



TRIBECA BALL 2016



Press Coverage



TRIBECA BALL 2016



Preview

ArtNews

WWD

T Magazine

Paddle 8

TRIBECA BALL 2016

ArtNews, March 30 2016

ARTNEWS

The leading source of
art coverage since 1902.

[Search this site](#)

NEWS

MARKET

REVIEWS

RETROSPECTIVE

ARTISTS

TH

ARTISTS — NEWS

'ARTISTS CAN DO ANYTHING IN OUR RESTAURANT': MICHAEL CHOW ON FOOD, PAINTING, AND MAE WEST

BY *M.H. Miller* POSTED 03/30/16 1:10 PM

[Share](#) [0](#) [Tweet](#) [0](#) [Pinterest](#) [0](#) [sharethis](#) [New](#)

Michael Chow had been a struggling painter in London for ten years before founding his first restaurant, Mr. Chow, in 1968. He eventually expanded the business to New York and later Los Angeles, and now also has spots in Malibu and Las Vegas, among other places. Chow is best known for being the ringmaster of social life in the New York art world throughout the '80s, the de facto host for gallery dinners for Soho's more hedonistic corners. He provided a safe haven for artists, who could get away with anything at his restaurant, in between plates of Chicken Satay. "Mr. Chow's became sort of the cafeteria of all these artists," Chow said in a phone interview from California this week.

Many of the artists who were Mr. Chow regulars at their peak in the '80s—Julian Schnabel, Kenny Scharf, Red Grooms, Francesco Clemente, and so on—are experiencing a popular resurgence now. Chow has not been overlooked in this nostalgic reassessment. Schnabel, who is not exactly known for praising others, toasted Chow at an event last year at Art Basel Miami Beach. (Or, he attempted to. The speech devolved into a Schnabelian rebuke of the audience.) Chow's first solo show in the United States is on view now at the Warhol Museum in Pittsburgh. And Chow, along with his wife Eva, will be honored next Monday at the New York Academy of Art's Tribeca Ball.



Michael Chow.



TRIBECA BALL 2016



Chow speaks in art-historical tangents, and offered a rather concise narrative of the New York art scene when he opened his restaurant on East 57th Street in 1979, a story that was entwined with the roots of the New York Academy of Art.

Andy Warhol (Chow's friend) and others founded the Academy in 1982 in order to champion the importance of figurative painting and classical drawing. "Andy's worries were that the art of classical painting was getting lost," Chow said. "But it's sort of ironic that he almost singlehandedly destroyed that kind of painting! When he was a kid he always did transfers, and later on he broke through with the silkscreen, part of a Duchamp way of thinking. Of course, a few years later, everyone was claiming that painting was dead, which is a ridiculous statement." He said claiming painting is dead is the equivalent of telling a restaurant owner "no one is going to eat meat anymore."

Chow was born Zhou Yinghua. He was "uprooted from China" in 1952, going to England at the age of 13, after which he "lost everything, so to speak, including my name." His father was the celebrated opera performer Zhou Xinfang, who died during the Cultural Revolution. Chow did not ever see his father again after leaving China. He trained as a painter at Central St. Martins in London, around the time that Abstract Expressionism was peaking. The rise of Pop art in the early '60s, Chow said, "destroyed everything. Even Rothko's career was on the rocks. All the other different schools were put on the wayside." Chow was concerned that he wouldn't be able to survive as an artist, so he took what he described as a "50-year sabbatical." He's only recently gotten back into it, though he was always a connoisseur. Alongside his own work at the Warhol Museum are selections from his collection of portraits of himself, by artists like Keith Haring, Ed Ruscha, and Jean-Michel Basquiat. (The Academy will also put one of Chow's own paintings on view at the Tribeca Ball.)

Taking a cue from his father's history, Chow decided to start a restaurant after giving up his painting career, "because I treated it like theater." He also saw some overlap between art and food: "You make a painting, like you make cake," he said. "That's the implication." His inspiration for the look of the restaurant was Rita Hayworth glamorously gliding across the screen in the 1946 film *Gilda*. (Chow's fondest memory is of another Hollywood icon, Mae West, coming into the Los Angeles Mr. Chow: "The whole room stood up and applauded.") But, more than anything, he thought of Mr. Chow as a way to educate the West about Chinese culture. The restaurant quickly became a gathering place for artists, models, and musicians—Paul McCartney, he said, banged out the rhythm for "Back in the U.S.S.R." on one of the dinner tables. Chow commissioned original art to hang in the dining room. Most of these were portraits of the restaurant's owner. At the time, he said, "Portraiture was out. Just like meat is out, or painting is out. Only the queen got her portrait done. Those who did portraits were in Siberia, as far as artists go."



TRIBECA BALL 2016



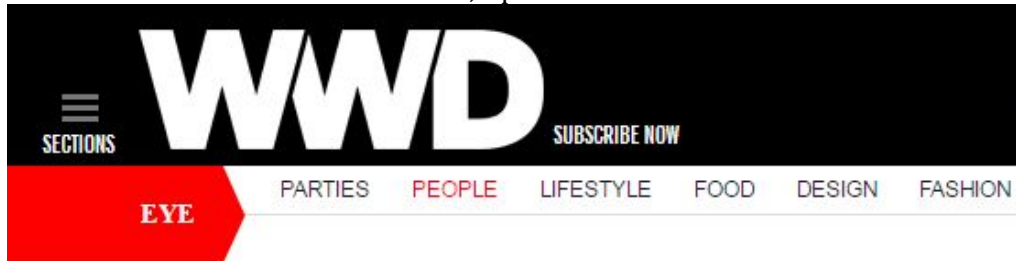
In New York, Mr. Chow opened in Midtown, but it quickly became a piece of downtown folklore, SoHo's restaurant of choice. Cathleen McGugigan's classic profile of Basquiat in the *New York Times Magazine* opens in the restaurant, a scene so full of cameos, it is worth quoting in full:

When Jean Michel Basquiat walks into Mr. Chow's on East 57th Street in Manhattan, the waiters all greet him as a favorite regular. Before he became a big success, the owners, Michael and [his first wife] Tina Chow, bought his artwork and later commissioned him to paint their portraits. He goes to the restaurant a lot. One night, for example, he was having a quiet dinner near the bar with a small group of people. While Andy Warhol chatted with Nick Rhodes, the British rock star from Duran Duran, on one side of the table, Basquiat sat across from them, talking to the artist Keith Haring. Haring's images of a crawling baby or a barking dog have become ubiquitous icons of graffiti art, a style that first grew out of the scribbles (most citizens call them defacement) on New York's subway cars and walls. Over Mr. Chow's plates of steaming black mushrooms and abalone, Basquiat drank a kir royale and swapped stories with Haring about their early days on the New York art scene. For both artists, the early days were a scant half dozen years ago.

Chow set out to have his restaurant be a place for creative people to congregate. "Creative people have a tendency to be glamorous—to be beautiful," he said. "Artists can do anything." He quickly qualified this. "Artists can do anything *in our restaurant*. They have that right."

TRIBECA BALL 2016

WWD, April 4 2016



April 4, 2016

Q&A: Catching Up With Eva Chow

By KRISTI GARCED

Eva and Michael Chow might just take the cake as Longest-Reigning/Cooldest Couple. From their still-hot chain of Mr. Chow restaurants — the first of which opened in 1968 — to the starry LACMA Art + Film Gala Tonight co-chaired by Eva every November, the duo have an unyielding grasp on the social and cultural scene, particularly in Los Angeles, where they live together in a 11,600-square-foot mansion in Holmby Hills.

Tonight, the couple will touch down in New York, where they'll be honored at the New York Academy of Art's 21st annual Tribeca Ball for their support of artists and cultural institutions. (Chow, a longtime artist in his own right, made his first solo show debut in the U.S. last month, "Michael Chow aka Zhou Yinghua: Voice for My Father," at the Warhol Museum in Pittsburgh.) The couple recently created a scholarship for the Academy's MFA students. "Michael and I are happy to contribute a little to assist students to pursue their education in arts," Eva said. Ahead of her honor, WWD caught up with Mrs. Chow as she traveled through Korea.

