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This Year's 'Take Home a Nude' Gala for the New York Academy of Art to Honor John Alexander

By *Carolyn Twersky*

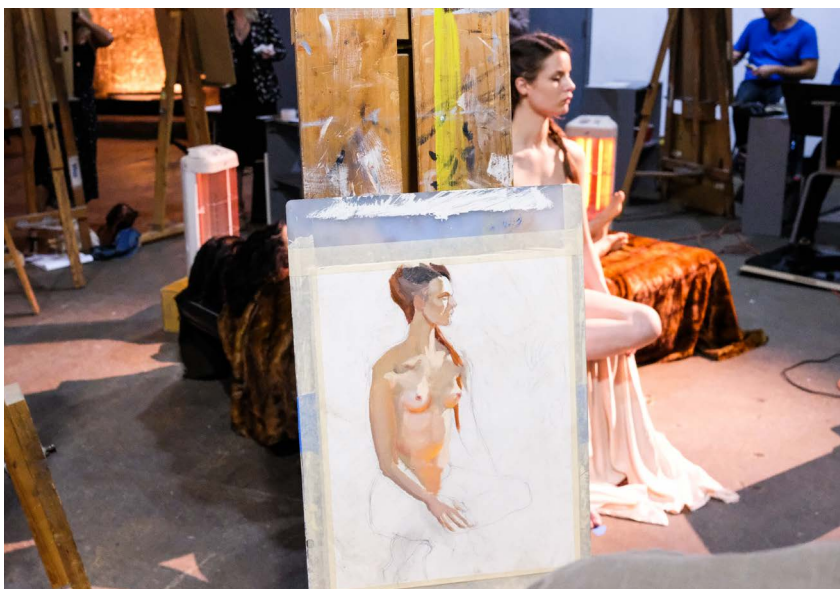
In October, John Alexander will be honored at the New York Academy of Art's Take Home a Nude gala—the only benefit that accentuates its silent auction with naked model and stilt walkers. The event, held at Sotheby's, will feature more than 200 works, with the proceeds benefiting the Academy.

Alexander is a figurative painter, known for his wry skewering of the rich and famous, who love him anyway. Steve Martin, Jimmy Buffett, and Mick Jagger are among some of the stars that own his work. The artist is also a co-founder, along with the actor Dan Aykroyd, of Crystal Skull Vodka. You know, the vodka that comes in a bottle shaped like a skull.

Last year, the event honored collector Jane Holzer and raised over \$1.1 million dollars, with proceeds going to the Academy for scholarships and programming.

The chairs of this year's event are Amy Cappellazzo, Caroline Kennedy and Ed Schlossberg, Lorne Michaels and Alice Michaels, and Richard Mishaan and Marcia Mishaan. The benefit will be held on Wednesday, October 11.

