

The Color of Dreams

SMU MEADOWS MUSEUM MASTERPIECE GALA 2018

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MEADOWS MUSEUM, SMU, HOSTS INAUGURAL MASTERPIECE GALA

Gala chair Pilar Henry and honorary chairs Peggy and Carl Sewell welcomed 300 guests at October 13 fundraiser, The Color of Dreams

DALLAS (SMU) – Celebrating the Meadows Museum’s inaugural *Masterpiece Gala*, chair Pilar Henry and honorary chairs Peggy and Carl Sewell welcomed 300 attendees at “The Color of Dreams,” a Salvador Dalí-inspired gala fundraiser on Saturday, October 13, 2018, held at the Meadows Museum on the campus of Southern Methodist University.

At 6 p.m. partygoers arrived in black-tie attire for cocktails on the museum’s sculpture plaza, where custom curtains had been hung especially for the occasion, painted with an ombré effect ranging from purple to lavender to white. Once inside, the museum had been transformed by designer Margaret Ryder of Fleurt, with décor inspired by the museum’s current exhibition on the Spanish master of Surrealism, *Dalí: Poetics of the Small, 1929–1936*. Throughout the gala, a mix of patterns, textures and colors were featured, creating a mood that was beautiful and ethereal while encompassing the unexpected—the colors of dreams.

Attendees mingled and enjoyed cocktails and canapés as dancers from SMU’s Meadows School of the Arts performed around them. The dancers, all first-year dance majors, wore hand-crafted masks that displayed key elements from their chosen Dalí painting. Each dancer created their own series of physical and dramatic interpretations of the chosen paintings, and then performed these movements in group improvisations throughout the party. Partygoers were also able to enjoy the source of the evening’s inspiration, the *Dalí: Poetics of the Small* exhibition, which was open all evening.

At the appointed time, patrons proceeded upstairs to the Virginia Meadows Galleries for remarks and a special performance. SMU president Gerald Turner welcomed all in attendance and thanked them for supporting the inaugural event. He then took a few moments to thank those who had made the evening possible, including gala chair Pilar Henry, honorary chairs and presenting sponsors, Peggy and Carl Sewell, and Linda P. Custard, SMU trustee emerita and chair of the Meadows Museum Advisory Council. He also recognized SMU's benefactor, The Meadows Foundation, and its president and CEO, Linda Perryman Evans, for ongoing support and guidance. Lastly, President Turner thanked the members of the board of trustees in attendance, as well as Mark A. Roglán, the Linda P. and William A. Custard Director of the Meadows Museum; Sam Holland, the Algur H. Meadows Dean of the Meadows School of the Arts; Brad Cheves, SMU Vice President for Development and External Affairs; Steven C. Currall, SMU Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs; and, finally, Dr. Turner expressed his gratitude to his wife, "the first lady of SMU," Gail Turner.

In closing President Turner shared that proceeds from the *Masterpiece Gala* would help endow the museum's Director of Education position, a vital role at the museum. As of that evening, \$700,000 had been raised, the majority of which would be used to establish the endowment, surpassing the committee's original goal.

Roglán followed to add his gratitude to all the evening's leadership, host committee and sponsors for their contributions to the first gala raising funds for the Meadows Museum.

He shared that after fifty years of steady growth, the Meadows Museum has expanded substantially in both size and depth. In that time, the museum's collections have doubled, the building footprint is now six times larger than the original, and the institution has exceeded Algur Meadows' vision of "a small Prado for Texas" to become today's center for the study and presentation of Spanish art in America. As part of the museum's future, the need to endow one of the most important positions in any museum, that of the Director of Education, has become vital. The Director of Education interprets the art and facilitates opportunities for it to resonate with so many different audiences. Among many responsibilities, the Director of Education manages hundreds of school tours; runs the docent corps; creates the programming for lectures, symposia and community events; and connects with different departments across campus, working with faculty to make the collections accessible throughout the university.

Additionally, Roglán said that during the last eight years, the museum has established innovative, international fellowship programs, welcoming over a dozen pre-doctoral and postdoctoral scholars, all of them specialists in Spanish art who will go on to become curators, researchers and directors in museums throughout the world.

In closing, he then recognized the current director of education, Scott Winterrowd, and reiterated that endowing the position will help retain talented professionals, as well as ensure that future educators will continue Winterrowd's excellence. With the fundraising efforts the gala achieved, the endowment is well positioned to reach its goal of \$2 million.