WWD: Your lengthy career spans fashion, art, film and business. What projects are you currently working on — and what's exciting you the most?

Eva Chow: Michael is totally immersed in painting — he has his solo exhibition on at the Andy Warhol Museum and is working on a show in Madrid for later this year. That leaves me to take on more responsibilities for the Mr. Chow restaurants and [work on] expanding our brand. We opened in Las Vegas at Caesar's Palace and will open Mexico City in June. Also, we have launched our own wine and will soon launch other Mr. Chow products, including our famous chili sauce. Other projects I am working on include this year's LACMA Art and Film gala.



Michael Chow with Eva Chow in Lanvin.
Donato Sardella

Other projects I am working on include this year's LACMA Art and Film gala.



TRIBECA BALL 2016

WWD: You were a watercolor painter before moving to the U.S. to pursue careers in film and fashion. Do you still make art?

E.C.: I was a painter when I was young, and then became a designer. I am a creative person. No matter what project I am working on, that is my base. I design almost every day in my head, and I would love to paint. But... who knows what's around the corner...exciting! I am inspired by art, music, beautiful things, but what inspires me most are people.

WWD: Who are some of your favorite artists right now?

E.C.: I love many artists and their work...it's hard to name just a few...but I love Julian Schnabel, Ed Ruscha, Jeff Elrod, among the ones who are working now.

WWD: You were recently honored by the L.A. Fashion Awards for being a fashion innovator. Let's talk style — who are some of your favorite designers to wear?

E.C.: My all-time favorite designers are Azzedine Alaïa and Yohji Yamamoto. I love Hedi Slimane, Riccardo Tisci and Alber Elbaz.

WWD: How would you describe your style? What are some of your favorite looks you've worn?

E.C.: My style is simple. Every day, I mostly wear black. Sometimes I add color by wearing different colored shoes. I love dresses and coats, beautiful earrings and bracelets. One of my favorite pieces is a Vivienne Westwood white lace bustier top with a full long skirt.

WWD: Tell me about your relationship with your daughter Asia, a Columbia University student, model and blossoming “It” girl in her own right. What are some lessons you've taught her and vice versa?

E.C.: I always shared my passion for art, music, fashion and film with Asia. We did and still do a lot of things together like going to museums, looking at collections, going to concerts...We spend a lot of time talking about everything. But now she is teaching me. She suggests books for me to read, musicians I didn't know to listen to. I always tell her the most important thing is that she should do what makes life happy and fun for her — and to do her personal best with everything she does.

TRIBECA BALL 2016

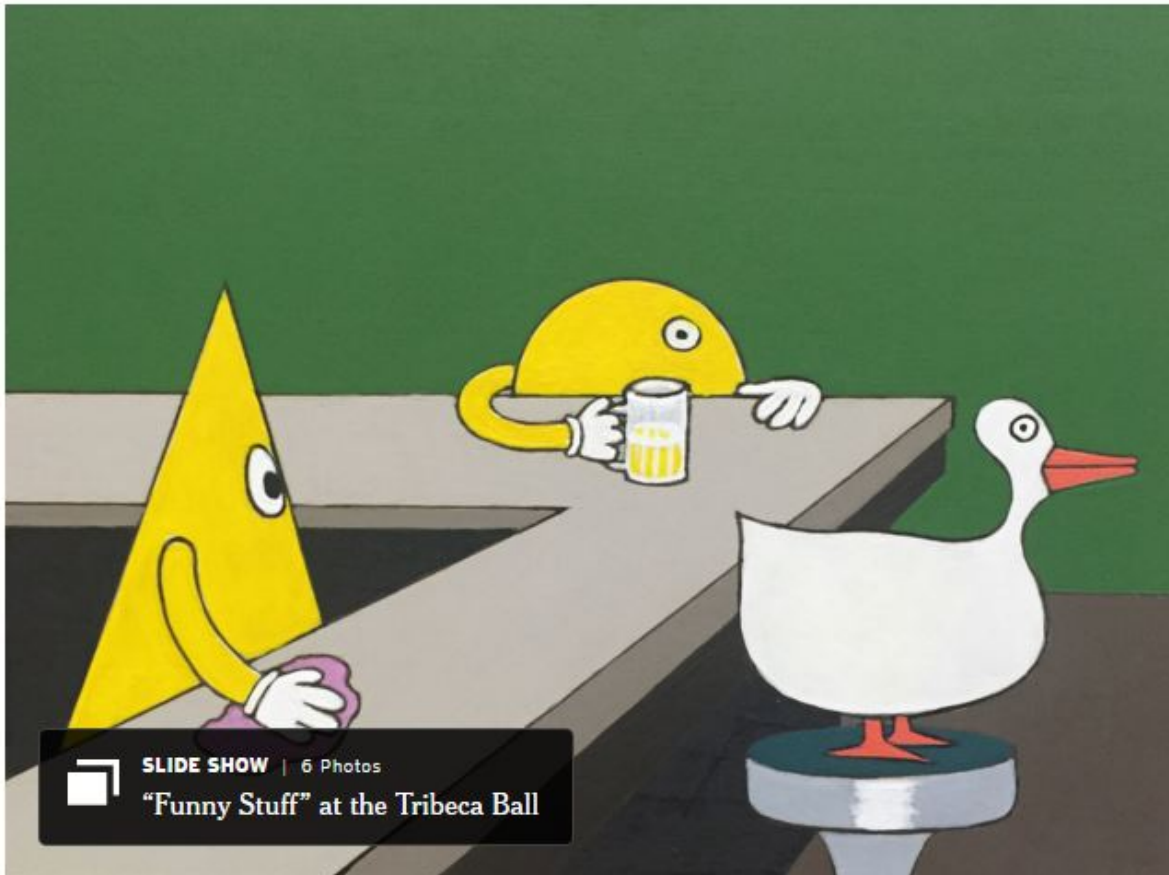
The New York Times: T Magazine, April 4 2016

T THE NEW YORK TIMES STYLE MAGAZINE

ART

Six (Very) Funny Paintings From Tonight's Tribeca Ball

By ALEXANDRIA SYMONDS APRIL 4, 2016



 **SLIDE SHOW** | 6 Photos
"Funny Stuff" at the Tribeca Ball

Courtesy of the artist and New York Academy of Art



TRIBECA BALL 2016



Gala season in the New York art world can rightfully conjure thoughts of stuffy seated dinners, with dry chicken and even drier speeches. Not so at tonight's [Tribeca Ball](#) to benefit the New York Academy of Art, where something new is on the menu: a little wit and whimsy. The works on display in "Funny Stuff," a new exhibition of paintings being mounted for tonight's festivities, involve humor in a variety of ways — from Monica Cook's semi-grotesque "Extra Body," which depicts the grooming rituals of a pair of Siamese twins conjoined at the head, to Jaelyn Brown's riff on Tinder, "Tender," to Ken Johnson's "Untitled," which sets up a joke — a duck and a sphere walk into a bar — but leaves its punch line unsaid. An exclusive preview of some of the canvases that will be on view runs here.

Johnson, an art critic for *The Times*, also indirectly provided the inspiration for the exhibition: Upon being invited by the Academy to create and lead a studio class, he alit on humor as a rich subject to explore — particularly right now. "A lot of the most high prestige art today is humorous, and I don't think that's ever been the case in previous history; humor's always been a minor sideline to major art," he says, and posits a good reason for our increased attention to it. "What's interesting about humor is it's something that is integral to consciousness itself, and I think since the '60s, the nature of consciousness and how consciousness processes reality has been a big concern, not only in art, but in philosophy, neuroscience..." Johnson says. "In a way, what you have in art today is a collective effort to understand human consciousness and its relationship to reality." The exhibition is also a fitting tribute to the playful proclivities of two of the event's hosts, the artist Urs Fischer and the curator Jeffrey Deitch, who have spent their careers doing just that.