Will Cotton Hosts Annual Drawing Party with New York Academy of Art

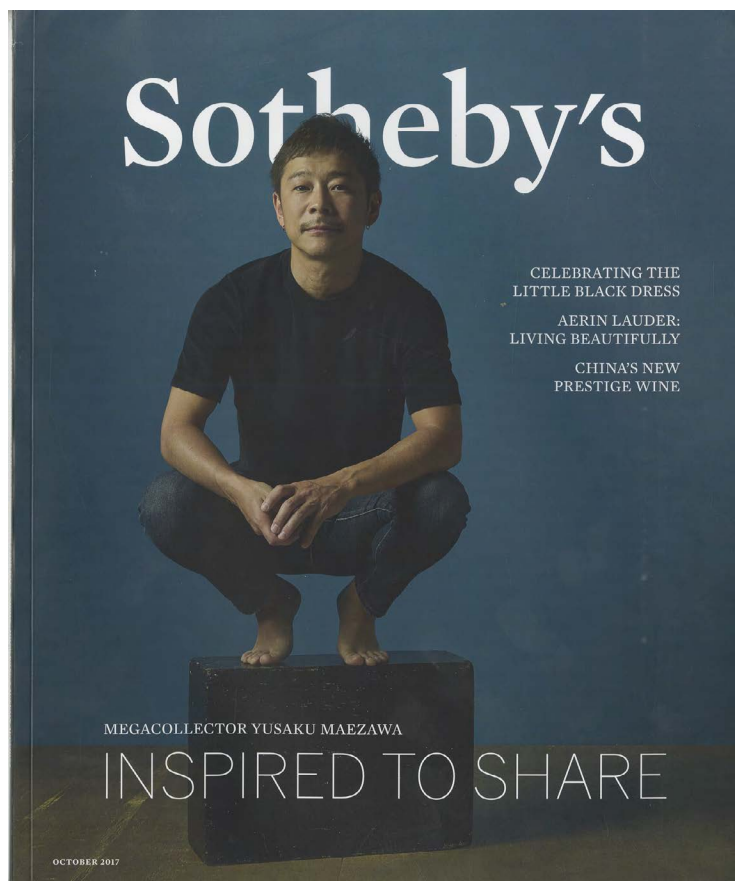


On 12 September, professional and amateur drawing enthusiasts gathered for the New York Academy of Art's annual Drawing Party, hosted by painter and academy graduate Will Cotton. An industrial space inside Highline Stages became the setting for a life-drawing session where artists such as Natalie Frank, Hilary Harkness, EV Day and Ryan McGinness took up their pencils and brushes and demonstrated their skills. Between sketches artists and guests, including Gina Gershon and Amanda Demme, enjoyed cocktails and whimsical props of giant inflatable candy and fruit. A number of the evening's creations were donated to the academy's upcoming Take Home A Nude benefit auction held at Sotheby's, which has worked closely with the school to plan the much-anticipated 11 October event.



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THE ART OF GIVING

BODIES OF WORK

Kathleen White previews the New York Academy of Art's Take Home a Nude auction.

Unsurprisingly, art's most traditional subject, the nude, is also one of its most controversial. From Michelangelo's *David* to Robert Mapplethorpe's erotic photographs, works of art featuring unclothed human figures have reliably captured our attention. For more than two decades, the New York Academy of Art has playfully acknowledged that fact with its annual Take Home a Nude gala and benefit auction. "As they say, a picture is worth a thousand words," says academy president David Kratz. The 11 October event, hosted by Sotheby's, will honour painter John Alexander.

Current and former students along with such artists as Ryan McGinness, Philip Pearlstein and Spencer Tunick are contributing nudes, but the auction also offers works with other subjects and in varied styles, which all reflect the academy's dedication to rigorous formal training. "We want to show a range of our artists' points of view," says Kratz, noting the inclusion of text-driven works and neon sculpture alongside figurative paintings and drawings. While the graduate programme is grounded in tradition, "we look for artists whose work is very much part of the current dialogue," says Kratz.

For Amy Cappellazzo, head of Sotheby's Fine Art Division and this year's event chairperson, "the essential foundations of art-making that the academy teaches have never been more urgent. Sotheby's has long supported the academy and its vital work," she says. "We are more excited than ever to collaborate." For the academy, the gala is "an opportunity to show our best work at one of the most prestigious venues in the world," says Kratz. "And it's high-energy fun – what could be better?" ■

Kathleen White is a staff writer for sothebys.com.

Take Home a Nude Art Party and Auction, 11 October, Sotheby's New York. Tickets: nyaa.com/nude. Enquiries: tr@nyaa.edu.

(Left) Among the works to be offered is the New York Academy of Art's Take Home a Nude auction is Spencer Tunick's photograph *Colombia*, 2016.



Where Natalie Frank and Ryan McGinness Go to Practice Their Nude Drawing

By Margaret Carrigan • 09/13/17 5:15pm

It's not hard to get the creative juices flowing at an event that offers both booze and nudes, so it comes as no surprise that Will Cotton's annual drawing party, now in its 11th year, has become an event to look forward to for many New York artists. Hosted by the New York Academy of Art (NYAA), this year's edition, held on September 12 at the Meatpacking District's Highline Stages, saw 112 attendees and participating artists including Natalie Frank, Inka Essenhigh, Ryan McGinness, and Lisa Rosen.

The event offers artists the chance to get back to basics by sketching nude figure models together—just like in any art school Life Drawing 101 class. Except, instead of a teacher, this curriculum is driven by friendly conversation, cocktails, and a swanky bass beat provided by a live DJ. While it's not required, artists are asked to donate at least one of their works from the evening for NYAA's yearly "Take Home a Nude" auction, benefitting the school, which will be held on October 11 this year. But beyond being for a worthy cause, the event is an opportunity for established and emerging artists alike to connect and experiment.

I like getting people together because drawing is usually a solitary activity," Cotton told Observer. "Artists end up spending a lot of time alone in their studios, so I think it's important to socialize in addition to practicing your craft."

