

Art Production Fund Gala Storms the Boom Boom Room



Kembra Pfahler delighted Art Production Fund donors with a performance in which she dressed as the Voluptuous Horror of Karen Black.

By Susan M. Kirschbaum

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NEW YORK— Perhaps you've spotted an [Alex Katz](#) painting atop a New York City cab, or you've purchased a [Richard Phillips](#) bath towel featuring a Girl Scout with her breasts exposed. If so, you've figuratively or literally bought into the [Art Production Fund](#), which last night celebrated 10 years of backing such subversive art interventions with a fundraiser gala at the [Standard Hotel's Boom Boom Room](#). The evening drew over 300 donors from the downtown scene, who paid between \$500 and \$5,000 per ticket to attend.

"It's the first time we've done a fundraiser," fund co-founder [Yvonne Force-Villareal](#) told [ARTINFO](#) as she paused in a slinky, white [Donna Karan](#) gown to refill her glass of [Dom Perignon](#), one of the evening's sponsors. "But we just sent a letter to the host committee a month ago and we sold out." It didn't hurt that the committee included members like photographer [Steven Klein](#), club maven [Amy Sacco](#), and photographer [Jessica Craig-Martin](#), all of whom are devoted to the Art Production Fund's raison d'être: to pair fine artists with commercial enterprises and draw attention to contemporary art.

A who's-who of glittery artists and art types filled the Standard's notorious eighteenth-floor club, ready to celebrate. Artist [Hope Atherton](#) and socialite [Fabiola Beracasa](#) munched on mini burger hors d'oeuvres at a corner table, while [Aaron Young](#) strutted in wearing a white shawl that resembled a *tallith*, or Jewish prayer shawl. L'Chaim! Designer [Donna Karan](#) held court with a man in a yarmulke at a table that one guest joked was "the Kabbalah coven." (Art Production Fund co-founder [Doreen Remen](#), it should be mentioned, is a devotee of that strain of Jewish mysticism.)

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Other art-world eminences who showed up to support the fun were dealer [Amalia Dayan](#) and her collector husband [Adam Lindeman](#); gallerists [Anton Kern](#) and [Stefania Bortolami](#); artists [Todd Eberle](#), [Adam McEwan](#), [Marilyn Minter](#), [Terence Koh](#), [Lisa Yuskavage](#), and [Cindy Sherman](#); collector and Factory alumna [Jane Holzer](#); socialite [Zani Gugelman](#); and music icons [David Byrne](#) and [Fab 5 Freddy](#). Painter [John Currin](#) swerved on the dance floor while his wife, artist [Rachel Feinstein](#), looked extraordinary in a lacy blue dress. On another side of the color spectrum, the unmissable [Kembra Pfahler](#) performed as her alter-ego the [Voluptuous Horror of Karen Black](#), her naked body spray-painted an explosive red and her head topped with a black Afro wig.

Despite the open bar and flowing champagne, the light catering of passed hors d'oeuvres caused some grumbles among the less recession-minded partygoers. "Where's the dinner?" actor and entertainer [Casey Spooner](#) wondered aloud as the few trays of tuna tartar and mini burgers were passed around. But light fare notwithstanding, collector [Aby Rosen](#) was optimistic that the art world — or, ahem, the art market — was making a comeback. In fact, according to the Lever House proprietor, it never went away.

"The bubble's not going to burst, because with wealthy people, art is the only area where they didn't lose," said Rosen, his tan, fresh St. Bart's, glistening. The Boom Boom Room, with its lavish layout, breathtaking bathroom views, and stunning Russian escorts, seemed an appropriate place for such ebullience. Rosen took in the scene before making his exit, looking over the tan stucco walls lining the hall to the bar. "This place could use some art, though!"