In honor of the painting he contributed, Johnson also shared with *T* a favorite joke. "A man walks into a bar with a duck on his head. The bartender says, 'Hey, where did you get that?' The duck answers, 'Outside. There's thousands of 'em!'"

The Tribeca Ball will be held tonight at the New York Academy of Art, 111 Franklin Street, nyaa.edu.

TRIBECA BALL 2016

T | "Funny Stuff" at the Tribeca Ball



"Tears of Laughter," by Sophia Kayafas.

Courtesy of the artist and New York Academy of Art

T | "Funny Stuff" at the Tribeca Ball



An exhibition on view at the New York Academy of Art's spring gala features paintings that involve humor in a variety of ways. Here, Jaclyn Brown's "Tender."

Courtesy of the artist and New York Academy of Art

Related:
Six (Very) Funny Paintings From Tonight's Tribeca Ball

T | "Funny Stuff" at the Tribeca Ball



"Justin Bieber Has Feelings Too (5)," by Eric Pedersen.

Courtesy of the artist and New York Academy of Art

T | "Funny Stuff" at the Tribeca Ball



"Extra Body," by Monica Cook.

Courtesy of the artist and New York Academy of Art

Related: Six (Very) Funny Paintings From Tonight's Tribeca Ball

T | "Funny Stuff" at the Tribeca Ball



"Belly Button Portrait," by Simon Ramirez-Restrepo.

Courtesy of the artist and New York Academy of Art

Related:
Six (Very) Funny Paintings From Tonight's Tribeca Ball

TRIBECA BALL 2016

Paddle 8



Collector Spotlight: David Kratz and Greg Unis

By Rebecca Bates

The president of the New York Academy of Art and the head of Coach's menswear division curate an eclectic mix of figurative paintings and antique furnishings.



TRIBECA BALL 2016



Antique furnishings in the Brooklyn apartment of David Kratz and Greg Unis were found in shops and markets from around the world.

David Kratz and Greg Unis aren't ones to turn away an artwork they love. Indeed, so expansive is their collection that they've taken to cleverly arranging paintings and photographs on the floor, lining the living area of their airy Brooklyn apartment where wall space has become limited. This isn't to say their home is without order. Those pieces propped up on the baseboards are grouped by color and subject matter, and even the hanging works seem a good complement to those below.



The Great Dane and horse paintings are by Harold Brooks. The dog sculpture is by artist John O'Reilly.

TRIBECA BALL 2016



The painting of the stag is by Shauna Finn. On the console from left: ballpoint pen portraits by Nicolas Sanchez; a painting of Brooklyn Bridge by Don Nelsen; a small green painting by James Raczowski; a glass sculpture by Dustin Yellin; a painting by J. Morgan Olson; a painting of Brooklyn brownstone houses by Kratz.

Though Unis, who is the executive vice president of men's merchandising at Coach, has just as much say in the curation of their home as Kratz, the latter's role as president of the New York Academy of Art lends itself to this casual, but artful layout. In the grand history of New York art schools, the Academy is among the newest, having only been open since 1982. But the school was co-founded by Andy Warhol, and only offers a graduate degree, thereby attracting a student body of emerging, but serious artists looking for an environment to mature their practices. "There are a hundred student studios at the school. I tour them on a weekly basis, and all of a sudden, one day, bam, there will be a work that knocks my socks off. Somebody has just kind of fluoresced," Kratz says. "When you're in that environment all the time, it's almost like living in a bazaar. It's very hard not to dip in and buy things, especially from people you're fairly certain are going to go on to develop and do great things."

TRIBECA BALL 2016



Greg Unis and David Kratz in the living area of their Brooklyn home. The painting on the wall behind them is by Alyssa Monks. Kratz painted the reproduction of a Moroni painting that sits on an easel. The vintage chairs are painted in Yves Klein Blue. The midcentury Danish desk sits on a vintage Moroccan rug bought in Fez.

Only ten years ago, Kratz himself occupied one of those many Academy studios, and not in an administrative role. After a successful decades-long career in public relations, Kratz, who had always painted, decided to leave his position as CEO of the firm Euro RSCG Magnet and join the ranks of struggling art students in their 20s at the Academy. If that sounds terrifying, that's because it was. "The Academy is a place that emphasizes traditional techniques in the service of contemporary art," Kratz explains. "What that means practically is that a lot of the people who come to the school, and they come from all over the world, are already highly skilled in those classical techniques. I did not have as much training, and in the beginning it was very difficult for me. I was so intimidated by the ability and talent of all the students around me."

TRIBECA BALL 2016



The three paintings above the bed are by David Kratz. The seal is a vintage government sign bought at a Buenos Aires flea market.



The photo of a nude woman with a red glove is by Steve Azarra. The wax sculpture of a face is by Quentin McCaffery. Also on the wall are works by Kratz and Patriola Heal. On the table in the foreground are an 18th-century wooden horse sculpture, a silver tray painted with strawberries by Alonsa Guevara, and paintings on discs by Mitra Walters.

TRIBECA BALL 2016

Narrative still seems to be an important conceptual framework for Kratz's own practice. People and places are, he says, his favorite subjects, and he cites 19th-century painter Joaquín Sorolla as a major influence. The references are easy to spot in Kratz's work, as most of his paintings depict outdoor spaces—friends wrestle on a beach or take in the surf, children float in inner tubes in Southampton, and sun-spotted trees seem to vibrate with color.

Several of these paintings now occupy Kratz and Unis's apartment, as well as dozens of works by other Academy artists, such as [Shauna Finn](#), [Nicolas Sanchez](#), [Aleah Chapin](#), and [Will Kurtz](#). Kratz and Unis favor figurative work, typically paintings, that are humorous or filter familiar scenes or relationships through an idiosyncratic point of view. Also throughout the home are a mix of antique, vintage, and midcentury furnishings. Both Unis and Kratz grew up in families that collected antiques, and, it turns out that both had been gifted collections of antique silver match safes from relatives. From these small accessories collections of their youth grew adventurous impulses, and they've since sourced furniture and design objects from antique shops and street markets in Brooklyn, Maryland's Eastern Shore, Syria, Paris, Shanghai, Tokyo, and Morocco.



Painting on the wall by Head Clausnitzer. The painting on glass is by James Linkous. The dog sculpture is by Will Kurtz and the two portraits on the floor are by Matt Miller and Aleah Chapin.



TRIBECA BALL 2016



With such a diverse grouping of works, Kratz says choosing a favorite is a bit like asking a parent to choose a favorite child. Still, in the event of a fire, which work would he grab first? “It’s an 18th-century wooden horse sculpture by a French artist that Greg found in the back of an old antique shop on Atlantic Avenue in Brooklyn,” Kratz says. “My other passion in life besides art is horses, and everything converges in this piece. I think if I were running out of the apartment, I would probably tuck that under my arm.”

Place your bids on works by students at the New York Academy of Art in a new sale to benefit the Academy's scholarship programs.



TRIBECA BALL 2016



Event Coverage

ArtNews

ArtNet

Observer

Daily Front Row

Vogue

W

Town and Country

WWD

New York Times

Wall Street Journal


Fashion Unfiltered

Whitewall

TRIBECA BALL 2016

ArtNews April 6 2016

ARTNEWS

The leading source of
art coverage since 1902. 
[Search this site](#)



[Subscribe](#)
[Give a Gift](#)
[Premium](#)
[Back Issues](#)
[Digital Editions](#)

NEWS

MARKET

REVIEWS

RETROSPECTIVE

ARTISTS

THE 200 TOP COLLECTORS

AUCTIONS

PARTIES



DOLPHINS, WALKING OYSTER BARS, AND PERFORMERS ON STILTS: AT THE 2016 TRIBECA BALL

BY *Robin Scher* POSTED 04/07/16 1:02 PM



On Monday night some 900 people crammed their way up six floors of the New York Academy of Art for the institution's annual Tribeca Ball. Billed as an "art gala unlike any other," the evening is both an open studio for the school's hundred or so graduate students and a fundraiser in support of the Academy's scholarships and public programming.