Cotton, an alum of NYAA, started hosting figure drawing parties in his studio back in 2002, when he was looking to re-hone his own skills. "Around that time I had some ideas for works that involved painting figures and I thought, 'Oh my God, I'm way too rusty, I'm not going to be good at this,'" he says. He decided to practice drawing from a live model again, a foundational skill most artists learn early on in their training.

According to Cotton, going back to square one was a bit intimidating, so he wanted to find a way to hold himself accountable. "To make sure I actually sat down and started drawing, I invited other people over and made it like a party." Soon, his drawing sessions were a weekly event among his friends.

Art critic and artist David Cohen, who has participated in NYAA's version of the event almost every year since, remembers going over to Cotton's apartment to hang out and draw. "I love figure drawing, and Will always gets the best models and has interesting music," he said. At this year's party, he expected he'd make at least a dozen drawings over the course of the night, with the hope of making one worth donating.

"I'm known as a critic, not an artist, so I don't think a collector would want to buy a big David Cohen piece, but a little David Cohen, that could be quite cute," he said as he sketched the languid back of the model in front of him on a 8-by-10 sheet of weighty paper he brought himself. "Plus, there's a lot more room to be forgiven working at a smaller scale."

"I did a lot of figure drawing when I went to the Academy, but I haven't done a lot since. It's a little weird to get back into it," said Jaclyn Brown, who graduated from NYAA in 2009. This was her first year participating in the drawing party, and she brought her own paint markers to sketch with in order to give them a test run for a larger project she's working on. "I thought it would be a good chance to experiment with new materials and new ideas, and it's pretty fun so far!"



Natalie Frank agreed that sketching can be more fun in a group setting, since sitting alone in one's studio can be "like drawing in prison" she joked. "But Will's party is like drawing at the Four Seasons—there's an open bar!" Although there's much merriment and camaraderie, Frank admits that the event still pushes her out of her comfort zone, even though she's participated several times. "I'm always shy about donating a drawing—I never think they're all that great by the end of the night."



Frank's timidity about her work, though unwarranted, is understandable. Cotton's drawing party has developed into an increasingly high profile event over the last decade. Each year features one or more surprise guest models and, in previous years, guest stars have included the likes of model-actors Padma Lakshmi and Brooke Shields, and "it" designers and creative like Cynthia Rowley, Waris Ahluwalia, and Arden Wohl. This year's models were (fully-clothed) golden children of the art world: Glenn O'Brien's son, Oscar; Jeanne Greenberg Rohatyn's daughter, Coco; Anne Pasternak and

Mike Starn's daughter, Paris; and Barbara Gladstone's grandson, Eli.

I didn't expect it to become some super cool thing," he laughed when asked about how his small studio gatherings have blossomed into a star-studded party. "It grew out of something personal, and it still is in a lot of ways. I think that's why people like it so much."

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OBSERVER



A Definitive Guide to the Top Benefits and Galas This Fall

By Zachary Weiss • 10/04/17 10:57am

Take Home a Nude October 11th

What It's All About: Benefiting the New York Academy of Art, this art-filled party includes dinner from the cult-favorite eatery Sant Ambroeus, and a slew of priceless auction lots from the likes of Ryan McGinness and Frederick Mershimer—many of which depict subjects in their birthday suit.

You're Likely To See: Jimmy Buffet, Caroline Kennedy, Ronald Perelman and Lorne Michaels.

Ticket Prices: From \$200 to \$50,000.

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PAPER®



10 Must-See Art Shows Opening This Week

Gary Pini

10/05/17 at 05:01PM

New York Academy of Art's annual "**Take Home a Nude**" party and auction is Wednesday, October 11, 6 p.m., at Sotheby's. This year honors American artist John Alexander.

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GUEST of a GUEST

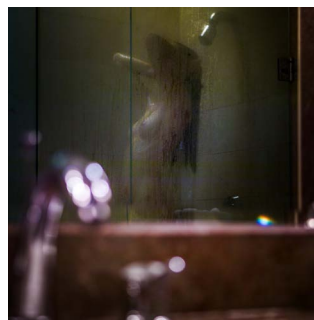


The Sexiest Auction Of The Year: 9 Must-See Works From Take Home A Nude 2017

by Christie Grimm · October 9, 2017

This Wednesday, the New York Academy of Art's Annual Take Home a Nude art party and auction will take place at Sotheby's. Honoring figurative painter and devoted Academy supporter John Alexander, the event is a society favorite, bringing out a host of names. This year, Event Chairs include Jane and Jimmy Buffett, Amy Cappellazzo, Caroline Kennedy and Ed Schlossberg, Alice and Lorne Michaels, and Marcia and Richard Mishaan, with Junior Chairs Nick Brown (Derek Blasberg's boyfriend), Nell Diamond, and Isabel Wilkinson (remember her gorgeous Italian wedding?).

