

# ASIAN PERSUASIONS AND MANILOW BY PAPER MOONLIGHT

AT TWO BY TWO FOR AIDS AND ART GALA  
By Brooke Bortostino, Photography Steve Foxall.

**“C**onfucius say, ‘Got to get in that tent!’” said our Asian-chic hostess **Cindy Rachofsky**, channeling Suzie Wong in her Madame Grès cheongsam while literally channeling Two by Two for AIDS and Art gala-goers into the dining tent as dinner bells chimed. Rachofsky dressed the part at the annual black-tie bash benefiting amfAR and the Dallas Museum of Art, where co-chairmen **Deedie Rose** and **Emily Summers** enlisted event designer **Todd Fiscus** of Todd Event Design Creative Services to transform the entrance and outside dining area of Cindy and **Howard Rachofsky’s** Richard Meier-designed art house into a party palace fit for a Chinese emperor. East met West when bicycle rickshaws scooped up **Kenny Goss** and **Filippo Tattoni-Marcozzi** of Goss Gallery, **Marguerite** and **Robert Hoffman**, **Rex Cumming**, **Mary Noel Lamont**, **Harry Winston’s Rozalyn St. Pé Colombo**, **Caren** and **Pete Kline**, **Naney** and **Clay Mulford**, Paris-based Four Seasons Hotel George V flower designer and auction donor **Jeff Leatham**, **Susan** and **Bob Kaminski**, **Mitch Lee**, **Brett Sherlock**, JPMorgan Chase’s **Elaine Agather**, **Alix Alexander**, **Charles Stanley**, Sotheby’s auctioneer **Jamie “going once, going twice” Niven**, **Barbara** and **Don Daseke**, **Capera Ryan**, **Nita Clark**, and amfAR’s Award of Excellence for Artistic Contributions to the Fight Against AIDS winner **Cecily Brown** and ferried them down the drive, while Kabuki drummers drummed on the front lawn. Inside, Rose, dressed in daughter **Lela Rose’s** dress accessorized with an obi made from an antique Asian table-runner found at Forty Five Ten, and Summers, decked in a kimono-esque gown from Imitation of Christ, greeted guests who were salivating to see \$1.1 million dollars’ worth of hot contemporary

art and luxury items up for bid. But before the auction could commence, everyone had to take their red seats in the back-lawn big top, which housed 40 magnums of Dom Pérignon, 32 pounds of caviar, a divine dinner by George Restaurant, oodles of orchids and hanging paper lanterns. But don’t think the tent filled with the luxe larder garnered all the attention — the Meier manse certainly received its fair share of favoritism: “It’s a shame we’re in such a lovely house,” said Emmy-winning actor **Stanley Tucci**. “It’s just a shame.” **Kenneth Cole** followed Tucci with, “How do you call this a home? It’s 37,000 square feet and only one bedroom. I was trying to explain to **Barry Manilow** that this was, indeed, a house.” On that note, amfAR chairman Cole introduced the man of the hour, Mr. “I Write The Songs” himself, who hopped up on stage and took a seat at a single piano to entertain before dessert. “I normally have a whole orchestra behind me, and I can get up,” said Manilow. “But then it would be awfully quiet.” The first song, “Can’t Smile Without You,” turned into a massive sing-along, with **Naomi Aberly** and **Larry Lebowitz** swaying back and forth, **Jennifer Eagle** clapping to the beat and **Dianne Cash** lip-synching into her fork. This continued through “Copacabana” and, as the lighters and cell phones were about to appear, Manilow’s time was up and he sprightly hopped off the stage — to everyone’s dismay — and onto a jet headed back to Palm Springs. And the auction? It raised \$2.2 million for the beneficiaries. Manilow’s melodies and the lucky bamboo certainly worked their magic.

