PARTIE

## Inside Ballroom Marfa's Bucolic, Disco-Ball Filled Fundraiser in Bridgehampton

BY ELISE TAYLOR August 9, 2022



Madison McGaw/BFA.com

Fairfax Dorn, the co-founder of <u>Ballroom Marfa</u>, told guests that their summer party would be full of "surprises." Turns out, that was not an empty or exaggerated promise: the evening, held at co-founder Virginia Lebermann's bucolic Bridgehampton home, featured a wild array of performers, including masked aerialists from Hamptons Fly, a bubble-enclosed dancer who floated across the pool, as well as mermaids who sporadically emerged and submerged. Disco balls hung from the trees, as did geometric sculptures by Sean Daly. Meanwhile, music spun by DJ Helado Negro (aka Roberto Carlos Lange) played throughout the night. Art—in several different forms—was all around.

Which, in a way, is perhaps also the ethos of the contemporary art museum itself. While Donald Judd's studio and Chianti Foundation put the West Texas town of Marfa on the cultural map, Ballroom Marfa helped solidify its reputation as a minimalist art Mecca: the non-collecting museum constantly puts forth rotating exhibitions of public artworks, performances, screenings, concerts, and more. (Kristi Sword and Carlos Lange's "Kite Symphony," for example, ran at the venue until May.) Its Hamptons event—occurring for the first time in four years—funds all those programs and the diverse artists who create them. "We have supported their visions and their dreams," said Dorn. "We're here to keep making that happen."

In attendance was a creative crowd, including Sheree Hovsepian, Rashid Johnson, Lauren Bush Lauren, David Lauren, Arden Wohl, and Casey Fremont. Artists—including Robert Longo, Tara Donovan, Jules de Balincourt, Robert Nava, and Jill Magid—were everywhere you turned. People gathered around to introduce themselves to Daisy Nam, the newly announced executive director and curator of Ballroom Marfa. Many guests also wore David Yurman jewelry, which sponsored the evening's festivities.

The night's menu was an ode to the unique Marfa culinary scene: Yann Nury served a farm-to-table Tex Mex such as summer squash tamales, burnt beets with salsa verde, and beef brisket, while churros with dulce de leche were the must-eat dessert. The table setting, which wove through a grove of tulip trees, featured a powder blue tablecloth with illustrations of Marfa landmarks such as the instantly-recognizable Prada Marfa store.



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David Lauren, Lauren Bush Lauren



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Dinner was served upon a tablecloth featuring illustrations of Marfa landmarks.



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Fairfax Dorn, Virginia Lebermann



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Casey Fremont, Marlies Verhoeven, Kyle de Woody



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Rujeko Hockley, Hank Willis Thomas



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Cocktails were served from a Defender.



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The night included aerial performances.



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Fairfax Dorn, Rashid Johnson, Sheree Hovsepian



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Jill Magid, Batsheva Hay, Evan Yurman



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Daisy Nam



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Evan Yurman, Arden Wohl, Jonah Freeman, Ku-Ling Yurma



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Cynthia Rowley



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Terra Donovan, Robbie Crawford



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Elise Taylor



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Roberto Carlos Lange



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The dinner atmosphere.