Chloë Sevigny, Inez and Vinoodh, and More Explore Art Production Fund’s Concrete Jungle

By Todd Plummer | March 17, 2016

Art Production Fund’s annual gala is a must-attend for art enthusiasts and party circuit regulars alike—last night’s festivities, sponsored by Gucci at the Diamond Horseshoe, brought in the likes of Mia Moretti, Inez van Lamsweerde and Vinoodh Matadin, Chloë Sevigny, designer Stacey Bendet, and artist Zoë Buckman. Indeed, APF’s many devotees make the gala a part of their annual calendars. “I just got off the plane this afternoon,” said Buckman, who was fresh off opening her latest show at Papillion Gallery in Los Angeles, “but there was no way I was missing tonight.”

With a chock-full agenda and an exciting mix of attendees, who could resist? Diamond Horseshoe is known for its many secret nooks and crannies, and exploring them was all part of the fun—the evening’s theme, after all, was “concrete jungle.” In one corner, Steven Klein shot portraits, and in another, Joyce Pensato gave temporary tattoos. Most people were pretty stoked to see MTV legend Fab 5 Freddy emcee the evening’s program, but fashion’s in-the-know were particularly keen on seeing artist and Gucci darling Petra Collins do a site-specific performance art piece. “Gucci has been so amazing,” Collins told us. “I feel like they’re making clothes that girls really want to wear. They’re making fashion cool again.” She wore
a particularly cool black lace dress with an embroidered coral snake slithering up the back.

Also in Gucci were APF cofounders Doreen Remen and Yvonne Force Villareal and executive director Casey Fremont Crowe. As Lion Babe took the stage for a post-dinner performance, the three women curled up together on the stage’s steps for a much-deserved breather.

After all, they might throw one heck of a party, but what keeps APF’s supporters coming back to the gala year after year are the compelling public art projects the organization commissions. Ryan McGinley, who was honored alongside fellow artist Jane Kaplowitz Rosenblum, recalled a 2013 project with APF in Times Square. “I have to thank Yvonne, Doreen, and Casey—or as I say, ‘the girls’—because seeing my work across all of the billboards in Times Square really made me feel like I was part of New York City’s electricity.”
L to R: John Currin; Jane Kalpowitz Rosenblum and Yvonne Force Villareal; Fabiola Beracasa Beckman; Casey Fremont Crowe in Gucci and Chris Salgardo; Thelma Golden and Duro Olowu; Karen Erickson, Doreen Remen in Gucci, and Mandie Erickson; Margot, Amirah Kassem, and Mia Moretti; Arden Wohl; Olympia Scarry, Elise Overland, and Hope Atherton; The program of the evening