art. This year's event continued the strong tradition of giving, which has benefitted the Museum and its visitors for more than 50 years.



Margaret McDermott and Augustín Arteaga



Dirk Nowitzki and Jessica Olsson



Laura Dray and Francisco Moreno



Will Rose and Catherine Marcus Rose





Chuck and Judy Stokes, Ann Neeson, and Craig Janies

THE NEED TO READ

23rd Annual Celebration of Reading Supports Foundation

By *Jennifer Roosth* | Photography by *Michelle Watson and David Shutts*

THE SCENE:

Former First Lady Barbara Bush and Maria and Neil Bush recently hosted the 23rd annual *A Celebration of Reading* at the Hobby Center for the Performing Arts. The event, which was attended by nearly 1,800 guests, raised more than \$2.2 million to benefit the local Barbara Bush Houston Literacy Foundation as well as the national Barbara Bush Foundation for Family Literacy. This year's outstanding lineup of *New York Times* bestselling authors included former President George W. Bush, David Brooks, Sue Grafton and Bill Browder.



Clemmie Pierce, Lauren Bush Lauren, Robby Derrick and Marshall Bush



Terri Ebel, Laura Roberts and Sharon Taylor



Bill & Iris Griffiths



Bill Browder, Sue Grafton and David Brooks



Cal and Hannah McNair



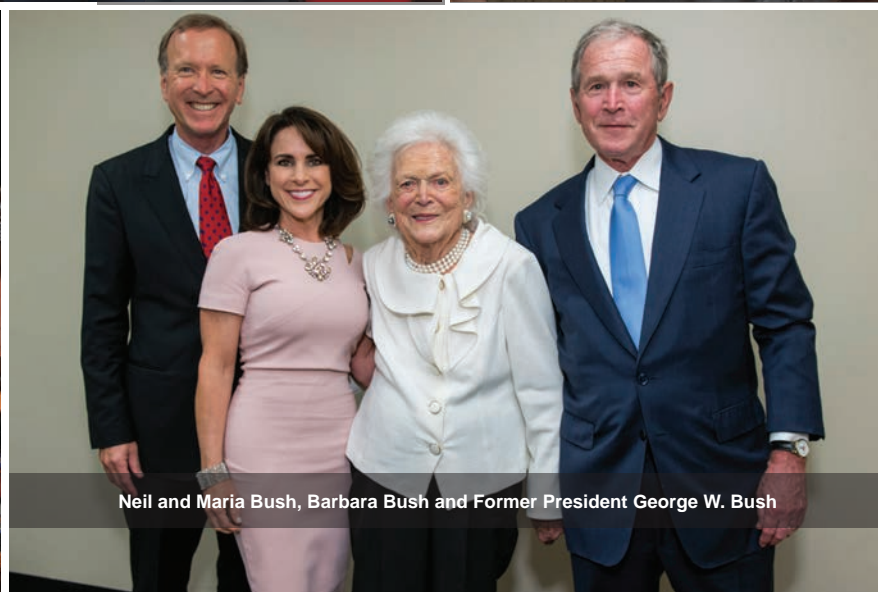
Sandy and Mitch Little



Gail & Greg Garland



The Hon. George W. Strake and Annette Strake



Neil and Maria Bush, Barbara Bush and Former President George W. Bush



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THE VIBE:

The event opened with a video welcome from former First Lady Barbara Bush in which she thanked donors for their support. It also included a humorous skit entailing President Bush flipping a coin to decide whether Neil or Maria would speak first in the program. Mrs. Bush quipped, "You have no idea how many other decisions have been made this way since the Super Bowl." Following the video, Maria introduced Barbara Bush, who has championed literacy for nearly 30 years, as she entered the theater to a standing ovation from the crowd.