At \$300 a pop, guests were treated to an assortment of musical interludes scattered throughout the floors, an array of stilt-balancing merpeople not out of place on a Coney Island boardwalk, and a dinner in honor of restaurateur and long-serving arts patron Michael Chow and his wife, Eva.



Left to right: Eva Chow, David Kratz, Michael Chow.
COURTESY BFA



TRIBECA BALL 2016



“Think of tonight as a Venn diagram,” said Academy lecturer and artist Jean-Pierre Roy, describing the evening’s proceedings. “It’s where the real world overlaps a bit with our students, who get to explore a different set of behaviors and vocabulary.” Roy continued by offering the following metaphor: “It’s sort of that moment where the dolphin can see the human through the water and the human can see the dolphin and they know that their worlds are separate but they get just a glimpse of each other.” (As evidenced by the aforementioned merpeople, the evening had an aquatic theme, so this metaphor didn’t come out of nowhere.)

In an attempt to breach the divide between, uh, human and dolphin, I journeyed to a fifth-floor studio to chat with a student by the name of Joseph Griffith. “I’ve invented my own kind of paint,” said Griffith, a former Marine Corps infantryman with a degree in psychology, who appeared in a sort of Nutty Professor get-up standing beside a UV-lit table filled with glowing vials. “It’s paint that works ‘additively,’ the way that light works. If I mix my red and green, I get yellow. If I mix my red, green, and blue together, I get white—although it’s more of a yellowish white,” Griffith continued. He lost me a bit when he went on to describe the quantum mechanics behind his patent-pending invention.

Still, the art was a big hit at the party, and artists were selling work to guests directly out of their studios. Another popular attraction were the on-tap oyster girls—waitresses who each had three aluminum buckets strapped to their waists: one holding fresh oysters, another for tabasco, lemon juice and bloody mary mix, and a third for discarded shells. “You’re a one-woman oyster bar,” said one salacious guest to his server, stating the obvious.

The sea creatures on stilts, by contrast, were less favored by at least one guest. “I enjoyed the evening, but I’m not crazy about these performative elements,” said a deadpan Marina Abramovic, gesturing in the general direction of some nearby turquoise sirens bedecked in Van Cleef & Arpels jewelry. “This is exactly when the performers become entertainment and this is what I’m against for all my life,” added Abramovic. (Abramovic herself has come under fire in the past for exploiting performers at very low wages for a performance she organized at a gala.) “Performance is serious business,” she said, “It’s not entertainment at the party.”

Elsewhere, Naomi Watts had run out of corners to turn in order to avoid speaking to a reporter. “I come every year,” she told me. “I’m always excited to come and support the emerging artists and terrific paintings.” She listed a wood-carved etching among one of her evening’s purchases along with a “couple other pieces” she had her eye on.



TRIBECA BALL 2016



I had the fortune of bumping into the man of the hour himself, Mr. Chow, on my way back down the stairs, where we both discovered the perils of conducting an interview in a busy stairwell. Our interaction went something like this:

“Mr. Chow, congratulations on your honor.”

“Are you English?”

“No, South African.”

Smiling, Chow nodded, “I’m English too.”

“So how do you...” I began to ask before a man cut in and thrust out his hand in Chow’s direction.

“David Hockberg,” he said, “my brother Fred Hockberg goes to your restaurant all the time. About five years ago I went into your restaurant at about 4:30 in the afternoon and you were at the podium, I don’t know why.”

“I was practicing,” said Chow, as Hockberg continued without pause.

“And you said, ‘Are you here to apply for a job or to make a reservation?’ I said, ‘I would be the employee from hell,’ so you said, ‘Good, give me your reservation.’”

With that, Hockberg was gone, as if he’d never been there at all. Trying to pick up where we left off, I said, “So how does it feel to be honored tonight?”

“Shocked and humbled, I have all these...” said Chow, interrupted once again, this time by a PR-looking person.

“Excuse me, Mr Chow, the speeches are about to start.”

And with that he was whisked away. He told me to try to find him later, but I couldn’t.

TRIBECA BALL 2016

Artnet April 8 2016

artnet news

ART WORLD

The Week in Art: Tribeca Ball and MoMA PS1 Open House

artnet News, Friday, April 8, 2016

SHARE



A model at the New York Academy of Art's Tribeca Ball.
Photo: BFA.

Though it may seem that [Armory Week](#) and [Frieze Week](#) get all the action, the reality is that there is never a dull moment in the New York art world. From the East Side to the West Side, there's always something happening at the city's museums, galleries, and various event spaces. This week was no exception.

TRIBECA BALL 2016

Tribeca Ball, presented by Van Cleef & Arpels at the New York Academy of Art

The week started with a bang on Monday, April 4, with the annual Tribeca Ball, this year honoring Eva and Michael Chow. Event chairs Jeffrey Deitch and Urs Fischer and dinner chair Brooke Shields were just a few of the bold faced names in attendance, which also included artists Marina Abramovic, Will Cotton, and Dustin Yellin, fashion designer Vera Wang, gallerist Tony Shafrazi, collector Beth Rudin DeWoody, and actors Al Pacino, Rose McGowan, and Naomi Watts.

But with stilt-walking models coated in gold and blue body paint, a photo booth full of mermaids, magic tricks from Matthew Holtzclaw, a festive dress code of "shimmery attire," and ample food and drink (including waiters with oyster shucking utility belts outfitted with a full range of condiments) it was hard to spot the celebrities wandering the crowded, labyrinthine artist studios. Even with all that going on, the focus was still on the art, which included a one-night-only exhibition titled "Funny Stuff," curated by *New York Times* critic Ken Johnson.

"It's always a great event," said actress Naomi Watts, who attends every year she's in town, to artnet News. "I love finding affordable art, and it's great to support emerging artists."



Desiree Gruber and Naomi Watts at the New York Academy of Art's Tribeca Ball.
Photo: BFA.

TRIBECA BALL 2016



Jeffrey Deitch, Eva Chow, Michael Chow, and David Kratz at the New York Academy of Art's Tribeca Ball.
Photo: J Grassi, © Patrick McMullan.



Eileen Guggenheim and Brooke Shields at the New York Academy of Art's Tribeca Ball.
Photo: BFA.



Marina Abramovic, Eva Chow, and Al Pacino at the New York Academy of Art's Tribeca Ball.
Photo: BFA.



Marina Abramovic, Dustin Yellin, and Swizz Beatz at the New York Academy of Art's Tribeca Ball.
Photo: J Grassi, © Patrick McMullan.



Rose McGowan at the New York Academy of Art's Tribeca Ball.
Photo: J Grassi, © Patrick McMullan.

TRIBECA BALL 2016

New York Observer, April 6 2016

THE NEW YORK OBSERVER

Celebrities in Art-Buying Mode Flood New York Academy of Art's Tribeca Ball

The Under the Sea-themed fete was a collaboration with diamond purveyor Van Cleef & Arpels

By [Alina Cohen](#) • 04/06/16 9:00am



Michael Chow, Al Pacino. Joe Schildhorn /BFA.com

TRIBECA BALL 2016

Monday night, after a dreary day of non-stop rain, the “seven seas” theme at the New York Academy of Art’s annual Tribeca Ball seemed very appropriate. For guests wandering off Franklin Street into the academy, the cocktails, performances and hors d’oeuvres were a welcome reprieve.

Upon entry, two women in sparkling turquoise two-pieces and lipstick beckoned the partygoers toward the elevator. As they lifted wings of shiny turquoise fabric, each woman looked like a cross between a mermaid and a bat. The aquatic theme extended into the elevator where two guests discussed an acquaintance’s timeshare in St. Martin.

From the elevator, guests drifted onto four floors of artists’ studios where the artists themselves waited, poised to discuss the work they’d hung earlier. Joe Griffith showed off new paints he’d developed that combine the way that light mixes, and George Rue welcomed guests into his large-scale multimedia installation about his experiences hiking the Appalachian Trail.



