

# Parties, Events & Good Times

Photos by: Rob Rich

The past few months have been an absolute whirlwind of parties, events and good times. Here are some of my favorite moments and treasured memories. What better way to begin than with a fabulous, glittery Broadway bash?

## *Curtains Up, Light the Lights...*

The lights were bright and the curtains raised at the Hudson Theater. With **Marvin Hamlisch** headlining the **Broadway Salutes...Arts Horizons 30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Gala**, there was good reason for such fanfare. The organization's founder, John Devol, once played trumpet in the pit orchestra of *A Chorus Line*. And it couldn't have been more fitting that the "singularly sensational" Mr. Hamlisch was honored with the "Paul Newman Artist of the Year Award" for his lifetime contribution to music and the Broadway Theatre. Marvin's performance that stole the show! Broadway greats **Karen Ziemba** and **J. Mark McVey** sang along to Mr. Hamlisch's piano accompaniment, bringing the crowd to its feet in applause. When the stage wasn't alive with music or dance, master of ceremonies, **Charles Grodin**, had the attendees doubled over in laughter throughout the entire evening. It was an exciting surprise when CNN's **Larry King** called in to deliver a live message of Congratulations to Arts Horizons and the evening's honorees. The gala's other honorees included **L. Marilyn Crawford** and **Peter Meyer**. Entertainment executive, **Suzanne de Passe** made a heartfelt speech and presented the "Celeste Holm Woman of the Year Award" to her dear friend **L. Marilyn Crawford**.

## *Starry Nights in Manhattan*

From Broadway babies to Design visionaries. The stars certainly were shining brightly on New York's D&D Building as the design world honored its most prominent members at the **2008 Stars of Design Awards**.

This year's honorees included **Mica Ertegun**, **Juan Pablo Molyneux**, **James de Givenchy**, **Hugh Newell Jacobsen**, **Lella and Massimo Vignelli**, **Tom Balsley**, **Sheila Metzner** and **Joel Shapiro**.

Also at the D&D Building, POSH glittered as they kicked off their annual Interiors Sale by honoring **Paige Rense** at ASTRA.

Noted attendees included **Charles and Clo Cohen**, **Geoffrey Bradfield**, **Michael Wainwright**, **Mario Buatta**, **Arlene Dahl**, **Sacha Newley**, **Angela Newley**, **Juan Montoya**, **Urban Karlsson** and **Stephen Sills**.



Charles & Clo Cohen

Renowned journalist **Rita Cosby** presented Peter Meyer with his well-earned "LeRoy Neiman Humanitarian of the Year Award" for his philanthropic work. From the glittering top-hats adorning the centerpieces and the beautiful theatrical venue to the incredible performances, the **Broadway Salutes... Arts Horizons 30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Gala** was a one-night only engagement to remember.



Dr. Ruth Westheimer and Marvin Hamlisch

## *Feeling Hot, Hot, Hot*

The weather outside was frightful, but inside the Pierre it was hot and magical on Monday night. That's because the **Women's Project 24<sup>th</sup> Annual Women of Achievement Awards Gala** was in full swing. And not even a blanket of snow could keep the city's most glamorous residents away from the festivities. And hot pink was the color du jour.

The crowd was a mix of Hollywood and Broadway royalty and New York's elite. It was a happy reunion for honoree **Estelle Parsons** and presenter **Arthur Penn**, who directed her in her Oscar-winning role in the iconic *Bonnie and Clyde*. The octogenarian actress is soon heading off on 44 week American tour with her hit Broadway play *August: Osage County*...Talk about a woman of Achievement!

Honoree **Lucia Hwong Gordon** dazzled in one of **Zang Toi's** latest gowns and accessorized her stunning ensemble with the designer himself upon one arm. On her other arm was *Law and Order: SVU* actor **B.D. Wong**, who presented Lucia with her award. The met while collaborating on the Tony-award winning play *M. Butterfly* for which Lucia wrote the score and Mr. Wong played the starring role. *M. Butterfly* playwright, **Henry David Hwang**, was in the house, as well, in support of both his former-colleagues and dear friends.

The professional accomplishments of honorees **Susan K. Reed**, editor-in-Chief of *O, The Oprah Magazine* and **Susan Sobott**, presi-

## *A View from the Top*

An elite group of guests and celebrities gathered high above Manhattan to raise money and awareness for **Life Project for Africa**. The **Save Life, Give Hope** cocktail event was held in a \$50 million dollar private penthouse of **Andrew Worden**, CEO of Barron Partners, in the ultra exclusive Ritz Carlton Residences. The full moon made the vistas over Central Park all the more breathtaking and created an aura of excitement and energy. Supermodel **Heidi Albertsen**, ambassador to Life Project for Africa, did not let her debilitating foot injury, cast and cane slow her down one bit. She was enthusiastic hostess to the crowd along with her co-host music and fashion mogul **Russell Simmons**. Despite her injury, Heidi looked gorgeous in her Nicole Miller gown and Zang Toi jacket. It didn't hurt that she was wearing thousands of dollars worth of vintage jewels provided by the event sponsor CIRCA.

## *Laughter is the Best Medicine*

If "HEALTH IS WEALTH" then the funny, exciting Gala the European School of Economics held in the Pierre was rich indeed. 30 Rock's and SNL's funny man **Tracy Morgan** had the black tie crowd in stitches. **Sirio Maccioni** and family, who've fed everyone in the room 10 times over, received their latest accolades with joy. Designer to the stars, **Zang Toi**, was flanked the whole evening by a bevy of his model muses, all outfitted in his fabulous frocks. Among them was "New York Housewife" **Jill Zarin** who arrived with the dapper **Brad Boles**. The only two people in the universe who could possibly upstage Zang's entourage? The heavenly principals of the American Ballet Theater, **Irina Dvoroenko** and **Maxim Beloserkovsky**. Executive Director of the school,

dent of AMEX OPEN, truly inspired the crowd. Renowned scholar and president of the Union Theological Seminary, **Rev. Dr. Serene Jones**, introduced Ms. Reed. **Nell Merlino**, founder of national "Take Our Daughters to Work" day presented Ms. Sobott with her award. This group of diverse and dynamic power-house women truly brought home the message of the evening.

After dinner, spirited guests burned up the dance floor as the DJ played late into the night. Among the illustrious guests were: **Diane Passage** and **Ken Starr**, **Cynthia** and **Anthony Maltese**, **CeCe** and **Lee Black**, **Nurit Kahane Haase**, **Baroness Monica von Zadora Gerlof**, **Bonnie Pfeiffer Evans** and **Marcia Levine**. It may have been cold outside, but Women's Project was keeping it hot in The Pierre



B.D. Wong, Lucia Hwong Gordon & Zang Toi

Guests such as Grammy Award-winning record executive **L.A. Reid**, celebrity dermatologist **Dr. Howard Sobel**, hair guru **Warren Tricomi**, designer **Joanna Mastroianni** came out to support Heidi and Russell and the children of Tanzania.



Heidi Albertsen & Russell Simmons

**Alessandro Nomellini**, was thrilled with the event's success. Each and every guest walked away on a high-note, if not a little "richer" of spirit.



Maxim Beloserkovsky & Irina Dvoroenko