

NSU Art Museum Fort Lauderdale Hosts Celebration Dinner Honoring Collectors Stephanie Seymour and Peter M. Brant

*Presented by GRAFF, the event commemorates the exhibition premiere of *The Swans: Karen Kilimnik and Stephanie Seymour Paintings and Dresses* on view at the Museum through October 1, 2023*

FORT LAUDERDALE, FLA. (March 11, 2023) – On March 11, [NSU Art Museum Fort Lauderdale](#) hosted a Celebration Dinner honoring collectors Stephanie Seymour and Peter M. Brant. This event commemorates the premier of *The Swans: Karen Kilimnik and Stephanie Seymour Paintings and Dresses*, the Museum's latest exhibition featuring vignettes comprised of paintings by Karen Kilimnik presented in association with The Brant Foundation and vintage haute couture from Stephanie Seymour's collection. Stephanie Seymour announced at the dinner that the exhibition was dedicated to the couple's late son Harry Brant who loved fashion.

Funds raised from the event will support exhibitions and educational programming at the Museum. Notable attendees included: Guests of Honor Stephanie Seymour and Peter M. Brant, the couples' sons Dylan Brant and Peter Brant Jr. and daughter Lily Brant; representing Presenting Sponsor GRAFF: Marc Hruschka, President and CEO, GRAFF-North America and Susan E. Pullin, Director GRAFF, Bal Harbour; the Honorable Mayor Dean Trantalis, Jamal and Bailey Brooks Mashburn (event committee chair). Other distinguished guests included Mitchell and Sharon Berger, David and Lisa Burgess, David and Suzi Cordish, Ted and Teresa Christie, Laura DeLuca Hirsch, Jeffrey and Nicole Fratarcangelli, Andy and Christy Gumberg, Andrew and Tanya Heller, Rita Holloway, Matthew and Whitney Lane, Frayda Lindemann, George Lindemann, Per and Robin Loof, Alexandra Mastriana-Solar, Laura Rayburn Miller, Dee Moog, Dr. Harry and Ann Marie Moon, Frank and Lola Moore, Lanie Morgenstern, Dr. Barry and Judy Silverman, Julie Strauch, Stephanie Toothacre, Jake and Kristin Wurzak and Reggie Zachariah and Alisa Krupina.

After touring the premiere of *The Swans* and the *Hooray for Hollywood* exhibition, which features a major gift of ten Andy Warhol Mao prints donated by Peter Brant to NSU Art Museum, guests ascended to the museum's second floor for a magical dinner where they were greeted by models adorned in GRAFF jewels, a speakeasy bar, and an imaginative menu by Thierry Isambert Culinary and Event Design. Guests were wowed from start to finish with personal caviar bars and a surprise dessert inspired by the green feathered Paco Rabanne cocktail dress on view in the *Swans* exhibition. Guests were invited to attend a cocktail party at GRAFF Bal Harbour on Friday, March 31 (GRAFF will donate 5% of jewelry sales to NSU Art Museum by museum patrons).

Presenting Sponsor: GRAFF

Table Sponsors:

Dr. Lynn Atkinson and Dr. David Drucker

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Michelle Howland and S. Donald Sussman

Spirit Charitable Foundation and Christy and Andy Gumberg

Chair Events Committee, Board of Governors: Bailey Brooks Mashburn

Catering: Thierry Isambert Culinary and Event Design

Florals in-kind sponsor: How 2 Wed

Event Planning: Mary Fanizzi & Co

“NSU Art Museum is incredibly honored to recognize Stephanie Seymour and Peter M. Brant at this special event celebrating the debut of *The Swans*,” said Bonnie Clearwater, Director and Chief Curator of NSU Art Museum. “Stephanie Seymour’s collection of vintage haute couture is truly magnificent. We are proud to host her collection and to present them alongside paintings by Karen Kilimnik in this exhibition presented in association with The Brant Foundation. We extend our deep appreciation to our sponsors and guests for supporting NSU Art Museum’s exhibition and education programs.”

Curated by Clearwater, *The Swans* mixes mid-career artist Karen Kilimnik’s romantic paintings in which she casts a youthful Leonardo DiCaprio and other stars and fashion models in leading roles, with selections from Stephanie Seymour’s collection of vintage haute couture created by the eponymous designers Azzedine Alaïa, Courrèges, Christian Dior, Yves Saint-Laurent, Paco Rabanne and others. The resulting exhibition consists of imaginatively calibrated vignettes of paintings and fashion, which celebrate glamour, beauty, fantasy, and the occult through the eyes of two singular yet overlapping perceptions. The title references the stylish mid-twentieth-century high society women who writer Truman Capote dubbed “The Swans.”

This exhibition is part of NSU Art Museum’s presentation *Picturing Fame*, which is comprised of four concurrent exhibitions that ruminate on the subject of fame: *Toulouse-Lautrec and the Follies of Fame* and *Hooray for Hollywood*, which opened with *Emilio Martinez* on Saturday, February 11; and *The Swans: Karen Kilimnik and Stephanie Seymour Paintings and Dresses*, which opens March 12 and remains on view through October 1, 2023. While the posters by Henri de Toulouse-Lautrec concurrently on view represent his contemporaries in the fashion of their time, both Kilimnik and the fashions featured in *The Swans* reimagine the glamour and romance of the bygone Belle Époque of the turn-of-the-century.

Situated midway between Miami and Palm Beach, NSU Art Museum is located in the heart of Downtown Fort Lauderdale. The Museum is a premier destination for exhibitions and programs encompassing all facets of civilization’s visual history and is widely known for its significant collection of Latin American art, contemporary art with an emphasis on art by Black, Latin American, and women artists, as well as works by American artist William Glackens and the European Cobra group of artists. For more information, please visit <https://nsuartmuseum.org>.

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About NSU Art Museum

Founded in 1958, NSU Art Museum Fort Lauderdale is a premier destination for exhibitions and programs encompassing many facets of civilization’s visual history. Located midway between Miami and Palm Beach in downtown Fort Lauderdale’s arts and entertainment district, the Museum’s 83,000 square-foot building, which opened in 1986, was designed by architect Edward Larrabee Barnes and contains over 25,000 square feet of exhibition space, the 256 -seat Horvitz auditorium, a museum store, and café. In 2008, the Museum became part of Nova Southeastern University (NSU), one of the largest private research universities in the United States. NSU Art Museum is known for its significant collection of Latin American art, contemporary art with an emphasis on art by Black, Latin American, and women artists, as well as works by early twentieth-century American artist William Glackens, and the European Cobra group of artists. Two scholarly research centers complement the collections: The Dr. Stanley and Pearl Goodman Latin American Art Study Center and the William J. Glackens Study Center.



Exhibitions and programs at NSU Art Museum Fort Lauderdale are made possible in part by an endowment from the David and Francie Horvitz Family Endowment, Taylor-Bryant Foundation, Connie Gordon, and Sansom Foundation. Funding is also provided by the City of Fort Lauderdale, Community Foundation of Broward, the Broward County Board of County Commissioners as recommended by the Broward Cultural Council and Greater Fort Lauderdale Convention & Visitors Bureau, the State of Florida, Department of State, Division of Cultural Affairs and the Florida Council on Arts and Culture. NSU Art Museum Fort Lauderdale is accredited by the American Association of Museums.

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