Tribeca Ball. Joe Schildhorn /BFA.com

TRIBECA BALL 2016

Musicians, magicians, bartenders and waiters wove themselves around and through the studios. On the top floor, lithe models in a wide, blue-lit hall showed off Van Cleef & Arpels jewelry. Performers on stilts navigated their way through the bar area, and one grabbed a gougère from a silver platter on the way out. Elsewhere in the building, guests painted and pressed their own monotypes in a printmaking studio, posed for photo ops on themed sets and drew on provided materials.

Though not everyone dressed to theme, Eileen Guggenheim, one of the benefactors of the event, wore an elegant, light salmon top with sheer, cream-colored sleeves and shells on the front. About the Van Cleef collaboration, she said, “they’re about the finest craftsmen on the planet, and the [New York Academy of Art] is about the handmade. They encourage us and bring out the best in the students.” The collaboration came about through academic circles—one of Ms. Guggenheim’s former students, when she taught at Princeton, worked at Van Cleef and introduced her to the company.

Ms. Guggenheim’s friend Elizabeth Franklin Sechrest, said that her husband bought a gigantic bicycle at last season’s Tribeca Ball. “It’s his prized possession. The artist came over and helped him position it properly in the sunlight. It’s way different than just buying art at a gallery. You truly feel like you’re helping the artist get to the next stage in his life.” By buying art this way, Ms. Sechrest says “you really develop a relationship with the artist.” She mentioned how a couple of years ago, Bill Clinton brought something like five girlfriends to the party. Behind her and Ms. Guggenheim, someone knocked a glass of champagne over the welcome desk.



From left: Eileen Guggenheim, Jeffrey Deitch, Eva Chow, Michael Chow, David Kratz. Joe Schildhorn /BFA.com



TRIBECA BALL 2016



Arden Wohl—self-described “philanthropist, filmmaker, pastry chef, and socially conscious activist” as well as junior chair of the event—wore one of her signature headbands and a floor-length flowered dress. She was enjoying herself, snapchatting for *W Magazine* for the first time. She lifted her dress to show me her shoes. “They’re vegan shoes,” she said. “You can see them on Instagram.” No doubt.

Naomi Watts, whose entrance caused a flurry of attention, wore a long-sleeved, light blue dress with flower sequins. She had little time for questions as she ardently strode through the young artists’ studios, engaging them about their work and occasionally purchasing their pieces. “I’ve just bought a woodcut etching,” she told me. “I’m in the stage of buying beautiful paintings rather than dresses.” On the same floor, Marina Abramović leaned in to hear a student working in performance discuss her practice. I spotted artist Eric Fischl patrolling the studios and dealer Jeffrey Deitch taking the stairs. Also in attendance were André Balazs, Brooke Shields (one of the dinner chairs), Vera Wang, and of course Michael and Eva Chow, the dinner honorees.

Ebon Moss-Bachrach arrived with Yelena Yemchuk. Mr. Moss-Bachrach wasn’t about to give anything away about upcoming surprises for his character, Desi, on *Girls*. “Maybe an interesting new girlfriend,” he shrugged.

After the festivities, some of the guests filtered into the dining room for dinner, where faux jellyfish and streamers hung from the ceiling. The rest flooded back into the street where, finally, the rain had stopped.

TRIBECA BALL 2016

The Daily Front Row, April 5 2016



the Daily *front row*



CHIC REPORT



The Tribeca Ball Honors Eva & Michael Chow

By [Kristen Heinzinger](#) | April 5, 2016

TRIBECA BALL 2016

Last night, **Eva and Michael Chow** were honored by art and fashion types at the 21st annual Tribeca Ball at the New York Academy of Art, presented by Van Cleef & Arpels. Held at the academy, the *fête* was a who's who from both scenes: **Stefano Tonchi, Gabby Karan de Felice, Linda Fargo, Marina Abramovic, Swizz Beatz, Naomi Watts, Inez Van Lamsweerde & Vinoodh Matadin, Dustin Yellin, Derek Blasberg, Will Cotton, Tali Lennox, Misha Nonoo, Brooke Shields, and Vera Wang** were just a fraction of the 900-plus guests who came out to celebrate despite the less than springlike weather in NYC.

Guests walked the six floors of open art studios, interactive installations, live drawing presentations, musical performances, and even on site oyster shucking. The theme was "To the Far Horizon," and the sea-faring décor was inspired by Van Cleef & Arpels' jewelry collections. "Being associated with the academy has made sense since the beginning," said **Alain Bernard**, CEO of the Americas at Van Cleef & Arpels. "For us it's not only a fun and glamorous event, but it's meaningful because we are celebrating, supporting, and we are with the artists."

Also on tap was the one-night-only exhibit "Funny Stuff" of humorous artworks from alumni, faculty, and students. After the cocktail reception and the aquatic-themed dinner from Sant Ambroeus, guests partied the night away to the beats of **DJs Gillian Sagansky and Leslie Kirchoff**.



Alain Bernard, Naomi Watts, David Kratz



TRIBECA BALL 2016

Walking the exhibition, it was apparent that everyone shared a deep appreciation for the Chow's ongoing patronage of the arts. "They can tell so many stories and they travel so many worlds, physically and mentally," Tonchi told us. "Michael is a great example of somebody who has done so many things but is back where he started, as an artist. It's really beautiful, all the many lives he's lived, being the head of Mr Chow and the people that pass through that restaurant, and what he learned collecting and working with so many different artists. And Eva has become a really important mover in the social scene in L.A. She's behind LACMA, and hosts so many art and film parties."

Eva is a talented artist as well, and got her start as a painter at 11 years old, she told us. "I was a child prodigy of two of the most important painters in Korea," she said. "Since I was young, if I have something, a pencil or whatever, in my hand, I was drawing and painting before I could read or write. It's part of me. Doing it and viewing it, living with it or looking for it all the time."

During the ceremony, the Chows were presented with portraits created by one of the academy's graduates, **Guno Park**. During his acceptance speech, Mr. Chow announced the creation of the Eva & Michael Chow Scholarship.

Along with celebrating the couple, guests were also on the lookout for new additions to their collections. "We're going to shop now!" said Karan de Felice, whose restaurant Tutto Il Giorno sits across the street from the academy. "My mom has taught me about being a part of the community. And in this academy, there's so much talent."



Photography: Joe Schildhorn/BFA.com

TRIBECA BALL 2016

Vogue.com, April 5 2016

VOGUE

LIVING > PARTIES

Marina Abramovic, Tali Lennox, and the Chow Family Celebrate New York Academy of Art's Tribeca Ball



APRIL 5, 2016 3:03 PM
by MARK GUIDUCCI



26 [VIEW SLIDESHOW →](#)



TRIBECA BALL 2016



If you've ever been to the New York Academy of Art's Tribeca Ball, then you know to arrive early. Each year by around 7:00 p.m., the school's narrow staircase is chockablock with regular patrons (Naomi Watts, Jeffrey Deitch) and new ones (Inez Van Lamsweerde and Vinoodh Matadin, Vera Wang), and much of the NYAA students' work has already been snapped up. Last night, guests also contended with stilted mermaids—and mermen!—decked in aquamarine lamé, magenta headdresses, and Van Cleef & Arpels jewelry; a seven seas theme was afoot. Upstairs, the students presented work in their studios, creating a mini art fair with plenty of unexpected discoveries. Favorites included Rachel Sard's photo-realistic canvases, Daisy Dodd-Noble's tinted woodcuts, and Ruonan Yan's pictures of broccoli and king crab. And while late arrivals may not have scored any new acquisitions, they were soon awash in a maritime feast honoring Michael and Eva Chow. Talk about going overboard for a good reason.

TRIBECA BALL 2016

W Magazine, April 8 2016



11 / 21



Battle of the Art Parties: Tribeca Ball vs. New Museum

Blocks away from each other on Monday night, the New York Academy of Art and the New Museum held their annual fundraisers. Which downtown art establishment did it better?

