



Art Production Fund Celebrates its First Decade

by WWD Staff
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Janelle Monae performing.
 Photo By Lauren Fleishman



Donna Karan and Amy Sacco
 Photo By: Lauren Fleishman
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The 18th Floor of the Standard sees its fair share of wild antics. Monday night, the revelry got off to a before-dark start when Yvonne Force Villareal and Doreen Remen took over the vertiginous space to celebrate the 10th anniversary of their Art Production Fund, a non-profit organization that helps contemporary artists mount challenging projects.

And it seemed some attendees at this early bird special (the festivities kicked off at 7pm), were making the first trip up to the windowed lounge. "Is this like Dante's Inferno?" asked one guest as she eyed Marco Brambilla's "Civilization" video in the Standard's elevator. "Which circle are we going to?" shot back her friend.

Upstairs at the party, dubbed a Birthday Benefit, Marilyn Minter, Rachel Feinstein, Diana Picasso, Donna Karan, Thelma Golden, Beth Rudin DeWoody, Anna Sui and Olya Thompson enjoyed a range of activities including a temporary tattoo station with designs by Kiki Smith; a candle-lit sofa area for portraits by Jessica Craig-Martin and "personal genius" sessions with Linda Yablonsky.

"We wanted to do it at a venue that we felt really warm in and it's the most beautiful, glamorous spot in New York," said Villareal, who has known Remen since they were 18 and at RISD. "We never dreamed of something so fruitful and we just want to keep it going and going."

The evening also honored Jane Holzer and Jennifer McSweeney, the latter of whom was looking forward to some time at the tattoo booth. "I've always secretly wanted one on my ankle so maybe it's the time now," she said. "I have Kiki above my bed, I have her fairies above my bed, so I might as well have her on my body, too."

As Amy Sacco and Samantha and Aby Rosen snacked on burgers and spring rolls in booths, Terence Koh meandered around seemingly as part of a performance piece, that had him dressed all in white with his right hand covered in gold paint. The explanation?

"I don't know. I'm kind of lazy," said Koh. It was certainly a deterrent to any gratuitous hand-shaking. "I don't really want people touching it," he said.

Koh wasn't the only one having in her/ his act in the evening. artist Kamhrs Pfahler took to a stage naked save for knee-high laced up boots, a hedge-sized black wig and top-to-toe red body paint, along with two backup singers. She was followed by Janelle Monae, whose hit song "Tightrope" had Remen standing on the bar to get a better view.