THE CAUSE:

Event chairs Maria and Neil Bush thanked the Barbara Bush Houston Literacy Foundation President, Dr. Julie Baker Finck, for the work that she and her team perform daily to impact lives through the power of literacy. The pair have spotlighted the many ways the Foundation has been working in the community to build capacity and mobilize more people to action. Guests were then presented with an uplifting video that described Mrs. Bush's legacy impact and the butterfly effect that has taken hold in the Houston community around the literacy. Proceeds from the event support the work of the Barbara Bush Houston Literacy Foundation and the Barbara Bush Foundation for Family Literacy.



Alice and Keith Mosing



Trish Morille, Catherine Morille and Rock Morille



Judith Oudt and Diane Lokey Farb



Lester and Sue Smith



Shahla Ansary, Jack Christie and Diana Untermeyer



Larry and Monica Ziembra & Terri and Bob Herman



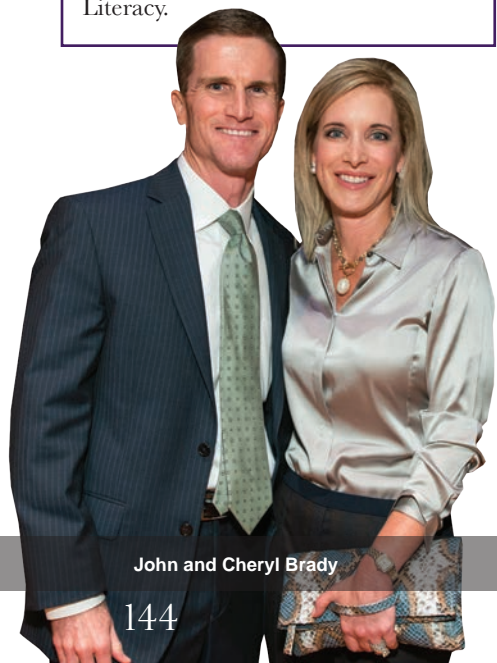
Terri & John Havens



Alex Pavelock, Terri Lacy, Jim Baird and Walter Montaigne



Stephanie Tsuru and Julie Baker Finck



John and Cheryl Brady



Image courtesy of the collection of Karla White

Franco Mondini-Ruiz
Paintings and Portraits

Appointments: 646-338-4817 (text)



Clint Worth, Robert Worth, Mary Worth and Jordan Arriaga

CAN-DO ATTITUDE

Motherhood Luncheon Honors Achievements

By Caroline Bolano | Photography by Greg Harrison

THE SCENE:

The San Antonio Can High School hosted its 14th annual *Motherhood: A Lifetime Achievement Award Luncheon* at the San Antonio Country Club. The luncheon recognizes women who are dedicated community leaders and volunteers that benefit the students of San Antonio Can High School, a campus of Texas Can Academies. This year's event honored Mary Worth, who has contributed to the community greatly and has accomplished outstanding achievements as a mother, wife, community advocate, teacher and friend.

THE VIBE:

Guests enjoyed an invocation from Carolyn Johnson who lauded the San Antonio Can School's outstanding student achievements. Then a series of students themselves took the stage, and shared incredible and moving stories about perseverance and overcoming challenges in their young lives. After bravely sharing their stories and plans for the future, the students received a powerful standing ovation from the guests. Mary Worth, the honoree of the luncheon, was then introduced for her selfless and inspiring contributions to society.



Anna Torres



Katie Reynolds, Carolyn Shaw and Lindsey Bagby



Mary Worth



Mark Tribett, Gloria Delgado and Shaun Kennedy



Barbara Dreeben and Weezie Chesney



Sarah Lucero and Betty Cavender

THE CAUSE:

Anna Torres, PC, chaired the 14th annual luncheon at the San Antonio Country Club. The San Antonio Motherhood Luncheon originated in 2004 as a tribute to active community volunteers, who are also mothers. The proceeds raised from the annual luncheon go towards benefiting the students of the San Antonio Can High School, who often require support beyond the classroom. Texans Can Academies believe that helping these students earn their high school diplomas is critical to breaking the cycle of intergenerational poverty and illiteracy.