Elleen Guggenheim, Jeffrey Deitch, Eva Chow, Michael Chow, and David Kratz at the New York Academy of Arts' annual Tribeca Ball. Photo by BFA.

April 8, 2016 3:50 PM | by Ally Betker



TRIBECA BALL 2016



On Monday, Swizz Beatz was doing double tip-sheet duty, stopping by both the Tribeca Ball and the New Museum Gala. Luckily, he only had to travel between the New York Academy of Art and Spring Studios, a five-minute Uber jaunt. Dustin Yellin also managed both parties, a fact that Swizz celebrated by scooping him up in his arms for a photo opp. But how could they possibly dress for both, when the themes varied between “underwater” and “rainbow festive”? “You know what I said? I’m not going to wear all-black,” said Swizz. Seems like a safe bet.

Tribes:

New Museum: Downtown artists and the Art Production Fund crowd.

Tribeca Ball: Art world heavyweights and the real estate tycoons that collect them.

The duos in charge:

New Museum: Ubiquitors Dao-Yi Chow and Maxwell Osborne of [DKNY](#) and [Public School](#).

Tribeca Ball: The Chows, Eva and Michael.

The A-list:

New Museum: Rashid Johnson, Thelma Golden, Francisco Costa, Yvonne Force Villareal.

Tribeca Ball: Marina Abramovic, Naomi Watts, Brooke Shields, Andre Balasz

The It girls:

New Museum: Mia Moretti, Athena Calderone.

Tribeca Ball: Tali Lennox, Nell Diamond, Alexandra Chemla, Arden Wohl.

Double-dippers:

Swiss Beatz, Dustin Yellin

Location, location, location:

New Museum: Spring Studios, home to the Michael Kors fashion show.

Tribeca Ball: New York Academy of Art, which the ball raises funds for.

The fundraising:

New Museum: \$2 million.

Tribeca Ball: Over \$850,000.

The themes:

New Museum: “Rainbow festive,” inspired by Ugo Rondinone’s “Hell, Yes!” sign that once hung on the facade of the museum.

Tribeca Ball: “To the Far Horizon,” meant to take guests on a journey across the seven seas.

Best dressed according to theme:

New Museum: Michael Stipe in rainbow-striped bullhorns.

Tribeca Ball: Naomi Watts in [sea blue Valentino](#).

Number of guests:

New Museum: 551

Tribeca Ball: Over 900

Caterer:

New Museum: Society wedding favorite, Bite.

Tribeca Ball: Downtown staple Sant Ambroeus.

DJs:

New Museum: 90s hip hop pioneer (and consultant for HBO’s “Vinyl”) DJ Stretch Armstrong.

Tribeca Ball: Girl power duo Gillian Sagansky and Leslie Kirchoff.

TRIBECA BALL 2016

W Magazine, April 5 2016



PARTIES

Set Adrift at the 2016 Tribeca Ball

The New York Academy of Arts was done up in jellyfish chandeliers, coral centerpieces, and ombre pink and purple wreaths of flowers last night in honor of its annual Tribeca Ball. The theme? "Far Horizons." The guests? Art aficionados including [Marina Abramovic](#), Naomi Watts, Brooke Shields, and — briefly — Vera Wang and Swizz Beatz clustered in the entry way making eager conversation. (Al Pacino darted in just before dinner, bypassing the step-and-repeat entirely.) Eileen Guggenheim extended a hand to Swizz — "Are you a collector?" she asked. Abramovic quickly retreated to one of the upper floors, where the remaining attendees perused Academy students' works. Stilt-walkers roamed the floor in winged, glittering ensembles. "I really don't like looking at the art with everyone, with drinks in their hands," Abramovic said. She apparently did not appreciate the stilt walkers or the roaming accordionist playing The Beatles. "Performance is serious business, and here they use it as entertainment," she added. "I spent 45 years of my life against that." But it was time for dinner, and she was running late.

April 5, 2016 03:05 PM | by Katherine Cusumano

TRIBECA BALL 2016



TRIBECA BALL 2016

Town & Country Magazine, April 6 2016

TOWN&COUNTRY

Naomi Watts, Brooke Shields, and More Stars Met Up- And-Coming Artists at the Tribeca Ball

Where else would famous people in designer dresses walk through paint-splattered studios?



by EMILY SELTER 🕒 APR 5, 2016

52



Last night, celebrities, artists, and socialites descended on the [New York Academy of Art](#) for the institution's 21st annual Tribeca Ball, which was sponsored by [Van Cleef & Arpels](#). Over the course of the cocktail hour, men in suits and women in high heels mingled in the artists' studios, where the students displayed (and even sold) their most recent work.

Afterward, the guests headed downstairs to dine on risotto and branzino and then gathered in the basement for an after party featuring the DJs Gillian Sagansky and Leslie Kirchoff. The night raised over \$850,000 to support the Academy.

TRIBECA BALL 2016



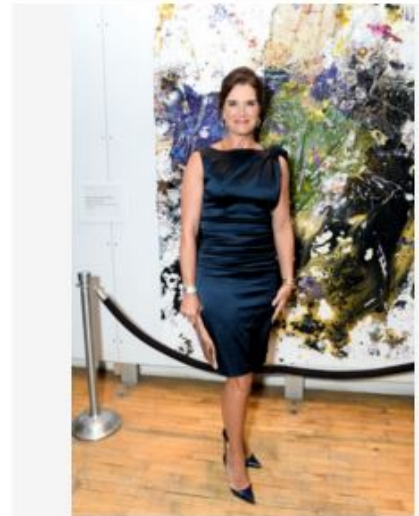
SWIZZ BEATZ



URS FISCHER AND ASIA CHOW



MARINA ABRAMOVIĆ, EVA CHOW, AND AL PACINO



BROOKE SHIELDS



NADMI WATTS



ANDRE BALAZS



MISHA NONDO

TRIBECA BALL 2016

WWD, April 5 2016



April 5, 2016

Eva and Michael Chow Honored at TriBeCa Ball

By KRISTI GARCED

Decked out in an under-the-sea theme replete with jellyfish forests and coral reef decor, Monday night's 21st annual TriBeCa Ball, underwritten by Van Cleef & Arpels, also mandated a dress code of "shimmering chic" that was lost on a few important guests.

"I don't have any sparkle; everybody else is sparkling," lamented Marina Abramovic. She had just returned from a month in Greece, where she headed a performance project, "As One," with a group of emerging artists at the Benaki Museum in Athens. "We performed for seven weeks, eight hours a day. It's the most exciting — and they're still there working as we speak....This will change the world."

Sprawling over all six floors of the New York Academy of Art, the annual gala, which benefits the graduate school's scholarships and public programming, this year honored Eva and Michael Chow for their artistic and philanthropic contributions, including the newly created Eva & Michael Chow Scholarship Fund. A few of their famous friends — among them Al Pacino, Brooke Shields, Jeffrey Deitch, Urs Fischer, Swizz Beatz, Dustin Yellin, Eileen Guggenheim, Glenn O'Brien, Linda Fargo, Tali Lennox, Eddie Borgo, Andrew VanWyngarden, Andreea Diaconu, Inez van Lamsweerde, Vinoodh Matadin and Nicole Miller — trekked downtown for the celebration, conveniently located a five-minute-walk from the couple's still-sceney restaurant, Mr. Chow TriBeCa.



Eva and Michael Chow
Andrew H. Walker/REX/Shutterstock



TRIBECA BALL 2016



Arden Wohl, one of the Academy's junior chairs, flitted her way through the party on a Snapchat assignment from W Magazine. She taught herself how to use the video app an hour before the event, and promptly turned her iPhone lens onto Zani Gugelmann. (In a coincidence, the two shared the same hair and makeup team before the party.) "The glam squad came to my house right after Arden's and I heard all the gossip," Gugelmann said, showing off her gold diamond necklace, part of her new collection of jewelry inspired by Masonic ball pendants.

