

DISCOVERIES



PARTIES

THE WILD BUNCH

Peter Marino's biker regalia inspires a bold decor for the gala benefiting the Animal Rescue Fund of the Hamptons



From top: Designers Alex Papachristidis and David Monn conceived the decorations for the Animal Rescue Fund of the Hamptons' 2015 Bow Wow Meow Ball, honoring AD100 talent Peter Marino. The graphic place settings. A silver-bolt place-card holder. The event's M.C., Brooke Shields, philanthropists William and Katharine Rayner, and Marino with a rescue dog.

Head-to-toe black leather is rarely seen on Long Island's fashionable East End, let alone at a charity fundraiser known as the Bow Wow Meow Ball. But guests would have been disappointed if the event's honoree, architect and designer Peter Marino—he of the ebony chaps and Harley-Davidson hogs—wore anything else.

At the annual benefit for the Animal Rescue Fund of the Hamptons (ARF)—held August 15 in the hamlet of Wainscott, New York—Marino was presented with the Champion of Animals Award for his commitment to animal welfare, including the creation of extensive dog runs at ARF, which finds homes for some 1,200 pets a year. Says actress Brooke Shields, who served as the evening's M.C., "I'm tortured every time I leave there without a new 'kid' to care for."

To conjure a Marino-worthy setting for the fête—which raised \$500,000—ARF enlisted event planner David Monn and decorator Alex Papachristidis. Together they devised an achromatic palette to echo Marino's wardrobe, while the 400-plus guests dressed accordingly. Down went black AstroTurf, and up went an enormous white tent for dining. Tables were covered in either black or white linen, complete with matching chairs. Lashings of black masking tape put a cheeky spin on the water tumblers, silver bolts were used as place-card holders, and black and white candles were nestled in coordinating beds of coarse salt.

Furthering the Marino theme were the black paper lanterns that garlanded the tent, emulating the giant glass beads of Jean-Michel Othoniel, one of the honoree's favorite artists, while Mylar chandeliers were inspired by the work of designer Peter Bowles. And marking the center of the dance floor was a big shimmering Mylar circle whose reflective surface proved a challenge to some revelers: As one guest playfully warned another, "Don't stand in the middle of the dance floor, because I can see up your dress." arfhamptons.org —BETTINA ZILKHA