After much anticipation, Roglán introduced SMU Meadows School of the Arts faculty members and internationally acclaimed musicians, professors Joaquín Achúcarro, pianist, and Andrés Díaz, cellist, who performed together for the first time. Díaz opened by playing Johann Sebastian Bach's (1685–1750) *Prelude, Suite No. 2 in D minor* followed by *Fancy on a Bach Air* by John Paul Corigliano (b. 1938) on cello. Achúcarro then joined Díaz on a Steinway Hall piano for *The Swan* by Camille Saint-Saens (1825–1921). Achúcarro followed, solo, playing *La Puerta del Vino* by Claude Debussy (1862–1918) and Frederic Chopin's (1810–1849) *Polonaise No. 6 in A-flat Major, Op. 53 ("Heroic")*.

After a standing ovation for the unforgettable performances, patrons progressed to dinner in the Jake and Nancy Hamon Galleries where dining tables were dressed in a menagerie of textured and colored linens, ranging from moody grays to purples and blues with metallic pops. Floral centerpieces featured purple/blue hydrangea, Freedom and Shogun roses, blue viburnum berries, red anthurium, pink protea, bridal veil protea, umbrella fern and blue thistle, and included apples, grapes, eucalyptus and cymbidium used as embellishments. Tall arrangements sat atop acrylic cases that covered a collection of antique and vintage brass candlesticks.

Guests enjoyed a three-course dinner by Cassandra Fine Catering paired with wines from Fine Wine Sponsor Pinea, including a first course of roasted pumpkin ravioli with lobster butter sauce, followed by a second course of pan roasted Black Angus beef tenderloin served with a Serrano ham and purple potato cake, braised greens and a bordelaise sauce. For dessert, diners enjoyed a Caramélia chocolate crèmeux with lavender ice cream, burnt sugar and almond cookies.

After dinner, patrons proceeded downstairs for live music and dancing with Cuvée in the Gene and Jerry Jones Great Hall, transformed into a colorful lounge. As the evening came to a close, partygoers were given a favor bag that included sample products courtesy of Natura Bissé, exclusive Luxury Skincare Sponsor for the event; Microchip® cookies from JK Chocolate; a custom Dalí "Floaty" pen; two complimentary museum passes to enjoy the Dalí exhibition; a copy of the museum's member magazine, *At the Meadows*; and the latest issue of *PaperCity Magazine*, the event's print Media Sponsor.

Guests in attendance at the *Meadows Museum Masterpiece Gala* included: Gala chair Pilar Henry and Jay Henry, honorary chairs Peggy and Carl Sewell, Linda and Bill Custard, Gail and Gerald Turner, Kathleen and Mark Roglán, Linda Perryman Evans, Nancy Dedman, Brad Cheves, Beth and Sam Holland, The Honorable Janet and Terry Kafka, Caren Prothro, Margot and Ross Perot, Bess and Ted Enloe, Ann and Lee Hobson, Cyrena Nolan, Gayle and Paul Stoffel, Adriana and Guillermo Perales, Connie and Chris O'Neill, Mason and Allen Custard, Nancy Shutt and Phillip Henderson, Trinka Taylor, Katherine and Key Coker, Gwen and Richard Irwin, Emily and Steve Summers, Deborah and John Scott, Katherine and Richard Ware, Mary Anne Cree, Jennifer and Peter Altabef, Debbie and Nickey Oates, Laura and Ellison Hurt, Barbara and Mike McKenzie, Michelle and Bill Lockhart, Laura Wilson, John Henry, III, and Shirley and Bill McIntyre.

For more information about the Meadows Museum, visit meadowsmuseumdallas.org.

About the Director of Education Endowment Fund

The *Meadows Museum Masterpiece Gala* seeks to establish an endowment for the museum's Director of Education position. The endowment will ensure strong leadership of the museum's education department and outreach efforts in perpetuity, establishing a healthy financial base from which to recruit and retain the highest-quality staff and allowing the museum to direct more resources toward its exceptional programming endeavors. The Meadows Museum annually hosts thousands of visitors, teachers, and K-12 and SMU students through symposia, lectures, workshops, gallery talks and guided tours. Additionally, it has received recognition for its accessible programming and resources that welcome audiences of all abilities, with a particular focus on adults with early stage dementia and their care partners, and visitors who are blind or have low vision.

About the Meadows Museum

The Meadows Museum is the leading U.S. institution focused on the study and presentation of the art of Spain. In 1962, Dallas businessman and philanthropist Algur H. Meadows donated his private collection of Spanish paintings, as well as funds to start a museum, to Southern Methodist University. The museum opened to the public in 1965, marking the first step in fulfilling Meadows' vision to create "a small Prado for Texas." Today, the Meadows is home to one of the largest and most comprehensive collections of Spanish art outside of Spain. The collection spans from the 10th to the 21st centuries and includes medieval objects, Renaissance and Baroque sculptures, and major paintings by Golden Age and modern masters.

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