A stroll up the school's packed, narrow staircase revealed five floors of artist studios featuring works from the Academy's MFA students, in addition to the event's standard bizarre entertainment courtesy of stilt walkers, contortionists, musicians and speed painters. Naomi Watts, who dabbles in art collecting, particularly photography, seemed in the mood to shop. "Paintings are wonderful things to have on your walls, and these days I'd much rather spend money on that — something that you'll have forever — than on a dress," she said.

"Who else but Van Cleef would ask a group of New York's sparkliest to come dressed in their shimmieriest?" said Academy president David Kratz, whose pale blue suit matched the tablecloths, as he addressed the jewelry firm's chief executive officers, Nicolas Bos and Alain Bernard, during dinner. "You happen to be two of the best looking men in the jewelry business. Nicolas and Alain, would you please stand up? We want you to take your clothes off."

The Chows were next up on the podium. In an endearingly long speech, Michael expressed adoration for his wife, Eva — listing all of her career accomplishments as she stood next to him, her face growing bashful — while daughter, Asia, looked on from Table 14. Elsewhere, Rose McGowan, a recent New York City transplant, said she had just wrapped the direction of a new music video for Yoko Ono and Miike Snow. "I'm excited to be in New York now," she said. "I love it here, except for when that Santacon thing happens." (For the uninitiated, she was referring to the bro-ey, fratty bar-crawl tradition that plagues the streets every holiday season.) In true rebel fashion, McGowan slipped out of the party early; Joe's Shanghai was calling. After spotting a painting of a dumpling on the wall, she was hungry for Chinese.

TRIBECA BALL 2016

New York Times, April 6 2016

The New York Times

THE NEW YORK TIMES, THURSDAY, APRIL 7, 2016

D7

SCENE CITY



From far left, Marina Abramovic, left, and Eva Chow taking a selfie; Rose McGowan, the actress and director; Brooke Shields; and Swizz Beatz, center, at the Tribeca Ball.

Buying Art Off the Wall, at the Tribeca Ball

Not your (fill in the blank) rubber-chicken dinner.

By JULIA CHAPLIN

Can you guess the party based on the celebrity guest list: Marina Abramovic, Swizz Beatz and Al Pacino? This unlikely mix helps to separate the New York Academy of Art's annual Tribeca Ball, held on Monday night, from a more predictable rubber-chicken event.

The Academy, founded in part by Andy Warhol in 1982 as a graduate school for traditional painting, drawing and sculpture techniques, occupies a sprawling five-story industrial loft with creaky wooden floors on Franklin Street. And it was there that the crowd of celebrities, fabulously dressed upstarts and would-be art collectors traipsed up and down the stairs, through a warren of about 100 tiny art studios and makeshift bars, as performers on stilts and musicians milled about with accordions and guitars.

"I've bought quite a few paintings here over the years," said the actress Naomi Watts, who wore a bejeweled Valentino dress, as she inspected artwork on the fourth floor. "I can't afford massively expensive paintings, and these are all very good. You can buy them right off the wall."

Next to a trough holding iced Corona beer stood the artists Will Cotton and Eric Fischl, both teachers at the Academy and part of the realistic-painting revival. The socialite and shoe designer Arden Wohl flitted past in a jeweled Alhambra headband by Van Cleef & Arpels, the ball's sponsor, taking Snapchat videos while her boyfriend, the artist Jonah Freeman, chatted with Ebon Moss-Bachrach from HBO's "Girls."

On the second floor, the curator Jeffrey Deitch and his entourage squeezed into the tiny studio of Kathryn Goshorn. "I'm interested in artists that use these techniques to make something fresh and contemporary," he said.

Around 8:30 p.m., guests filtered down to the ground floor, where a dining room had been decorated as the Seven Seas, the theme of Van Cleef's current collection, with



The scene at the New York Academy of Art. Below, from left, David Kratz, Eileen Guggenheim, Nicolas Bos, Eva Chow, Asia Chow, Michael Chow and Alain Bernard.

glittery jellyfish sculptures dangling from the ceiling. The evening's honorees, Michael and Eva Chow, had flown in from Los Angeles and were holding court at the center table with their creative coterie. Ms. Chow sat next to Ms. Abramovic, who was spinning a plastic sea horse and taking selfies.

"Amazing that in the middle of TriBeCa you have an art school in an enormous loft building," Mr. Chow marveled. "How they



Naomi Watts, center, wearing a bejeweled Valentino dress.

survived not being turned into condos, no one knows."

Next to him was Mr. Pacino's seat, empty except for a cold plate of pink "barrier reef" risotto. "Al doesn't usually attend this kind of thing, but he's coming to support us," Ms. Chow said. "He's on his way from the airport now." (He showed up with the dessert course.)

The photographer couple Inez van Lamsweerde and Vinoodh Matadin were there along with the Swiss artist Urs Fischer, wearing his trademark button-up shirt and sporting tattoos. "There's always been these institutions that have fostered art movements, like the Art Students League and the New York Studio School," Mr. Deitch said. "And there seems to be that special energy here right now."



TRIBECA BALL 2016

New York Times, April 5 2016

Naomi Watts, Brooke Shields and Rose McGowan at Tribeca Ball



On Monday night, the New York Academy of Art honored Eva and Michael Chow at the annual Tribeca Ball, sponsored by Van Cleef & Arpels. From left, the academy's president, David Kratz; the board chairwoman, Eileen Guggenheim; Nicolas Bos; Eva Chow; Asia Chow; Michael Chow; and Alain Bernard.

Naomi Watts, Brooke Shields and Rose McGowan at Tribeca Ball



The actress Naomi Watts (center) wore a bejeweled Valentino dress and perused the student studios hunting for a bargain. "I can't afford massively expensive paintings, and these are all very good," she said.

Nina Westervelt for The New York Times

TRIBECA BALL 2016

Naomi Watts, Brooke Shields and Rose McGowan at Tribeca Ball



Brooke Shields, an academy trustee, posed in front of Mr. Chow's art.

Nina Westervelt for The New York Times

Naomi Watts, Brooke Shields and Rose McGowan at Tribeca Ball



The actress and director Rose McGowan tested out a new look she called "cult leader pixie."

Nina Westervelt for The New York Times

TRIBECA BALL 2016

Naomi Watts, Brooke Shields and Rose McGowan at Tribeca Ball



Linda Fargo paired her Van Cleef & Arpels choker with a punk shirt.

Nina Westervelt for The New York Times

Naomi Watts, Brooke Shields and Rose McGowan at Tribeca Ball



The music producer Swizz Beatz (center) made his way through the artist studios. He's pictured here with the artists Jonah Freeman (left) and Dustin Yellin.

Nina Westervelt for The New York Times

TRIBECA BALL 2016

Wall Street Journal, April 6 2016

THE WALL STREET JOURNAL.

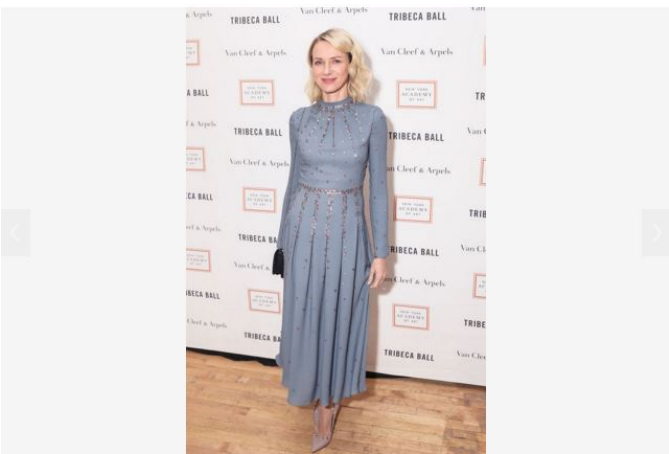
LIFE | FETE ACCOMPLI A GOOD LOOKS GUIDE TO RECENT EVENTS

The Arty Scene at the Tribeca Ball

The New York Academy of Art's annual fundraiser drew an enthusiastic crowd of art world luminaries like Marina Abramovic and Will Cotton, as well as actors Al Pacino and Naomi Watts



