Next on my agenda was the Art Production Fund’s Good and Plenty Benefit at the Park Avenue Armory, which it turned out was only one block from the Denton party.

The Art Production Fund was honoring John Demsey, Group President, the Estee Lauder Companies and Chairman of the M+G AIDS Fund. He was being honored for his philanthropic endeavors in support of the arts. Mr. Demsey is a very popular man about town, highly respected for his professionalism and for his natural generosity, aside from what he does for the Art World.

Also being honored was Clarissa Dalrymple for her commitment to the Arts.

The Arts in New York seem like a flourishing industry these days. Perhaps it’s been such for a long time and I’ve never noticed. I know there have been hundreds, maybe thousands of galleries in business down through the past eight or nine decades, but the public participation in art organizations like Art Production Fund (as only one example) is noticeably larger and more active.

Last night’s benefit was an example of that and an example of why. They bring together a diverse group of people, always including artists, diverse in age and interest but compatible in their objective. They like the Art World. It’s its own social world and iconoclastic to boot.

Amy Sacco emceed the evening. Ryan McNamara, Tim Fain, Donna DeCruz were performing, and Will Cotton and Chef David Burke were providing the menu. There was so much food presented just for the cocktail hour that I thought that was the dinner.

Yvonne Force Villareal, the Art Production Fund’s co-founder was there of course, with her co-founder, Doreen Remen, of course. I didn’t see half of them (it got very crowded by 8 o’clock) but expected were Lee Carpentier Brokaw, Hugh Bush, Jessica Craig-Marlatt, Mark Fletcher, Michele Gerber-Klein, Steven Klein, Amy Sacco, Andre Balazs, Amanda and Christopher Brooks, Cecily Brown and Nicolai Ouroussoff, Rachel Feinstein and John Currin, Casey Fremont, Zani Gugelmann, Nate Lowman, Jane Rosenblum, Hope Atherton, Lisa and Richard Baker, Anne Bass and Julian Lethbridge, Gavin Brown, Barbara Gladstone, Klaus Kertess and Billy Sullivan, Justine and Jeff Koons, Nate Lowman, Elizabeth Peyton, Jane Kaplowitz, David Teiger.