Featuring over 100 works, both nudes and even a few non-nudes for the blushing amongst you, the auction has been pre-listed on Paddle8 in anticipation of the event. So should Wednesday night come along, and you not feel like throwing on your cocktail attire, still snag a new piece for your collection!





One Model, 10 Nudes: See How Different Artists Treated the Female Form at Will Cotton's Drawing Party

Cotton enlisted artists including Ryan McGinness and Natalie Frank to contribute to the 'Take Home a Nude' benefit auction.

Sarah Cascone, October 11, 2017

Even when artists are working with the same subject, the results can be dramatically different, reflecting their personal style, choice of medium, and other artistic decisions. This fundamental truth will be in evidence at the New York Academy of Art's "Take Home a Nude" benefit auction, where 112 artists, from Ryan McGinness to Natalie Frank, have each donated distinctly unique drawings made of the same nude models.

They both took part in Will Cotton's annual Drawing Party, in which the painter enlists fellow New York artists to get together and sketch nude models for "Take Home a Nude." The gala, now in its 26th year, takes place tonight at Sotheby's Upper East Side headquarters, honoring artist John Alexander.

Guests will have the chance to rub elbows with the likes of Princess Beatrice of York, Brooke Shields, Chris Noth, Padma Lakshmi, and Naomi Watts; and purchase works from such luminaries as Christo, Eric Fischl, Walter Robinson, and Kiki Smith.

What sets "Take Home a Nude" apart from other benefit auctions is the section of figure drawing works. Although a fundamental part of any arts education, the practice is overlooked among many professional artists. Back in 2002, when Cotton, an academy grad, was looking to do more figurative work, he realized he needed to get back to basics, and return to figure drawing.

"To keep myself in practice, I have to practice," he explained. Cotton hosts regular drawing parties at his studio, which he believes fosters "a sense of community" among participating artists. "I love the New York Academy," he added. "They taught me a lot of what I know, a long time ago."

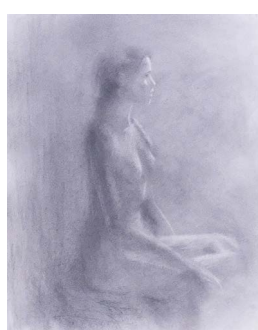
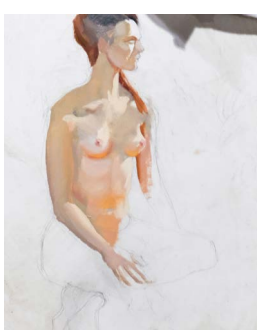
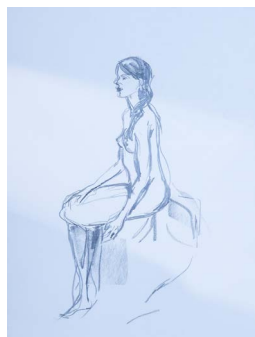
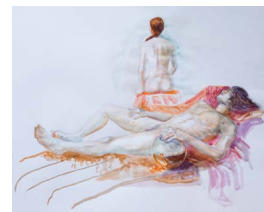
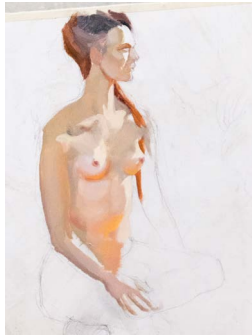
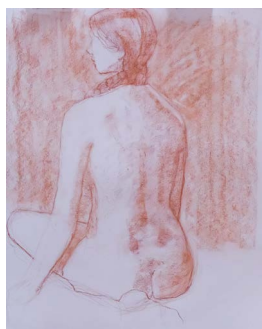
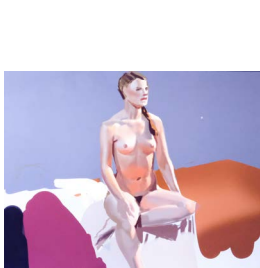


The theme for Cotton's 2017 Drawing Party was the sons and daughters of the art world. Glenn O'Brien's son, Oscar; Jeanne Greenberg Rohatyn's daughter, Coco; Anne Pasternak and Mike Starn's daughter, Paris; and Barbara Gladstone's grandson, Eli, joined the nude models, albeit fully clothed, each posing for 20 minutes.

