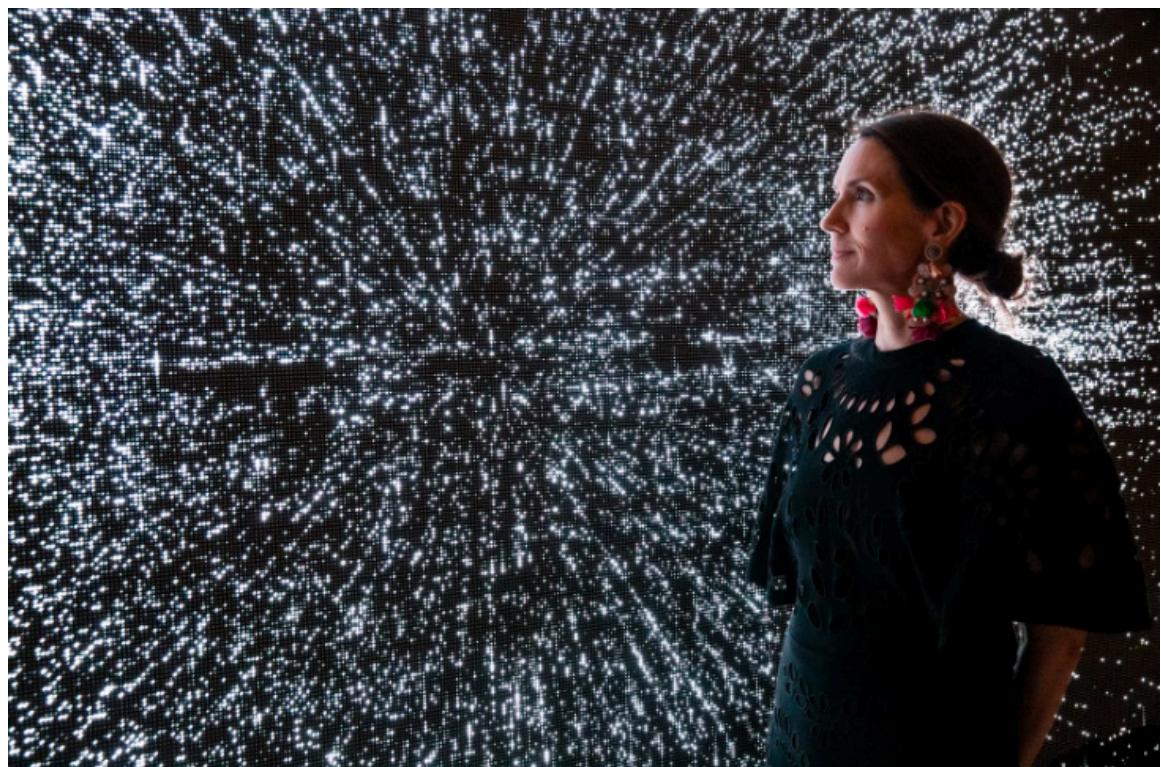


ART AND DESIGN INSIDERS FETED ONE OF ART BASEL'S MOST DAZZLING WORKS LAST NIGHT

Amy Astley cohosted an intimate dinner in honor of a shimmering Leo Villareal piece

By Hannah Martin



Fairfax Dorn in front of
Optical Machine I

by artist Leo Villareal

Benjamin Lozovsky/BFA.com

Last night an intimate group of collectors, art patrons, gallerists, and editors gathered under twinkling string lights and the Miami Beach stars to celebrate another illuminated wonder: Optical Machine I, a dazzling LED sculpture by artist Leo Villareal on view during Art Basel in the lobby of the Miami Beach Edition. To honor the shimmering showcase, AD's editor in chief Amy Astley partnered with Pace Gallery; the Texas-based nonprofit Ballroom Marfa; Yvonne Force Villareal, cofounder of Art Production Fund; and the forward-thinking auto brand Polestar to host a cozy, art-fueled affair.

As dinner guests arrived—several delivered in a sleek Polestar prototype—conversation turned to the fairs and festivities. Phones were whipped out so guests could show what they had an eye on—or already acquired—this week. Photographer Douglas Friedman recalled shooting the stunning Les Lalannes exhibition at the new Raleigh Gardens (a collaboration with AD100 designer Peter Marino). AD100 designer Rodman Primack reflected on his first year exhibiting with his new

gallery—AGO Projects—at Design Miami, a fair that he ran as chief creative director for years. Among collectors, interest swirled around Art Basel's fresh faces, like Amoako Boafo, the Ghanaian talent on view at Mariane Ibrahim, and Loie Hollowell, Pace Gallery's young star. "Show me the thing I want to buy next," one guest asked her neighbor at dinner. Down the table, Pace Gallery's president and CEO Marc Glimcher played the "Picasso game" with his tablemates, holding up images on his phone and asking them to guess which painting is more valuable (hint: the answer is always Picasso).

Guests lingered long past dessert, chatting with friends old and new. "I met several people I didn't know I knew," said The Future Perfect founder David Alhadeff, who has had a successful week at Design Miami. "In a week of three-second hellos, it's nice to finally get to connect with people."

Fairfax Dorn of Ballroom Marfa,
AD's Amy Astley, and
Art Production Fund's
Yvonne Force Villareal cohosted
the dinner at the Miami Edition
Sean Leffers and David Alhadef
Benjamin Lozovsky/BFA.com



Melanie Courbet and
Douglas Friedman

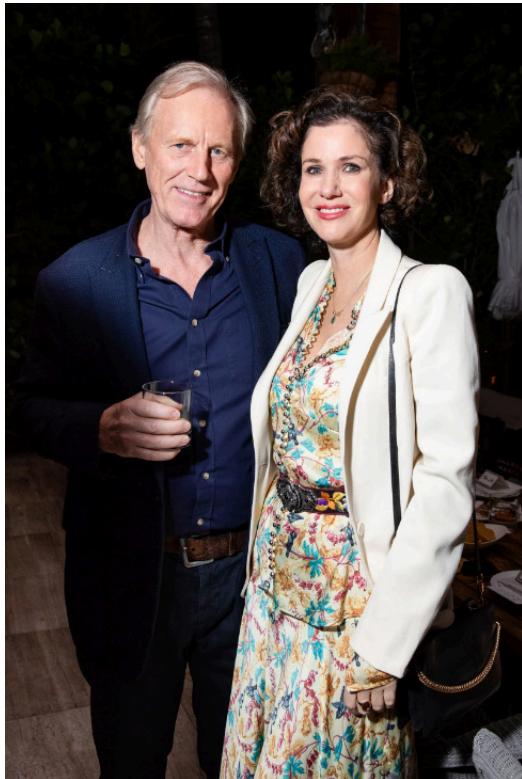
Amy Astley and Bill Sofield
Benjamin Lozovsky/BFA.com



Robert Stilin, Darius Bikoff, Jill
Bikoff, and Marc Glimcher

Rodman Primack, Tracy O'Brien,
and Matthew Stavro.Benjamin
Lozovsky/BFA.com





Richard Hudson and Mollie
Dent-Brocklehurst



Chaoqiu He and Joe Baptista.
Benjamin Lozovsky/BFA.com



Alyssa Link, Samantha Nobes,
Chris Schultz, and Erica
Siegel.Benjamin Lozovsky/
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