Jim and Tena Gorman



Shaela Falk, Brenden Silva, Lisa Piland, Destiny Donel and Sophia Medina



Mariano Torres, Nelda Lozito and Anna Torres



Nancy Oberman and Anne Aderhold

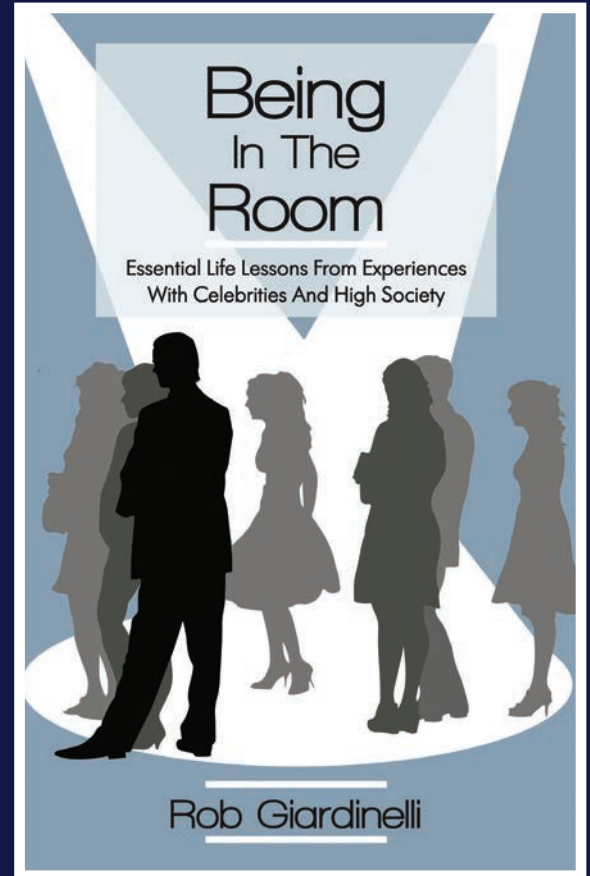


Cindy and Charles Huey



Sarah Lucero

Being In The Room



What's it really like behind the scenes at Texas' most glamorous parties?

The Society Diaries' Rob Giardinelli shares 25 incredible experiences covering the Texas social scene and the life lessons he has learned from the larger-than-life figures he has met along the way...

Available on Amazon and EnrichCoach.com/Book



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

JORGE L. MENENDEZ, M.D., F.A.C.S.

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"I believe in treating total patient in terms of their diet and lifestyle choices. These areas are critical to the rejuvenating process", Dr. Jorge Menendez says, "As well as to how the patient will look one, two and three years post-surgery."

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

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



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AUSTIN

- September 8**
The BIG Give
I Live Here, I Give Here
ilivehereigivehere.org
- September 10**
Authentic Mexico
Gourmet Gala
authenticmexico.org
- September 14**
Words of Hope Dinner
Caritas of Austin
caritasofaustin.org
- September 22**
Imaginarium 2016
Thinkery
thinkeryaustin.org
- September 22**
Fete & Fetish 2017
Ballet Austin
balletaustin.org
- September 23**
The Jewel Ball
Women's Symphony League
wsaustin.org
- October 5**
Beauty of Life
Hospice Austin
hospiceaustin.org
- October 6**
Celebration Luncheon
SAFE
safeaustin.org
- October 17**
Catrina Ball
Mexic-Arte Museum
mexic-artemuseum.org
- October 25**
Austin City Limits Hall of Fame
KLRU, Austin's PBS
acltv.com/hall-of-fame
- October 26**
Signature Chefs Auction
March of Dimes
marchofdimes.org
- October 28**
Play Bingo Ladies Luncheon
Center for Child Protection
centerforchildprotection.org/
- October 28**
ZACH Costume Bash
ZACH Theater
zachtheatre.org/backstage