Academy president David Kratz called "Take Home a Nude" a "celebration of the work that our artists are doing," noting that the benefit is essential to the school's continued success.

It also helps produce some pretty great art. "It's remarkable. Same exact pose, same model, and all these different interpretations," said Cotton. "That's why we do it, why drawing from a live model is important.

See 10 artworks made from the same pose below:



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EVENT COVERAGE

Vogue

WWD

W Magazine

Forbes

Avenue

Architectural Digest

Guest of a Guest

Take Home A Nude: Naomi Watts, Mary-Kate Olsen, and More Attend the Sexiest Auction of the Year

October 12, 2017

by Maria Ward



On Wednesday in Manhattan, the New York Academy of Art honored John Alexander at the 26th annual Take Home a Nude auction. (Unofficial tagline: The sexiest auction of the year!) As one of the most hotly anticipated events on the fall social calendar, there was no shortage of beauty in the room. A mix of fashion and art world luminaries, like Mary-Kate Olsen and husband Olivier Sarkozy, Naomi Watts, Liev Schreiber, Chris Noth, Lorne Michaels, Dustin Yellin, and Nell Diamond, were on hand during the silent auction that preceded dinner, enjoying themed cocktails served up at what the signage playfully dubbed “The Nudie Bar.”

Brooke Shields and Helena Christensen were among those who took turns posing together in front of one of Alexander's floral masterpieces for a photo op. Shields dressed accordingly in a printed Alberta Ferretti gown (which she pronounced Alberta Ferreeetti for fun), while Christensen chose a feathered Prada party dress. The outfit was apparently on loan, as Christensen was set to attend Prada's Lunchbox Fund event the next evening, but it was "just so beautiful," she couldn't wait to wear it. "When it came, I was like, 'Can you send two?'" she admitted with a laugh, running her fingers through the ostrich-plume detail. "This just felt more tonight."

As fate would have it, the feathers would complement the flora-and-fauna themed after-party, as the room was strung with living decor by Lewis Miller Design. Cascading vines hung from the ceiling, and at the center of the room, Academy alumni stood live-sketching models in a vignette of lush greenery. It was as if guests had stepped into a John Alexander painting, which was precisely the idea. In between bites of radicchio trevisano and sous vide chicken, New York Academy of Art president David Kratz dazzled dinner guests with a touching speech about the man of the hour, while Alexander and his family members looked on. "It's a story of underdogs, friendship, and triumph," Kratz said. "It's a story of John Alexander and the New York Academy of Art." Considering the occasion raised more than \$1.1 million in scholarship funds, it was a delightful ending to an utterly refined evening in support of the arts.





Naomi Watts Took Home a Nude

Sotheby's was full of action on Wednesday night.

By Kristen Tauer on October 12, 2017

Naomi Watts has taken home many nudes over the years.

"I'm on the board and I've been to this event many years in a row now. I never go home empty-handed," said the actress, taking her plum front row seat inside Sotheby's on Wednesday night. The New York Academy of Arts was hosting its annual "Take Home a Nude" benefit art party and auction, and the evening opened with a massive silent action of nude-themed artwork before moving onto a higher-stakes live auction.

"I bid on quite a few pieces [tonight] and I think I did get one," Watts continued, pulling up a photo of her brand-new artwork on her phone. Despite all of the bidding, she wasn't worried about winning, well, too much art. "No matter what, it's such a good cause, the school is such a great place that if it's just a donation I'd feel badly. But I do actually get to go home with the pieces," she said.

Watts sits on the board for the institution along with Brooke Shields, who was working on quieting the din throughout the auction floor to get the live action started.

"Shhhhhh," said Shields from behind the auctioneer's podium. "That doesn't work for my kids, but thank you."

While auctioneer Joe Dunning worked his way through several higher-priced works, including a watercolor by event honoree John Alexander, which ended up selling for \$42,000. Liev Schreiber craned his neck from the standing room crowd, intermittently chatting with Eileen Guggenheim before raising his paddle in the Eleventh hour for one of 30 limited-edition Hugo Guinness prints, which were being sold for \$2,500, a bargain compared to its \$4,000 market tag.