1 of 8
PAINT BALL | Student artist Nick C. Kirk in his studio at the New York Academy of Art's spring gala. MARGARITA CORPORAN



2 of 8
Naomi Watts in a Valentino dress, shoes and bag BILLY FARRELL AGENCY



3 of 8
Asia, Eva and Michael Chow BILLY FARRELL AGENCY



TRIBECA BALL 2016

By RAY ROGERS

April 7, 2016 12:39 p.m. ET

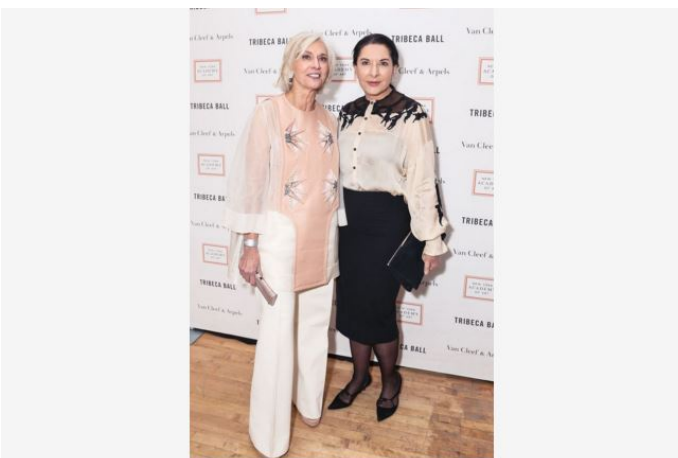
0 COMMENTS

WHEN SHE WASN'T mingling with mermaids and mermen, artist Marina Abramovic was taking in the figurative art at the New York Academy of Art's annual Tribeca Ball, held Monday. As intrigued as she was by the canvases in the event's "Funny Stuff" gallery, Ms. Abramovic couldn't envision them in her own house. "I don't have anything on my walls!" she explained. "They're a blank canvas I can dream on."

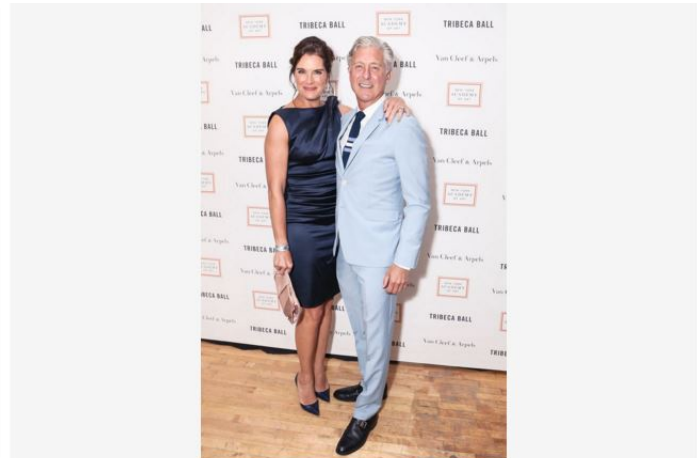
The whimsical Seven Seas-inspired evening, sponsored by Van Cleef & Arpels, drew schools of other art world luminaries, such as painters Will Cotton and Yelena Yemchuk, as well as actors Al Pacino and Naomi Watts, who stepped in from the rain in a Valentino gown dotted with minute shiny flowers. "This whole event is always chic and shimmery, and it's a great time to buy affordable art—I'm going to go look now," said Ms. Watts, before darting off to do just that.

The annual party celebrates the work of the Academy's art students in over 100 studios spread across the six floors of its historic Tribeca building. The young artists were eager to meet Ms. Abramovic, who offered encouragement. "This could be a performance piece," she told painter Adam Lupton, of an installation that featured a naked body in repose on the floor, its head and shoulders in a cardboard box.

One of the evening's honorees, restaurateur Michael Chow, clad head-to-toe in a bespoke Hermès corduroy suit, recalled Andy Warhol, who helped found the Academy in the early '80s. "He was worried when painting was declared 'dead.' Maybe it was a guilt thing—he single-handedly destroyed the traditional way of painting," said Mr. Chow of Warhol's contribution. "The great genius Andy taketh and the great genius Andy giveth, which is why we are here tonight at this school." The event netted over \$850,000, to be used to support new programs and ensure that geniuses continue to bud.



4 of 8
Eileen Guggenheim in a Delpozo top and Marina Abramovic in a Givenchy top BILLY FARRELL AGENCY



5 of 8
Brooke Shields and David Kratz BILLY FARRELL AGENCY

TRIBECA BALL 2016

Fashion Unfiltered, April 6 2016

FASHION UNFILTERED

MARINA ABRAMOVIC, DKNY'S
DAO-YI CHOW AND MAXWELL
OSBORNE, AND JEFF KOONS
FETE ART IN TRIBECA

BY SOPHIA J. GONZALEZ
PEOPLE - APRIL 06





TRIBECA BALL 2016



When it comes to spring galas, last night's Tribeca Ball ranks high on the social circuit for art and culture cognoscenti. But the evening, held at the New York Academy of Art, does more than implore guests to don their most comfortable party shoes as they walk the six floors of open art studios and interactive installations. In addition to honoring art world fixtures—this year, Michael Chow—it serves as a springboard for emerging artists, whether opportunity takes the form of a chapter in bespectacled curator Jeffrey Deitch's upcoming tome or a new client like fashion designer Misha Nonoo.

"I just want to know, is it real Van Cleef?" asked Marina Abramovic, gesturing towards models in Van Cleef & Arpels jewels standing under a canopy of streamers. One model responded with a nod. "So they're not copies? Okay. That's all I wanted to know," added Abramovic. The performance artist followed the artsy crowd that included Brooke Shields, Naomi Watts, Al Pacino, and Inez Van Lamsweerde & Vinoodh Matadin past a towering trio of models dressed as mermaids.

Just a few floors below, Abramovic's good friend Jeffrey Deitch was in search of his own realism. Figurative realism. The kind that the art dealer might feature in a new book he's presently working on. "There must be a vision," said Deitch, whose last book, *Live The Art*, chronicled the 15-year history of his own Deitch Projects gallery space in New York. "What I'm looking for here is people who have extraordinary technique," he added.

There's no denying that the caliber of artwork was impressive, but there were plenty of other things to enjoy, too: Renditions of famous Vincent Van Gogh works were painted in under 15 minutes by an artist on the ground floor; oyster shuckers and a pizza station in the print studios kept partygoers moving; and there were plenty of lively musical acts at every corner.

TRIBECA BALL 2016

Whitewall April 8 2016

whitewall ART LIFESTYLE FASHION DESIGN



NYAA'S ANNUAL TRIBECA BALL HONORS EVA & MICHAEL CHOW



The **Tribeca Ball**, presented by **Van Cleef & Arpels**, to benefit the **New York Academy of Art** kicked off last Monday night with more than 900 guests in attendance from the media, fashion, and arts industry.

Academy President **David Katz** honored **Eva and Michael Chow** for their longtime support of the arts at the annual event, including the newly created **Eva & Michael Chow Scholarship Fund**, where the Chows were presented with portraits created by an **Academy** alumnus and artist **Guno Park**.

The theme for this year's event, "To the Far Horizon," was inspired by **Van Cleef & Arpels'** jewelry collection, which featured motifs of the seven seas, enchanted coral reefs, and shimmering jellyfish forests. In addition to the glimmering jewels, the **Academy** mounted an exclusive one-night exhibit, "Funny Stuff," highlighting humorous works of alumni, faculty members, and current students.

Following cocktails and a sea-themed dinner, guests danced the night away to tracks by DJs **Gillian Sagansky** and **Leslie Kirchoff**.

The evening raised more than \$850,000 to support the **Academy's** scholarships and public programming.

ROSEANNE TABACHNIK | April 8, 2016