- October 30**
12th Annual Gala
Andy Roddick Foundation
arfoundation.org/

DALLAS

- September 8**
The Lunch
Goodwill Industries of Dallas
goodwilldallas.org
- September 30**
Fur Ball 2016
SPCA of Texas
spca.org
- September 30**
Fashion X Dallas NOIR
fashionxdallas.com
- October 6**
2016 Big Black Tie Ball
Big Brothers Big Sisters
bbbstx.org/bigblacktieball
- October 19**
Key Leaders Lunch
YMCA of Metropolitan Dallas
ymcadallas.org
- October 21**
Cattle Barons Ball
American Cancer Society
cancer.org
- October 24**
Hope for Humanity
Dallas Holocaust Museum
DallasHolocaustMuseum.org
- October 26**
Celebrating Women Luncheon
Baylor Scott & White Health
BaylorHealth.edu
- October 28**
TWO x TWO for AIDS and Art
Black Tie Gala and Auction
twoxtwo.org/events/gala

HOUSTON

- September 9**
Houston Symphony Opening
Night Concert and Gala
houstonphilharmonic.org
- September 15**
Opening Style Show
Junior League of Houston
jlh.org
- September 21**
Great Futures Dinner
Boys & Girls Clubs of Greater
Houston
bgclubs-houston.org
- September 19**
Houston Taste of the Nation
No Kid Hungry
ce.strength.org/Houston
- September 22**
Big Black Tie Ball
Big Brothers Big Sisters
bbbstx.org/houstonball
- September 23**
31st Anniversary Celebration
Gala
Houston Intercontinental
Chamber of Commerce
houstonicc.org
- September 27**
Best Cellars Dinner Houston
T.J. Martell Foundation
tjmartell.org
- October 5-7**
Fashion X Houston
fashionxhouston.com
- October 6**
The Grand Gala Ball
Museum of Fine Arts Houston
mfah.org
- October 6**
Celebration of Champions
Texas Children's Hospital
texaschildrens.org
- October 12**
Razzle Dazzle Pink!
Memorial Hermann
memorialhermann.org
- October 12**
Feed Your Wild Life
Conservation Gala
Houston Zoo
houstonzoo.org
- October 14**
Miami Vice Gala
Children's Museum of Houston
cmhouston.org
- October 18**
Conservancy Gala
Nature Conservancy of Texas
nature.org/

- October 20**
HGO Opening Night Houston
Grand Opera
houstongrandopera.org/

SAN ANTONIO

- September 9**
Tee'r Up Golf Tournament
San Antonio Stock Show &
Rodeo Scholarship Fund
sarodeo.com
- September 12**
Inspiring the Winds of Change
Gala
Clarity Child Guidance Center
claritycgc.org
- September 15**
Jazz'SALive
San Antonio Parks Foundation
jazzsa.org
- September 19**
Legacy of Hope Luncheon
The Ecumenical Center
ecrh.org
- September 29**
Outside the Lunchbox Luncheon
The DoSeum
thedoseum.org/OLL
- October 2**
San Antonio Sports Charity Golf
Classic
sanantonioparks.org
- October 6**
Red Cross Gala
American Red Cross
redcross.org
- October 7**
Red and White Ball
The Blood & Tissue Center
Foundation
bloodtissuefoundation.org
- October 14**
Cattle Baron's Gala
American Cancer Society
cancer.org
- September 9**
Tee'r Up Golf Tournament
San Antonio Stock Show &
Rodeo Scholarship Fund
sarodeo.com

**BY LAURA VILLAGRAN-JOHNSON AND KEVIN SMOTHERS
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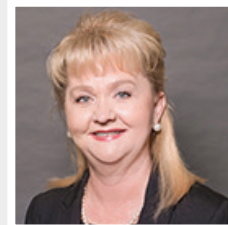
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