After all of the artwork was sold and getting wrapped, the evening's festivities continued down on the fifth floor with a post-auction dinner during.

"I hope it's a savings bond," said Alexander, collecting an envelope from NYAA president David Kratz onstage. Unfortunately for the artist, it was an honorary doctorate of fine arts. "By the way that was Lorne's joke, the savings bond," Alexander added, calling out event chair Lorne Michaels. (For the record, a Guinness print probably would have been the better investment gift.)

"The most important thing is to tell you New Yorkers is that it's bottom of the fifth, and Yankees are ahead three to nothing," the artist continued, eliciting cheers from the crowd. He quickly tossed the ball back to art. "I'm not stupid, so I'm going to thank all my art dealers," he added.

The evening raised over \$1.1 million dollars for the Academy.

Mary-Kate Olsen and Olivier Sarkozy Spent the Night Ogling Nudes with Naomi Watts and Liev Schreiber

by Stephanie Eckardt
October 12, 2017 2:27 pm



It was about 30 minutes before bidding closed at the Take Home a Nude auction on Wednesday night at Sotheby's on Manhattan's Upper East Side, and Brooke Shields, who was attending the New York Academy of Arts's 26th annual benefit for the sixth year in a row, was having a crisis. After a frantic phone call ("Oh no, oh no, oh no"), Shields cleared up that it "wasn't [her] kid" that had her distraught, but in fact her dear friend Helena Christensen, who was apparently got lost on her way to join her at the event.

Sure, her reaction was a little overblown, but Shields takes her taking home a nude very seriously—even though this year, to her disbelief, she "didn't get anything" at the auction, which as always features a selection of nude artworks. As usual, she started bidding online days beforehand, and had her eyes set on a Beth Rundquist painting that was "just a nude man. And who doesn't love a nude man? I just felt like I needed to live with a nude man," she said with a laugh.

Luckily for Shields, the surrounding artworks provided plenty for her to gawk at, including a young Jean-Michel Basquiat in the full-frontal buff, captured by the photographer Paige Powell in the early 80's. Shields was hardly alone in taking the views in: Lorne Michaels, Andy Cohen, Padma Lakshmi,

and Nan Goldin all turned up to honor the painter John Alexander—and raise over \$1.1 million for the Academy's scholarships and programs through their ogling.

Also present in the flesh were the apparently very happy couple Mary-Kate Olsen and Olivier Sarkozy, who made their first red carpet appearance since January, while holding hands adorably. They weren't the only ones getting close: Even now-separated Naomi Watts and Liev Schreiber came together to chat while doing their bidding and mingling.

Not everyone in attendance, however, had lately been so lucky with friendly reunions. Chris Noth somewhat gruffly explained that he was there because "a friend of mine invited me, and I like paintings"—never mind that he "already [has] a couple of nudes, so I'm not needing those anymore"—but got animated when discussing



his projects in the works, like his Netflix miniseries *Manhunt: Unabomber*, and even a project of his that apparently isn't in the works: *Sex and the City 3*.

"I didn't even know there was a script, so I was completely out of the loop," Noth, aka Big, said of the series's potential third film, which is reportedly not moving forward because Kim Cattrall declined to return. As for whether he wants it to happen? "I wouldn't know until I read [the script], but I probably would have. You know, it's a great group of people," he said, then paused and added with a laugh, "but it's over, so, f--- it."

Also over, according to Christensen, when she finally showed up wearing Prada, is the newfound modeling career of her son Mingus Reedus, even though he made a splash just a few weeks ago at New York Fashion Week.

"He's not really [a model]," Christensen said. "He did the Calvin Klein show with his cousin because they thought it was fun to do together—and a great opportunity—and then he did a shoot with me, but I think he did that more of a favor to me. After those two jobs, he's kind of already like, 'I don't know about this.'"

Here, she got a loud "shhh" from Shields, who was doing her best to pay attention to the live auction over the chatter. Christensen continued in a whisper: "He's going to be 18 in two days, and he's doing all the tests for college, so I think that's what preoccupies his mind right now."

"She was telling me to shut up," Christensen added with a smile and gesture over to Shields, and then dutifully did her friend's bidding.



Take Home A Nude Honors Artist John Alexander, Raises \$1.1 Million

Bettina Zilkha , Contributor



The New York Academy of Arts (NYAA) held its 26th annual fall party and auction, Take Home A Nude, on Wednesday night at Sotheby's. The evening, honoring artist John Alexander, featured a silent auction followed by a live auction of works by Peter Beard, Ross Bleckner, Christo, Will Cotton, Patrick Demarchelier, Eric Fischl, Eric Freeman, Damian Loeb, Ryan McGinness, and Kiki Smith, and portrait commissions by Margaret Bowland and Nan Goldin, among others. The evening raised \$1.1 million for student scholarships and programs at NYAA.

After the auction, guests made their way to dinner, where the centerpiece was a tableau vivant of "nude" models being sketched by NYAA students. There was no lack of bold-face names to appreciate the skills at hand, including Caroline Kennedy and Ed Schlossberg, Princess Beatrice, Lorne Michaels, Naomi Watts, Chris Noth, Brooke Shields and Liev Schreiber.

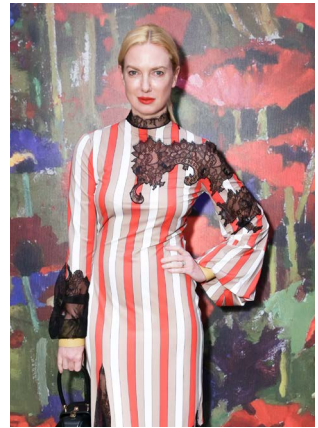
"Tonight is all because of one crazy Texan, our honoree John Alexander," said NYAA President David Kratz.

Alexander, who has been the subject of major retrospectives at the Smithsonian Museum of American Art and the Museum of Fine Arts in Houston, has a winning personality and a wonderfully self-deprecating sense of humor. He was visibly moved when he accepted his honorary Doctorate in Fine Arts from Kratz.

"So many of my friends are here tonight, and they are asking me about the cause: 'What the fuck do they do?'," said Alexander to uproarious laughter. "NYAA educates young people. It's what they do, and they do it very well. In some people's opinion, mine in particular, greatness in art today is unfortunately measured by the amount of money something is worth. That's a very dangerous way to look at anything cultural. I believe that great art has more than just commercial value: it has a spirit, a significance in some kind of soulful, meaningful way. For example, just because something is large, flashy, and makes a lot of noise doesn't necessarily mean that it's of any consequence other than it's a phenomenon. I believe that great art is something that touches you internally."

Many of Alexander's supporters and friends also collect his work, including Richard Mishaan, one of the evening's Chairs.

"John Alexander is a national treasure," said Mishaan. "He's a real master painter. My wife Marcia studied under him once, and she said, 'he has the skills and the technique of a Pre-Raphaelite.' He's in every major museum in America. He's been somewhat under the radar, yet his craft is very important. John is also the most loving man alive, and he's not a person who likes to call attention to himself, so tonight is really special."



New Yorkers Take Home A Nude

by Kelly Laffey Friday, October 13, 2017

Few may miss the bygone days of 42nd Street, but New Yorkers can still Take Home a Nude to benefit the New York Academy of Art. The annual art party and auction was held on Wednesday, October 11 at Sotheby's, raising over \$1.1 million for student scholarships and programs at the Academy.

"It's become one of the biggest art events in the city," said David Kratz, New York Academy of Art president, and also the show's curator. "We worked so hard to put this show together, and it represents a lot of the artists who support the school, and what the school stands for."

This marked the 26th year of the auction, which has grown from a small, student-run exhibition to the event it is today, featuring both a silent auction and live auction with works from both students and such heavy hitters as Peter Beard, Ross Bleckner, Christo, Will Cotton, Patrick Demarchelier, Eric Fischl, Eric Freeman, Damian Loeb, Ryan McGinness, and Kiki Smith; and portrait commissions by Margaret Bowland and Nan Goldin. The event honored painter John Alexander.

"When we started, nothing was framed," said Eileen Guggenheim, the chair of the Academy's board of trustees. "And now, master framers donate their frames. All the work is ready to take home and hang."

Many echoed Guggenheim's sentiments about how the event had grown in its 26-year history.

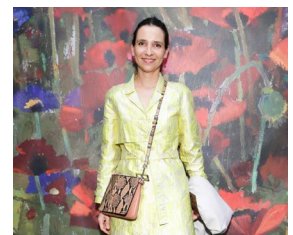
"It's insane," commented board member Brooke Shields. "It's almost frightening to me ... But the thing I'm most impressed by is that those who are in charge of the Academy have found a way to maintain its integrity. The event is about supporting students, and first and foremost, that's what David Kratz is motivated by." Prior to joining the Board, Shields came to the event as a guest, and then began sitting for various artists. "I know so many [of the artists displayed here] personally. When you see them on the wall, you just want to bid and be happy for them."

The New York Academy of Art is a graduate school founded in 1982 by artists, scholars and patrons of the arts, including Andy Warhol. The Academy combines technical training in drawing, painting and sculpture with active critical discourse.

"I think it's a big deal that the New York Academy is a classical training program," said Liev Schreiber. "I don't know if they would appreciate me describing it that way," he continued, "But from what I've seen, I think it's really important to get that kind of training. It's invaluable."

"I'm a big supporter of the arts, especially because there's no funding anymore," commented Ali Wentworth. "On I night like this, I usually stay home with family, but I so worry that the National Endowment of the Arts is going to dry up," she continued. This was her first time at the event, and she was looking forward to an evening that celebrated creativity. "Art is escapism," she said.

Other attendees escaping the real-world for the evening included Derek Blasberg, Nick Brown, Helena Christensen, Andy Cohen, Nell Diamond, Pari Ehsan, Alexander Gilkes, Nan Goldin, Princess Alexandra of Greece, Zani Gugelmann, Hugo Guinness & Elliott Puckette, Jane Holzer, Rachel Lee Hovnanian, Caroline Kennedy, Steve Kroft, Padma Lakshmi, Adam Lindemann, Damian & Zoya Loeb, Martin Margulies, Lorne Michaels, Nicole Miller, Richard & Marcia Mishaan, Ebon Moss-Bachrach, Colby Mugrabi, Misha Nonoo, Chris Noth, Mary-Kate Olsen, Daphne Oz, Marchesa Cristina Pucci, Lais Ribero, Helen Lee Schifter, Peggy Siegal, Mickalene Thomas, Naomi Watts, Linda Wells, Ali Wentworth, Dustin Yellin, Yelena Yemchuk, Princess Beatrice of York, Kara Young and Bettina Zilkha.





Brooke Shields Still Owns Her Very First Piece of Artwork

The iconic model tells AD about her first piece of art, and how her decor aesthetic has changed over time

Text by Christie Grimm

Posted October 16, 2017

Anyone who has seen the inside of Brooke Shields's home—either on Instagram or in the pages of AD—knows the model is an avid art collector. Whether it be the Keith Haring heart above her fireplace or Will Cotton's portrayal of her daughters, Shields knows a good piece of work when she sees it. But the artwork she's owned the longest—which is still in her Greenwich Village townhouse to this day—is from a less well-known name: one of her roommates at Princeton. "I bought my roommate from college's painting of sunflowers. It's this beautiful painting of sunflowers, and my roommate was French and she painted, and that was the first thing I ever bought," Shields told AD at the New York Academy of Art's Take Home a Nude event at Sotheby's. The painting has traveled with her from her dormitory in New Jersey to her Manhattan townhouse, which she says is a collection of things that represent her true decor taste. "My first apartment was with my mom on 73rd street in the 70s, so it was a mishmash of different styles, some of which I've retained over the years, and some I never want to see again," she says with a laugh. "I think my real sense of aesthetic didn't come into play until I renovated a townhouse. It was on the cover of AD and it was probably the most nervous I've ever been in my life for a cover, just because it was completely my aesthetic that had been cultivated over years, decades, and it was the first time that had ever really come to fruition without it being my mother's taste or something I was supposed to have. It's very vulnerable," Shields explains.



The Art Pieces Brooke Shields, Naomi Watts & Liev Schreiber Bid On At 'Take Home A Nude'

by Christie Grimm · October 14, 2017

Wednesday night's Take Home A Nude party saw a flurry of New York's fanciest with their checkbooks at the ready, bidding on a mix of New York Academy of Art student works, and pieces from full fledged big names like Peter Beard, Patrick Demarchelier and more.

While the event was definitely a sight for social eyes - Mary-Kate Olsen, Andy Cohen, and Princess Beatrice all paying their artistic respects with quick turns about the room - at an art auction, the real question isn't what is Brooke Shields wearing, but what is she interested in buying.

From Naomi Watts's low-key use of her initials rather than her name, to Liev Schreiber's circling shark strategy, hovering between his two pieces of interest, sizing up the competition and the fitting time to pounce, it was a far more interesting night than benefits usually deliver.

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